

IV.

modification of these stringent rules, the S. C. did grant us a CODE OF REGULATIONS under which the Bodies of the Rite have flourished, but the Heads of the Order in the Dominion after mature deliberation came to the conclusion that unless the Rite here was placed under its own SOVEREIGN BODY (as other and in some cases less important branches of the Craft were) it would never command that respect to which (through its intrinsic merit) it was entitled, and they therefore made an earnest appeal to the MOTHER BODY *for an absolution from their vows of fealty and allegiance* and AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH A SUP. COUNCIL 33° FOR THE DOMINION OF CANADA. The Sup. Council in England took immediate action on the application and requested the votes of the various Bodies of the Rite here in order to learn whether the wish for independence proceeded from the Ill. members of the 33° only or was the general wish of the Rite, and the vote having been taken and found to be unanimous for separation, PROMPTLY and with the GREATEST KINDNESS and COURTESY issued a Patent to the ILL. BRO. THOS. DOUGLAS HARINGTON, 33° (their representative at the time for the Dominion of Canada—excepting the Maritime Provinces) to open a Supreme Council 33° for the Dominion, naming the said Ill. Bro. as the M. P. Sov. Gr. Commander *ad vitam*; whereupon by virtue thereof a convention of the members of the 33° was summoned to meet at Ottawa on the 16th October, 1874, and the following are the minutes of that convention and subsequent first assembly of

The Sup. Council for the Dominion of Canada.

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