

the ground that it was due to the seceding Brethren to hear their explanations at once, and to judge of them by those explanations; that it was unfair to them, to keep them under suspension for so long a period without trial; and that Grand Lodge having been summoned to settle this difference in the Craft, should, even at the expense and inconvenience of a prolonged session, lose no time in coming face to face with those who had formed the so-called Grand Lodge of Quebec, and, if possible, restore harmony between the brethren of the two Provinces.

On the other hand, it was argued by V. W. Bros. White, Stephens and others that, in the present position of the dispute, it was not desirable to resort at once to formal trials. Grand Lodge had already unanimously declared the formation of the so-called Grand Lodge of Quebec to be illegal, and that no hope of recognition can be held out to it. If the brethren were summoned now, but one question could be put to them, "are you a party to the formation of a Grand Lodge for Quebec;" and if the answer was in the affirmative, the offence of treason against Grand Lodge would be established, and the penalty must follow. It would be better to allow some little time to elapse. Before the next meeting of Grand Lodge, an opportunity would be afforded for reflection; it would be seen whether the movement was simply one of a few leaders, or whether it sprang from a settled conviction on the part of our brethren in Quebec generally that the interests of the Craft would be best promoted by separation; and a wiser decision could then be arrived at. On these grounds the resolution of the Committee was really the most kindly to the Quebec brethren, and ought in the interest of harmony and peace to be adopted.

A vote by ballot having been demanded, was taken, when the amendment was declared lost, YEAS 90, NAYS 330. The original motion was then put and carried on the same decision.

The fifth resolution submitted by the Committee was then put, and carried unanimously.

The motion of M. W. Bro. Wilson, for the adoption of the report as a whole, was then put, and unanimously adopted.

The formal resolutions of thanks were then proposed and carried, after which Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM, with solemn prayer, at three o'clock, P.M.

---

### BUSINESS NOTICE.

The ONTARIO FARMER, edited by the Rev. W. F. Clarke, of Guelph, is hereafter to be published by Messrs. T. & R. White, publishers of the CRAFTSMAN, at Hamilton. Mr. Clarke was for many years the editor of the Canada Farmer, and as such is well known to the Agriculturists of Ontario. His new publication, now entering upon its second year, should receive very general support.

A correspondent of a Toronto newspaper, who has been writing letters in defence of the so-called Grand Lodge of Quebec, apologizes for addressing his brethren through a secular paper, on the ground that the CRAFTSMAN would not have published communications opposed to its views on this question. This is an entire mistake. We desire the fullest discussion; and are of opinion that the interests of Freemasonry will be best promoted by that discussion being confined to the Masonic Press. All we require is, that correspondents shall avoid all offensive personality in the discussion of principles.