

ficent. If we think we see weak points in its armor, and spots in its feasts of charity, we forbear expatiating upon them, as ours is imperfect realization of facts, and we must live in the United States to grasp properly the peculiar difficulties and dangers, the strong and the weak side of American Freemasonry. But across dividing waters we are proud and glad to hold out the kindly hand of affectionate sympathy to the many good men and true who constitute our American fraternity."

But, alas for fair Canada, the brightest gem in the British Crown, she is all astray. Colonial Masons, of course, have neither rights nor privileges, and "her unquiet spirit," her "reckless writers" and her "unauthorized writers" must be muzzled. Grand Master Johnson in his address, puts a quietus on some things, but we are not afraid to prophecy that the *Freemason* will not have the manliness to withdraw its false assertions in *re* the connection of the Grand Lodge of Quebec with another secret society. However, time will prove all things. The Grand Lodge of England we are well aware will not "submit to unauthorized dicta much less to impertinent dictation," nor, the *Freemason* might add, to *right and justice*. As long as her few weak lodges in Montreal can exist by taking the black-balled material of lodges in other jurisdictions, she will allow them to hang on to their charter to her lasting disgrace and to the detriment of Masonry in this country. But it is all right so long as they are *English* Masons and not *Colonial* Hiramites. There is a vast difference! Colonial Masons should clearly understand that they have no rights. Why, it is

not long since the *Freemason* insinuated that none of our Grand Lodges were Sovereign, but merely a species of Provincial Grand Lodge. For our part we almost wonder any Canadian Mason, after the snubs we get year after year from the Grand Masonic Bodies of England, and week after week from the Masonic press of that country, have a bit of loyalty left in them. England can embrace our American cousins, but for her own daughter Grand Lodges she has only taunts and sneers. However, here is her fraternal allusion to Canada and Quebec:—

"We wish we could speak hopefully of Canada and Quebec. There is a spirit in the 'Old Dominion' unfortunately at work, fomented by some unquiet spirits and reckless writers, which bids ill for Masonic peace in 1884. It is not likely that the Grand Lodge of England will ever submit to unauthorized dicta, much less to impertinent dictation. The last act of the Grand Chapter of Quebec may be justified by some peculiarity in the act of recognition, but the allocution forbidding communication with the Grand Mark Lodge appears to the English mind to savor of ancient intolerance and to be an absurd act of angry and impracticable 'Boycotting.' The authorities of the Grand Mark Lodge seem only to have acted for the benefit of their own English members and to those who cling to the English Lodges at Montreal. And this we believe is the real offence. That the position of the English lodges at Montreal is legal and Masonic we in England have never doubted. And we cannot affect to submit to the *dogmata* of unauthorized writers or the modern theories of American State Grand Lodges on the subject. And then comes the serious question of the position of the Quebec bodies as before the laws of the land. If both the Grand Lodge and Grand