

Brethren to erect a Grand Lodge for Quebec, that Province having been masonically occupied since 1855. The nearly unanimous negative which was pronounced at Montréal last December, to our mind, settles the masonic law upon the subject; and although we have carefully read all the arguments on the other side of the question, we have as yet met with nothing to raise a doubt in our mind as to the soundness of that decision. The principle involved in this matter is one which affects every Grand Lodge in the world; and any Grand Lodge admitting the correctness of the step taken by our Quebec Brethren, admits also the right of three or more Lodges within *their own territory* to create a rival Grand Lodge. Our seceding brethren, and nearly all those who support their claims to a recognition, harp upon the notion that because Nova Scotia and New Brunswick had a right to form their respective Grand Lodges, that therefore our Quebec Brethren had an equal right. The fallacy of this proposition has been so often demonstrated, that it is scarcely necessary here to refute it. We will therefore only say that at the creation of the Grand Lodges of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, there did not exist, in either of these Provinces, any supreme masonic authority; while in the Province of Quebec, at the time their so-called Grand Lodge was created, there was not only an existing Grand Lodge, but an actual Grand Master residing in their midst! The idea advanced by some writers upon this subject, that the Grand Lodge of Canada had not supreme authority, because certain Lodges hailing from the Grand Lodges of Great Britain were allowed to continue their working under their foreign warrants, is too absurd to require refutation.

We decline at present entering into any speculation as to the probable course to be determined upon by Grand Lodge at the meeting in July next; but Bro. Murray may rely upon this, that in the minds of the Brethren of Ontario, the feeling is one "more of sorrow than of anger" with reference to the unhappy division that has taken place in our hitherto united body, and that the true interests of Masonry will guide Grand Lodge in her decision; and we again assure him and all our Quebec Brethren, that our columns are open to any information upon this subject which he or they may feel disposed to forward.

We devote this month considerable space to the arguments on both sides, and propose in our next number to review the position from either point of view.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRAFTSMAN.

DEAR SIR AND BRO.—Many of the Craft in this neighborhood would like to know your opinion as to the *use or abuse of Masonry for business and advertising purposes*. I have been shewn a circular (which I enclose you), sent to a mason here, purporting to have come from a mason in Grimsby, which begins with "Dear Brother," and ends with "Yours fraternally," and which asks the astonished recipient to act as agent for