

The petition from the Great Prior of Canada on behalf of the members of Great Priory, was as follows:—

To His Royal Highness, Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, and Duke of Cornwall, K. G., G. C. S. I., G. C. B., K. T., K. P., &c., &c., &c., Grand Master of the United Religious and Military Orders of The Templars and Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem:

May it please your Royal Highness,—

I have the honor, as Great Prior, on behalf of the National Great Priory of Canada of the United Orders of the Temple and Malta, to lay before Your Royal Highness this loyal and humble address setting forth the following matters in connection with the present status of the Order in this nationality.

The said National Great Priory, at the annual assembly held in 1892, appointed a special committee to take into consideration the question of the independence of the Order in the Dominion.

The revision of the Statutes of the Great Priory was at the same time resolved upon, and revised Statutes have since been prepared and adopted, with a declaration establishing, and with such changes as were necessary to establish, the authority of this Great Priory as supreme and independent over all Orders of the Temple and appendant degrees in Canada.

The special committee above named, in a report presented to the Great Priory at their annual assembly held in the present year, unanimously recommended that the present humble address be presented to Your Royal Highness, praying that inasmuch as the Great Priory has unanimously declared in the revision of its Statutes its authority in and throughout the Dominion of Canada over all bodies of the Order of the Temple and appendant degrees, Your Royal Highness will be graciously pleased to absolve this Great Priory, and all officers and members thereof, from their obligations of fealty to Your Royal Highness as Supreme Grand Master, so that the Great Priory may be enabled fully and without doubt to affirm and maintain the position that it has taken upon itself as an independent Great Priory of the Order of Knights Templar and appendant degrees. At the same time gratefully expressing their knightly obligations to Your Royal Highness and to Convent General for all the courtesies and favors, that the officers and members of the Temple in the Dominion of Canada have heretofore received from Your Royal Highness and from all the officers of the Order of the United Kingdom; and further, communicating their desire that the interjurisdictional relations of this

new Sovereign Great Priory towards the sister Great Priorities of England and Ireland, and the Chapter General of Scotland, and sister Grand Encampments of the United States of America, and the Grand Commanderies of the several States, and with all fratres throughout the world, may be more intimate and binding than heretofore.

The above statement, set forth with the authority of the Order in Canada, releases me of much difficulty in approaching Your Royal Highness, and I have only to pray on behalf of the great branch of the Order here established, that Your Royal Highness will graciously regard the grateful acknowledgments we have endeavored to convey of past favors at the hands of your Royal Highness as no vain words of formality, but as the fervent expressions of loyal Templars in approaching the august presence of one who has pleased to be for many years their Royal Grand Master, and who will, they feel assured, regard their present request as one only adopted after the greatest consideration and when found to be absolutely necessary to meet the exigencies of their local circumstances, in granting it, graciously continue to regard the Canadian Branch of the Order with Royal and princely favor.

For myself, as holding my appointment until now, (when the Great Priory has unanimously elected me Great Prior *ad vitam*), under patent bearing the signature of Your Royal Highness—while the course now taken, may by your gracious permission absolve me from such immediate obligations of fealty as arise from its possession, I trust I may be permitted to retain the same as a priceless mark of Royal favor and to be ever preserved as such—the favor of that fealty and allegiance to my sovereign and Her Royal House which was the heritage of my birth as a British subject ever glowing the more ardently as years increase and only to cease when life itself ceases.

With profound respect, I have the honor to subscribe myself, Your Royal Highness' faithful and very humble servant,

(Signed)

W. J. B. MACLEOD MOORE, G.C.T.,  
Great Prior of Canada.

Prioral House, St. Johns East,  
P. Que., Canada, 21st  
Dec., 1893.

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There has not been a Masonic trial in Rhode Island for the past two years.

The indebtedness of the Hall and Asylum, New York, amounted on June 1st, 1888, to \$671,849.