

to represent them near this Sovereign Great Priory.

Credentials have been prepared and sent to our representative near the Grand Encampment of the United States, and that for their representative received, accompanied by a superb Honorary Jewel.

I regret to announce that our respected representative near the Great Priory of Ireland, the Hon. Judge Townshend, G. C. T., of Dublin, has resigned his office as "Arch Chancellor" of "Convent General," and no longer takes *active* interest in the Order. "Convent General" in England still remains in abeyance, altho' it may be revived at any period.

THE SCOTTISH ENCAMPMENT OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Grand Chancellor, in obedience to your instructions, addressed the following communication (see Appendix B) to the Scottish Encampment in New Brunswick, to which he did not even receive the courtesy of a reply, but I learn they have applied, or are about to apply to the Grand Encampment of the United States for recognition as being under a separate jurisdiction from that of the Dominion, making it a source of grievance that Great Priory had not consulted them in the *first* instance and asked for their co-operation in the formation of this Sovereign Body. I really am at a loss to see on what grounds they base their complaint. Every concession to induce them to join us, that was possible to make, has been offered them, after absolute independence was secured; previous to that, it was an uncertain measure that did not meet the views of the entire Body. I may remark that the Templar Body of Scotland has never shown any desire to unite with those of other jurisdictions, to promote the general prosperity of the Order, and was the first to decline joining the *union*, so well intended, as the formation of a "Convent General" in England.

Altho' I am personally opposed to anything like coercion or extreme measures of the kind, feeling that every Brother has a perfect right to join and support any rite or jurisdiction he pleases, and much as I deplore the jealousy and disputes now existing, by insisting upon an exclusive "Sovereignty" of jurisdiction not being encroached on, I do not see how your interdiction can be avoided, as circumstances have of late arisen to show that there can be no (Masonic) peace in any colonial jurisdiction with more than one "Registry" existing within it. All experience proves this, and all efforts in any other direction will prove fatal; occasionally some single Body or so for a time, may exist, but must ultimately give way to the ruling power.

As the six months expired so near the time for the meeting of "Great Priory," I

decided to withhold your edict of non-intercourse, so that my hands might be strengthened by Great Priory re-affirming its determination to allow no intercourse to be held with the Templars who have treated us so discourteously.

RULING.

1. The question which has arisen of residents in Canada going to the United States temporarily, and there, without our permission, receiving the degrees; I have ruled, that on their return to Canada, they are *not* entitled to become *members* of any Preceptory within *this* jurisdiction, but must petition and be received in the same manner as any Royal Arch Companion unacquainted with the Orders, paying the accustomed fees of admission. This is necessary to preserve the *distinctive* features of *our* system, and prevent members being admitted who might be objectionable in the places where they reside and are best known.

2. A resident of Canada who has thus been admitted into the Order of the United States, may be received as a *visitor*, subject to the "By-Laws" of the Preceptory visited, but *cannot* be affiliated as a joining member.

3. Members of the Order in good standing, properly certified from foreign jurisdictions, are at all times eligible to be received as visitors, and to be affiliated on subscribing to the usual test of the Trinity and to the regulations of Great Priory.

4. An Eminent Commander from the United States, joining a Preceptory in Canada, cannot be returned as a "Preceptor" entitled to a seat in Great Priory, and can only obtain rank as such in this jurisdiction by being installed as a Preceptor in a Preceptory on the roll of Great Priory, and must have served a full term of 12 months to retain his seat at Great Priory.

5. A Canadian member of the Order, not affiliated in any Preceptory of the jurisdiction, can only be admitted once in 12 months as a visitor to meetings of Preceptories.

6. All regular Royal Arch Masons from foreign jurisdictions, properly recommended, are eligible to be received as candidates for the Templar degrees in this jurisdiction.

7. It is not necessary that members of the Order be subscribing members to either Craft Lodge or Royal Arch Chapter, and suspension for non payment of dues in a Craft Lodge or Royal Arch Chapter does not affect a member's standing in the Preceptory.

8. Suspension in a Craft Lodge or Royal Arch Chapter of a Templar, should be carefully enquired into and acted upon accordingly. No Templar whose moral character and integrity has been impugned, and proved against him, is, or can be, a