

believe that were it not for the law, both written and unwritten, accumulated and compiled during past ages, the result of the wisdom and experience of many years, the order could never have attained its present proud position in the minds and affections of an intelligent and enlightened community. It is true that Masonry is progressive, in as much as it leads man, when found worthy and qualified, from the darkness of ignorance, step by step, up to the full blaze of the perfect day! but that it is progressive in the sense these writers would imply, we most implicitly deny. They would fain have us believe that the old latin maxim, "*tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis*," applies with equal force to Masonry, and that we are justified in cutting and carving the work, laws and customs, handed down to us from our Masonic forefathers, to suit our own modern notions; when this belief has become general, and it is conceded that Lodges and individuals may do in Masonry what seems right in their own eyes, then we may indeed write "Ichabod" upon the portals of our temples, for our glory will have departed for ever.

Want of space prevents a farther consideration of this subject at present. We will therefore only say in addition that if our Quebec brethren are really actuated by true Masonic principles, if they honestly believe and can prove that the establishment of an independent Grand Lodge for the Province of Quebec is essential to the interests of Masonry, or even that the great body of the craft desire it, then they will without hesitation accept the olive branch held out to them by Grand Lodge,—abandon the position they have prematurely assumed,—meet us again on the old familiar footing, in our Grand Lodge in July next,—submit their case and their vouchers to the rulers of the craft, (and a more friendly or favorable tribunal they could not desire) and we pledge ourselves that they will be most warmly welcomed and masonically dealt with; armed with the sanction and best wishes of their brethren, they will at once receive a cordial recognition from all our sister Grand Lodges. In acting in this manner, our Quebec brethren will lose neither dignity, nor honor, but, on the contrary, they will command the admiration and respect of the masonic world.

Should a feeling of false pride, however, prevent our brethren from adopting the course suggested, then the responsibility must rest upon them, and history will record the result.

Our editorial was in the hands of the printer before the communications of Bro. Klotz and Bro. Murray, which both appear in this number, had reached us. There are several points raised by our correspondents to which we have already referred, and the space at our disposal will now only enable us very briefly to allude to some of the arguments and statements contained in them.

We feel satisfied that Bro. Murray has been misinformed, both as to