

Chivalric Orders; the causes which called forth the Military enthusiasm of the age when the Order was founded having long passed away, it is no longer necessary to perpetuate the Military element. Nor can they be considered as in direct descent continuing the order of the Crusades, but merely as an adaptation to Free Masonry, retaining the military name and phraseology to commemorate their origin and preserve the *Christian* teachings exemplified in the ancient ceremonial. We do not now fight physically against Infidels, but contend against Infidelity, endeavoring to inculcate high moral and Christian principles by following the symbolism of the "Sacred Mysteries," the prototype of the old Templar doctrines, and the basis of the early Masonic Symbols in their Christian character, having no direct or indirect connection with Modern Speculative Masonry in its universal creed, although retaining much of the teachings of the early Christian builders. The Royal Arch legend has not the slightest allusion to The Templar degrees, representing an age long anterior to the Christian era: but being the last degree of The English rite of Craft Masonry. The Templar degrees follow.

On H. R. H. The Prince of Wales, consenting in 1873, to become Supreme Grand Master of The Temple and Malta in Great Britain and Ireland, under the name of a "Convent General" of the United Orders, a commission was instituted of influential and well-informed members to investigate the true history of Masonic Templary, and to revise its nomenclature and rituals, rejecting all mythical traditions not borne out by historic facts—their report was submitted in 1876—and the ritual recommended, was in Canada, laid before the Grand Council of the Great Priory, who having carefully