

On the 21st October, I instructed Grand Secretary to issue a circular to all our sister Grand Lodges, of which the following is a copy :—

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. AND A. MASONS OF CANADA,

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

Hamilton, 25th October, 1869.

*To the M. W. Grand Master, Officers and Brethren,  
of the Grand Lodge of ———.*

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—I have the honor, by command of the M. W. the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, to bring to the notice of your Grand Lodge the existence of a rebellious and seditious movement by certain malcontent Brethren in the Province of Quebec, with the object and aim of establishing a *second* Grand Lodge within our territorial jurisdiction, the supreme control over which has been recognized and accorded to this Grand Lodge by every Grand Lodge in the world.

These rebellious Brethren, many of whom are under suspension, called a Convention, which met in the City of Montreal on the 20th instant, (at which the public prints report there were about twenty Lodges represented, less than one-half of the Lodges in that portion of our jurisdiction, and two of the Lodges mentioned had been suspended for the contumacious conduct of its members)—and formed a so-called Grand Lodge, electing officers, &c., &c. In the same report it is stated that Bro. J. H. Graham of Richmond, was elected Grand Master, and Brother Edson Kemp, of Nelsonville, Grand Secretary, &c. Doubtless this pretended organization will shortly make application to your M. W. Grand Lodge for recognition, counsel, and support. The Grand Lodge of Canada is preparing a circular which it is intended shall be sent to all the Grand Lodges with which it is in friendly and fraternal correspondence, containing full and complete information in regard to this most unmasonic and unconstitutional movement; and pending its reception, I am to express the hope that your Grand Lodge will in no manner accord a recognition to this irregular and clandestine organization.

I have the honor to remain,

Your obedient servant and Brother,

THOS. B. HARRIS,

G. Sec. Grand Lodge of Canada.

On the 23rd October, I issued letters to each of the D. D. G. Masters in the Province of Quebec, requesting them to obtain at the earliest possible moment, a statement of the number of Lodges in their respective districts which had taken action on this question, and to forward me a certified copy of the proceedings had in each case, so as to enable me to ascertain the exact position of every Lodge in the Province. From R. W. Bros. Walker and Gutman, (Quebec and Montreal,) I received prompt and satisfactory replies. From R. W. Bro. Stearns I learn by his letter of November 25th, that the Lodges in his district, (six I think in number,) have taken action "in favour of the Grand Lodge of Quebec," and he further informs me that "circumstances have prevented him from obtaining all the information I required." From R. W. Bro. Robinson, I have received a communication which I give entire, as it refers to the fact of his being about to leave Canada, a circumstance, which I feel certain, will be deeply regretted by every member of this Grand Lodge. That R. W. Bro. was eminently distinguished for his zeal in the cause of Freemasonry, and labored most indefatigably to promote its interests. To this Grand Lodge he was a peculiarly valuable officer, cheerfully giving his time and talents whenever required, to further every measure calculated to promote its prosperity and advancement. Whilst regretting the removal from amongst us, of so worthy a brother in every respect, we can confidently assure him that the recollection of his labors here will not soon be forgotten, and that he