

mission, and a perfect reproduction of their salient features conserved, before these antiquities, which can never be replaced, are entirely obliterated and lost to an investigating scrutiny. Years ago, two American travellers, Stephens and Norman, partially explored the mysterious ruins of Yucatan, and it is stated that a wealthy New Yorker is at present contributing large sums towards a further exhumation of these remains by a French *savant*, but then the results of his laborious toil are being transferred to the Louvre in Paris, in place of to the Smithsonian at Washington.—*Masonic Chronicle*.

### GREAT PRIORY AND NEW BRUNSWICK.

Some stress is laid on the fact that the Grand Encampment recognized the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, notwithstanding it was formed out of the National Great Priory, which dissolved, and whose members at once resolved themselves into the "Sovereign" body, without the intervention of a convention, to which the New Brunswick encampments might and ought to have been invited.

The first step in the formation of any grand body should be a convention or general assembly of the craft, by representatives, and after due notice is given to every "subordinate." Then, if properly formed, the recognition follows of course.

In the case of the Sovereign Great Priory it was an accomplished fact, taking the place of the "National" Priory, which yielded up the ghost, and there was no rival in the old jurisdiction of the latter to say nay. The Grand Encampment ought to have recognized it, and it did so. At the same time it in effect said, your manner of formation was not such as to justify us in recognizing your assumed authority over the New Brunswick encampments of Scottish obedience, which we as fully recognize. If England and Canada were

at war, the retaining and formally announcing friendly relations with England, even under a change of its political form of government, would not necessarily carry with it a refusal to recognize struggling Canada, which might be as heartily endorsed, and with a great deal more sympathy.

If the Sovereign Priory was a fixed fact, so was Scottish authority in New Brunswick, and men are not generally ready to abolish the forms or throw off allegiance to which they have been accustomed without much hesitation and reluctance.

The Sovereign Priory has an excellent opportunity to show its magnanimity by the course heretofore suggested in the *Journal*, which will also have the effect to carry opposition over to the side of the Canadian body, and will force the Encampments of St. John and St. Stephen to yield, and say,—

"We take thy courtesy, by heaven,  
As freely as 'tis nobly given."

—*Masonic Home Journal*.

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THE CRAFTSMAN,  
Port Hope, Ont.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts recently decided that the apron of a Master Mason shall be a plain white lambskin, 14 inches wide by 12 inches deep. The apron may be adorned with sky-blue lining and edging, and three rosettes of the same color.