

Preceptories on the roll of Great Priory.

From New Brunswick, where the Templar sky is clouded by storm spots that we trust will soon be chased away, we have the report of our Frater, R. E. Sir Knight Munro. He states that since the issue of the edict of the Supreme Grand Master, prohibiting intercourse with the Sir Knights of the Scottish Encampments, "the position remains unchanged," and that the Preceptory at St. John is prosperous. He thinks that a settlement of the difficulty, and a renewal of the fraternal feeling, would be viewed with satisfaction by all who have the welfare of the Order at heart, and regrets that the opposition, which is growing and active, was made apparent in the Statement of the Scottish Encampment, published in official form, and also in Masonic journals in the United States. He points out that the answer to this Statement from the Great Priory was "effective, clear and scholarly," and trusts that at the coming Triennial meeting of the Grand Encampment of the United States, an expression of opinion will be elicited on the question of this occupation of territory by the Scottish Frateres. The Grand Council feel that the matters in dispute have been so ably dealt with in the statement of the case issued by Great Priory, that nothing further can be said, save and except that we stand firmly by the lines laid down, that with the kindest feelings to our Scottish Frateres, we hold now, as we have in the past, that we cannot permit any invasion of the rights, privileges or territory of the Great Priory of Canada. The settled usages of the Craft are well known the world over, and the occupation of territory by this Great Priory, demanded that all foreign bodies within its limits, should, in conformity with custom, surrender their charters and come under the obedience of the Sovereign Body. There can be no co-ordinate power in the same territory, and the

Grand Council confidently look forward to the day, in the early future, when the Frateres of the Scottish Encampments will recognize the fundamental principle underlying Sovereign and State Rights, and, accepting the situation, join with us in carrying out, in the true spirit of prosperity, the great work allotted to us, as we journey through life.

With all the joy and pleasure we have in this, our Annual greeting, it is not unmixed with sorrow. The cold hand of Death has beckoned hence some who foregathered with us one short year ago. We miss their friendly grip; we look for their fraternal smile, their faces glowing with goodness—but we look in vain. Their eyes are closed, and their manly voices hushed forever, for the vizard knight, whose mount is the pale steed, has ridden through our ranks, and seeing the signal from the hand we cannot see, like Soldiers of the Cross, have doffed their armour and lain down to peaceful slumber, awaiting the golden dawning of Eternal Day.

Amongst those who have thus fallen, are our Frateres R. E. Sir Knight Robert Ramsay, P. E. P. of Mount Calvary, No. 12, Barrie; and R. E. Sir Knight Collins; Gondemar Preceptory, Maitland.

May the bright memories of the bygone times, when they gladdened us with counsel, soothe the sorrow of our saddened hearts,—cheer us, as we speed along life's highway, and keep us ever ready for the journey's end.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. ROSS ROBERTSON,
Chairman of Committee.

Warrants were granted to two new Preceptories, viz.: Malta Preceptory, Truro, N. S., and to Metropolitan Preceptory, Melbourne, Australia.

R. E. Sir Knight J. A. Henderson, G. C. T., Deputy Grand Master, reported that in accordance with the resolution of that body, passed at its last Assembly, a handsome and suit-