PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Commandery,

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR,

OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK,

AT ITS

Fifty-Ninth Annual Conclave,

TOWN OF NORWICH,

OCTOBER 8th, A. D.—1872—A. O. 754.

NEW YORK:
MASONIC PUBLISHING COMPANY,
626 BROADWAY.
1872.

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Grand Officers for 1872–'73.

Sir Frank Lewis Stowell...	*Olean*.....	R. E. Grand Commander.
" Mead Belden...	*Syracuse*.....	V. E. Dep. Gr. Commander.
" A. Eugene Lytle.....	*Auburn*.....	E. Grand Generalissimo.
" Charles Roome.	*New York*	" Grand Captain-General.
" and Rev. John G. Webster	*Palmyra*.....	" Grand Prelate.
" Robert Black.....	*Brooklyn*.....	" Grand Senior Warden.
" Townsend Fondey.....	*Albany*.....	" Grand Junior Warden.
" John S. Perry.....	*Troy*.....	" Grand Treasurer.
" Robert Macoy.....	*New York*	" Grand Recorder.
" Walter Kempster.....	*Utica*	" Grand Standard-Bearer.
" Charles H. Holden ...	*Saratoga Sp'gs.*	" Grand Sword-Bearer.
" Geo. Wm. Southwick. . .	*New York*	" Grand Warder.
" Joseph B. Chaffee. ...	*Binghamton* ..	" Grand Lecturer.
" John Gordon.....	*Newburg*.....	" Grand Sentinel.

COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE,

Sir John W. Simons, *New York.* Sir Ezra S. Barnum, *Utica.*

Sir Orrin Welch, *Syracuse.*

COMMITTEE ON TEMPLAR JURISPRUDENCE,

Sir William E. Lathrop, Sir George Babcock,

Sir Thos. C. Chittenden.

GRAND COMMANDERY

OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK.

Annual Conclave.

The Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, of the State of New York, commenced its Fifty-ninth Annual Conclave in the Asylum of Norwich Commandery, No. 46, at the town of Norwich, Chenango County, on Tuesday, Oct. 8th, A. D., 1872—A. O. 754, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Commandery was called to order by the Grand Captain-General, when, upon roll-call, the following Grand Officers were

Present:

Sir Robert Newlin Brown..... R. E. Grand Commander.
" Frank Lewis Stowell.....V. E. Dep. Gr. Commander.
" Mead Belden.....E. Grand Generalissimo.
" A. Eugene Lytle..... " Grand Captain-General.
" and Rev. John G. Webster. . " Grand Prelate.
" Charles Roome..... " Grand Senior Warden.
" Robert Black..... " Grand Junior Warden.
" John S. Perry..... ... " Grand Treasurer.
" Robert Macoy..... " Grand Recorder.
" Townsend Fondey..... " Grand Standard-Bearer.
" Walter Kempster..... " Grand Sword-Bearer.
" Charles H. Holden ..... " Grand Warder.
" Joseph B. Chaffee..... .. " Grand Lecturer.
" Hendrick Crain..... " Grand Sentinel.

Past Grand Officers:

Sir Ezra S. Barnum, P. G. M.
" Wm. E. Lathrop, P. G. M.
" John W. Simons, P. G. M.
" Zenas C. Priest, P. G. C.
" Orrin Welch, P. G. C.
" John A. Lefferts, P. G. C.
" H. Clay Preston, P. G. C.
" Christopher G. Fox, P. G. S.W.
" Jas. McCredie, P. G. J. W.

Sir Geo. F. Ilsley, P. C.
" Th s. R. Crocker, P. C.
" John Hoole, P. C.
" A. C. Wilmarth, P. C.
" John D. Williams, P. C.
" Robt. Stevens, P. C.
" Thos. C. Cassidy, P. C.
" Jackson H. Chase, P. C.
" H. W. Pell, P. C.

Sir B. D. Bragdon, P. C.

And Representatives from the following Commanderies:

COMMANDERIES.	LOCATION.	REPRESENTATIVES.
1 Columbian	*New York*	E. C.
2 Temple	*Albany*	C. G.
3 Utica	*Utica*	E. C., G. and C. G.
4 Morton	*New York*	E. C.
7 Lafayette	*Hudson*	E. C. and C. G.
10 Genesee	*Lockport*	G.
11 Watertown	*Watertown*	E. C. and G.
12 Monroe	*Rochester*	E. C. and C. G.
14 Clinton	*Brooklyn*	E. C. and G.
15 Apollo	*Troy*	E. C., G. and C. G.
16 Salem Town	*Auburn*	E. C., G. and C. G.
18 Palestine	*New York*	E. C., G. and C. G.
19 St. Omer's	*Elmira*	E. C. and G.
20 Lake Erie	*Buffalo*	E. C.
21 Malta	*Binghamton*	E. C., G. and C. G.
22 De Molay	*Hornellsville*	E. C.
23 Cœur de Lion	*New York*	E. C.
24 St. John's	*Olean*	E. C. and G.
25 Central City	*Syracuse*	E. C., G. and C. G.
27 De Witt Clinton	*Brooklyn*	E. C. and G.
28 St. Lawrence	*Canton*	E. C.
29 Geneva	*Geneva*	E. C.
30 Hugh de Payens	*Buffalo*	E. C. and G.
31 Manhattan	*New York*	E. C., G. and C. G.
32 Lake Ontario	*Oswego*	E. C. G., and C. G.
33 Washington	*Saratoga Springs*	E. C. and G.
34 Batavia	*Batavia*	E. C.
35 Hudson River	*Newburg*	E. C. and C. G.
36 Ivanhoe	*New York*	E. C. and G.
37 St. George's	*Schenectady*	Proxy.
38 St. Augustine	*Ithaca*	G.
39 Cyrene	*Rochester*	Proxy.
40 Dunkirk	*Dunkirk*	E. C.
41 Zenobia	*Palmyra*	E. C. and G.
42 Westchester	*Sing Sing*	E C.
43 Poughkeepsie	*Poughkeepsie*	E. C.
44 Delaware	*Port Jervis*	Proxy.
45 Rome	*Rome*	C. G.
46 Norwich	*Norwich*	E. C., G. and C. G.
47 Yonkers	*Yonkers*	E. C.
48 Constantine	*Harlem*	E. C. and C. G.
50 Cortland	*Cortland*	E. C., G. and C. G.
51 Holy Cross	*Gloversville*	E. C.
52 Rondout	*Rondout*	E. C., G. and C. G.
53 Bethlehem	*New Rochelle*	E. C. and G.

Also. Representatives of the Grand Commanderies of the States of Pennsylvania, Alabama, Tennessee, Missouri. Georgia, Vermont, Minnesota, Texas, Ohio, Illinois, New Jersey. Indiana, and New Hampshire.

The Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery was opened in Ample Form, by the Right Eminent Grand Commander. assisted by the Grand Officers, with appropriate knightly ceremonies, and Prayer by Sir and Rev. John G. Webster, Grand Prelate.

The R. E. Grand Commander cordially invited all Sir Knights in regular standing in the Order, to seats in the Grand Commandery during the present Annual Conclave.

On motion of Sir T. Fondey, it was

Voted, That the reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Conclave (printed copies being in the hands of the Sir Knights present) be dispensed with.

The R. E. Grand Commander appointed the following as the Standing Committees during the Conclave:

On Credentials and Returns,

Sir John Trowbridge, Sir John T. Conover,
Sir Thaddeus B. Barber.

On Warrants and Dispensations,

Sir Jos. B. Chaffee, Sir Byron Rathbun,
Sir Claudius F. Beatty.

On Books and Accounts,

Sir Geo. Van Vliet, Sir Chas. Hilton,
Sir Cyrus Stewart.

On Pay of Representatives,

Sir Southerland De Witt, Sir W. Samuel Coffey,
Sir Lyman Cobb, Jr.

On Grievance and Appeals,

Sir Christopher G. Fox, Sir Albert G. Goodall,
Sir Chas. Roome.

On Next Place of Meeting,

Sir G. Fred. Wiltsie, Sir William Shelp,
Sir James W. Cusack.

On Templar Jurisprudence,

Sir Wm. E. Lathrop, Sir Geo. Babcock,
Sir Thos. C. Chittenden.

On Correspondence,

Sir John W. Simons, Sir Orrin Welch,
Sir Ezra S. Barnum.

The R. E. Grand Commander delivered the following, being his

Annual Address:

Sir Knights:—Greeting you at this our Fifty-ninth Annual Conclave, I congratulate you upon the harmony and prosperity that prevail throughout our jurisdiction. Our grateful thanks are due to the Almighty Father of the universe for the watchful care and tender mercy he has vouchsafed to us. Let our future conduct, therefore, be such as to merit a continuanee of his divine favor, without which no effort of ours can be successful.

My official acts have been but few; no unpleasant duty has devolved upon me; few questions have been submitted for my decision, while the courtesy extended to me by those with whom I have held official intercourse, has made the discharge of every duty an easy and a pleasing task.

Chicago Appropriation.

At our last Conclave an appropriation of two thousand dollars was made from our treasury for the relief of Knights Templar, sufferers by the terrible conflagration then raging in the city of Chicago. On the 19th of October I informed R. E. Sir Vincent L. Hurlbut, Chairman of the Relief Committee, of our action in the premises. To my communication I received, under date of October 24th, the following reply:

Chicago, *Oct.* 24, 1871.

R. E. Sir Robert N. Brown, *Grand Commander of K. T. of New York, Buffalo:*

R. E. and Dear Sir Knight:—We have your welcome letter of the 19th instant, informing us of the appropriation made by the Grand Commandery of New York, of two thousand dollars for the relief of

Knights Templar in distress from the late calamitous fire. In their names we thank you, and can assure you that this, and all moneys entrusted to us, shall be conscientiously devoted to the purposes for which it was sent. The Fraters are answering nobly to our appeals for help, and God will bless them for this wonderful evidence of Knightly love and charity. The donation from your Grand Commandery was noted by our Grand Commandery at their Conclave to day.

Courteously and fraternally,

[Signed.] VINCENT L. HURLBUT, P. G. C., *Chairman.*
HENRY C. RANNEY, P. G. C., *Sec'y.*

I also received, under date of Nov. 11, the following communicatiou:

OFFICE OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE RELIEF OF TEMPLAR AND SCOTCH RITE MASONS,
CHICAGO, *Nov.* 11, 1871.

