

cheers given by those of De Molay and St. Omer.

The incidents of the occasion will always linger in the minds of the Sir Knights of St. Omer Commandery, many of whom were present at the Boston and Albany depot on Friday morning on the departure of the 9 o'clock express train to exchange greetings with and wish the Sir Knights of Palestine Commandery a pleasant journey to their homes, they departing for New York on that train. —*Boston Journal*.

F. & A. M.

An Appeal for the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

BY FRANK W. BAXTER.

In the published proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Quebec for 1885, I find in the address of the M. W., E. R. Johnson, the following sentence to which I would call the attention of the readers of the *Masonic Chronicle*, as being one that expresses the keynote of American Masonry.

The sentence referred to is as follows:

"This Grand Lodge was established upon the doctrine, or principle, of sovereignty — of exclusive jurisdiction within the limits of its territory."

The above sentence conveys in a nut-shell the principle that is now universally acknowledged by all American Grand Lodges as the correct one.

The Grand Lodge of Quebec was organized in accordance with Masonic usages and recognized Masonic law in 1869; from that time to the present, she has at all times, and in all places, upheld and contended for the doctrine of *exclusive sovereignty within her own territorial limits*. Her first contest was with the Grand Lodge of Canada; that difficulty was, after a time, happily terminated, and she was and is recognized by the Grand Lodge of Canada, and by every Grand Lodge in America, as having exclusive jurisdiction within the Pro-

vince of Quebec. So far so good; but the Grand Lodge of Canada, in order to procure the recognition of the Grand Lodge of England, consented that all Lodges that so elected should retain their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England. A few so elected to remain, and the Grand Lodge of Canada was recognized by the Grand Lodge of England. Unfortunately for the Grand Lodge of Quebec, those Lodges that retained their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, were located in what is now the Province of Quebec.

Now bear in mind that the Grand Lodge of Quebec is *not* the heirs-at-law of the Grand Lodge of Canada, but a separate, distinct Grand Lodge; politically, a separate Province, with a separate and distinct legislature, and in no ways dependent upon the Province of Ontario, or that was before confederation — Upper Canada. Heirs-at-law or not, she has had to fight her way step by step, contending against both the Grand Lodge of England and a powerful anti-Masonic element that exists in the Province.

For fifteen years the Grand Lodge of Quebec has tried every means that mortal men could try to bring about a peaceful solution of this vexed question, until, as a last resort, and in obedience to the direct commands of his Grand Lodge, Grand Master Johnson, after a last fraternal request to the Grand Lodge of England, issued an edict of non-intercourse against those three Lodges situated in the city of Montreal, that refused to render allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

How long, think you, would any Grand Lodge in the United States allow Lodges in their territory, that did not render allegiance to the Grand Lodge in whose jurisdiction they were situated? Why, in some of them one cannot even join a 96° rite, without fear of expulsion, and if by chance he is a member of a rival rite, he must be expelled from his Commandery. Very well, then, if we will not