

all grand lodges in communication with us."

The lodge addressed a letter to the provincial grand secretary, of date June 2nd, 1795, setting forth "that in consequence of having come under the censure of the grand lodge, Hiram Lodge have unanimously agreed to suspend all masonic labors as a body, and deposited their warrant until the right worshipful the grand lodge shall direct the further disposal of it."

The ruling spirits of the lodge were evidently formed of stern and unyielding material; they believed that, under any and all circumstances, a brother mason should screen the acts, no matter how unjustifiable, of another brother, and that the peremptory mandates of civil or military tribunals, with even the ulterior alternative of loss of employment and dismissal from the service, should not force him to break through, what they considered, a binding obligation.

Grand Lodge of Quebec.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

The twenty-fifth annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, A.F. and A.M., was opened this morning, Wednesday, January 30th, in the Masonic Hall, Place d'Armes square, M.W. Bro. John P. Noyes, Grand Master presided, and there was a large attendance of members.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master in delivering his annual address, referred to the fact that this was the 25th annual Communication, the Grand Lodge having been organized on October 20, 1869. He continued: It is an epoch in our history which encourages to retrospection and comparison. It cannot be doubted that when the gavel sounded the birth of this Grand Lodge there was no little uncertainty as to those who would become its ad-

herents in this province, or as to the nature and probable success of its struggle for supremacy. The only thing absolutely certain was, that a position had to be conquered, and, so to speak, with raw troops and with no immediate resources, at least such as would disturb the serenity of the Grand Treasurer. Tracing forward, the change is highly gratifying and fully justifies the course then taken. We have fraternal relation with more than fifty Grand Lodges; our supremacy is secure; our charitable funds are considerable; our revenue for craft work is ample; our aid to distressed brethren is adequate; our numbers have more than doubled despite well known and deplorable drawbacks, here and there over the province; wherever a lodge is located are well furnished and equipped lodge rooms and Masonic halls, and now, our beautiful Temple, shortly to be occupied by the city lodges and kindred Masonic organizations. Nor should we ignore as assets our twenty four volumes of Grand Lodge proceeding and our own Masonic history. The subordinate lodges in this province were widely scattered, with small membership, when this Grand Lodge was formed. The opportunities to gain experience in so large a body as our mother Grand Lodge were not commensurate with the zeal, laudable ambition and capacity of those entitled to sit therein who promoted our organization. We all realize the stimulus which comes from responsibility, as well as the value of the experience gained in official work and the incentive to study methods of Craft Government while gaining that experience. Deprived of those opportunities, a condition of indifference is likely to result. Such a condition existed in this province in Craft circles

WHEN OUR GRAND LODGE WAS ORGANIZED.

Such a condition does not exist to-day, and this result is fairly due to the creation of this Grand Lodge and the opportunities thereby afforded to young