

The Canadian Craftsman.

Port Hope, March 15, 1886.

QUEBEC AND ENGLAND.

The Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, devotes a great deal of space to the Quebec-England difficulty, giving in full the documents passing between the two Grand Bodies, and also the remarks made by several prominent members of the Grand Lodge of England. We are surprised to find M. W. Bro. Vaux leave the subject without expressing an opinion. We quote the following, though but little new light is thrown on the subject:—

The proceedings of this communication are of deep interest to the Grand Lodges of the United States. So important do we regard them in their relations to Grand Lodges in lands under the dominion of the British Government, and hence by that claim under the dominion of the Grand Lodge of England, that we take much space to present to the craft in Pennsylvania the following correspondence, which appears in full in the proceedings of the September Communication of the Grand Lodge of England:—

The Grand Secretary then read the following letters:—

"THE GRAND LODGE OF QUEBEC,
A. F. AND A. M.,

"GRAND MASTER'S OFFICE,

"STANSTEAD, QUEBEC, 3d Oct., '84.

"To His Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, etc., etc., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

"Most Worshipful Brother and Illustrious Sir,—With assurance of loyalty, and under the instructions conveyed

to me by the Grand Lodge of Quebec as its chief Executive Officer, I desire to call the official attention of your Royal Highness to the position of Craft Masonry in this Province, as affected by the continuance therein of lodges acknowledging the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England, and repudiating the authority of the Grand Lodge of Quebec as the Sovereign Masonic Power within the territory.

"This Grand Lodge was duly constituted in accordance with the rules prevalent on this continent as to territorial jurisdiction, has been in existence for nearly fifteen years, and has been fraternally recognized by the Sister Grand Lodges of the western world, and generally elsewhere, as the Grand Body exercising supreme power in Craft Masonry in the Province.

"That principle has been generally accepted as fundamental, and has become the rule and guide in matters relating thereto; it was through the acceptance and adoption of that principle that this Grand Lodge was formed; so large a body of Masons have recognized it, that its infraction would cause great disturbance in the Masonic world, and in the interests of peace, harmony, and brotherly love, such a calamity ought, if possible, to be avoided.

"At the time this Grand Lodge was organized, there existed in this Province three lodges, to wit:—St. Paul, No. 374; St. George, No. 440; and St. Lawrence, No. 640, under the jurisdiction of your Grand Lodge, and which have continued without changing their allegiance.

"For many years after the formation of this Grand Lodge, the difficulties and labor attending the same, and the proper shaping of the work so as to procure efficiency, largely occupied its attention.

"Yet at all times and all occasions, has this Grand Lodge in the most positive manner declared its belief in and adherence to that doctrine, and