

MARK GRAND LODGE AND QUEBEC.

"The Mark Grand Lodge has done well in acting upon Bro. Hughan's advice to refer back to the General Board for further consideration that portion of its Report which relates to the differences unfortunately still pending between it and the Grand Chapter of Quebec. It would be most undignified, and therefore quite unworthy of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, &c., if it permitted itself for one moment to entertain the idea of adopting anything like a retaliatory course towards the Grand Chapter of Quebec and its friend and allies throughout the United States."

We cannot too much commend the Masonic spirit and the wisdom evinced in the foregoing paragraph from The (London) Freemason.

Let such continue to prevail and the day is not far distant when a happy adjustment and final settlement of the difficulties existing, not only between the G. M. M. M. Lodge of England and the G. C. of Quebec, but also all like differences between all the mother Grand Bodies of England and those in the Dominion of Canada and elsewhere throughout the Empire, will, in all probability, be most happily removed, and a consequent jubilee of rejoicing will be proclaimed throughout the Masonic world. The time now seems to be auspicious for the attainment of this grand result. The rulers of the Craft everywhere are brethren of known good-will and marked ability. What for twenty years, has been known as the "Quebec-Question" is now very generally and very fully understood, and in its essentials, is universally acknowledged to have been firmly

founded in the ancient laws and constitutions of the Fraternity, although some of its details unquestionably demand somewhat further "setting forth" in their application to the affairs and relations of the Craft universal.

To this end, we entreat all good brethren everywhere to don the truly Masonic mantle of peace with right and honor, and especially we respectfully and fraternally urge M. W. Brother Graham, of Quebec, again to come forth from his well-earned season of comparative rest, and give his effective and skilful aid in laying the copestone of the edifice of sovereign independence in Quebec, and indirectly other Provinces and Colonies, and of which we may say, without in the least undervaluing the powerful aid of many others,—Brother Graham, was, in this great work, the acknowledged "head and front"—and for nearly a quarter of a century has been the chief architect.

We have reason to know full well, that even during these few years of retirement, Brother Graham's facile and fertile pen has seldom been idle when its use has been needed personally, diplomatically, or otherwise, to further the great cause to which he has devoted so much of his time and talent.

And now, whether officially, or otherwise, we personally care not,—since as now appears the use of "the sword" as of "old" is, we hope, no longer necessary,—and the "trowel" awaits the Masters' handling, we earnestly call upon Brother Graham and all other Brethren of like good-will, everywhere, to unite in spreading the cement of brotherly love, of union, peace, harmony and of perpetual concord and consequent prosperity.