

supreme and exclusive jurisdiction of our chivalric Order, throughout the whole Dominion of Canada.

Our position in New Brunswick to-day is of hopeful assurance. I shall, in as few words as possible, endeavor to explain that position.

In the year 1856 the Encampment of St. John obtained a Charter from the supreme authority of Knights Templar in Scotland; this Encampment, I may say, was my mother Encampment.

About the year 1867, a motion was made in the before mentioned Scottish Encampment with a view to the surrender of the said warrant, so that another might be had from the United States of America. This movement, I am pleased to say, was defeated.

In the year 1868 application was made through the late revered and Most Eminent Sir Kt. Col. W. J. B. McLeod Moore, for a warrant, which was in course granted by the Great Conclave of the United Orders of the Temple and Malta, of England and Wales, dated London, 1st day of May, A. D., 1869, under the style of "The Union de Molay, No. 104," of which the writer was the first Presiding-Preceptor.

This Encampment had an era of prosperity from the year 1868 until about the year 1876. At this latter date it had a membership which placed it in the forefront of the bodies of our Order in Canada. Since that time, however, largely in consequence of the great fire of 20th June, 1877, the Union de Molay has not maintained its strong position as to numbers, nor as to equipment; and from the year 1888 until the month of December, 1894, this Preceptory, as you are doubtless aware, has not been in what one might fairly term active working order.

With a view to resumption of work in an active and energetic manner, a dispensation was obtained last December (1894) from our Supreme Grand Master, authorizing the election of Sir Kt. William Henry Thorne, 33, as Preceptor, he not having served either in the position of Constable or Marshal.

Notice was afterward issued to all the members as follows: