

I am strongly under the impression, that, during the past years the action of the supreme authority of Knights Templar in Canada has not been clearly understood and appreciated by all of the good Fratres, on the roll of these two Scottish Encampments of our Knightly Order.

For example many of the leading Fratres of the obedience of the Chapter General of Scotland in this Province claim, that when in the year 1884, the National Great Priory of Canada, with the cordial authority and permission of the Supreme Grand Master of the Order of the Temple and Malta in England and Wales, separated from England, and because the supreme and recognized authority for the whole of the American continent, which is embraced in our new nationality, the Dominion of Canada, under the style of "The Sovereign Great Priory of Canada;" that this important movement was had without giving the Encampment of St. John, holding, as it did, a warrant dating as far back as the year 1856, an opportunity of uniting with the said "National Great Priory of Canada," in the establishment of the present "The Sovereign Great Priory of Canada."

The following will, I am persuaded, be a complete answer to this erroneous position, as it clearly demonstrates the fact that invitation had been courteously extended long before action was had in this important matter:

BARRIE. ONT., 25th October, 1880.

T. Nisbet Robertson, Esq., Em. Commander St. John's Encampment, Saint John, N. B.

DEAR SIR AND EM. FRATER :

I take the liberty of addressing you in reference to Templar matters in Canada, and the position which your Encampment occupies as a Subordinate of the Chapter General of Scotland. It is our earnest wish that all Templars would unite in Canada under the banner of our Great Priory, as we feel assured it will be to the best interests of all parties concerned to aid in maintaining one sovereign and independent governing body for the whole jurisdiction. Actuated by the most friendly feelings towards your Encampment, and prompted by a desire to promote unity, I respectfully request you to invite the consideration of your members to this subject.

Yours fraternally,

‡ DANIEL SPRY,
Grand Chancellor.