

is so firm and decisive, that we feel convinced the small amount of recognition they have received will not be materially increased.

The seceders have endeavored to convince the Craft that the feeling in the province was generally with them; but with the fact before us that eighteen lodges within Quebec still remain loyal to their head—with one of the seceding lodges, by an unanimous vote, returning to its allegiance—with brethren, although in a minority in such case, but of sufficient number happily for authority to continue the work of some of the seceding lodges, we have no doubt that the Grand Lodge of Canada will assert its authority. When the real position becomes known, we may expect to hear that some of the recognitions, granted with unseemly haste, will be withdrawn.

The chief argument used by the schismatics is that "It is a well established law of Masonry, that Masonic and political boundaries should be coterminous." This principle, it is true, has been adopted in the United States adjoining, and has been found convenient, but it certainly has not come into such universal practice as would constitute it a "Masonic Law."

They also assert that the Grand Lodge of Canada has never exercised supreme, but only concurrent authority in Lower Canada, on the ground that lodges holding under the English Constitution continued to work by the authority of their original warrants. It is also alleged that the Grand Lodge of Canada begged and prayed for recognition on any terms. On referring to the documents of the time (1859), Lord Zetland claims that those lodges which preferred working under their original warrants should be permitted to do so—which point was willingly conceded; but in making the concession, the Grand Master (W. Bro. Wilson) held that from the date of the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada the supreme authority in matters Masonic became vested in that body; and he denied the power of Grand Masters of other jurisdictions to appoint or continue Provincial Grand Officers, or to grant warrants for new lodges; and if such were done, he would consider it his duty to declare them clandestine and irregular, and to forbid all intercourse with them. The reply of Lord Zetland accepted these conditions, and fully admitted the sovereignty of the Grand Lodge of Canada, which that body is determined unflinchingly to maintain, as, at the outset of the conflict, we predicted they would do.

The report is a very lengthened one, the session extending over three days; but we need no apology to our readers for occupying so large a portion of your space, as the subject is of the greatest interest.

In addition to these important matters, there was a great amount of business to be transacted; but it is a gratifying fact that the consideration of no case of grievance or appeal was deferred till the next meeting.—*Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror.*

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☞ We learn that the M. W. Grand Master has directed the Grand Secretary to call a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge for the 23rd instant, at the city of Ottawa, for the purpose of laying the Foundation stone of the "new Court House" to be erected in that city.

The Brethren of the Ottawa City Lodges are making extensive arrangements for the occasion, as it is hoped a very large number of the Craft will be present to take part in the ceremonies.