

10/5/69?

Dear Sir T D J. M. K.,

I have just time to thank you for the loan of the 2 little books, which I have not previously seen, & will return to you when I have had time to review their contents, - also to say a word or two.

Your letter puts the state of the Masonic order of chivalry correctly, but there is no earthly reason why a new order should not assume a Superior position - that it will not however is exemplified by the enclosed letter of letters. I have put the matter before plainly tonight by asking what would be my position if I established a chapter of the Red + on an entirely like the present Masonic order - I should very properly be arrested for Swindling.

If I were convinced that the Masonic orders of Knighthood are not what they represent themselves, I would at once resign them, but the world will never accept them, for the reason that they are crowded with improper persons.

It is evident from Little's letter that they will never allow the Prince to introduce the genuine order, as he is however anxious to obtain the position in the Masonic Order, I can see no great harm in his accepting the Patronage of the Masonic Order, & letting them govern it in their own way - leaving him free (on behalf of his father) to confer the genuine order where on he chooses, either in connection with the Masonic order, or altogether distinct from it - Its records, in any case, being kept separate & its dignities separable from the Masonic Red Cross Order.

If ^{the} Prince succeeds to the dignity of "Grand Master" of the genuine order he could resign the patronage of the Masonic Order to the Member of his family.

I am not quite clear whether you distinctly advise that the Prince should have nothing to do with the Masonic Order of the Red + - but

Shall be glad if you will express
yourself definitely, as to whether
you are of opinion that he should
have nothing to do with it, in any
shape or form. No doubt its title
is very unsatisfactory, but it is
certainly of foreign introduction, &
not necessarily a Masonic invention,
and in any case the world can
have no absolute knowledge on
a subject of which its own members
are in doubt.

When I said 'do not compromise the
Prince's' solely meant in his
freedom of assenting or refusing the
offer of patronage of the Order.

We must certainly never legitimize
the Masonic Order, without the
adoption of the genuine Statutes
of the same. There seems no chance.

Yr. Maternaly Yours
A. C. Parker