

which the Grand Lodge of England can boast of. We have not imitated the example of our London brethren who seceded, but have followed the legal and constitutional steps taken by all other grand lodges at their establishment, and which have been imitated by our brethren in Victoria and South Australia, and which I earnestly desire to see adopted by all the Australian colonies. The Grand Lodge of South Australia, with which we are in friendly communication, has already been recognized by the Grand Lodge of England, and I cannot refrain from quoting the language of our esteemed brother the Earl of Limerick, who presided over the grand lodge when the application was received:—"He thought it was not out of place to remember that our colonies, although in civil matters they possessed local self-government, had shown that they were ready to rally to the assistance of the mother-country whenever they might be called upon to do so. (Cheers.) He was sure that that spirit would also exist in Freemasonry. He trusted, speaking individually, that the motion might be accepted unanimously, and that they might wish the Grand Lodge of South Australia hearty good wishes and God-speed, and that we might recognize in it a promising addition to the grand lodges of the world."

Now, brethren, with particular reference to this telegram, I have the authority of the Grand Secretary, who has carefully examined our foreign correspondence, for saying that no official application has ever been made by this Grand Lodge to the Grand Lodge of England since January, 1878, at the same period as communications were forwarded to all other Grand Lodges; and therefore I cannot understand why the idea of sending such a telegram was conceived. Can it be possible that after an interval of nearly eight years the Grand Secretary of the English Grand Lodge has become energetic about his correspondence? Or is there

any member of the Local District Grand Lodge at present in London so very anxious for our recognition that he has brought our present distressed condition under the notice of the Grand Lodge of England? Brethren, to me this recognition has always been a matter of indifference. I think you all know my views upon the question; but in the face of such dreadful news we can console ourselves with the reflection that what we have done has been in the interests of Freemasonry—for the good of the craft, and not from motives of personal ambition. Other British colonies, such as Canada, recognize our Grand Lodge, and have shown that local Masonic government, similar to that which we have established here, is not inconsistent with loyalty to the British Throne and attachment to the principles of Freemasonry over the world. And I can assure you that I have determined to assert our full rights to this Masonic territory, by within the next few days, issuing a manifesto declaring every lodge opened in this colony, unless owing allegiance to the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, illegal and unconstitutional, and all persons initiated in such Lodges as clandestine Freemasons; and in taking this step I feel confident that I will receive the support of the thirty-eight Grand Lodges who recognise our Grand Lodge, and who themselves are recognised by the Grand Lodge of England. Brethren, on behalf of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales and the Grand Lodge of South Australia, which I represent in this colony, I desire to thank you.

THE Laureate edition of Dr. Rob Morris' poems need no commendation. If they did, we could refer to the commendations of almost every reading, scholarly Mason in the United States and Canada. Few are so ignorant as not to have seen some of his poems, and all ought to have a copy. Address, Dr. Rob. Morris, LaGrange, Kentucky.