

even allow rival rites to exist amongst us, we should not refuse to defend a legal Grand Lodge, in her endeavors to maintain the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge Sovereignty.

The edict issued by the Grand Lodge of Quebec was not directed against the Grand Lodge of England, but against those three malcontent Lodges, that openly defied the Grand Lodge of Quebec, in whose territorial limits they are situated, and they have no one to blame but themselves for being isolated from their brethren.

A portion of the Masonic press have commended upon that edict; one in particular, in terms that show but little Masonic courtesy, brotherly love (which its editor so loudly boasts) or would even accord to the officers of the Grand Bodies of Quebec a place amongst Masons or civilized men. I can assure not only the writer of the article in question, but every other brother, that they will find the members of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, true men, courteous in their demeanor, hospitable in the extreme, and possessed with brains, common sense, and the peer of any editor in the city of —. I can further assure him that they are in earnest; that they are contending for their Masonic homes; that they recognize the importance of being supreme within their own jurisdiction, and they know that they cannot attain that position unless every Lodge within its limits renders allegiance to their *legal* Grand Lodge.

Shall they attain that position, or shall those three malcontent Lodges, assisted by and backed up by the largest and most powerful Grand Lodge in the world, be allowed to set at defiance and to occupy the territory of another Grand Lodge?

The answer to that question depends in a great measure upon the Masonic fraternity in the United States; and the question now comes direct home to us all, and to an American that believes in the dogma of exclusive Grand Lodge Sovereignty,

there can be but one answer, viz.:— We must sustain the Grand Bodies of Quebec, or "back down" from our boasted position on Grand Lodge Sovereignty, and toady to powers that hold fast to all that they can get and continually cry for more.— *Masonic Chronicle*.

CONVERSAZIONE AT CLARKSBURG.

June 24th, 1885, was a red letter day in the history of Beaver Lodge, No. 284, A. F. A. M., G. R. C., Clarksburg, Ont. The "Brethren" having completed and furnished their beautiful new lodge room, decided to mark the event of completion by issuing invitations to their ladies and a select party of friends to a conversazione, &c.

The members of the Lodge had the pleasure of introducing their wives (either present or prospective), and a lady and gentleman friend, which brought together a splendid party of nearly two hundred persons.

The lodge room, ante room, dressing and refreshment rooms, having been furnished by the committee with drapery and flowers in a very tasty and beautiful manner, presented a truly magnificent appearance. This, together with an altogether unique musical programme, both instrumental and vocal, with accompaniments on the grand piano, and a very complete and continuous supply of refreshments during the evening, gave full and very pleasant satisfaction to all, and elicited universal commendation and praise.

The order of the evening was as follows: The visitors being seated, the brethren in evening dress and with regalia, marched in procession into the lodge room, when the W. M., Bro. Rich. Carroll, took the chair, and the brethren were called upon to give the grand honors, after which the W. M. stated the nature of the meeting, and after a very pleasing, comprehensive and with terse speech, gave a very hearty welcome