

FOURTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY, BROCKVILLE, 1887. 317

The United Orders in Canada are *distinct* from the Craft and unconnected with *Benefit* or other societies, its ceremonials being the reformed work of the dormant "Convent General," presided over by H. R. H. the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, which procured for Templary a status it had not hitherto enjoyed.

TEMPLAR DEGREES UNDER CRAFT WARRANTS.

The modern Templar degrees were at first, and for many years afterwards, conferred under Craft warrants, to give them sufficient authority to exist as an independent body. (4.) In the British

(4.) In the introduction to our last edition of the Statutes of Great Priory, is shown the date of the first Encampment of Knights Templars established in the Province of Canada, at the City of Kingston, attached to the St. John's Lodge there. The authority to confer the Templar and Malta degrees, dating from 1794, which was supposed to be the original and only one derived from England, in British North America, has it has been subsequently discovered in the old minute book of Lodge No. 211, of Halifax, Nova Scotia (this was St. John's Lodge chartered June 13, 1780, and is now No. 2 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, formerly No. 24, 265, 187 and 161, Registry of England) that the Templar degrees were known several years earlier, as will be seen by the following interesting extract, given in full, dated over one hundred years ago:—

"Halifax, 18th Dec., A. D. 1782.

"At a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and Encampment of Knights Templar, under the sanction of Warrant 211, on the Grand Registry of England, held at the Golden Ball, on emergency. Present—The Right Worshipful Brother H. Kirkham, H. P. and G. C.; Brother Wooden, 1 K. and 1 G. W.; Brother Wiston, 2 K. and 2 G. W.; Brother Peters, S.; Brothers Pyke, Osborne, J. W. Hierlichy, Hardy, Snelling, Wood. Applications having been made by Brothers Col. S. Hierlichy and John O'Brien for further light in the secret and hidden mysteries of Free-Masonry, being Past Masters of regular Lodges, and on due trial being found worthy, were by us installed and instituted into the sublime secrets of Royal Arch Masonry, and also upon further application the said Brothers Hierlichy and O'Brien were instituted and dubbed Knights of the Most Noble and Right Worshipful Order of Sir Knights Templars.

"The election of officers being brought on, the following were duly elected to serve for the ensuing year, viz:—

"Right Worshipful Bro.	Pyke, H. P. and C. Gen'l.
"	Cody, 1st K. and 1st G. W.
"	Wiston, 2nd K. and 2nd G. W.
"	Peters, S.
"	O'Brien, 1st R. A. Capt.
"	Wood, 2nd R. A. Capt.
"	Kirkham, Treas.

"The installation of the officers (for want of time) was deferred to a future opportunity."