

## GRAND LODGE OF QUEBEC.

*From the N. Y. Democrat.*

IN THE DEMOCRAT of December 29th ult., we referred to the organization of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and then stated, that "the Circular letter addressed to the several Grand Lodges of the World, asking for recognition as a Supreme Grand Lodge, contains arguments as well as statement of facts, which, in our *present opinion*, justifies the action had by our Quebec brothers; and unless they can be proved to be otherwise, by the Grand Lodge of Canada, the upgrowth of a revolution itself, we cannot imagine a reason why the newly formed Grand Lodge of Quebec, should not be welcomed into the family of Grand Lodges."

Since we penned the above we have been placed in possession of the circular letter of M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, Grand Master of Masons in Canada, addressed "to the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and officers of Lodges, and all Masonic Brethren, to whom these presents may come;" under date of October 12, 1869, informing them that it was within his knowledge that certain brethren were agitating the question of the formation of a Grand Lodge for the Province of Quebec and had held unauthorized and clandestine meetings for the purpose of promoting said object; and enjoining them "to abstain from further agitation of this question until the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge," meaning the Grand Lodge of Canada.

A *majority* of the Lodges in the Province of Quebec,—which Province, by the proclamation of the British North American Act on July 1, 1867, became a separate and distinct Province from that portion of Canada formerly known as Upper Canada, or Canada West, with which it was formerly united, and now known as the Province of Ontario, each Province from the date of said proclamation having its own territorial boundaries and its own Legislature, with a Lieutenant-Governor placed over each by the Governor General of what was on that date constituted the Dominion of Canada, which latter comprised within its territory, in addition to Ontario and Quebec, the former independent Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia,—following the example of the Lodges in the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, where independent Grand Lodges had been formed, held (notwithstanding the edict of the Grand Master of so-called Grand Lodge of Canada), a Convention at Montreal on the 20th October, 1869, and then and there in accordance with the usage of Masonry erected themselves into a Grand Lodge for the Province of Quebec, uniting with them in the movement, Lodges within the territory previously hailing under the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland. The mode of action had by these Quebec Lodges was precisely similar to that had by the *minority* of the Lodges in the old United Province of Canada, in October, 1855, when the Grand Lodge of Canada was formed.

Since the formation of a supreme Grand Lodge in and for the Province of Quebec, an Emergent Communication of the still so-called Grand Lodge of Canada, was held at Montreal, Wednesday, December 1, ult., when the M. W. Bro. Stevenson delivered an address, in which he called the attention of the Lodges represented, to the secession of the Lodges in the Province of Quebec, and the formation of what he was pleased to term a "so-called" G. Lodge. This address, after a careful perusal of it, we should imagine was written hastily, if not under excitement and misapprehension. In it he states that the Lodges which seceded did not assert any grievances, nor did they show any advantage which would result from a division of the Grand Lodge. To the latter assertion, we have only to say that the logic of events disproves it, for