

will find on pages 123 to 126 that what Folger stated is a matter of history and record, viz:—"That, in consequence of great disorders, &c., &c., Cerneau remodelled the Templar degrees and founded the Grand Encampment of the State of New York, and the work now done in the Encampments was the product of Joseph Cerneau." It is simply a transfer of the Ancient "Rose Croix," of the Rite of Perfection, to the York or English Rite,* remodelled for the Templars with many additions.

Brethren, who while professing a belief only in Christ, yet reject the Holy Trinity, † should never join the true orders of the Temple and Malta; if these orders teach anything, they teach the Divinity of Christ and Mediation of our blessed Saviour,—“here we have the highest sum of Christian faith, the historical, natural, moral or revealed meanings given to the doctrine of the Trinity, which the Order implores—the threefold name of Father, Son and Spirit—and the three Scriptural offices of Christ,—Prophet, Priest and King, as elaborated by the early church and received by our Order, and we are bound to maintain the principles of the Christian religion with “Fidelity, Piety and Zeal.” Such were the mysteries of the old Templars; and in our modern Order they shine forth and stand alone. If this is rejected, the beauty of our Order and its Divine teachings are destroyed. If, however, the present Orders are intended only as a mere ornamental military adjunct to the Masonic Body, for the purposes of parade and pageantry, that is another thing, but it is *not* Templary and never had any pretensions to it. Our esteemed and well informed Brother Sir Kt. ‡ Enoch T. Carson, Past Grand Commander of Ohio, in his last Foreign Correspondence Report, has produced the most incontestable proofs that the American system has been changed, and that the original “Webb” ceremonial recognized the Christian religion as taught by all orthodox believers, without qualification of any kind, and absolutely expressed the Apostles’ Creed intact.

* In the same way, the Red Cross of Babylon (which has no connection with Templary), is a transfer of the “Princes of Jerusalem” to the same rite. In fact the whole system has become artificial, and except in name bears but little resemblance to the old chivalric ceremonies.

† No doubt existed until of late years, but that the Templar Order and that of Malta were in the strictest sense of the term “Trinitarian;” any deviation therefrom destroying their validity. I may relate in support of this, that when establishing the first Templar Encampment, at the Island of Malta, in 1846, I received most valuable information from a very old retired officer of the Royal Navy, a former member of the early Prince of Wales Templar Encampment in London, and was forcibly impressed by a remark from him on being asked why he did not visit the new Encampment—his reply being—“since residing for the last 17 years in France I have become a ‘Unitarian;’ and therefore cannot with any propriety visit your Encampment, the Templar body being purely and necessarily ‘Trinitarian;’ it would lay me open to the charge of inconsistency and hypocrisy.”