

claimed at the end of the year, and the local English version of the matter is that this has been done to create sympathy, and that when the end of the year comes no edict will be issued, and that when the election of Grand Lodge officers is over, and the present able in-the-do-nothing-policy administration have been re-elected, that matters will continue as heretofore. The people who are soft enough to swallow this pleasing dose, cannot be aware of the verbal instructions issued by a local dignitary, who however, declined to reduce them to writing, to refuse Quebec Masons admission who so far forget themselves as to seek to visit these irregular lodges. It may be that the edict may not issue before Grand Lodge meets, but then we shall have the matter in our hands, and be free to pass any resolution that pleases the majority, when, should cowardice still continue, let us be prepared to be considered unworthy of the society of men who prize honor above the advantages of temporary expediency, for there will be none too mean to point the finger of scorn at us. In this connection some interest has been created by the reception of the October number of the *Masonic Chronicle*, Columbus, O., containing letters from Frank W. Baxter, Highgate, Vt., showing up the illegality of all English Lodges formed after 1799; and also showing that the legal aspect of the position of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, according to Masonic usage, was the only thing the Masons of the United States had to do with, as "a civil law may be enacted so as to declare a clandestine Masonic organization the legal one, while the regular body the illegal one. In such a case that we, as Masons, would be obliged to recognize a clandestine Mason made a legal one by a body of men knowing nothing about Masonry." His remarks, also, on Grand Chapter matters are interesting, but as the Grand Z. has done his duty in the premises, the matter can safely be

left to the honor of the American brotherhood.

The paper above referred to, gives the following extract from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Illinois:—"The Grand Lodge of Quebec has erred, and continues to err, in not severing fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of England, for its indefensible course in establishing lodges within its jurisdiction; and in defiance of its own law, as clearly set forth in its late demand upon the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, that it withdraw authority for a lodge it had authorized within the territory of Gibraltar, and unoccupied by a Grand Body. We had reason to suppose, after this formal enunciation by the Mother Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodges of the English Provinces of this country would not, for a moment, hesitate to assert their rights and dignities. How long will the brethren of Quebec submit to indignity? Do they not owe it to Masons of America to throw off the sentimentalism that has hitherto permitted a gross wrong to exist? The Grand Lodge of Quebec is the Masonic peer, not only of the Grand Lodge of England, but of every and any Grand Lodge in the world. Occupying this position, it is her plain duty to maintain her dignity at every hazard. The Grand Lodges of the continent will only be too glad to come to her assistance."

Now, brethren of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, in view of the foregoing, I ask you are we come so low that we require to be kicked into a proper assertion of our rights? OSIRIS.

AN OPEN LETTER TO J. H. LIVINGSTON.

SIR,—Inasmuch as the mails have failed to bring a response from you, as a last resort, I take this method to refute a certain statement of yours, in a circular issued and signed by you. Were that circular based upon facts, it would be a very fair docu-