

we draw the attention of R. W. Bro. John Braim, Grand Secretary. Ireland also has given us no material on which a review could be based. Making bricks without straw was in the olden time considered a hardship, but in this instance even the clay is denied us.

As it is the Proceedings of sixty-three Grand Lodges have received some attention, so after all, our labors though slow may not prove to be altogether in vain.

In our reading we have gone over a large number of addresses and reviews, many of them treating at great length and with marked ability the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington on the so-called negro Masonry question, and while we join with many other Grand Lodges in the disapproval of the action taken and the conclusion arrived at by that Grand Lodge, we cannot but feel that the censure expressed by some Grand Lodges in the United States is unnecessarily severe. The severance of fraternal intercourse between Grand Lodges is a serious matter, and should only be resorted to when other attempts at adjustment of differences have failed.

Several Grand Lodges, with commendable kindness and moderation, appealed to the good sense of the Grand Lodge of Washington to rectify the error committed, and, with that fraternal regard which should at all times characterize our intercourse with other Grand Lodges, the resolution relative to "Negro Freemasonry" was recalled and cancelled. This would doubtless have been done without the severance of intercourse by the Grand Lodges of Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Texas. Contrast the action of the above named Grand Lodges with the brotherly protests of the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts, New York, Maryland, Michigan and others. It must be admitted that Prince Hall and the colored Brethren associated with him were made Masons in a Lodge having its charter from the Grand Lodge of England and the fact that said Grand Lodge granted them a charter dated 29th day of September, 1784, proves that they were recognized as Freemasons. Had Prince Hall limited his authority to African Lodge, No. 459, located in Boston, all this trouble would have been avoided and his actions justified—but that he had the right or power to license other colored Lodges cannot be admitted.