

Montreal, until his retirement last year.

His Masonic career dates from 1853, being initiated in the Sussex Lodge, of Brockville, Ontario, English Registry; receiving the Royal Arch degree in the Ancient Frontenac Chapter, Kingston, 1856. He held the office of Grand Master of Canada during 1864-5, and at the time of his death was Chancellor of the Supreme Council, 33°, for Canada.

We have lost in our brother a zealous, upright, and respected member, who will be long remembered by those intimately associated with him, and our hope and trust lies in the belief that, now his labors are over, "Well done" is pronounced by the Divine Grand Master himself.

A fitting and appropriate "In Memoriam" tribute will no doubt be issued by Great Priory as a mark of their esteem and regret, and many most interesting recollections of our deceased brother's devotion to the cause of Christ have already appeared in the secular press of the day.

SCOTTISH ENCAMPMENTS OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Grand Chancellor will lay before you the correspondence which has taken place since our last annual assembly, relative to an amalgamation of the Scottish Knights Templar Encampments in New Brunswick with this Nationality, which, I regret to say, has totally failed in attaining the desirable object of inducing them to come under the Great Priory of Canada. The negotiations were conducted by the Provincial Prior †Frater Munro, of St. Johns, N. B., and at my suggestion every possible concession was made that could be thought of, to effect so desirable an end for the future prosperity of the Order in Canada, but it appears that on the subject being fully discussed, they did not consider themselves justified in throwing off their allegiance to the Chapter General of Scotland, from whence they derived their charter in 1857, considerably prior to the forma-

tion of Great Priory. And never having had any reason to be dissatisfied with the authority by which they exist, they declined acceding to the proposed amalgamation, unless the Chapter General of Scotland should otherwise direct. The matter is now for consideration of Great Priory. I do not myself approve of any coercive measure being adopted, and circumstances may hereafter occur to induce them to think differently and change their decision.

ORIGIN OF MASONRY AND THE TEMPLAR ORDER.

Before entering on the subject of the all-absorbing question of a change in our organization, which was placed in the hands of a committee appointed by Great Priory, and will be reported upon in the course of these Proceedings, I would wish to draw your particular attention, and claim your patience, to an explanation of that part of my Allocution read at our meeting of last year, in which I affirmed that the "Ancient Builders" or "Masons," who devoted their exclusive attention to the erection of sacred edifices, as also the confraternities of "Military Monks," the chief of these being the "Hospitallers of St. John," and the "Templars," had the same origin, viz.: from the "Benedictine" Order of Monks, of the early ages of the Christian dispensation, and who had based all their religious doctrines on the "Divine Mysteries" they taught.

It becomes necessary for a right understanding of the subject, to give you a brief summary of such records as exist, premising that I have pursued quite a different track from the usual "sheep walk" information available.

THE MYSTERIES.

The Divine Mysteries, as a system, are entirely distinct from everything else that has at the present day the name of Masonry. They are the root out of which has sprung much of what is seen, but the meaning of which is perverted and lost.