

elicited the admiration of all parties, by their chivalric bearing and truly courteous behaviour. The few members of our Order residing in Montreal, did all in their power to afford them a welcome, and endeavored to make their visit an agreeable one. I am myself, averse to public display by bodies of the Order, and it is not the custom with us in England, to take part in processions, considering that the influence exercised by our great Order, should be *felt, not seen*; but at all times and in all places, we are only too happy to greet and recognise as of one common family, all who are entitled to wear the symbol of our faith, under the banner of the Temple.

I have been lately applied to, for permission to confer in Encampments the *Babylonish pass*, or as it is called in the United States '*Red Cross*.' I would wish it clearly understood that this Degree is in *no way* connected with the ancient Order of the Temple or is it recognized by the *Grand Conclave* of England, being merely a continuation of the Royal Arch, referring to the *rebuilding* of the Temple by Zerubbabel; and there is no reason why it should be made an *appendant* Degree, but as our Brothers of the *Temple* in the United States, lay great stress on its being *conferred* as a pre-requisite to the *Templar* there can be no objection to commanders of Encampments communicating it.

The Grand conclave of England to whom I referred the matter, some years ago, decided, I should use my own discretion as to its introduction into Canadian Encampments, and a former Grand Master of the *General Grand Encampments of the United States*, the late Eminent Sir Knight William Hubbard in a correspondence with me, recommended strongly its adoption by us, and the issuing of the necessary authority by me to private Encampments, I have therefore on several occasions when applied to, granted dispensations to form Councils of the Degree in connection with the *Templar* warrants. It may not be out of place here to mention, that this "*Red cross*" has *no affinity whatever* to the Order of the "*Red cross of Rome and Constantine*" lately revived in England, which is purely Christian. Its revival gave rise of late to much controversy, as to its authenticity and connection with Freemasonry, but this has been fully and satisfactorily proved, and the Order is now flourishing under the rule of the Grand Sovereign the Right Honorable Lord Kenlis, who has been pleased to authorize its introduction into Canada, and appoint me as his representative, "Chief Intendant or Inspector General" of the Dominion. The Scottish *Templar* Encampments have always exercised the power of giving the *Novitiate* cross of Constantine. In England it appears to have been incorporated with Free Masonry, being conferred on *Master Masons*, about the middle of the last century, and there is no question that it has equal claims with the Masonic *Templars*, and Knights of Malta, to be classed amongst the Orders of *Chivalry*, recognized by the articles of Union of the Grand Lodge of England in 1813,