R. E. SIR ROBERT N. BROWN, *Buffalo, N. Y.:*

R. E. AND DEAR SIR KNIGHT:—Our Chairman, Sir Vincent L. Hurlbut, Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment, presented your communication of Oct. 31st, addressed to the Sir Knights of your jurisdiction, which was ordered to be spread on our minutes and a suitable acknowledgment made to you of our earnest thanks for your continued labor in behalf of our distressed Sir Knights. How can we thank you? Language is barren to do it. The silent thanks of the destitute, the bereaved widow, the orphaned children, will be your greatest reward. For and in their behalf we thank you.

Very courteously, yours,

HENRY C. RANNEY, P. G. C.,
Ass'st Sec'y.

On the 31st of October, I promulgated the order of the M. Em. Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, in reference to the Chicago fire, with which you are all familiar.

The total amount contributed to the Templar Relief Fund of Chicago by this Jurisdiction, was three thousand one hundred and twenty-five dollars, as follows:

Grand Commandery of New York	$2000
Hugh de Payens Commandery, No. 30	500
Lake Erie " " 20	100
Apollo " " 15	100
Watertown " " 11	325
Individual Subscription	100
	$3,125

ASSIGNMENTS FOR VISITATION.

On the 31st of October, I made the following assignment of Commanderies for official visitation by the Grand Officers. Their reports will be presented to you in their proper order:

To V. E. Sir Frank L. Stowell, D. G. C.:

Columbian, No. 1,
Morton, No. 4,
St. Omer's, No. 19,
Malta, No. 21,
De Molay, No. 22,
Dunkirk, No. 40.

To E. Sir Mead Belden, G. G.:

Genesee, No. 10,
Monroe, No. 12,
Lake Erie, No. 20,
Lake Ontario, No. 32,
Cyrene, No. 39,
Zenobia, No. 41.

To E. Sir A. Eugene Lytle, G. C. G.:

Central City, No. 25,
Geneva, No. 29,
Hugh de Payens, No. 30,
Batavia, No. 24,
St. Augustine, No. 38.

To E. Sir Charles Roome, G. Senior Warden:

Clinton, No. 14,
De Witt Clinton, No. 27,
Hudson River, No. 35,
Yonkers, No. 47,
Constantine, No. 48,
Bethlehem, No. 53.

To E. Sir Robert Black, G. Junior Warden:

Palestine, No. 18,
Cœur de Lion, No. 23.
Manhattan, No. 31,
Ivanhoe, No. 36,
Westchester, No. 42.

To E Sir Townsend Fondey, G. Standard Bearer:

Utica, No. 3,
Lafayette, No. 7,
Apollo, No. 15,
Poughkeepsie, No. 43,
Rondout, No. 52.

To E. Sir Walter Kempster, G. Sword-Bearer:

Watertown, No 11,
St. Lawrence, No. 28,
Washington, No. 33.
Rome, No. 45.

To E. Sir Charles H. Holden, Grand Warder:

Temple, No. 2,
St. George's, No. 37,
De Soto, No. 49,
Holy Cross, No. 51.

To E. Sir Joseph B. Chaffee, G. Lecturer:

Salem Town, No. 16,
St. John's, No. 24,
Delaware, No. 44,
Norwich, No. 46,
Cortland, No. 50.

On the 25th of March, I also assigned to this officer Ogdensburg Commandery, U. D.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

I courteously suggest for your reconsideration the recommendation of my predecessor, R. E. Sir GEO. BABCOCK, in reference to the abolition of Sec. No. 51 of our Statutes and Regulations providing for these official visitations, and the report of the Special Committee to whom this subject was referred at our last Conclave. I fully concur with both. I am of the opinion, however, that the Commanderies visited by the Inspector-General should pay his traveling and other expenses, in addition to the compensation allowed him by the Grand Commandery, and that he should be invested with authority to install the officers of a subordinate Commandery.

NEW COMMANDERY AT OGDENSBURG.

On the 23d of March I granted a dispensation for a new Commandery to be created at Ogdensburg, St. Lawrence Co., under the name of Ogdensburg Commandery, and appointed Sir EDWIN M. HOLBROOK Em. Commander, Sir JOSEPH THOMPSON Generalissimo, and Sir N. MARTIN CURTISS Captain-General.

Unavoidable circumstances, which have been satisfactorily explained to me, have prevented any organization under this dispensation. I, therefore, recommend that it be renewed, without charge of additional fee.

DISPENSATION TO ST. LAWRENCE COMMANDERY.

April 4th, I granted a special dispensation to St. Lawrence Commandery, No. 28, to resume their labors, and to hold Special Conclaves at Potsdam and Gouverneur for work and instruction only. Their warrant having been destroyed by fire, I recommend that a new warrant be issued to them without the payment of the fee.

DISPENSATION TO CORTLAND COMMANDERY.

April 18th, I issued a dispensation to Cortland Commandery, No. 50, to hold a special election for Capt.-General, the Sir Knight elected to this office during his absence at the regular election, declining to serve.

DISPENSATION TO NORWICH COMMANDERY.

April 24th, I granted a special dispensation to Norwich Commandery, No. 48, to install its officers, circumstances beyond their control preventing the installation within the time prescribed by the Statutes.

REPRESENTATIVE IN NEBRASKA.

April 22d, I appointed Sir JOHN BLAKE, of Brownville, Nebraska, as the Representative of this Grand Commandery near the Grand Commandery of Nebraska, with the rank of Past Grand Captain-General.

REPRESENTATIVE IN MISSISSIPPI.

September 9th, I appointed Sir G. J. BAHIN, of Natchez, Mississippi, as our Representative near the Grand Commandery of Mississippi, with the rank of Past Grand Capt.-General.

BETHLEHEM COMMANDERY.

October 24, I constituted and dedicated Bethlehem Commandery, No. 53, at New Rochelle, and installed its officers. I was assisted by M. E. JOHN W. SIMONS, Past Grand Master, and Em. Sir CHARLES ROOME and Em. Sir ROBERT BLACK, Grand Senior and Junior Wardens of this Grand Commandery, and other Sir Knights of the city of New York, to whom, as well as to the officers and Sir Knights of Bethlehem Commandery, my thanks are due for the assistance and courtesy extended to me on that occasion.

INSTALLING OFFICERS.

April 15th, I installed the officers of Lake Erie Commandery, No. 20, for the ensuing year.

April 22d, I installed the officers of Hugh de Payens Commandery, No. 30, for the ensuing year.

May 27th, I visited Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 23.

On each of these occasions I was received with the honors due to my rank, and entertained with Knightly cordiality and hospitality.

LAYING CORNER-STONE OF CITY HALL.

June 24th, I attended, under the escort of Lake Erie Commandery, No. 20, and Hugh de Payen Commandery, No. 30, the laying of the corner-stone of the City and County Hall at the city of Buffalo, by M. W. CHRISTOPHER G. FOX, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York. The Masonic ceremonies were witnessed by a large and appreciative assemblage, and the Templar escort to the M. W. Grand Lodge reflected great credit upon the Sir Knights of Lake Erie, No. 20, and Hugh de Payen, No. 30.

EDICT OF GRAND MASTER ON UNIFORM.

On the 21st of February, I promulgated, with my approval, the Edict of the Grand Encampment and the order of the M. E. Grand Master, in reference to uniform. It affords me much pleasure to learn that they

are generally reeeived in the same spirit in whieh they were issue I hope that the time is not far distant, when every Sir Knight within this jurisdietion will have fully eomplied with them.

I refrain from any diseussion of this subjeet. There is no alternative but to yield obedienee to the authority to which, in our obligations as Knights Templar, we have vowed allegiance.

OFFICIAL DECISIONS.

I have made the following deeisions:

1. The minutes submitted and aeeepted at one Conelave eannot be set aside at a sueeeeding Conelave. They must remain on reeord as adopted; but aetion may be taken to modify them, provided that sueh action does not eonfliet with the Statutes and Regulations of the Grand Commandery.

2. The miuutes of a Conelave at whieh a eandidate was deelared rejeeted, eannot be set aside at a sueeeeding Conelave. The petition cannot again be reeeived until the expiration of the three months required by the Statutes and Regulations.

3. The Order of Malta is not requisite to a membership in a Commandery of Knights Templar. It is an Appendant Order, the seerets of whieh every Knights Templar has a right to be informed of.

4th. The mere eonferring of the Orders does not make the candidate a member of the Body that eonfers them, but the signing of the by-laws does.

5. The Grand Sentinel of the Grand Commandery, unless he is a Commander or Past Commander, cannot install the offieers of a Subordinate Commandery.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

The Special Committees appointed at our last Conelave, viz:

"To proeure repeal of the Aet of Ineorporation;"

"To proeure Testimonial for R. E. Sir Geo. Babcock;"

"To proeure uew Jewels for Grand Offieers;"

"To proeure Monumento and Memorial Volume of Sermons in memory of our deeeased Prelate, the late Rev. Charles H. Platt," will submit their reports to you in their proper order.

I suggest that the labors of the committee to whom is intrusted the publieation of the Memorial Volume of the Sermons of our late Grand Prelate, be eontinued, and that they be requested to plaee the work on sale in every eity and town within this jurisdietion in whieh there is a Commandery. I am eonfident that, with a proper effort on the part of the Commanderies, and a suitable notiee by the loeal press, many volumes ean be sold, not ouly to members of the Order, but to others, by whom our late Prelate was highly esteemed. The Sir Knights present

can procure the book of the committee during this session of the Grand Commandery.

The new Jewels for the Grand Officers have been procured and are in use. An inspection will insure your admiration of them, and your approval of the manner in which the committee selected to purchase them have carried out your wishes.

THE TACTICS AND DRILL.

The Tactics and Drill adopted at our last session, have been published under the direction of their author R. E. Sir ORRIN WELCH. I am informed that they have been generally circulated throughout the jurisdiction, and are highly approved by the Sir Knights.

An opportunity will be afforded you during our present meeting (of which I hope you will avail yourselves) of witnessing an exemplification of a portion of them, at "Camp Welch," which cannot fail to be both instructive and entertaining.

EXEMPLIFICATION OF THE WORK.

At my request, Sir Knight LOOMIS, Em. Commander of Norwich Commandery, No. 46, in whose asylum we are now assembled, will with the assistance of his command, exemplify the work of the Asylum during our present Conclave.

The Order of Knights Templar will be conferred this evening, the ceremonies of which you are all cordially invited to witness.

