

MEETING OF GRAND LODGE.

The Annual Communication of Grand Lodge to be held at Ottawa during the next month will not probably challenge any special discussion. It is fortunate that during the last Annual Communication, almost all the arrears of business were wiped of, so much so that at the meeting of the Board of General Purposes in February, there was little to be done beyond the annual auditing of the accounts. Since that time, no cases of special importance calling for the interference of Grand Lodge have arisen; so that there will in all likelihood be an almost total absence of those cases of appeal which occasionally take up so much time, and sometimes unfortunately excite much warmth of debate. The fact is satisfactory as showing the prosperous condition of Freemasonry throughout the jurisdiction, and as establishing beyond doubt the absence of offences bringing discredit upon the order. We look forward, therefore, in this respect, to an exceedingly pleasant communication.

Possibly some members of Grand Lodge will seek to re-open the question connected with the unfortunate movement of some of our Quebec brethren, and that discussion upon the subject will be inevitable. It may be as well to say here that we yield to no one in our anxiety for the settlement of this dispute. Upon that point there is really no difference of opinion among the Freemasons of Canada. The practical difficulty which exists is how this settlement is to be effected. We fancy that no member of Grand Lodge would consent for one moment to place our brethren of the Province of Quebec in the false position of compelling them either to unite with a movement of the wisdom of which they entertain grave doubts, or to withdraw from the order altogether; and in this is found the practical difficulty in the way of a settlement of the dispute. The resolution moved at the last Annual Communication by M. W. Bro. Wilson reserved the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada within the Province of Quebec, so far as Canadian Lodges were concerned, recognizing in all other respects the so-called Grand Lodge of Quebec. That resolution, had it passed, would have only added another embarrassment to those already existing, for the Quebec brethren could not have accepted it and be consistent with the doctrine they have themselves laid down in relation to Grand Lodge jurisdiction. One of the grounds upon which they based their movement, and upon which they now claim for it the support of Grand Lodges throughout the United States, was that by it the anomaly of concurrent Grand Lodge jurisdictions within the same territory would be done away with. If that was an object of sufficient importance to justify a violent disavowal of the Grand Lodge of Canada, when there existed but a few English and Scotch Lodges in the jurisdiction, much more would it compel a refusal of recognition upon the terms offered in M. W. Bro. Wilson's resolution. Indeed upon this point we