

Montreal, English registry, which the Grand Lodge of Quebec has (wrongfully, we think,) suffered to exist. I also claim that there was a contract with the Grand Lodge of M. M. M. of England and the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

It seems passing strange to me, that men of the known intellectual ability of the leaders of the Grand Lodge of M. M. M. of England, can, without an immense stretch of conscience, present the claim that there was no contract, directly in the face of two distinct ones that have been made since 1877,—1st, with the General Grand Chapter of the United States; 2nd, with the Grand Chapter of Quebec in 1878.

Their contract with the General Grand Chapter of the United States is as follows:—

*“Resolved,* — That the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America, hereby recognizes the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, as the rightful and supreme authority over the degree of M. M. M. in England and Wales, and those Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown in which no existing Grand Body claims jurisdiction over that Degree.”

The recognition granted that Grand Body by the General Grand Chapter of the United States, distinctly specifies *what it shall not do.*

Their contract with the Grand Chapter of Quebec is as follows:—

*“Resolved,*—That the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, hereby recognize the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, as the rightful and supreme authority over the degree of Mark Master Masons in England and Wales, and those colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown wherein no Grand Body exists, or of right may be formed, claiming jurisdiction over that degree.”

There are the contracts, in plain English. No chance of equivocation in either one, and no terms for either party to misconstrue. When either party violates its compact, it violates its pledged word.

Has the General Grand Chapter of the United States, or the Grand Chapter of Quebec violated its part of the compact? No. Then who has? The Grand Lodge of M. M. M. of England, etc., which was recognized by the General Grand Chapter of the United States, August 24, 1877, and by the Grand Chapter of Quebec, Sept. 25, 1878.

It will be noticed that the recognition by the Grand Chapter of Quebec exacted more strict terms than that of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, by the insertion of the clause, “or of right may be formed.”

This same Grand Lodge of M. M. M. of England, etc., after having been granted recognition, knowingly, wittingly, maliciously, and without cause, violates the express stipulations of both recognitions; it invades the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, establishes new Mark Lodges, forms a Prov. Grand Lodge, and appoints a Prov. Grand Master to preside over the same in 1883.

It would seem that the idea prevails amongst our English brethren that those terms of recognition are meaningless words, simply inserted to fill up space. Not so: they were inserted for a specific purpose, which was, that Capitular Masonry, as practiced in America, should not be infringed upon by the Grand Lodge of M. M. M. of England, which Grand Body is not recognized by either the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter of England; and judging from their conduct of the past year, it would have been much better for us had we never recognized them.

The Grand Lodge of M. M. M. of England well knows that previous to its recognition by the Grand Bodies of America, it held a precarious ex-