

promote the prosperity and usefulness of the Templar Order, which all true Templars are bound to maintain.

EDICT.

Sovereign Great Priory of Canada.
OF THE
United, Religious and Military Orders of
the Temple, and of St. John of Jerusalem,
Palestine, Rhodes & Malta.

SUPREME GRAND MASTER'S OFFICE.

Prescott, Ont., October 7th, 1885.

*To All Knights Templar in Obedience to the
Sovereign Great Priory of Canada:*

Whereas, the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada was duly formed at Toronto, on the 8th day of July, 1884, by the representatives of all the Preceptories but one, (see Proceedings of 1884, pp. 6 and 7,) then existing in the Dominion of Canada, in National Great Priory assembled; and that Preceptory, before the last annual assembly of this Sovereign Great Priory, enrolled itself under the banner of the Sovereign Great Priory.

Whereas, this Sovereign Great Priory there declared itself to be the sole legally constituted Sovereign Grand Templar body, exercising absolute and supreme jurisdiction over the whole Dominion of Canada, in all matters relating to the United Orders of the Temple and Malta, and Appendant Orders.

Whereas, H. R. Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of Convent-General of the United Order of the Temple and Malta, and the Hon. J. E. Withers, the M. E. the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the Knights Templar of the United States, have recognized this Sovereign Great Priory as being lawfully constituted;

Whereas, notwithstanding these circumstances, there exists in the Province of New Brunswick, two Encampments of Knights Templar, viz., the St. John Encampment, at St. John, and St. Stephen Encampment, at St. Stephen, within the territory of this Sovereign Great Priory, which

do not recognize its authority, but continue to hold allegiance to a foreign body, the Chapter General of the Religious and Military Order of the Temple for Scotland, and profess to obey its behests and persist in violating this territory of the Sovereign Great Priory;

Whereas, at the Annual Assembly of this Sovereign Great Priory, held at Hamilton, Ontario, on the 7th July, 1885, it was unanimously

Resolved,—That from and after the passing of these resolutions, all Templar intercourse between Fraternities owing allegiance to the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, and members of the said Encampments of St. John and St. Stephen, working under the authority of the Chapter General of Scotland, is prohibited; and the said Encampments are hereby declared to be irregular and clandestine; and all persons hereafter made, or attempted to be made Knights Templar, Knights of Malta and appendant Order, in the said Encampments, are illegal and clandestine.

Resolved,—That hereafter no Preceptory of this jurisdiction shall, without the consent of the Sovereign Great Priory, admit as a visitor, or receive as a member, any person who is now, or may hereafter become a member of either of the said Encampments, now working in New Brunswick, under authority of the Chapter General of Scotland.

Resolved.—That the Grand Chancellor notify the Preceptories and Priors working under the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, the Grand Commanderies of the several States and Territories; the Convent General of England and Wales, and its dependencies, and the Great Priors of England and Ireland, of this our solemn act, and declaration of non-intercourse with the Scottish Encampments of Knights Templar, and all members thereof, now working in the said Province of New Brunswick.

Therefore be it known to you, that I, by virtue of the authority invested in me as Supreme Grand Master of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, of the United Orders of the Temple and Malta, and appendant Orders, and by virtue of the action of this Sovereign Great Priory, do hereby declare and proclaim all Encampments, Commanderies, Preceptories and Priors, holding allegiance to any Foreign