

have thereby destroyed, so far as they are able, the cosmopolitan character of our Order.

For, *Freemasonry is cosmopolitan*; it is universally diffused over the whole habitable surface of the earth, and a Brother should be recognized as such wherever he goes. But this can be so no longer, so far as France is concerned, unless from the ruins of the Masonic edifice so rudely thrown down, there arise a Grand Lodge founded on true Masonic principles,—a contingency to be devoutly wished for.

The question then is: What shall we do? And we have no hesitation in saying that we Canadian Masons should take the same immediate action as has already been taken by Grand Lodges in different parts of the world. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania withdrew recognition of the Grand Orient of France, when it learned that, by its first vote, the clause in the Constitution requiring a belief in God had been struck out. The Grand Lodge of Ireland, at its meeting last month, unanimously passed the following resolution:—“Whereas, the Grand Lodge of Ireland has received official notification that the Grand Orient of France has altered the first article of its Constitution from its previous form, and omitted therefrom, as one of its fundamental principles, belief in the existence of God and the immortality of the soul, the Grand Lodge of Ireland hereby resolves that the Grand Orient of France, having by such alteration rendered admissible as members within its jurisdiction persons who do not believe in the existence of a personal Deity, has

thereby caused a breach in the foundation of Ancient Freemasonry, and acted in violation of the first great principle of the Order, and, therefore, the Grand Lodge of Ireland hereby declares that it cannot continue to recognize the Grand Orient of France as a Masonic body, and it thereby directs all Lodges working under the Irish Constitution to decline receiving as Masons all persons hailing from the Grand Orient of France, or from any subordinate lodge under its jurisdiction.” And the London *Freemason* in commenting upon this action of the Grand Lodge of Ireland says that, it does not see what other course the Grand Lodges in England, Scotland, Canada and the United States have to take, or can take—that it cannot conceive how, under the circumstances, any English or Irish, or Scotch, or American, or Canadian Masons can enter the French Lodges with safety to themselves, or with honor to the Craft. It therefore cordially hails the resolution of the Irish Grand Lodge which interdicts to all reverent and religious Irish Freemasons an entrance into Lodges in France, in which they are ashamed or afraid to acknowledge the name of T. G. A. O. T. U., and it trusts that the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland will follow this good example, and that all the Grand Lodges of Canada and the United States will initiate such needful proceedings.

The Grand Orient of Egypt has passed a similar resolution to that of the Grand Lodge of Ireland; and we see by the *Agence* paper that the subject was to be brought before the