

The Most Eminent the Great Prior then read the following

ADDRESS:

Fratres of the National Great Priory,—

The commencement of a new year, with its joyous greetings, and fond anticipations of happiness, has, in this year of grace, 1882, not been fully realized to many of the human family, bringing, as it has, but mourning and great sorrow. The "All-wise" and "All Merciful Father," who does all things well, has thought fit to remove and take to Himself many of those very dear to us; amongst them, the members of the Order have met with a great and irreparable loss by the death of our revered friend and Brother, ‡ Thomas Douglas Harington, Past Great Sub-Prior of this nationality, and representative of the Great Priory of England near that of Canada, who passed away suddenly to his eternal rest on the 13th of January last. We will see no more his familiar face, nor hear his kindly greeting, or enjoy his friendly companionship. None can feel the separation more than your Great Prior, who knew his sterling worth long and intimately, and whose friendship and confidence he possessed. Day after day I miss the letters regularly sent, which brought to me words of true friendship and good wishes. I mourn for him as a friend, a counselor and comforter in the hour of affliction. Alas! my Brother! we meet no more on this side the grave, but your memory will be ever green and fresh to us all.

Our dear Brother's Masonic career is too well known to require me to recapitulate it here, and can be gathered from the numerous mourning circulars, issued by every branch of Masonry with which he was connected [see Appendix A], and in one and all of which the first rank seemed to have been almost as of course awarded, as it was honorably filled by him. With reference to the degrees with which my name is more particularly identified, I have a mournful pleasure in saying that by me he was received into the Order of the Temple soon after I introduced it from England, as also into the A. and A. S. Rite, 33°, to that of 32° inclusive, having authority to communicate them to him, when I held the office of Dep. Gr. Ins. Gen., 33°, in 1863, and representative of the "Supreme Council, United States of America" [the old "Cerneau" Council], of which Ill. Brother Edmund B. Hayes, of New York, was then Sovereign Grand Commander.*

*This I subsequently resigned; Canada, being a dependency of the British Crown, was claimed by the Supreme Council 33rd degree for England, to which I afterwards became affiliated, and represented in Canada until my resignation in favour of our late illustrious Brother Harington; but since the establishment of a Sup. Council 33°, for Canada, I again represent that of England.