

others, that I consider it was a mistake to have interfered with my last year's Allocation, by not publishing it intact, as read, with the Proceedings. The committee to whom it was referred had a perfect right to express their disapproval of any portion of it that they did not agree to, but I think they should have rendered the whole in full, to prevent any misconstruction being placed upon it, by those who had not heard it read, and to admit of the whole Body being acquainted with my views. I make these remarks in all good feeling, not from any fault-finding with the adverse opinions of others.

I regret having been unable to visit any of the Preceptories from ill-health, excepting that at Brockville, but have been well represented by the Provincial Priors, whose Reports will be laid before you.

I shall now continue from last year's Allocation my detached remarks on the Templar system of the Empire, and endeavour to point out many errors and mistakes that have crept in and been allowed to remain for want of contradiction and explanation.

The inception of a true and correct understanding of the Modern Templar system, must be looked for from the commencement of the Grand Mastership of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales and formation of a "Convent General" for the Empire A. D. 1873, as it is only within the last thirty years any attempt has been made to clear up the contradictory opinions and statements that surround Modern Templary, respecting its origin, object and meaning, with its assumed Masonic connection, no trouble being taken previously to investigate the truth or falsehood of the assertions made, every idle tale and legend being taken for granted as strictly true. Various theories were advanced to prove that Templary was a component part of "Free and Accepted Masonry" of the 1717 revival, but all have failed to convince before historic truth and modern criticism, however carefully perversion of truth may be arranged. At this time, 1873, a most searching investigation was instituted as to its alleged derivation and connection with "Freemasonry," as well as direct descent from the old orders of chivalry. It was then clearly ascertained and declared that Modern Templary was in *no way* a part of speculative Freemasonry, but merely allied to it, to preserve the intimate connection that was supposed to have existed between the old Christian builders—stone Masons of the Cloisters, and the Religious and Military Orders of the Crusades, to represent and continue them as a Christian society, following the principles and usages of chivalry by preserving their traditions and Trinitarian Christian belief in the symbolic teaching of the "Sacred Mysteries."

I. Although it cannot claim a *direct* descent from the ancient "Mili-