A prompt and full attendance will gratify *me personally*, and will be the best evidence you can furnish of your zeal and attachment to the fundamental principles of *our noble and glorious Order*.

I beg leave to suggest to you that in future, it be made the duty of the Commandery in whose Asylum the Grand Commandery holds its Conclaves, to prepare itself to exemplify the Tactics and Drill and Work of the Asylum before that Grand Body. I am of the opinion that much good will result from this plan.

ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

I should do injustice to the officers and Sir Knights of Manhattan Commandery, No. 31, did I not express my thanks to them for the energy and interest they have displayed in organizing an Encampment of Knights Templar near this Grand Commandery at its present Conclave. Much good can and will be accomplished by this gathering of the Sir Knights. I hope that the example set by Manhattan, No. 31, may be followed at all of our future Conclaves.

GRAND TREASURER'S AND GRAND RECORDER'S REPORTS.

The reports of our Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, will inform you of the condition of our finances, and the work of the Commanderies during the past year.

CLOSING CEREMONIES.

A sense of duty constrains me to call your attention to a practice that

has prevailed at our Conclaves, which has really become an evil. I refer to the hurried and indifferent manner in which our annual meetings are brought to an end. I was unable to close our last Annual Conclave, with the ceremonies due to the occasion, for the reason that there was not a sufficient number of Knights remaining in the Asylum to enable me to do so. I am confident that it is only necessary for me to call your attention to this evil. The remedy is in your own hands. Your own sense of duty should insure its application.

In conclusion, Sir Knights, with feelings of sincere gratitude for the kindness and courtesy you have uniformly extended to me, proud of the honorable position in which you have placed me, conscious of an earnest effort to discharge, to the best of my ability, the responsible duties devolving upon me, and regretting the errors, if any there be, that I have committed, it is my wish to return to the ranks, and there endeavor, in the future, as in the past, to promote the dignity, harmony and prosperity of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of New York.

ROBERT NEWLIN BROWN.

Grand Commander.

On motion of Sir JOHN W. SIMONS, it was

Resolved, That the Annual Address of the R. E. Grand Commander be entered at length on the Minutes, and referred to a special committee of three, to divide and refer the subjects to appropriate committees—

When Sirs JOHN W. SIMONS, ORRIN WELCH and WM. E. LATHROP were appointed such committee.

REPORTS.

The Grand Recorder presented the following report, which was received, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Books and Accounts:

To the Grand Commander of the State of New York:

The undersigned respectfully reports that during the past year he has discharged the usual routine duties incident to his office; that, in compliance with the resolution adopted at the last Annual Conclave, the Tactics and Drill prepared by R. E. Sir Orrin Welch were published, and that the 1000 copies issued have nearly all been sold. This first edition of 1000 copies, when disposed of, will fully reimburse the expense of publication. That I have received from the several Commanderies in the State, for dues, the sum of four thousand one hundred and seventeen dollars, and for Dispensation to establish a Commandery at Ogdensburg, one hundred dollars, making a total of four thousand two hundred and seventeen dollars, which have been paid to the Grand Treasurer and his receipt therefor acknowledged.

ROBERT MACOY, *Grand Recorder.*

The Grand Treasurer presented his Annual Report, which was, on motion, received, and referred to the Committee on Books and Accounts:

R. E. Grand Commander, Officers and Members of the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

The Grand Treasurer presents the following Report, to wit:

By balance in Grand Treasury, Oct. 10, 1871		$5,128 92
Received of Grand Recorder		4,066 50
Oct. 7, 1872, received of Grand Recorder		150 50
Interest on $2 000		120 00
		$9,465 92
Disbursements, as follows:		
Pay of Representatives, Grand and Past Grand Officers	$1,799 32	
Appropriations, etc.		
R. E. Sir George Babcock, expenses, attending G. E.	220 60	
R. N. Brown, " "	54 50	
F. L. Stowell, " "	51 50	
R. Macoy, printing, etc	126 46	
John A. Lefferts, printing, etc	50 00	
John W. Simons, G. T. of G. Encampment	283 00	
" " Compiling Report on F. C	200 00	
John S. Perry, Grand Treasurer	100 00	
Robert Macoy, Grand Recorder	200 00	
Henry C. Preston, Testimonial	200 00	
Orrin Welch, for Drill and Tactics	500 00	
E. O. Jenkins, printing	469 84	
Daniel Sickels, Jewel for Sir Kt. Goodall	25 00	
V. L. Hurlbut, for the sufferers of the great fire	2,000 00	
John W. Simons, Jewels for G. C	720 00	
Express Charges	75	
		$7,000 97
Now in Grand Treasury the sum of		$2,464 95

All courteously submitted,

JOHN S. PERRY, *Grand Treasurer.*

On motion of Sir MEAD BELDEN, it was

Resolved, That the hours of meeting of the present Annual Conclave be at 10 o'clock A. M., and 3 o'clock P. M. each day.

Sir JOHN TROWBRIDGE, from the Committee on Credentials and Returns, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received and adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

The Committee on Credentials and Returns respectfully report that they have examined the Returns and Credentials of the following named Com-

manderies, and find them correct; that their Representatives, together with the Grand Officers, Past Grand Commanders, and Past Commanders present, are entitled to seats in this Grand Commandery:

COMMANDERIES.	COMMANDER.	GENERALISSIMO.	CAPT.-GENERAL.
1 *Columbian*	Fred. W. Herring		
2 *Temple*			Chas. Hilton
3 *Utica*	W. Kempster	Harvey Barnard	G. Kincaid
4 *Morton*	A. G. Goodall		
7 *Lafayette*	Aaron Colton		Wm. R. Elting
10 *Genesee*		W. C. Raymond	
11 *Watertown*	T. C. Chittenden	John C. Armstrong	
12 *Monroe*	W. L. Sage, Proxy		S. V. McDowell
14 *Clinton*	C. F. Beatty	J. Scrimgeour	
15 *Apollo*	J. W. Cusack	A. G. Wheeler, P'y.	J. Lewis Grant, Pr'y
16 *Salem Town*	T. B. Barber	Frank H. Griswold	John C. White
18 *Palestine*	G. Van Vliet	Jos. F. Waring	Henry V. Myers
19 *St. Omer's*	S. De Witt	John S. Bartlett	J. M. Shoemaker
20 *Lake Erie*	Hawley Kleim		
21 *Malta*	O. W. Earle	A. L. Tremaine	M. Anderson
22 *De Molay*	Wm. L. Collins		
23 *Cœur de Lion*	J. T. Conover		
24 *St. John's*	W. A. Baldwin		E. A. Homer, Proxy.
25 *Central City*	Orrin Welch	Edward H. Brown	D. E. Remmington
27 *De Witt Clinton*	Chas. Aikman	Geo. McKay	
28 *St. Lawrence*	O. A. Hine		
29 *Geneva*	Wm. P. Durrant	S. N. Anthony	D. P. Nelson
30 *Hugh de Payens*	C. G. Fox	J. A. Lockwood	
31 *Manhattan*	Geo. W. Southwick	Wm. A. Blanck	C. V. R. Ackerman
32 *Lake Ontario*	S. Beckford	R. C. Day	T. H. Jolley
33 *Washington*	Chas. H. Holden		Geo. H. Gillis
34 *Batavia*	J. M. Showerman		
35 *Hudson River*	G. F. Wiltsie		Geo. W. Leonard
36 *Ivanhoe*	M. S. Leggett	John Caunt	
37 *St. George's*	H. Goodrich, Proxy		
38 *St. Augustine*		R. C. Christance	
39 *Cyrene*	C. M. St John, P'y.		
40 *Dunkirk*	B. Rathbun		M. L. Hinman
41 *Zenobia*	J. G. Webster	Joseph W. Corning	
42 *Westchester*	John M. Rowel		
43 *Poughkeepsie*	J. Trowbridge		
44 *Delaware*	C. T. Branch, Proxy		
45 *Rome*			F. E. Mitchell
46 *Norwich*	E. J. Loomis	Geo. Rider	D. H. Knapp
47 *Yonkers*	Lyman Cobb		
48 *Constantine*	G. W. Walgrove		M. D. Myers
50 *Cortland*	Geo. L. Warren	E. M. Seacord	C. W. Wiles
51 *Holy Cross*	C. Stewart		
52 *Rondout*	A. A. Crosby	Jas. McCausland	A. Dodge
53 *Bethlehem*	W. S. Coffey	Geo. R. Crawford	

Courteously submitted,

JOHN TROWBRIDGE,
J. T. CONOVER,
T. B. BARBER,
} *Committee.*

Sir JOHN W. SIMONS, from the Committee on Jewels, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and the recommendation adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

The undersigned Committee, named to procure suitable jewels for the Grand Officers of this Body, respectfully report that they have attended to the duty assigned them.

Upon mature consideration, and after consultation with the Grand Commander, they decided to procure genuine metal instead of the imitation generally in use. The expense was seven hundred and twenty dollars, which amount has been paid by the Grand Treasurer.

Your Committee recommend that each Grand Officer be allowed to retain his jewel for use during the recess, conditioned upon his signing a receipt for the same to the Grand Treasurer.

Courteously submitted,

JNO. W. SIMONS,
JOHN H. LEFFERTS,
CHARLES ROOME,
Committee.

INVITATION.

Sir EDWIN J. LOOMIS, E. Commander of Norwich Commandery, No. 46, in behalf of the Commandery, invited the Grand Commandery to be present at their Asylum this evening, to witness the exemplification of the work of the Order of the Temple.

On motion, the invitation was accepted.

Sir TOWNSEND FONDEY, from the Committee on the Repeal of the Act of Incorporation, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and the Committee continued:

To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of New York:

GREETING,—Your Committee, to whom was referred the matter of procuring a repeal of the Act of Incorporation, would respectfully report: That the bill of repeal was duly prepared and passed by the Senate, but failed in the House through the pressure of other matter at the close of the session. Your Committee would, therefore, ask for further time, or an honorable discharge.

GEO. BABCOCK,
TOWNSEND FONDEY,
JNO. W. SIMONS,
Committee.

Sir GEO. W. SOUTHWICK presented the following invitation, which was, on motion, accepted:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, "CAMP WELCH,"

NORWICH, N. Y., *October* 8, 1872.

To the Officers and Members of the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

You are respectfully requested to be present at the "Evening Dress Parade," this P M., at 5 o'clock, after which, to participate in the inspection and review of the Sir Knights there assembled by the Grand Officers.

