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AND

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THE INVASION OF QUEBEC.

The following correspondence has been issued:—

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THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH
MASONS OF QUEBEC.

OFFICE OF THE GRAND Z.

WATERLOO,
PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
AUGUST 13th, 1888.

Right Hon. Lord Henniker, M. W.
Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of
Mark Master Masons of England and
Wales, &c., &c.

M. W. SIR,—My attention has been called officially to the establishment of two Lodges of Mark Master Masons by your Grand Lodge in the city of Montreal, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec. Not only has the subject been alluded to in the city press in a manner which could not fail to attract my notice, but the representative of your Grand Lodge to this Grand Chapter has conveyed to me the information, in his official capacity, that the statement was true, and that your Grand Lodge openly asserted on its part the right to invade the territory of this Grand Chapter, contrary to well established principles of Masonic jurisdiction:

I am not disposed to enter, to any great extent, into a controversy upon a question so often discussed in the past and now so clearly defined and established, at least on this continent, as the territorial rights and jurisdiction of a Grand Chapter, nor of the

status of this Grand Chapter, of which your Grand Lodge was cognizant when it honored this Grand Chapter with Masonic recognition as a sister Grand body. It is sufficient for my purpose to say that the Grand Chapter of Quebec claims and has supreme authority over Mark Master Lodges in the Province of Quebec, and in consequence can admit of no invasion or trespass upon her territory, nor any usurpation of, or infringement upon, her supreme authority as the governing body in this Province of Mark Master Masons or Lodges. The rights thus claimed are those upon which her existence is based; and not only self-preservation, but self-respect, requires that invaders and trespassers be warned off, and, if necessary, resisted by all legal Masonic ways and means.

To state that your Grand Lodge has no rights in or upon the territory of this Grand Chapter other than those of any other Grand Chapter, or than this Grand Chapter has upon the territory of England and Wales, is to state a principle which has long prevailed in the Masonic world, and the justice of which is self-evident. To grant your assumption of a right to invade our territory is to admit that this Grand Chapter has not supreme authority over its territory, and is something less as a Masonic Grand body than the sister Grand Chapters whose recognition was obtained upon