

vincial Grand Commander of the English branch of the Order in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, but he had no authority over the Scottish branch of the Order in New Brunswick or in Nova Scotia—nor did he claim to have any. The Provincial Grand Conclave was analogous to the Provincial Grand Lodge in craft Masonry. The Provincial Grand Commander was analogous to the Provincial Grand Master. Both were offices to which the holder was appointed by some superior officer, and the holder could be suspended at any time. Changes which took place in the governing body in England—but which in no way affected the Scottish branch—in a measure raised the dignity of the Provincial Body in Canada. The English Governing Body assumed the title of *Great Priory of England and Wales*, and ceased to use the term *Grand Conclave*, and the governing body of the English branch of the Order in Canada was called the *Grand Priory*; but it was still a subordinate body. Colonel Moore was a *Grand Prior*, and in his new patent his territorial jurisdiction was extended. In his address to the *Grand Priory* in 1874, he says: "By the terms of my patent as *Grand Prior*, the whole of British North America is included, but as the late Hon. Alexander Keith, of Halifax, held a warrant from the former *Grand Conclave of England* as *Provincial Grand Commander for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick*, it was not considered desirable during his lifetime to merge those Provinces into that of the *Grand Priory*. The death of this distinguished Brother and Knight, on the 17th December last, removed the difficulty, and I at once wrote to the authorities in England, claiming those territories, and, in reply from the *Grand Vice Chancellor* and *Acting Registrar*, was informed that the *Council of the Great Priory* had at once decided that from the date of *Provincial Prior Keith's* death, the territory over which he had presided came under my jurisdiction. By this, two additional *Preceptories* have been added to our roll; and I trust that on the formation of our *National Great Priory* the *Scottish Preceptory* at *St. John, New Brunswick*, and the *Irish one* at *L'Orignal, Ontario*, will be induced to join us—it being most desirable that there should be no conflicting jurisdiction in the Dominion."

It will thus be seen that, in 1874, the jurisdiction of *Scotland* and *Ireland* was recognized, as equal to that of *England*, then represented in *Canada* by *Frater Moore*. There was nothing at any time to prevent the appointment by the *Grand Master of Scotland* or the *Grand Master of Ireland* of an officer for the whole of *British North America*, with equal powers to *Frater Moore*, just as there have been, and

are now, three *Provincial Grand Masters*—*English, Irish and Scotch*—in many of our colonies, holding authority in craft Masonry.

The session of 1875 of the *Grand Priory* was held at *St. Catharines, Ontario*, in August, and the official record opens thus: "At the *Annual Assembly of the Grand Priory of the United Orders of the Temple and Hospital*, under the banner of the *Great Priory of England and Wales*," etc., etc., thus showing that up to that time *Frater Moore* represented the *English branch only*, and that the body over which he presided held a merely delegated authority.

In 1876, the status of the *Grand Priory* was somewhat changed. The *Prince of Wales* as *Grand Master of the Order in England and Ireland*, the two countries having united under his headship for *Templar purposes*—with the advice of the *Convent General*, by patent, dated 29th day of July, 1876, "created the *Dominion of Canada*—heretofore under the jurisdiction of the *Great Prior and Great Priory of England and Wales*—a *National Great Priory*, subject to us and our successors in office, and to the statutes, laws, and ordinances, for the time being, of the *Convent General*;" and the patent conferred upon *Frater Moore* "the degree and dignity of *Great Prior of the Great Priory of Canada*, with full authority and jurisdiction within the *Dominion of Canada* aforesaid, according to the tenor and form of the statutes and customs of our said Order, reserving and excepting, nevertheless, all things necessary to be reserved and excepted to us and our successors."

Not only were powers reserved to the *Grand Master*, but the changes made affected only that branch of the Order over which the *Prince of Wales* presided. This did not, however, give *Frater Moore* any authority over the *Scottish branch*, for his *Royal Highness* had no authority to give. He could not convey a power he did not possess. Under this authority, the *Priorities* and *Encampments* heretofore subject to the *English authority*, and to which they made return of their intrants, became directly subject to the *Great Priory of Canada*, and that body now assumed the power to issue warrants to constitute new bodies, which bodies owed to it allegiance; but as the *Great Prior of Canada* derived his power from the *Prince of Wales*, and as the *Great Priory of Canada*, which had grown up from a *Provincial Grand Conclave*, was not an original formation, every Knight who owed fealty to *Frater Moore*, undoubtedly owed it to the *Prince of Wales* also, as *Grand Master of the English branch of the Order*, from whom *Frater Moore* continued to derive his honors. *Frater Moore* was in the position of a great