Courteously and fraternally,

GEO. WM. SOUTHWICK, *Commandant.*

Sir EDWIN J. LOOMIS, E. C., of Norwich Commandery, No. 46, presented the following invitation, which was, on motion, accepted:

To the Officers and Members of the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

You are courteously invited to be present at a Promenade Concert and Reception to be given by Norwich Commandery, No. 46, at their Headquarters in the Tent on the public square, in honor of the Grand Commandery, on Wednesday evening, Oct. 9, 1872, at 9 o'clock.

Courteously yours,

E. J. LOOMIS, *Commander.*

Sir JOHN W. SIMONS, from the Committee on Correspondence, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and ordered to be printed in full in the Transactions of this Annual Conclave:

THE Committee on Correspondence have the honor to present herewith the Twentieth Annual Review of the transactions of corresponding bodies, and at the same time to offer their most sincere congratulations to the Grand Commandery and its constituency that peace, unity, and prosperity still continue to mark the forward progress of the Order. There still exist differences of opinion, and, according to our views, errors of law and practice, but they are minor in character, and we hope to see them eventually composed, to the general satisfaction and for the greater glory of the institution.

Two things seem to be necessary, at the point we have reached, to secure our past success and restrain and direct the future. One is the practical consideration of the question, whether in the wonderful prosperity which has attended the institution for twenty years past, we have not come to be imbued with a desire for a greater and speedier extension of numbers than is consistent with sound discretion and a healthy, permanent growth. In the army, in time of peace, the surgeons are said to examine proposed recruits with a view to ascertain whether it be possible to reject; while during a war, or under the draft, the rule is to ascertain whether it be possible to accept. We are inclined to believe that, as a general rule, our examining committees act as though a draft had been announced, and conduct their inspection rather with a view to accept, if possible, than as if contemplating a possible rejection. Dealing as we do with those who have already twice passed the ordeal of examination and ballot, it seems natural that we should have less hesitation than if our business were directly with the profane; but we submit the question as one with which every knight may deal according to his own conscience, whether we are not allowing this sentiment to carry us too far, and in a measure to paralyze our sense of responsibility to the important trust committed to our keeping.

The other subject is the want of a well-defined system of jurisprudence applicable to the affairs of Commanderies—grand and subordinate. Perhaps it may be said that we have progressed thus far without material difficulty, and we need not seek to meet trouble half way. We are not to forget, however, that the Order is in the daily progress of a development which the founders of it in this country certainly never contemplated, and that the present generation can hardly be justified if it fail to lay the foundations, at least, whereon may, in the near future, arise a system to be distinctly recognized as pertinent to, and governing the legal practice of, Templars.

We take occasion to remark that, in several of our exchanges, we find the Transactions of New York missing. In some the omission passes as a matter of course; in others brief regret is expressed. Now, we not only like to hear annually from all our contemporaries, but we also desire to know what they think and say about us, and we insist that there need never be a vacancy in the place we are entitled to fill, if the reporter or Grand Recorder will take the trouble to notify us that our transactions have not come to hand. Duplicate copies are sent to every Grand Recorder immediately upon their publication; but we know from our own experience that some miscarry, and we will esteem it a special favor if, on any case of failure, our Grand Recorder be notified and allowed to fill the blank.

And now, with courteous and fraternal greetings to all, we enter upon the labors of our annual review.

We have the following transactions:

Arkansas, Mar. 25, 1872.
Alabama, Feb. 5, 1872.
California, April 12, 1872.
Connecticut, Mar. 19, 1872.
Georgia, May 22, 1872.
Illinois, Oct. 24, 1871.
Indiana, April 2, 1872.
Iowa, Oct. 14, 1871.
Kansas, Oct. 16, 1871.
Louisiana, Feb. 16, 1872.
Maine, May 8, 1872.
Maryland, May 15, 1872.
Mass. and R. I., Oct. 27, 1871.
Michigan, June 4, 1872.
Minnesota, June 24, 1871.
Mississippi, Jan. 27, 1872.
Missouri, Oct. 3, 1871.
Nebraska, Dec. 28, 1871.
New Hampshire, Sept. 26, 1871.
New Jersey, Sept. 12, 1871.
Ohio, Sept. 26, 1871.
Pennsylvania, June 11, 1872.
Tennessee, May 14, 1871.
Texas, June 12, 1871.
Vermont, June 11, 1872.
Virginia, Dec. 14, 1871.
Wisconsin, Jan. 17, 1872.
Gr. Conclave of England for 1872.

ALABAMA.

Twelfth Annual Conclave at Marion, February 5, 1872, V. E. Sir J. H. Johnson, D. G. C., presiding, Daniel Sayre, Grand Recorder, and the representatives of seven subordinates present.

The address of Sir A. J. Walker, G. C., who was unavoidably absent,

was presented and read. He says the Order is growing throughout the State, but not so rapidly as to indicate an indiscreet selection of members, and he finds that there is room for improvement in the ritual and drill.

He decided correctly:

1. That the Eminent Commander of a Commandery of Knights Templar, having been elected and installed, can not resign.

2. That a Generalissimo or Captain-General may be tried for unknightly conduct before the Commandery of which he may be a member, and that the mode of proceedings is analogous to that prescribed in the Masonic Code.

Passing to a sketch of the foundation and achievements of the original Templars, he asks:

"Do we exhibit the exalted qualities inculcated by the example of our founders and the precepts of our order? Do we, influenced by the impression made upon us as Knights of the Red Cross, so revere truth as to be ready to maintain it, even at the cost of exile or death? Do we make our pathway through life radiant with the virtues of genuine Templarism? Do we demonstrate by our acts that a fellow-Knight in sickness, sorrow, and distress is a brother? Do we wield an unpretending and unseen wand of protection over those who are the peculiar subjects of knightly care? Do we so act that those who observe us take knowledge that we are from the asylum of an institution founded upon the Christian religion? Alas, Sir Knights! how few of us attain to the full measure of the stature of a Knight of our Order! Frailty affects all things terrestrial. The pure light of a perfect knightly character shines from an eminence so high we may never attain it. Yet, struggling ever with the weaknesses and temptations which impede us in our progress, we shall at least approach it, and entitle ourselves to the plaudits of all who admire courageous and manly efforts for the accomplishment of good."

Questions which most of us will find it difficult to answer.

On the second day, the Grand Commandery went to church, where devotional exercises were had, and Sir William P. Chilton delivered an oration.

A commemorative jewel was presented to Sir Richard F. Knott, P. G. C.

A committee was appointed to revise the drill. We respectfully suggest that they will find the labor done to their hand by procuring the work of Sir Orrin Welch, as approved by the Grand Encampment.

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported that suspension for non-payment of dues in Lodge or Chapter does not deprive the members of the privileges of Knighthood, which was concurred in.

We respectfully dissent. Suspension is suspension, no matter what the cause of its infliction. No reservation is made in the original terms, and we do not believe it in the power of any body of men now to make a change.

No report on Correspondence.

R. E. Sir Joseph H. Johnson is Grand Commander, E. Sir Daniel Sayre, Grand Recorder.

ARKANSAS.

On the 25th day of March of the present year, the representatives of four subordinate Commanderies met at Fort Smith, and under the authority of a warrant from the M. E. John Q. A. Fellows, Grand Master of Knights Templar in the United States, proceeded to form a Grand Commandery for the State of Arkansas, adopt a Constitution, and elect officers, who were duly installed by E. Sir E. H. English, as proxy for the Grand Master.

The Grand Commandery was subsequently opened in ample form, and transacted such local business as required attention.

Their proceedings being entirely regular, we bid them a Knightly and cordial welcome to the family, and trust that to them may be vouchsafed length of days and great prosperity.

R. E. Sir Luke E. Barber is Grand Commander, E. Sir John W. Rison, Little Rock, Grand Recorder.

CALIFORNIA.

Fourteenth Annual Conclave at San Francisco, April 12, 1872.

Present: R. E. Sir F. F. Barss, Grand Commander, E. Sir Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Recorder, and the representatives of nine chartered Commanderies. New York present by Sir Isaac S. Titus.

A brief address from the Grand Commander bears to us the pleasant intelligence that prosperity, peace, and harmony prevail in the Golden State. He decided that a test of residence is the elective franchise; or, in other words, that where a man votes, he resides—which we hold to be conclusive.

The Grand Recorder presented a report on Correspondence, which no one can read without feeling that he has been interested and profited thereby. We regret to find the place of New York vacant, and respectfully suggest to Sir Wiggin that, if he expects to retain full membership in the W. G. O. M. A., he must not have any vacancies, at least, until he has personally notified the Grand Recorder or Reporter of the absent jurisdiction of his need. We generally come nearer to a full set than any of the others; and we do it by the process indicated. At this writing we have all but Kentucky; and, if Sir Munger don't send that before we go to press, he will have trouble among the few remaining hairs on the top of his head.

A committee was appointed to procure suitable dress for the Grand Commandery.

On motion of Sir Charles Marsh, the tactics and drill, as exemplified in the "Book of the Commandery," were adopted. This being a double compliment, New York respectfully takes off its hat.

R. E. Sir Wm. W. Taylor is Grand Commander, Grand Recorder continued.

CONNECTICUT.

Annual Conclave at Hartford, March 19, 1872.

R. E. Sir Wm. W. Story, Grand Commander, E. Sir John W. Stedman, Grand Recorder. Representatives of all the Commanderies (10) present.

The annual address is lengthy, but treats only of business matters, considerable space being given to the annual field encampment, which appears to have been eminently successful and satisfactory. All the Grand Officers were present, and every Commandery was represented; 432 Knights in all being on hand at roll-call.

What pleases us most is, that it demonstrates a cordial and Knightly unanimity of sentiment throughout the jurisdiction, than which nothing can be more conducive to healthy and successful existence.

The Committee on Statutes and Regulations, presented a new and excellent code, save that, in three varieties of delinquencies, a money fine is imposed. We know of no law preventing a Grand Commandery from imposing a penalty of this kind, but it sounds strange, nevertheless; and we hope the idea may not gain ground.

The Committee on History reported their belief that, from 1828 to 1842 no meetings were held, as no records or information can be obtained of a meeting during that period. Judging by what we know about the anti-Masonic storm, we should think the belief correct.

An exceedingly brief abstract of the proceedings of corresponding bodies was presented, the reporter telling us in conclusion that he could give no time to the subject without neglecting other duties. A reasonable excuse; but then the work should be put in hands not so overburdened by labor. Connecticut once stood in the van in the way of making these reports, and we hope next year to see it again at the front.

