

briefly added that the Order of the A. and A. Rite, recognized by treaty with the Templar Body, and other leading Masonic organizations, have been awarded the full privileges of self-government in Canada.

"These remarks seem appropriately introductory to the present Memorial, which the Templar Order in Canada desire to present to the Convent General, on its auspicious inauguration.

"While Masonry was introduced into Canada at the earliest date of her settlement, and had attained proportions that in 1855 warranted the erection of the Grand Lodge of Canada, it was only in 1854 that to the energy of that distinguished Mason and Templar, Colonel W. J. B. MacLeod Moore, Canada was indebted for the introduction of the Chivalric and Christian Order of the Temple; and to his judicious caution against its too rapid dissemination on the one hand, and a careful selection on the other of opportunities for promoting the true principles of the Order, your Memorialists attribute the erection of Canada into a Grand Priory with partial self-government in 1868, as an evidence of recognition, as well as of the success that had crowned the efforts of the worthy Sir Knight then created Grand Prior, as of the vast and commanding field of his operations, erected about the same time into the 'Dominion of Canada.'

"The national position that the Dominion has now attained, not unnaturally leads her Templars to desire that their prerogatives of self-government should not be less defined than those pertaining to her other Masonic organizations, and her contiguity to the great neighboring Republic especially incites the desire that Canadian Templarism should be now invested with a local status which will allow of mutual recognition and independent action.

"The recent happy confederation of the national Templar Bodies of the Empire as Great Priories, under one grand governing power, the Convent General, graced by a patronage so august as that of HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY, and a Presidency so illustrious as that of THE HEIR TO THE THRONE, has, it need hardly be said, been watched with the highest interest by the Templars of the Dominion; and the provision in the statutes for erecting further Great Priories in the British possessions, possessing the same internal powers of self-government reserved to each imperial Nationality, furnishes the opportune moment for the admission of British North America into this National Templar Confederation; and as Canada, as a virtually self-governing Dominion or Nationality, clings with the purest loyalty to its integration into the Empire, so do her Templars loyally desire to derive from and hold under the Convent General, that local status as a Great Priory, which will cause the Order to be alike advanced in the Dominion and recognized by other Nationalities.

"The Templars of the Dominion of Canada therefore, under the warmest impulses of Knightly courtesy and unswerving loyalty, present this their Memorial, with the fullest confidence that after careful consideration their erection into a Great Priory may be conceded, as a step calculated to subserve the best interests of the Christian and Chivalric Orders of the Temple and Hospital in this vast Dominion, and to perpetuate the ties of allegiance of a body which must, in the course of events, become one of the most powerful and influential under the Convent General.

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(Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and Past District Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, &c., &c., &c.)

DEPUTY GRAND PRIOR, Chairman.

"† T. DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, 33°,

Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, and Past Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Canada, Sov. Gr. Insp. Gen. and Rep. of S.-G.-C. of England and Wales, A.-& A.-Rite, &c., &c.)

PAST DEPUTY GRAND PRIOR.

"† J. KIRKPATRICK KERR, 32°,

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PROVINCIAL GRAND COMMANDER FOR ONTARIO.

"† THOMAS B. HARRIS, 33°,

(Grand Secretary Grand Lodge of Canada, Grand S. E. of the Grand Chapter of Canada, &c., &c., &c.)

PAST DEP. PROV. GR. COMMANDER, AND GRAND CHANCELLOR OF GRAND PRIORY."

Committee on Status of the Templar Order.