

M. W. GRAND LODGE OF CONNECTICUT.

Hartford, Conn., July 2, 1880.

J. B. TRAYES, Esq.

DEAR SIR & BRO.—Your circular of enquiry relating to the Grand Lodge of Ontario, so-called, is received, and in reply would inform you that the Grand Lodge in question has never been recognized by Connecticut. We only recognize Lodges working under authority of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and if any of the spurious ones gain admission to Lodges in this State, it is the result of misunderstanding in the premises.

Very Fraternally,

J. K. WHEELER,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE. THE GRAND
LODGE OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA,
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

New Orleans, July 5th, 1880.

To J. B. TRAYES,

Ed. CRAFTSMAN, and P.D.D.G.M.
Port Hope, Ont.

DEAR SIR & R. W. BRO.—Yours of 29th of June, relative to "the position of our Grand Lodge in regard to the illegitimate Grand Lodge of Ontario and its members," at hand, and considered with some little surprise, for I had supposed both the concern and its members to have been Masonically dead for some time past. By permission of the M. W. Grand Master, I reply that the concern alluded to has at no time had the sympathy of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, or the individual craft of this Jurisdiction. At the Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge in 1877, the M. W. Grand Master reported, that in September, 1876, he had (through this office), prohibited intercourse with them, which action was approved by the Grand Lodge. See pages 16 and 88 of our Proceedings for 1877, a copy of which was sent to your magazine. The Grand Lodge of Canada is held by our Grand Lodge to be the sole head, and representative of, Craft Masonry in the Province of Ontario, and as such has our best and fraternal wishes for a continuance of that excellence and success that has heretofore placed and maintained her at the head of the several very respectable representative bodies of the craft in the Dominion. With expressions of regard to yourself, I have the honor to be,

Fraternally,

JAMES C. BATCHELOR, M.D.,
Grand Secretary.

N.B.—I am not aware of any one of the American Grand Lodges failing to support the decree of the Grand Lodge of Canada in this matter.

THE GRAND LODGE OF KENTUCKY, A. F. & A. M., OFFICE OF THE GRAND SECRETARY, MASONIC TEMPLE.

Louisville, Ky., July 2nd, 1880.

J. B. TRAYES, Esq., Port Hope, Ont.

DEAR BRO.—Your circular of 29th ult. is just received.

By reference to pages 115 and 116, Grand Lodge Kentucky, printed proceedings, 1877, you will see Report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence concerning the "Grand Lodge of Ontario." If you do not possess the proceedings of 1877 I will send you a copy.

Fraternally Yours,
H. B. GRANT,
Asst. Grand Sec.

Louisville, Ky., July 5th, 1880.

J. B. TRAYES, Esq.

DEAR BRO.—In addition to my reference to Proceedings, 1877, in response to yours of 29th ult., I enclose Postal Card just received from my friend, Dr. Rob. Morris, P. G. M., Ky., which will give you the estimate in which the "Grand Lodge of Ontario" is held in this Jurisdiction by well informed Brethren.

Fraternally,

H. B. GRANT,
Asst. Grand Sec.

LaGrange, Ky., July 5th, 1880.

DEAR BRO.—"The Grand Lodge of Ontario is bogus—bogus—bogus. I didn't think enough of it to wipe my tooth-pick on it. If Ontario Grand Lodge Masons are received in American Lodges, 'tis through shameful ignorance."

ROB MORRIS.

Finding it impossible to organize a Lodge in Port Hope, after the fraud they represent had been exposed in the public press, "Westlake, Bean & Co.," dealers in bogus Masonry, offered to confer the "degrees" for nothing, but even this tempting offer was not accepted, and we understand that some of the parties they were desirous of securing as members were otherwise tempted to join their "Lodge." To their credit be it said, the bribe was refused with scorn, and the missionaries, who are picking up food and lodging by gulling the innocent public, have left for parts unknown, leaving threatenings of fire, brimstone, libel suits, and their return, flying through the air, but in the face of it all we don't scare worth a cent.

We have occupied more space on this subject than may appear necessary, but have done so in order that the mem-