The Grand Recorder will permit us to call his attention to the fact that outsiders can only get at the number of Knights in his State by counting the names.

R. E. Sir Sereno S. Thomas is Grand Commander, Grand Recorder re elected.

GEORGIA.

Eleventh Annual Conclave at Americus, May 22, 1872.

Present: R. E. Sir George S. Obear, Grand Commander, E. Sir Chas. R. Armstrong, Grand Recorder, and the representatives of seven subordinates.

New York was duly present by Sir C. R. Armstrong.

After the formal opening the Grand Commandery marched to church, where the public liturgy of the order was performed and a very practical and instructive address delivered by Sir Samuel Lawrence, Grand Master of Masons in Georgia.

From the annual address of the Grand Commander, we learn with great pleasure that love, peace, and harmony prevail in his jurisdiction.

He recognizes the need of more proficiency in the tactics peculiar to our order, and recommends subordinates to hold occasional meetings for drill only.

It was *Resolved*: That, from and after this date, Sir Knights under the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery for the State of Georgia are hereby prohibited from exhibiting in bar-rooms, gambling-houses, or other improper places, any evidences of Templarism—such as diplomas, certificates of membership, or other Templar documents, uniforms, jewels, or other Templar regalia, photographs, paintings, or drawings of persons in their character of Knights Templar.

Any Sir Knight violating this order shall be tried, and if found guilty, shall be suspended or expelled.

A copy of this order shall be served on every Sir Knight under the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery for the State of Georgia.

Eminent Commanders of Subordinate Commanderies are charged with the enforcement of this order.

It was likewise resolved to procure a certificate of honor to be awarded to, and held for one year, by the subordinate showing the greatest proficiency in tactics and drill according to the standard adopted. The award is to be made by three competent military men, not members of the order. We should think that good might result,

The opportunity for display will be ample; invitations having been extended to all the Commanderies to be present at the next Annual Conclave and participate in the parade, drill, and other exercises and festivities. Georgia seems determined to occupy a front seat.

Sir J. E. Blackshear presented the Report on Correspondence which, notwithstanding his modesty, we declare to be very good indeed; and certify that the Knighthood will receive profit in its perusal. He very appropriately calls attention to the variety of names applied to the recess of Grand Commanderies during their sessions, as "dismissed," "adjourned," "called off," "recess," etc., and asks which is right. So do we.

During the Conclave, there was a banquet and festival, at which the ladies were present.

R. E. Sir Allen S. Cutts is Grand Commander, Grand Recorder continued.

ILLINOIS.

Fifteenth Annual Conclave at Chicago, Oct. 24, 1871.

R. E. Sir John M. Pearson, Grand Commander, E. Sir James H. Miles,

Grand Recorder, and the representatives of thirty-five Commanderies present; Sir Harmon G. Reynolds representing New York.

The annual address is a more than ordinarily able document, in which the business of the jurisdiction is treated at length and with great perspicacity. He quotes at length a letter from Grand Master Gardner, in relation to the Royal and Select degrees, taking the ground that the Grand Encampment, having twice decided that they cannot lawfully be required as a prerequisite to the Orders of Knighthood, a Grand Commandery has no right to adopt a regulation to that effect; which, we trust, may effectually close up the question.

In speaking of the meeting at Baltimore, he has these concluding admonitions, in which we cannot too heartily concur:

"After receiving so much, and enjoying so much, I may seem like a "bird of ill omen," if I say aught to disparage such immense gatherings in the future. Still, I think, the conviction was forced upon many minds, that, assembled as a deliberative body, claiming supreme control over the Order of Knights Templar in the United States, too much of the time allotted for our necessary business was occupied in exchange of greetings and in receiving personal attentions which, however pleasing, were not the real business of the time. The tendency is, at such times, to hurry or postpone what should really be the first duty. The dignity of the Grand Encampment is likely to be compromised and its usefulness impaired. Matters which should be fairly and fully discussed are left to the several Grand Commanderies—and thus, little by little, the Grand Encampment is yielding its power to its subordinates, and following in the footsteps of another general grand body. If this be so, it needs no prophet's eye to discern the future. With loss of power will come loss of respect, and then the end will not be distant. Let the Grand Encampment in future claim all its rights and prerogatives as the supreme head of the order—never allowing any legislation by subordinates that may make confusion either in ritual, costume, tactics, or jurisprudence, and we shall then be able to carry out its instructions and respect its decisions—and our order will, indeed, be uniform and united."

Sir James H. Miles presented a very excellent Report on Correspondence, in which the proceedings of twenty Grand Commanderies are reviewed in a cordial and Knightly spirit. If there be any one now who really believes that these reports are of no use, we would like to have him sit down and read this one; and if he does not acknowledge that it sets out a clear and satisfactory statement of Templar Masonry throughout the country, that its criticisms are in good taste, its points generally well taken, and that it has no more tendency to mutual admiration than is required to give it a comfortable polish and keep the author in good and regular standing—then we are of opinion the reader would be the better of a dose of medicine.

The business transacted was local in its nature and requires no comment, save to approve the Knightly and earnest spirit evinced in the determination to retrieve at the earliest moment the grievous losses by the great fire.

R. E. Sir WILEY M. EGAN is Grand Commander, Grand Recorder re-elected.

INDIANA.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE at Indianapolis, April 2, 1872.

Present: R. E. Sir Elbridge Hamilton, Grand Commander, E. Sir John M. Bramwell, Grand Recorder, and the representatives of twenty subordinates; Sir Wm. Hacker appeared for New York.

The address is lengthy but business-like. Suitable tribute is paid to the memory of the Knightly dead. The fact is stated that Indiana appeared for the first time in uniform at Baltimore, and its beneficial effects are noted. Under the head of Jurisprudence, the Grand Commander favors an extension of time between the degrees and orders—a question destined, we imagine, to become prominent in the near future. A part of the address is a brief review of the doings of twenty-three corresponding bodies—New York, unfortunately not being of the number.

The resolution of last year requiring subordinate Commanderies to bear the name of the town, city, or post-office where located, was rescinded. Wise: but would it not have been well at the same time, to reserve a rule forbidding the use of the name of living individuals for Commandery cognomens?

Sir Wm. Hacker presented the following report, which we copy in full:

Your committee, to whom was referred the following several interrogatories, having duly considered the same, now offer the following report:

1st. "Is it proper and right for the members of a Commandery, while working the Red Cross, to appear in full dress as Knights Templar?"

This interrogatory your committee answer in the negative. The proper dress for Sir Knights working in the Order of the Red Cross is the regulation fatigue uniform as prescribed by the Grand Encampment of the United States.

2d "Is it proper and right for any Sir Knight to appear in costume as a Knight Templar at the funeral of a Master Mason, without being under the command of the proper officers of a Commandery?"

This interrogatory your committee also answer in the negative; and, in order that such improper practices may never occur in this Grand Jurisdiction, it is hereby made the special duty of every Commandery to see that no such improper conduct be hereafter tolerated within their respective jurisdictions without inflicting adequate punishment for the offense.

3d. "Is it proper and right for the Commander of a Commandery to permit a Sir Knight to appear in a public procession of the Order without being in full dress costume as a Sir Knight?"

Your committee answer this also in the negative, and trust that all our Sir Knights will see the propriety of this, and so act that there shall hereafter be no necessity for enforcing this rule.

Which was concurred in.

We also concur, save that we would have made a reservation which

should permit the fatigue uniform when engaged in burying the dead, and thus make a distinction between a feast and a funeral.

Considerable routine business was transacted.

R. E. Sir CHARLES CRUFT is Grand Commander, Grand Recorder re-elected.

IOWA.

SEVENTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE at Council Bluffs, Oct. 14, 1871.

Present: R. E. Sir Robert F. Bower, Grand Commander, E. Sir Wm. B. Langridge, Grand Recorder, and the representatives of fifteen subordinate Commanderies; New York appeared in the person of Sir Theodore S. Parvin.

The address of the Graud Commander opens with a touching allusion to the heavy grief laid upon him in the sudden death of two of his children while he was absent from home, in which he has the assurance of our warmest sympathies. Sir Bower gives much space to the consideration of local questions, furnishes a vivid picture of the meeting at Baltimore, and seasons the whole with good advice neatly served up and garnished.

The question of dual voting having been propounded, the Grand Commander very properly decided that the same individual can not vote as a present and past Grand Officer, but he may vote in either capacity as he may elect, and also as the representative of a Commandery, because, in the latter case, it is the vote of the Commandery, and not his own, that he casts.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Sir Knight Parvin, which is all that is necessary to give assurance that the transactions passing through the alembic of his pen are presented in their fairest light to the consideration of his coustituents. New York receives courteous attention.

Of all the other Grand Commanderies this is the last one we should suspect of clinging to the exploded error of allowing the officers of new Commanderies to which warrants have been ordered, but which have not been lawfully constituted, to vote in the Grand Commandery. There is no possible argument to be offered in support of the practice, and we trust that Iowa will never again be willing to occupy the "bad eminence" of doing a wrong because it has been done before.

The Grand Commander, for a committee, presented a standard form of Work and Ritual, which was adopted. And now, we think, we see the eagerness with which the subordinates will rush after and adopt the same.

The Grand Officers were publicly installed, and a brief address delivered on the occasion by Sir Elam R. Paige.

After the transaction of a large amount of local business, the Grand Commandery closed a most harmonious session.

R. E. Sir PITKIN C. WRIGHT is Grand Commander, Grand Recorder re-elected.

KANSAS.

THIRD ANNUAL CONCLAVE at Topeka, Oct. 16, 1871.

Present: R. E. Sir Wm. O. Gould, Grand Commander, E. Sir E. T. Carr, Grand Recorder, and the representatives of four subordinates.

The address is lengthy and interesting. The official business is reported in full, and a glowing account given of the Baltimore meeting, in the course of which the Grand Commander very well says: "While we have a national organization which we all recognize as the supreme authority, I would say let us have all instructions, either for *Ritual*, *Drill* or *Dress*, come from the fountain-head." He rejoices, as we do, that there was an overwhelming refusal on the part of the Grand Encampment to make the Cryptic degrees prerequisite to the Orders of Knighthood.

The Grand Commandery determined to switch off from the other Grand Bodies and "go it alone." A most commendable determination, and one which, without being the son of a prophet, we forecast to their great prosperity.

Sir John H. Brown—a very fine portrait of whom accompanies the transactions—submitted a really excellent and readable Report on Correspondence; New York being treated to an *entree* delicately flavored as a suet dumpling, with "both kinds," as they say where this reporter gets his diurnal refection. And now they have gone and elected him Grand Commander, and we shall miss him from the table. Let him hasten to get through with the honors and come back to work.

No business for the Committee on Grievances, and all quiet along the lines.

R. E. Sir JOHN H. BROWN is Grand Commander, and the Grand Recorder continued.

LOUISIANA.

NINTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE at New Orleans, Feb. 16, 1872.

Present: R. E. Sir John A. Stevenson, Grand Commander, E. Sir Gustavus Sontag, Grand Recorder, the representatives of three subordinates, and New York by R. E. Sir Samuel M. Todd.

The Grand Master of Knights Templar in the United States, Sir J. Q. Fellows, was received with suitable honors.

From the address we learn that the order in Louisiana, though not progressing rapidly, is yet healthful and prosperous.

Sir Joseph P. Hornor submitted a Report on Correspondence. Good, very good, but brief on account of his sufferings from an attack of gout brought on by his visit to Baltimore. He is going to stay home all sum-

mer to nurse himself, and promises better things next time, in which he has our sympathy.

But little business was transacted, and that of a purely local character.

Obituary resolutions and memorial page in memory of Sir Daniel E. Scruggs, Grand Standard Bearer.

R. E. Sir RICHARD LAMBERT is Grand Commander, Grand Recorder continued.

MAINE.

TWENTY FIRST ANNUAL CONCLAVE at Portland, May 8, 1872.

Present: R. E. Sir Henry H. Dickey, Grand Commander, E. Sir Ira Berry, Grand Recorder, the representatives of eleven subordinates, and New York by R. E. Sir Moses Dodge.

The address opens with a brief but eloquent remembrance of the late Abner B. Thompson, whose name should hold an honored place in every memory as one of those who stood fast when the tide of fanaticism surged against the order and endeavored to write Ichabod on its doorposts.

The Grand Commander finds some discrepancies in the work which he thinks ought to be corrected by the adoption of a standard, and favors a restriction of the powers to grant dispensations for conferring the orders. He earnestly urges a full and cheerful compliance with the edict of the Grand Master as to uniform.

He had not been called to pass upon any special questions of jurisprudence, and there had been no complaints of grievance. This last is a circumstance so common in the records of Grand Commanderies as scarcely to excite remark, but it is characteristic and pleasant, nevertheless.

The Deputy Grand Commander made a very full and entertaining report of the doings at Baltimore, in which he tells tales out of school about such young and inconsiderate Knights as the Grand Recorder and Grand Commander:—

"Receptions were given by the Sir Knights, at which the fair women of Baltimore are *reported* (for I cannot speak from observation, as duty held me unwillingly away) to have surpassed all other attractions. Our Grand Recorder was missing from our headquarters one evening, and it was suspected that *he* might give *testimony* upon this point, and I am not sure that our Grand Commander *did not make a shift* to be present on *one* such occasion also.

The associate Grand Officers made full report of their doings, showing an active attention to duty.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the ready pen and cultivated mind of Sir J. H. Drummond, and exhausts the subject in a way that his constituents may take pride in. Our proceedings for 1871 receive

courteous attention. He approves our determination not to accept the act of incorporation, and we regard his opinion on the subject as that of a first-class witness. Special commendation is also given us for our act in publishing the memorial volume in honor of our late Grand Prelate, Charles H. Platt.

He calls attention to an error of diction in our proceedings which is worthy of note, and which goes to show the value of words properly selected. He says, in speaking of the record of action had at our last Annual Conclave:—

"The accused appealed, on the ground that the Grand Commander had no jurisdiction, but the committee reported sustaining the jurisdiction and affirming the proceedings, and their report was 'accepted;' but a resolution setting aside the proceedings and referring the matter to the Commandery was adopted, it also declaring that the Commandery had full power in the premises. This action seems to be inconsistent; but what is intended by the word 'accepted' is left in doubt. In many bodies, 'accepting' a report is *adopting* its recommendations; in others it is merely *receiving* it. We find in these Proceedings, that reports were 'received and the recommendations adopted;' 'accepted,' with no other action; and 'accepted and the recommendations adopted.' We suppose that technically, when a report is presented, the first question is upon its *reception*; but, if it is received and read without objection, that question is no longer open: that a vote at that stage *to accept the report* sustains the views of the committee and adopts the recommendations embodied in it; but, if the recommendations are embodied in an accompanying resolution (*as they ought always to be*), the resolution then comes up for action. The uncertain meaning of the word "accept" in this connection has undoubtedly arisen from the vicious practice of embodying *in a Report* (which *should* consist only of facts and reasons) the proposed resolutions to be adopted. We have known some laughable results in such cases; a committee once made a report, winding up with, "We, therefore, recommend that the proposed appropriation be *not* made;' an amendment to strike out the word 'not' was carried, and the report as amended accepted: in the report of these proceedings, the action in amending did not appear; but the report signed by the committee, omitting the word '*not*,' was published in full as the action in the premises!"

We regard the settlement of this question, trivial as it may appear, as of sufficient importance to warrant the space given to it by the Maine committee and the attention of this body. We may say in explanation, that, in the practice of the various Masonic bodies in New York, the terms "accepted" and "received" as applied to reports are interchangeable, and are merely the record of the fact that the body has been placed in possession of a document presented by one of its committees. It is always understood that, in accepting or receiving a report, the body does not in any sense commit itself to the sentiments or ideas expressed in it, but simply takes possession of it as a matter to which it will refer, or upon which it will act when convenience admits or occasion requires. Nevertheless, we think it clear that "receive" is the better word and more clearly expresses the idea intended to be conveyed, and respectfully recommend its adoption in future records of our proceedings.

In our report last year, we called attention to the regulation in Maine requiring the approbation of the Grand Commander when a subordinate is asked to waive jurisdiction in favor of a candidate who wishes to join a Commandery in some other State, and asked why the matter should not be left entirely in the hands of the Commandery having jurisdiction. Sir Drummond thus answers:

"For several reasons. 1. The Grand Commandery becomes interested when the candidate proposes to go outside of the jurisdiction. 2. Technically, the matter should pass through the hands of the superior officer. 3. But the chief reason is, that the Grand Commander may see that the proceedings are regular and taken by the proper body, thus holding, as our experience shows, a wholesome restraint against careless, loose, and irregular action by the subordinates. He can check such action before it is too late, and before it involves a difficulty with another jurisdiction. We have never known the Grand Commander to refuse his consent, when that of the subordinate had been obtained upon due notice and investigation and in a regular manner."

In his review of Ohio, he treats the question of "Knights Templar" as opposed to "Knights Templars;" and, in his usual direct style, settles the immense amount of bosh that has been written on the question. When about to commence this report we had determined to consider the question, but we find it done to our hand, and so much better than we could hope to do, that we not only adopt the words of Sir Drummond, but thank him for the felicitous decapitation of our common opponents —in argument. He says:

"It is conceded that previously to some thirty years ago, the term 'Knights Templars' was almost, if not quite, universally used. If the laws of the language were like those of the Medes and Persians or the Landmarks of Masonry, this conceded fact would be decisive of the question. But it is well known that the laws of the language are undergoing continual modification, as the usage changes, especially in respect to those matters in which the old usage is not uniform. We must remember that, in respect to language, usage makes the law and the law does not make the usage. When 'Knights Templars' was in general use, the other form of plural of compound noun was also used. There was no universal law upon the subject. We have not been able to ascertain when the term 'Knights Templar' first came into use. We find it used in the proceedings of the Grand Encampment of Virginia in 1839 (which, however, were not published till 1849); in those of Kentucky for 1847; in those of Connecticut for 1829, and from 1841 to 1870, inclusive (except possibly one or two years), and we cannot tell which form was used between 1829 and 1841: in those of Canada at its organization in 1855: and in the earliest of those of England we have seen. It was used in the by-laws of Hugh de Payens Encampment in Kingston, Canada, published in 1855. An examination of the Proceedings of the different Grand Commanderies will show that the term 'Knights Templar' was used exclusively by *all* from about 1857 to 1864. In the latter year the Grand Master of Massachusetts revived the use of the other form, and in 1871 his example was followed in Connecticut. The Grand Encampment first used the term 'Knights Templar' in 1856. In the 'Irish Constitutions,'

published in 1858, the form 'Knights Templars' is used; but in an Appendix, published in 1866, the form 'Knights Templar' is used. In a number of the *Freemasons' Quarterly Review* (London) in 1844, opened at random, we find that the *editor* used the form 'Knights Templar' and 'Knights Hospitaller'; a correspondent 'Knight Templars,' and the 'Grand Register' 'Knights Templars.' In the London *Freemasons' Monthly Magazine*, published in 1855 and 1856, the form 'Knights Templar' is used in almost every number, and the other form is not used at all. It has been suggested that the use of this form commenced in the Grand Encampment of the United States, and was the result of a clerical blunder. Dr. Mackey, in a recent letter, has repeated this suggestion as to its origin in the Grand Encampment, and adds: 'All the English and American writers, masonic and unmasonic, except some recent American ones, use the plural of Templar to designate more than one Knight.' But the foregoing statement explodes that idea. So far as we have been able to ascertain, at the time the Grand Master of Massachusetts revived the use of the old form, the other form was in universal use in the United States, Canada, and England, by all writers, masonic and profane, among whom are found some of the most learned and critical scholars of the age. If, therefore, we decide on the ground of usage, 'Knights Templar' is the correct form.

"But it is said that the word 'Templar' is a noun and not an adjective, and when used with Knight it is the principal word, and, therefore, should be used in the plural when more than one is meant: but that proves too much; for then it would follow that 'Knight Templars' is the proper form, as we say 'Sword bearers,' 'Standard bearers,' and not 'Swords bearers,' 'Standards bearers.' But it is not the principal word, whether noun or adjective; for all Templars were Knights, but all Knights were not Templars. The word 'Templar' designated the kind of Knight: the word 'Knight' did not designate the kind of Templar. Indeed the latter, when used alone, designates a Knight of the Temple; and, when used with Knight, is admitted by all to mean 'of the Temple; a phrase qualifying the word Knight and specifying *the kind* of Knight. Hence, as the rule now given by our grammarians is, that when a term is composed of two nouns, we form the plural by giving the principal one only the plural form, and when it is composed of an adjective and a noun the latter takes the plural form, it follows that 'Knights Templar' is the correct form.

