

But if we can have an "African Grand Lodge" for colored men, why not have a "German Grand Lodge" for our Teutonic brethren, who form so large and respectable a portion of the population of Ohio? Or if the Pope would only consent to withdraw his bull of excommunication we might have "The Irish Grand Lodge," into which none but Roman Catholics of Hibernian descent would be admitted. Masonry is universal and can tolerate no such invidious distinctions.

3. But lastly, the Grand Lodge of Ohio, recognized all over the world as a regular and legitimate body, the supreme authority in the jurisdiction over which it presides, having, up to this day, maintained and still continuing to maintain the doctrine that the "so-called Colored Masons" in its territory are clandestine, and as such forbidding all Masonic communication with them, is now recommended to "descend from its high estate" and become a supplicant to the "so-called Colored Grand Lodge."

The committee say if the "so-called Colored Grand Lodge shall accept this recognition." That is to say it is to be offered to them as a free gift. There is no evidence that they have asked or that they want it. Indeed, it is generally believed that these Colored Masons are rather independent and are not inclined towards a fraternal connection with the whites. At least they have sometimes said so. And so there does not really appear to be any very great pressure at this moment for a union. But the committee are so anxious for this union that they are ready to throw aside all dignity and self-respect, and to present the Grand Lodge of Ohio at the closed door of the "so-called Colored Grand Lodge" and humbly request it to "accept recognition." What if it answers—"Go away, we do not want your recognition—we are quite comfortable—we do not need your recognition." What then?

We have approached this subject with no other than the kindest feelings to the mistaken authors of the report. But we feel confident that the errors which they have committed are of too grave import to the safety of the whole Fraternity of the United States to be passed over in silence. Having gone so far, the only remedy that can be effectual is the absolute rejection of the report by the Grand Lodge of Ohio at its next session.

In the meantime it is the duty of every Masonic journalist to raise his warning voice and to proclaim what would be the disastrous consequences of the adoption of these measures—it is still more the duty of every Grand Lodge, which convenes between this time and October next, to say to the Grand Lodge of Ohio, that these two questions of the recognition of Clandestine Masons, without being healed, and of establishing two independent and concurrent Grand Lodges in the same jurisdiction, have been long since definitively settled by the common law and the universal usages of Masonry in this country, and must not now be disturbed.

We summarize the most important objections to this report as follows:

1. The committee propose to recognize and admit into the Masonic family, a large number of clandestine or illegally made Masons, (if they are Masons at all,) without any previous process of healing. The question of color is not here involved or considered.

2. Nay, more, they would not only thus illegally recognize them, but they propose to subvert the great principles of American Masonry and establish two independent, rival Grand Lodges in the same jurisdiction.

3. Still worse, not only would they recognize clandestine Masonry and destroy the supremacy of Grand Lodges—but they would perpetuate an odious class or race distinction by establishing in Ohio a white man's Grand Lodge, and a black man's Grand Lodge, thus attacking the principle of Masonic universality.

When Jove sent Pandora upon the earth he gave her a box, from which, when opened, issued all the evils and distempers that have since afflicted mankind. Hope alone remained at the bottom of the box to alleviate the sufferings of man.

We cannot but view this report, so fraught with manifold evils, as a box of Pandora. But the hope that is at the bottom, is that the good sense and prudence of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, will, at its next session, reject all the propositions of this mischievous document—so mischievous, that we are sure its authors never would have presented it, had they given a moment's thought to its tendency.—*Voice of Masonry.*

MASONIC LITERATURE.

MORE than once have we drawn attention to the question whether a periodical literature is, or is not beneficial to the Craft. We return to it now, because it has been brought somewhat conspicuously before us in a work of the late Dr. Oliver, recently published, and a review of which will be found in another part of our columns. Now, there are few men to whose opinions on matters of interest to the Craft we attach greater value. We are very far from accepting all his theories, but no one ever doubted his enthusiasm, and in the case now before us, whether a Masonic press is or is not