

## THE MARK GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

I have been in correspondence with M. W. Bro. Graham, LL. D., relative to the present difficulties, about which as editor you have given us a thrashing in your paper for June 15th. Well, Bro. Traves, I am bound to confess that a part of the castigation is deserved, but when the whole matter is made public, it will be found that the error has been one of the head, not the heart. The Rev. G. R. Portal, one of our Past Grand Masters, has been ill more or less for a long time, who is the Grand Representative from Quebec, and doubtless accounts for the seeming neglect of Bro. Graham's communication, and I still hope and believe that justice will be done by our Mark Grand Lodge to the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

I entirely disagree with the granting of any Mark warrants in Quebec by the Mark Grand Lodge of England, after the exchange of Representatives by the two Bodies, and as strongly object to the issue of the patent to the P. M. for a Mark Provincial Grand Lodge in Montreal. Both acts are, I consider, invasions of the jurisdiction of a friendly power, and ought to be repealed as soon as possible. As you know, I consider the lodges which existed in Quebec, under the Mark Grand Lodge prior to the formation of the Grand Chapter for that Province, may elect to remain, or otherwise, under the Mark Grand Lodge, but I am entirely with Dr. Graham and yourself in objecting to the granting of any warrant, patent or aught else of a new character after

the mutual recognition of the two Bodies in question. The Craft Grand Lodge of England has not warranted any new lodges in Quebec since the Grand Lodge of Quebec was legally formed, though not exchanging Representatives; but the Mark Grand Lodge has actually granted a new warrant and formed a Provincial Grand Lodge in Montreal after it had formed a treaty of amity with the Grand Chapter of Quebec. The Mark Grand Secretary of England, now the matter is really before him, may be trusted to do his best, and I hope for peace and happiness yet to come out of the present trouble.

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 THE SCOTTISH RITE.
 

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In another column will be found a resume of the proceedings of the Montreal-Hamilton branch of the Scottish Rite at Hamilton. The gathering apparently was a large and influential one, and it is deeply to be regretted that the schisms in this Order are causing so much discussion and disturbance. Three Supreme Grand Councils, each claiming exclusive jurisdiction and presided over by Masons distinguished in almost every branch of the Craft, proves that there is something "rotten in the state of Denmark." Men like L. H. Henderson and George C. Longley would not be occupying the highest position in any branch of Masonry unless they were convinced of its legitimacy,—neither do we believe J. W. Murton or I. H. Stearns would; but here are the facts—three Supreme Bodies of the Scottish Rite in Canada with prominent Craftsmen attached to each. Our view of the case is clear: