

In presenting our suggestions to the Masonic Press we have shown our brethren in Cuba, that amid their peril help so s, readyis oonas it can be determined how it may effectually be applied. There is at least consolation in the thought, as it comes to our brethren from the craft here, that they in Cuba are under the eye of the Great Grand Master, and He, in *His* own way, and in *His* own good time will arise and help them.—“*Keystone.*”

OUR FIRST SALUTE.

A STRANGE LETTER.

Strange documents at times find their way into the hands of the proprietors of magazines. Such an one, in the form of a communication, was received by us a short time since, and in order to convince the writer that we are prepared to deal impartially with papers submitted to us for publication, we publish it *in extenso*;—

Montreal, August 23rd., 1870.

To the New Proprietor of the Craftsman,

DEAR SIR AND BRO.,—As a mason of some time in Montreal, I did expect to hear or read of something truly masonic from change of base made by your paper; but I am entirely and extremely surprised that you are much more unjust than your illustrious predecessor. In your “glance at the position” you impute motives to us “secessionists” which we challenge you to prove one iota of what you state, but if you will allow me I will prove that all your statements are *vice versa*. What consideration have we received at your Grand Lodge Meeting? That we might prove our position we sent a brother to place our position before your Grand Lodge, and that brother was informed that if he would plead as a brother summoned by you, he would be heard as a prisoner on his defence. Could he have gone before you as such when he was our delegate to place our grievance before you? I answer, No. You have not heard us yet. Why, Sir, and Brother, we have a Lodge in Montreal, numbering as many brethren as you can find outside, unanimous, and it is the largest Lodge in the Dominion. Your Grand Master made more brethren good on books who had been suspended, some for six years, than you can count on your roll of Quebec masons, and further, one of your Hon. P. G. M’s was our staunchest supporters until he found he would not be the G. M. elect for the Province of Quebec.

Yours,

QUEBEC.

“Quebec” is evidently a disappointed man. Our “Illustrious Predecessor” was an unjust steward, but we are more unjust still, and why? Because our views and those of “Quebec” are not in accord. The “change of base” was no change, and forthwith we are pounced upon by an over-zealous champion of the cause of rebellion, and rated soundly because we continue to uphold what we conscientiously believe to be true Masonic principles. Of argument, in “Quebec’s” letter there is none; of accusation there is a great deal, the latter principally personal