

them to join in forming a Sovereign Great Priory for Canada, and they were well aware of it. I did not consider it necessary to put off the declaration of independence for another year, to await their formal assent, as all the Preceptories of Canada were represented in 1884, and desirous of having the movement carried out at once, the few Scottish Templars of New Brunswick having already—non-officially, but *virtually*, signified their intentions to co-operate on independence being declared. Let us, however, hope that our New Brunswick Frates, Scottish Constitution, will give in their adhesion to our Great Priory of the Dominion, when time, the peace maker, has brought about a happier state of affairs.

THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF THE U. S. OF AMERICA.

The reception by the Triennial Grand Encampment of the U. S. of America, at St. Louis, in September last, to our Canadian representative, was one of scant courtesy, for although the Past Grand Master, who in his official capacity, before his retirement from office as Grand Master, had recognized the independent sovereignty of Great Priory, his ruling was set aside, and the matter re-discussed in the Grand Encampment, *before acknowledging our Delegate*, which required some exertion on the part of its members, friendly to Canada, to ensure a confirmation of the recognition. This is not as it should be, and evidently there exists an *under-current* of opposition, principally from those who favored the pretensions of the Scottish Templars of New Brunswick to remain as a separate Body in Canadian Territory, although opposed to *their own laws of exclusive jurisdiction*, and antagonistic to the generally expressed fraternal feelings towards the Canadian Templar body. Many of our Canadian Frates were impressed with the belief that they had the full and firm support of the American Templars, who would at all times, and in all places, support their views. I never entertained any such ideas, and never could see that we in Canada had any right to think an exception would be made in *our favor*, to apply U. S. of America Rules and Regulations to a Foreign Jurisdiction, when its adoption would militate against their own wishes and interests. This want of the support they expected, will, it is hoped, teach all our Frates a practical lesson that may be useful to them.

Some of our Brethren are constantly running after and adopting American Masonic customs, at variance with our own usages. Many were not content until they introduced the Parade Military