

Grand Chapter of Quebec has exchanged Grand Representatives with forty out of the forty-five (I think) Grand Chapters of the world.

It has been so recognized, and Grand Representatives exchanged by the Grand M. M. Lodge of England. For a number of years there was nothing to indicate but what harmony existed within and without; yet, without a moment's warning, or without a reasonable shadow of an excuse, I find that a "Charter of confirmation" was issued to resuscitate an old, defunct charter that was surrendered in 1863. Proofs were abundantly offered that the said charter of Victoria Chapter was voluntarily and unanimously surrendered, but those proofs are considered of no avail by the Grand Chapter of England; and to add insult to injury the Grand M. M. Lodge of England must grant charters to form new Mark Master Lodges within the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec. By that act alone she (England) violates, not only the existing law of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, but that of every other American Grand Chapter, as well as promulgating discord and confusion amongst the workmen of the Royal Arch.

Words are inadequate to express the censure that should be bestowed upon any Grand Body that would commit such acts, and upon her own head must fall the consequences.

The Mark Master Degree is purely an American one, under the control of the Royal Arch Chapters. In England, however, it is under the control of the Grand Lodge. The Degree itself differs in some respects from that as practised in America. Now, the Grand M. M. Lodge of England is of decidedly modern date, having been formed in June, 1856. (See Mackey's Encyclopedia for a confirmation of the above facts).

It seems passing strange to us in the United States, that England will be so blind to her own interests, and show such a disregard for the laws of

her sister Grand Chapters, as to pursue the course that she has. In fact, we cannot account for it, much less explain the reason why it is so.

Were the Grand Chapter of Quebec to issue charters for the formation of M. M. Lodges in the city of London, England, there would be heard such a hue and cry from the Grand Chapter of England that the whole Masonic world would know it at once. She would strenuously resist such invasion with all the power that she had.

It seems strange to us old-fashioned Masons that any jurisdiction would do an act that she would most severely condemn were it done to her; yet the Grand M. M. Lodge of England, etc., has, and is, doing what she would most strenuously resist were it done to her. Can you, Bro. Traves, or any other brother, solve the problem? I cannot, nor will I attempt it.

Your readers can rest assured that the sympathies of the Royal Arch Masons of the United States are with the Grand Chapter of Quebec in her attempts to repel the unwarrantable invasion of its territory by the Grand M. M. Lodge of England, and we wish you Godspeed in your endeavors to sustain and enforce your jurisdictional rights.

When the proper time arrives I trust that from the Grand Chapters of America will issue no uncertain voice in the matter. They cannot, in justice to themselves; for, if the jurisdiction of one Grand Chapter can be invaded with impunity, so can that of another.

It certainly is my wish that the present existing difficulties may be speedily terminated, and the question settled at once and forever.

Perhaps it is a "vain hope," but I still hope that the Grand Bodies of England may be "brought to see the errors of their ways, and recant," before the whole Masonic world is filled with confusion, and the laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Chapter of Quebec can, and will be enforced, without a resort to the