

The Canadian Craftsman.

Port Hope, January 15, 1886.

GRAND LODGE OF QUEBEC.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, held on the 27th January, when a large number of representatives of lodges were present, the subject of the difficulties with the Grand Lodge of England was fully discussed, the result being that the following resolution was carried almost unanimously, only two voting against it :—

Moved by R.W. Bro. John P. Noyes, seconded by R.W. Bro. James Addie,—

That whereas, the issue of the edict by the M.W. the Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, forbidding intercourse between the Master Masons of this jurisdiction and the three lodges in Montreal warranted by the English Grand Lodge, has produced no perceptible effect in the settlement of the difficulty as to the supreme jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge in the territory of this Province; and

Whereas, this Grand Lodge cannot honorably recede from its rightful claim to supremacy in Masonic matters in this Province, or leave its future chances for success to the chapter of accidents;

And whereas, the Grand Lodge of England has refused to withdraw the warrants of its said three lodges:—

Therefore, be it Resolved,—That the Grand Master of this Lodge be, and he is hereby instructed, to issue an Edict, in the name and on behalf of this Grand Lodge, severing all intercourse between this Grand Lodge, its subor-

dinate lodges and members on the one hand, and the Grand Lodge of England, its subordinate lodges and members thereof on the other hand, unless the warrants of said three lodges be withdrawn, or unless they affiliate with this Grand Lodge on or before the first day of July next. Carried.

A NOBLE BENEFICENCE.

An aged Mason at Shelbyville, Indiana, Past Grand Secretary and Past Grand Master Hacker, writes that his lodge has been greatly afflicted within less than two years, nine of the Masonic brethren having died. Each required in his last illness expensive medical and other attention, and each was interred at the expense of the Order, costing various sums, from \$175 to \$400 each. At the time of writing this letter, Bro. Hacker avers that the lodge still had in its care three worthy members, each of whom, it was feared, would follow the long array of those who are resting under the green sprigs.

Such cases are healthy to read. They brighten up the pages of Masonic history. They are our best argument with the sceptic. They do more to hold members in affiliation than anything else. Masons never dimitt from the lodge because its charities press too heavily upon them, but because of the deadness and inertness of the lodge in the discharge of such duties. I have no pity to waste upon the lodges which have done so well, but rather congratulate them that their benevolence has been so fairly tested, both towards God and man.