"But it is said that adjectives and 'adjective nouns' precede the noun. This is generally true, but not always; for we have 'Knight errant,' 'court martial,' 'cousin german,' etc., whose plurals are formed by adding 's' to the first word.

"In other languages the equivalent of the word 'Knight' is the principal word, and the other is used as the qualifying word when there are but two; but in some the equivalent of 'The Temple' is used. In Latin, for example, the term is '*Eques Templarius*:' the former is never used as an adjective: the latter is an adjective in form and in its primary signification, but is of that kind of adjectives which may be used alone as a noun: but, who ever heard of the use in Latin of one noun joined to another *in the same case* as a compound term? Dr. Mackey, in the same letter to which we have referred, says 'Templarius' is a noun. That is true *only when it is used alone* and is not joined to a noun.

"But, after all is said, usage must determine the question; and, for the past fifteen years, that has been overwhelmingly in favor of 'Knights Templar'"

His reference to Sir Hopkins of Pennsylvania is more than felicitous, but as every one does not know the "symptoms" as we do, we forbear.

In his concluding remarks he gives the following, which we reproduce with more than ordinary pleasure, and to which we invite the careful and conscientious attention of the order in this jurisdiction. Here are the law and the testimony which, weighed in connection with the solemn covenants into which we have all entered, leave but one course open to us, and that is a prompt and unhesitating compliance with the law.

TEMPLAR COSTUME.

"The M. E. Grand Master having, by edict No. 3, declared that the only lawful costume is that adopted by the Grand Encampment in 1862, and some discussion having arisen in consequence, we have taken some pains to examine the legislation in regard to the matter, as well as the historical facts which bear upon it.

"We have examined pretty carefully such of the published Proceedings that we have, which include the Proceedings of the Grand Encampment and of all the Grand Commanderies (except Massachusetts and Rhode Island) for the years previous to 1864, Connecticut previous to 1841, Virginia previous to 1839, and the old Grand Commandery of New Hampshire, which became dormant in 1837.

"This examination clearly shows that no Grand Commandery adopted a costume; but that the procuring of one was held to be a matter of discretion with each Sir Knight, and the kind of costume was regulated by his taste and his purse. Some subordinate Commanderies may have adopted expressly a particular style, but it is believed that when the costume of any body was uniform, it was by general consent rather than by express vote. The desirability of each Sir Knight's having a costume, and of having costumes uniform, seems to have been recognized; but it was assumed to be a matter to be accomplished by persuasion and not by decree. The objections to legislation upon the subject were not in reference to the *kind* of costume, but to *compelling* Sir Knights to procure *any*.

"The first reference to costume that we find, is in the New York Proceedings upon the occasion of receiving the Grand Encampment and General Grand Chapter in September, 1841. The following was worn on that occasion, in accordance with the recommendation of a committee: 'Dress black, black stock and gloves, plain black scarf over the left shoulder, chapeau with black satin cockade, black apron of triangular form, and straight sword. Officers and members of the Grand Encampment (New York) to wear the trimmings of the chapeau, apron, and sword of gold—all others of silver. No feathers to be worn by any one.'

"In 1854, a resolution was adopted in New York *requesting* delegates to appear in the Grand Body in the clothing of their several bodies. The next year the Deputy Grand Master of New York calls attention to the subject, saying that, while the color of the groundwork of the costumes was generally the same, all unity of idea ceased there, and decoration was limited only by the purse and will of the wearer. He argues from a similar exercise of power by the Grand Lodge, that that Grand Commandery could with propriety establish a standard uniform. His suggestions were favorably received and a committee appointed to report the next year. In 1856, accordingly, the Grand Master called attention to the subject in his address, and the committee reported. They reported

that the idea so generally prevalent that the distinguishing color of our dress should be black has no proper foundation, and is not in keeping with that worn by our ancient brethren and defined by their Statutes. In proof of which they quote the following:

"'XX. To all professed Knights, both in winter and summer, we give —if they can be procured—WHITE GARMENTS, that those who have cast behind them a dark life may know that they are to commend themselves to their Creator by a pure and white life, etc.

"'XXI. Let all the esquires and retainers be clothed in *black* garments; but, if such cannot be found, let them have what can be procured in the province where they live, so that they be of one color, and such as is of a meanly character, viz: brown.'

"The Committee conclude their report by recommending the adoption of a resolution requesting the Representatives to the General Grand Encampment to bring the subject before that body, and to 'endeavor to procure the adoption of a standard for the Order throughout the United States.'

"This is the first action of any Grand Commandery upon the subject so far as we have any knowledge.

"In 1856 the matter was, for the first time, brought before the Grand Encampment. The Grand Master in his address refers to the fact that, anciently, those assembled in Chapters and Conclaves were dressed in the appropriate costume of the Order, and says that no statute had been adopted, but that there was a necessity for correct and permanent rules on the subject; that he had been appealed to to define the costume, but as there had been a decided departure from the ancient Statutes, he had concluded to defer the matter to the decision of the Grand Encampment. This portion of his address was referred to a Special Committee. The Committee appointed at the preceding Conclave to report a revised Constitution, reported as a part of its Statutes establishing a uniform. The consideration of these Statutes was postponed to the next Triennial Conclave. In the revised Constitution, as then unanimously adopted, it is provided: 'It is the prerogative and duty of the Grand Master * * to see * * * *that the dress, work, and discipline of Templar Masonry everywhere is uniform.*'

"At the Grand Conclave in 1859, the Grand Master brings the matter before the Body in the following language:

"'I beg leave to again call your earnest attention to the importance and, indeed, imperious necessity of your adopting and establishing the dress and costume of a Knight Templar which shall be uniform and the same according to rank throughout your whole jurisdiction. The Constitution requires it by express provision, and even if it did not, the necessity for it would be alike apparent. All of our readings and traditions on this subject show unmistakably that the dress of our Ancient Templars was uniform, though the largest liberty was allowed in reference to individual coats of arms; and in their palmiest days, to the costliness of their helmets, shields and bucklers, spurs, etc. If an edict on this subject had been issued in the early history of your proceedings, it would then have met with much less difficulty than at the present time; and, in my humble opinion, the longer it is delayed the more difficult will be its accomplishment. By reason of the past inaction on this subject, many of the individual subordinates and, in some cases, individual Templars have chosen their own or copied from others; violating no edict or rule

of your Grand Body, but not having any authoritative sanction for the same. From which causes and the lapse of time the dress and costume are the reverse of uniform. And it is reasonable to suppose that each section and subordinate are more or less wedded and attached to their own. But, if this subject was referred to a committee of sufficient number to represent the various sections of your jurisdiction, and each would bring to their aid a determination mutually to concede what might be found necessary for union and concert of action, I doubt not the result would be harmonious and satisfactory. The spirit of true Templar courtesy and magnanimity should prevail in that as well as in all of our Councils. Wherever there is an honest will there will be found a way to accomplish a good deed, and I trust that you will not separate until this important measure is accomplished.'

"A resolution was thereupon adopted referring the subject, as well as the Report of the Committee at the preceding Conclave and postponed to this, to a Special Committee. The Committee made a Report, which was laid upon the table and printed. The next day the Report was taken up, amended, and adopted. The Report is merely a description of the uniform. As soon as the Report was adopted, a member of the Committee offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

"'*Resolved*, That the costume this day adopted by the Grand Encampment be, and the same is hereby ordered to be worn by all Commanderies chartered at this Communication, or that shall be hereafter established in this jurisdiction, and by all Commanderies heretofore existing, whenever they shall procure a new costume; and that no officer, member, or Knight be, after this session, allowed to sit in this Grand Encampment unless clothed in the uniform hereby prescribed; and that the State Grand Commanderies be directed to enforce it in all subordinates that may be hereafter chartered in their respective jurisdictions.'

"It must be admitted that this resolution is somewhat indefinite and uncertain. It was not an amendment to the Constitution in form, nor was it adopted as such, for amendments to the Constitution then were required to be presented one day in advance and notice thereof given. It is well settled that a resolution conflicting with the Constitution is void. And it is a matter of surprise that such a resolution should be adopted after the attention of the Grand Encampment had been specifically called to the Constitution by the Grand Master. Undoubtedly the resolution was adopted hastily and without much discussion and consideration. That this is true, is evident from the now well-known fact, that those who participated in its adoption differ seriously from each other in the construction they then understood was put upon it. Some say that it was intended to mean that the new costume must be adopted by all new Commanderies and by all old ones when new costume should be procured, leaving its enforcement, as to old Commanderies having uniforms, *for the subsequent action of the Grand Encampment*: that there is nothing in the resolution relieving old Commanderies from obligation to procure the new uniform, save that they were not then *ordered* to do so: that no *rights* were reserved to them, but merely a *temporary indulgence* granted to them that, while a costume was adopted and others *ordered* to adopt it, they are not included in the order at the time, but the matter left open for future action. This is undoubtedly the actual construction of the language, but others did not so understand it. Such construction is not in conflict with the Constitution, as there is nothing in that resolution to

have prevented the Grand Master's exercising his Constitutional prerogative and ordering it to be adopted by the old as well as new Commanderies. It does not provide that the old Commanderies shall be excused from adopting it. Those who understood it to have this construction understood the object of it to be to give to those who had been to the expense of a uniform a reasonable time in which to obtain the new one, without being obliged to do it at once. Others understood the resolution to exempt those having uniforms from procuring the new one forever, unless their Commandery should formally adopt it, and that the Commanderies having it could always retain it, and some go so far as to assert that the resolution was a 'compromise,' and as such was to be a portion of the fundamental law forever. This latter view is evidently absurd, as it was not even made a part of the Constitution, and the Conclave of 1859 had no power to bind its successors legally or honorably. A 'compromise,' understood to be such, binds only the individual members of a legislative body who are parties to it, and no others. Neither the resolution nor the record discloses any such understanding; and a 'compromise' resting in oral traditions, especially when it was unknown to many of those who participated in the action, is of the feeblest kind. But that some understood that old Commanderies having uniforms were exempt, is very certain. In another respect, there was a difference in the interpretation; some understood that whenever a Sir Knight got a new uniform it must be the prescribed one; others that individual members, whether new ones or not, could procure the uniform of their Commandery until the *Commandery* procured a new one; and this construction was carried so far that in more than one instance, when all the costumes of a Commandery were destroyed save one or two, the old one was procured, the one or two which were saved leavening the whole lump.

