

REPORT

Relative to the Inquiry into the

**POSSIBILITIES and MEANS of
RECONCILIATION
between the various
Masonic Powers of the world**

Presented to the International Masonic Association

In the name of the Grand Orient of France

by Brother
ARTHUR GROUSSIER
GRAND MASTER

PARIS
1939

**POSSIBILITIES and MEANS of
RECONCILIATION
between the various
Masonic Powers of the world**

REPORT of Brother **ARTHUR GROUSSIÉ**, of the Grand Orient, of the Grand Orient of France, on the means of reconciliation between the various regular Masonic Powers of the world. Presented to the International Masonic Association in the name of the Grand Orient of France.

NECESSITY OF RAPPROCHEMENT

The Grand Orient of France believes that reconciliation between the various Masonic Powers is necessary if Freemasonry wishes to avoid the terrible conflict from 1914 to 1918 saw nations cutting each other's own interests or of their own ideologies and has unchained a disrupting agitation among European nations, but in all the civilized world, and the fatal consequences of these pernicious seeds of future conflicts.

The lack of balance has raged in all domains, down, it is being aggravated and the races are falling backward and the Harmony in the interior as well as peace on the exterior are both menaced. Human beings rush on each other and with the most terrible and bloody horrors of culture which our fathers have so painfully created, and of which we are so justly proud.

In circumstances so grave, has Masonry done, or is it? In circumstances so grave, Moral Power? But at what moment has it spoken? When has it acted?

Profoundly divided, it was not able to act with any of its own inaction. Masonry has allowed blow after blow to its own inaction. Masonry any other organization, it is impregnated with the spirit of Liberty.

It was Freemasonry that was first to be of the Masonic powers have already succumbed. Others are again menaced. Perhaps will think that they have only paid for will think that they have only paid a painful story of the disappeared Jurisdictions, nor the painful story of the disappeared Jurisdictions, nor esteemed and honored' by their fellow-citizens, and who speak of the Grand Lodge of Vienna. What was its sin? reproach? Did it figure among the Masonic Powers which they accuse of mixing? Certainly not. It had only twenty years of existence, but it exchanged guarantees of friendship with the United Grand Lodge of England, which at a difficult moment exchanged them with the Grand Orient of symbolic bodies. Are we going to let the Masonic Light be extinguished symbolic bodies. Are we going

Finally, a form of rapprochement has been extolled that is the conference of the Chiefs of the Order.

Each one of the forms of rapprochement we have mentioned has its inconveniences; one can choose between a grouping of Masonic Powers; one can give to this grouping an organization more or less flexible; but there is no opposition between a rapprochement of Masons, basically speaking, of simple Masons under the reserve that this league may have as its unique purpose to provide for meetings of Masons of different tongues and nations, and its statutes, can make no decisions binding on Freemasonry.

Besides the form of organization to be considered is both the territorial center of Europe and also a center from the standpoint of the Americas, and although the Grand Orient of France, Geneva or Basel are far from the Americas, and although the Grand Orient of France, Geneva or Basel have rallied to the International Masonic Association, the United States or of Canada would accept a seat on them adhered to a common organization? It might without doubt which would agree to a rapprochement; Europe, America, etc., but this would be difficult to determine.

The Grand Orient of France would rally to any form of rapprochement or any meeting place that meet with the most general acceptance.

The Masonic Powers which have affiliated to a rapprochement have been nearly identical, but none of a Scandinavian or British Grand Lodge, or one from the United States or of Canada, or the Saxon Masonic Powers have remained aloof from these organizations appears to us complex, and perhaps a little different; but it seems that these Powers are closer or more intimate than those which result from recognition, evidenced by the guarantees of friendship. If it was thus, all would be of no useful consequence towards bringing about the universality of Masonry.

Under these conditions is it for us to seek new forms of rapprochement? Would it rather be non-adhering Powers to the International Masonic Association to determine what would be of more intimate union that would be acceptable to them?

We believe, however, that any rapprochement which would be based only on simple recognition would be without much interest if the officials of these Powers was not reinforced by a reciprocal and constant penetration of Masons in the Lodges of these Powers.

