

a dispensation to a Lodge U. D.; but we know of nothing to prevent it being granted, or to prevent the Lodge from receiving it, if thought worthy of such a favor.

There is this, however, about a Lodge U. D., that it might not be able to make a creditable appearance in public, so as to reflect honor and credit on the Craft; and these dispensations are supposed to be placed only in the hands of well-skilled brethren, who are responsible for the observance of due order and decorum.

Masonry does not seek popular favor, but when we do appear in public, it should be in such a manner that the fraternity should suffer no discredit or loss of *prestige* thereby.

Q.—Can a Lodge under dispensation accept the petition of a M. M. for affiliation, and ballot for, and, if favorable, admit the applicant to membership?

A.—There is a difference of opinion on the point raised in this question. Some well-informed brethren contend that a Lodge U. D. has power only to "enter, pass, and raise Freemasons," in the words of the dispensation; or, in other words, to make Masons. They say that a Lodge U. D. cannot affiliate or admit brethren to membership, because the dispensation does not specifically give that power.

Others are of the opinion that a Lodge U. D. can affiliate members under the general clause in the dispensation, which gives power "to do all such acts as may be done by a lawfully warranted Lodge."

In Canada, we believe, that the usage hitherto has been to allow Lodges U. D. to affiliate members, and we would answer this question in the affirmative.

In the United States the Grand Lodges are divided on this question. Some allow the practice, and others do not. It seems, however, to be admitted that the decision should be based upon the terms of the dispensation. The powers of a Lodge U. D. are only such as are given by the dispensation, and the construction of

that document must be determined by the Grand Master who grants it, or by the Grand Lodge in whose jurisdiction it is issued.

Q.—Has a D. D. G. M. power to grant a Dispensation to a Lodge to appear at a pic-nic in regalia?

A.—The Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada gives power to a D. D. G. M. to grant dispensations for festivals and public processions. Whether a pic-nic is a festival within the meaning of this clause, does not appear to have been expressly decided by Grand Lodge. In 1877, a report of the Board of General Purposes on the condition of Masonry was adopted, in which reference was made to pic-nics, with the following remark: "It is a question whether the power of granting dispensations should be extended to such social gatherings."

This implies a doubt as to the power, but in the absence of a direct decision by Grand Lodge, we would consider that the word "festival" is sufficiently comprehensive to include a pic-nic, and that a D. D. G. M. has power to grant a dispensation for such a purpose.

Official.

Grand Lodge of Manitoba, A. F. & A. M.

{ OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER,
{ WINNIPEG, June 24, 1879.

To all to whom these presents shall come.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Manitoba
A. F. & A. M.:—

SENDS GREETING:

Know ye, that an Emergent Communication held in the city of Winnipeg, on Thursday the nineteenth day of June, 1879, called to receive the Report of the M. W. Grand Master on settlement of Masonic Difficulties, the M. W. Grand Master reported the basis of settlement which had been arrived at, which report was duly adopted. The M. W. Grand Master also reported that all suspensions of Lodges and Brethren