

We have not time or space in this number to review at any length the decision arrived at, or the grounds upon which that decision was based. It is gratifying to us that the view presented in the CRAFTSMAN has been sustained by Grand Lodge; but it is far more gratifying to believe that the decision is one by which the best interests of Freemasonry in Canada are certain to be promoted. With eighteen loyal Lodges existing in the Province of Quebec; with one of the seceding Lodges, by a unanimous vote, returning to its allegiance; with a positive assurance that already a better spirit is beginning to prevail among the members of the seceding Lodges; the idea of recognition, even on grounds of expediency, could not be thought of, while on grounds of right, no one whose opinion is worth anything holds that there was any constitutional right of secession existing in the Province of Quebec. We believe the decision arrived at will be found to promote harmony much more rapidly than any other that could have been adopted; and believing this we hail the decision with pleasure.

In other respects the meeting of Grand Lodge was eminently successful. An immense amount of business was transacted, and the Board of General Purposes has this fact to rejoice at, that not one single case of appeal or grievance has been left as a legacy to its successor. The business has been completed in a manner reflecting the highest credit upon all concerned.

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M. W. BROTHER

THE HONORABLE ALEXANDER KEITH.

In our present number we present the portrait of our venerable and M. W. Bro. the Hon. Alexander Keith, Grand Master of the Province of Nova Scotia, Grand Superintendent of R. A. Masonry, under English authority, and Eminent Commander of the exalted order of Knights Templar, &c., &c., &c., for the said Province, and to whose history, both civil and masonic, we find it would be difficult to do justice within our prescribed limits. Our illustrious Brother was born at Halkirk, Carthness-shire, Scotland, on the 5th of October, 1795, his father being a highly respectable farmer, and Chief of the "Clan Keith," after receiving a liberal education he proceeded, in the year 1812, to Sunderland, England, where he obtained a knowledge of the brewing and malting business from his uncle, an extensive brewer in that place, and in 1817 embarked for Halifax, Nova Scotia, where, on his arrival, he made a business engagement with the late Chas. Boggs, Esq., as sole brewer and manager, and in 1820 he purchased the premises from Mr. Boggs and commenced business on his own account, which, after a lapse of a half of a century, has obtained a world-wide reputation, and secured to its proprietor a handsome fortune, the result of a course of upright and