

interfere at the present time in this Scottish Rite family quarrel, but we must, as an independent Masonic journal, protest against Grand Lodges, as Grand Lodges, interfering with any of the so-called higher degrees.

This resolution goes further still, and says, "It is hereby declared that any Mason who, in this jurisdiction, is admitted into any other orders as Masonic, whether called the Rite of Memphis, or any other name, is acting unmasonically, and for such conduct shall be liable to be expelled from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, and shall be ineligible to membership or office in this Grand Lodge." Again the question may be asked, What power has the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to prevent its members taking the degrees of the various rites of Memphis, which is, at the present moment, the only Masonic rite in the world acknowledging one Supreme Head, Gen. Garibaldi, the premier Mason of Italy, and that has in Egypt and Roumania entered into treaties of alliance offensive and defensive with the Scottish Rite. But let us come nearer home; by this edict the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts virtually declares that certain degrees worked in England, Scotland, Ireland and Canada, are illegitimate.

We fancy the lamented T. D. Harrington would not have allowed his name to be associated with spurious Masonry, yet he was an ardent admirer of the Constantine Order, and with Col. W. J. B. MacLeod Moore, introduced it into this country. He also with the distinguished Great Prior obtained from Great Britain the right to confer the degree of Royal

Ark Mariner, a grade worked in the Capitular system of Scotland and conferred under Mark Lodges in England, and also under the authority of a Grand Lodge of its own. In the same way we might refer to the Swedenborgian Rite, with which both the above eminent Masons in Canada have been connected. Bros. Spry, Kerr, Macdonald, Henderson, and a host of others, who have occupied the most prominent positions in Symbolic and Capitular Masonry, have interested themselves in Ark Masonry and the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, both of which Orders in this country are now under the charge of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Canada. Such being the case, does it not seem a little strange that the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts should declare that any Mason taking these degrees within that jurisdiction, "is acting unmasonically and for such conduct shall be liable to be expelled from all the rights and privileges of Masonry?"

This system of a Grand Lodge interfering with various branches of Masonry, is most inconsistent with the true principles of the Craft. Masonry has its own peculiar branches in different countries, and is only the same so far as Symbolic Masonry is concerned. In South America and Continental Europe our "York Rite," beyond the Third, as it is improperly termed, is literally unknown, and the Grand Lodges and Grand Orientes of those countries might as well declare Capitular and Cryptic Masonry, and Templary, illegitimate and spurious, as the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to assert that the Orders to which we have above alluded are illegal.