

SECTION 14. If at any Grand Lodge, stated or occasional, the Grand Master be absent, the Grand Lodge shall be ruled by the next in rank and seniority; and if no Grand Officer be present, by the Master of the senior Lodge. He shall have the same power as the Grand Master.

N. B.—The Grand Lodge is declared to be open in ample form when the Grand Master is present, in due form when a Past Grand Master presides; all other times only in form, yet with the same authority.

SECTION 15. In the Grand Lodge alone resides the power of enacting Laws and Regulations for the government of the Craft, and of altering, repealing and abrogating them; always taking care that the Ancient Landmarks of the Order are preserved. The Grand Lodge has also the inherent power of investigating, regulating and deciding all matters relative to the Craft, or to particular Lodges, or to individual Brothers, which it may exercise either of itself or by such delegated authority as in its wisdom and discretion it may appoint; but in the Grand Lodge alone resides the power of erasing Lodges and expelling Brethren from the Craft.

SECTION 16. No Lodge shall be erased, nor any Brother expelled, until the Master or Officers of the Lodge, or the offending Brother shall have been summoned to show cause in the Grand Lodge why