

the tramps are shrewd enough to deceive the first one, but would soon be found out by telling a different story.

Any other information required will be cheerfully given by

Yours fraternally,

CHAS. DOEBLER,
P. G. S. O. D.

THE CERNEAU BODY OF THE A. & A. S. RITE, 33°.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN.

Dear Sir and Bro.:—The continued hostile and bitter feeling still existing in the United States, between the rival Supreme Grand Councils, A. & A. S. Rite, of 33°, and the numerous prejudiced and false statements promulgated as to the legality of the revived "Cerneau" Body of the Rite, now firmly established in Canada, induces me to offer you the following remarks and "synopsis" of the "reply" of the Secretary-General, Dr. Robert Folger, published in pamphlet form, (as a defence) a short time back, which may help to give some insight into, and explanation of, the merits of this unseemly dispute, at present occupying the attention of the Masonic Body in Canada:—

However justified the old members of the Cerneau Body may consider themselves in reviving the former legitimate Supreme Council in the United States, it is a pity that the disputes of our neighbors,—a purely local affair,—should have been allowed to disturb the harmony hitherto existing in Canada, by the introduction of another body of the A. & A. S. Rite, precisely similar in every respect to the one already established, (no matter upon what grounds), and which it is now apparent might have been avoided, had a less exclusive and dictatorial policy been observed. The mistake made, was, in the Supreme Council of Canada

supposing they had the power and right to dictate to, and control the members of the Masonic Body in the Dominion, as to what degrees and rites individual members of the fraternity might choose to join. It is very clear that no such power or authority can exist in any governing body of the rite, nor interference with other branches of Masonry unconnected with it. The attempt to enforce such pretensions, has led to the spread of rival rites, and introduction of the unhappy animosity, jealousy and discord, as to the merits, legality and antiquity of these bodies, so deplorable amongst our neighbors.

The only supreme governing head of F. and A. Masonry proper, is the Craft Grand Lodge; but it does not interfere with any degrees based on Masonry outside of the craft degrees, or even acknowledge them, excepting by courtesy.

In Canada, the wisest plan now to adopt, would be to establish a bond of union between the different bodies of the rite, or, if that cannot be agreed upon, strictly to abstain from all interference with each other, and respect the conflicting differences of opinion, thus avoiding the ridiculous anomaly of two bodies, composed of the same members in other Masonic degrees, and professing similar principles, being in open hostility;—a parody on the Brotherhood of Masonry. But men will never say, (from their hearts,) "Our brother on earth," until they have learned to say, "Our Father which art in Heaven."

The reply, of which the following is a synopsis, should be carefully read by all members of the A. & A. S. Rite, 33°,—on the ground of fair play,—"one story being good until another is told:—"

Synopsis of Dr. Folger's Reply to denunciations of the Northern Jurisdiction, U. S. A.:—

"It is very clearly shown, that, when in 1863, two Supreme Councils