

mation of this Sovereign Body. I really am at a loss to see on what grounds they base their complaint. Every concession to induce them to join us, that was possible to make, has been offered them, after absolute independence was secured; previous to that, it was an uncertain measure that did not meet the views of the entire Body. I may remark that the Templar Body of Scotland has never shown any desire to unite with those of other jurisdictions, to promote the general prosperity of the Order, and was the first to decline joining the union, so well intended, as the formation of a "Convent General" in England.

Altho' I am personally opposed to anything like coercion or extreme measures of the kind, feeling that every Brother has a perfect right to join and support any rite or jurisdiction he pleases, and much as I deplore the jealousy and disputes now existing, by insisting upon an exclusive "Sovereignty" of jurisdiction not being encroached on, I do not see how your interdict can be avoided, as circumstances have of late arisen to show that there can be no (Masonic) peace in any colonial jurisdiction with more than one "Registry" existing within it. All experience proves this, and all efforts in any other direction will prove fatal; occasionally some single Body or so for a time, may exist, but must ultimately give way to the ruling power.

As the six months expired so near the time for the meeting of "Great Priory," I decided to withhold your edict of non-intercourse, so that my hands might be strengthened by Great Priory re-affirming its determination to allow no intercourse to be held with the Templars who have treated us so discourteously.

RULING.

1. The question which has arisen of residents in Canada going to the United States temporarily, and there, without our permission, receiving the degrees; I have ruled, that on their return to Canada, they are *not* entitled to become *members* of any Preceptory within *this* jurisdiction, but must petition and be received in the same manner as any Royal Arch Companion unacquainted with the Orders, paying the accustomed fees of admission. This is necessary to preserve the *distinctive* features of *our* system, and prevent members being admitted who might be objectionable in the places where they reside and are best known.

2. A resident of Canada who has thus been admitted into the Order of the United States, may be received as a *visitor*, subject to the "By-Laws" of the Preceptory visited, but *cannot* be affiliated as a joining member.

3. Members of the Order in good standing, properly certified from