"The action of the different Grand Commanderies affords us but little light. New York ordered the officers of subordinates and all newly-created Knights to obtain and wear the new costume, and prohibited admission at its sessions to all (except visitors) not in regulation costume.

"In 1862, as soon as the Grand Encampment was open, a resolution was adopted suspending the resolution of 1859 during the session. As soon as the committees were announced, a resolution was adopted that the 'subject matter of costume *and the resolution relating thereto* (*that of* 1859) be referred to a special committee.' The committee reported a new uniform, which was adopted. *They did not report back the resolution of* 1859. Their idea of that resolution seems to have been that it was of a temporary character, and was no longer necessary. They say that what had previously been done was in the right direction, but that a point had been reached where *complete success* might be reasonably anticipated. The reference of the whole matter and *the resolution of* 1859 to a committee, and the acceptance and adoption of their report of a new uniform was most clearly, under parliamentary law, a substitution of the new for the old action, and was a repeal of the former action, resolution and all.

"We have carefully examined the Proceedings of the Grand Commanderies to ascertain whether they construed this action as distinguishing between the old Commanderies having a uniform in 1859 and the others. Alabama adopted the new uniform (in 1866), making it universal. We cannot find that California took any action, save to remain *in statu quo*, fearing another change, having adopted the uniform of 1859. Connecticut adopted the uniform of 1862 'throughout the jurisdiction,' although the black uniform had been in use there. Indiana, which had

several styles of uniform, at first hesitated, for fear of further changes, but finally adopted it. Kentucky, in 1860, directed its subordinates to adopt the costume of 1859. In Maine, in 1863, Grand Commander Thompson reported the adoption by the Grand Encampment of the new uniform, and adds, 'It is believed that the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment has already sent down a full description of the new uniform for all the Commanderies. If it is not so, measures should be forthwith taken to have all Commanderies supplied without delay. I suggest that inquiry be made by a committee as to what action is necessary by this Grand Commandery at this session, in order to comply with the order of the Grand Encampment in relation to uniform in this jurisdiction.' The Grand Commandery ordered the action of the Grand Encampment to be printed, 'that we may understand and comply with our duty in relation thereto.' The Grand Commander evidently understood that the order of the Grand Encampment applied to all our Commanderies: it is true that he allowed the old Commanderies to continue to wear their old uniform, but he also allowed a new Commandery, chartered in 1864, to adopt the old uniform; but that could not have been justified, even under the resolution of 1859. Massachusetts and Rhode Island continued to allow their subordinates, chartered after 1862, to adopt a uniform to suit themselves, paying no attention to the action of the Grand Encampment. We do not find that Michigan, Mississippi, or Missouri took any express action upon the subject, but they, in practice, conformed to the law. New Hampshire voted that they 'deemed it important' for the subordinate Commanderies to adopt the prescribed costume. But, we are informed that it has never been done: but the nonaction is not claimed to be justified under the resolution of 1859. New Jersey passed no vote, but practically adopted the uniform. New York at once adopted it 'for the government of all Sir Knights in this jurisdiction.' Ohio rejected the uniform of 1859, as well as the amendments of the Constitution; but afterwards adopted the amendments and the uniform; but instructed (in 1864) her delegates to present to the Grand Encampment the objections to the new costume, and to 'endeavor to obtain a return to the old costume.' No word is said that the resolution of 1859 allowed them to retain the old. In 1865, before the session of the Grand Encampment, this instruction was rescinded and the prescribed costume declared to be the appropriate costume in that jurisdiction, and adopted as such. In Pennsylvania, in 1856, a long report was made in relation to the costume proposed in the Grand Encampment in 1856, and a costume recommended: the report was accepted and ordered to be spread on the minutes, but we do not know whether the proposed costume was thereby adopted. In 1863, the Grand Commander reported the adoption of the new uniform, saying he hoped the vexed question was at rest. No action seems to have been taken, but we understand that the new costume was adopted by the Sir Knights. Tennessee and Texas declared themselves independent of the Grand Encampment in 1861; the former in 1866 published the edict of 1862 in relation to uniform, and we understand conforms to it; the latter in 1859 took measures looking to the ultimate adoption of the uniform adopted that year, proposing to change gradually as circumstances would permit; but we are not aware that any action has been taken in reference to that of 1862. Vermont adopted it without reservation. Virginia has not acted upon the question and continues to use the old uniform in new as well as old Commanderies, as we are informed. Wisconsin ordered the edict to be published in the Proceedings, as prescribing the costume to be worn in that jurisdiction.

Thus, we do not find that any Grand Commandery understood that the

resolution of 1859 was in force after 1862: that nearly all the Grand Commanderies have conformed to the edict of 1862, although, if the resolution of 1859 had continued in force, almost all the older ones would have had occasion and the right to rely upon it, as almost all had Commanderies with the old uniform: and that those which still have Commanderies with the old uniform have not relied on the resolution of 1859 or kept within its terms, but have retained the old uniform, either in ignorance or disregard of the laws of the Grand Encampment, having retained it for Commanderies chartered since 1862, as well as for those existing and having uniforms in 1859.

"An effort was made by our Representatives in the Grand Conclave of 1871 to have the resolution of 1859 recognized as in force and Grand Commanderies allowed to extend it to all their subordinates, but it failed; the moment that it became 'known to the Grand Encampment that the proposition contemplated the use of a costume other than the one prescribed, the proposition was defeated; and from the promptness with which every proposed change in the uniform was voted down, we soon learned that it was of no use to expect that any change, however slight, would be allowed. Nor did there then appear to be any greater willingness to remit the whole subject to the several Grand Commanderies."

It seems hardly necessary for us to add our testimony or approval to what has been so well said, that comes from so distinguished a source and that is incapable of refutation; nevertheless, we take occasion to say that, in this matter, the future well-being of the order is more involved than many may be willing to admit. If our vows as Templars are binding in one particular, they are in all; and it is, therefore, as much a violation of them to set aside the edicts of the Grand Encampment in relation to uniform, as it would be to violate our vows of Christian Knighthood. On this point we take an immovable stand, and earnestly invite and urge every Frater to consider for himself how he shall justify his refusal to obey the law or attempt to substitute his personal preferences for that which comes from his chosen superior, obedience to which he has promised under sanctions which it is to be hoped no one enlisted beneath the Templar banner can, for a moment, think of violating. We could write pages on this subject and show the utter futility of claiming the old Kadosh uniform to be that of a Templar, but it seems to us needless to re-open a discussion closed by the logic of events and hermetically sealed by the law of the Grand Encampment to which we have all freely vowed obedience; and we trust, therefore, that so far as this jurisdiction is concerned, we shall continue in the future, as our record shows us to have been in the past, the first among our equals to render prompt and unquestioning obedience to the laws we have helped to make and to which we have sworn obedience.

On this subject, the Committee on Grand Commander's address reported the following resolution, which was adopted:

"They have examined the edict of the Grand Master in relation to costume and find it to be absolute in its character. It therefore seems to your Committee that the subordinate Commanderies have no option in the matter, but must comply therewith."

We humbly trust that every other Grand Commandery will take the same view and then the question will be definitely at rest.

Grand Commander and Grand Recorder re-elected.

MARYLAND.

Second Annual Conclave at Baltimore. May 15, 1872.

Present: R. E. Sir Chas. H. Mann, Grand Commander; E. Sir Frank J. Kugler, Grand Recorder, and representatives from four subordinates.

The annual address opens with a lengthy but interesting account of Templar work, the glories of which will never fade from the memories of those fortunate enough to be present.

A young mason, made in Canada while under age, and still being a minor, applied for the orders in Maryland, and the case being referred to the Grand Commander, he very properly decided the candidate ineligible.

At the installation of officers, Sir Ezra L. Stevens delivered a very eloquent and well-considered address.

Sir Hermon L. Emmons, Jr., presented one of his carefully prepared and, therefore, very excellent Reports on Correspondence, in which New York receives honorable mention.

The Conclave extended over three days, and there was a large amount of routine business transacted, but nothing of special interest beyond their own tents.

Grand Commander and Grand Recorder re-elected.

MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND.

The Transactions of this Grand Commandery for the year ending October 27, 1871, came to us in a luxurious pamphlet of two hundred pages, in which the ultimate resources of the typographical art are exhausted, a further value being given by a likeness of M. E. Sir Wm. Sewall Gardner, P. G. M., which is decidedly the very best work of the kind we have ever seen.

In the course of the year the Grand Commander, R. E. Sir Benjamin Dean, delivered *ten* set addresses on occasions of business or ceremony which we mention, not because it is anything remarkable for him to do, but that it may be understood that in Massachusetts the Grand Commandership is not exactly a bed of roses.

At the semi-annual assembly, Grand Commander Dean presiding, the principal business was to examine the acts of a Convention called to examine and decide upon a form of work and lectures to be approved by the Grand Commandery and promulgated throughout the jurisdiction. We have of course, no means of judging whether the work is the same as ours, but we imagine that the plan adopted, namely, bringing together the oldest and best known workmen, and from their experience compil-

ing a manuscript, was the one most likely to secure accuracy; nor do we think that there will be found any very striking difference between our work and that thus adopted. It was ordered—and to this we call attention—that the work as approved be reduced to writing and placed in the custody of the Grand Commander for the time being, and that the Grand Commander be requested to issue his edict requiring all other manuscripts to be returned to the Commanders of the several Subordinates and by them destroyed.

It occurs to us, that if the several Grand Commanderies throughout the Union would send an authorized agent to examine this work, and then adopt a similar course to that pursued by Massachusetts, we should as an order, be able to secure what has never been done in any other branch of Masonry—absolute uniformity.

Sixty-First Annual Assembly held in Boston, October 27, 1871.

Present: R. E. Sir Benjamin Dean, Grand Commander, E. Sir A. F. Chapman, Grand Recorder; number of Subordinates represented not given.

The annual address is very lengthy, and treats in full detail all matter passing through the hands of the Grand Commander. The subject of parades occupies considerable space, and the exposition is decidedly interesting as showing the general tendency. It appears that, believing there were more parades than could well be considered wholesome for the body in general, the Grand Commandery passed a resolution forbidding all parades except on funeral occasions, without a dispensation from the Grand Commander, and this officer believing parades, unless on Masonic occasions, to be injurious rather than beneficial to the Order, was inclined to withhold the coveted dispensation. Hence much correspondence and ultimately many parades. It is probable, however, that the matter will henceforth be under control as far as this jurisdiction is concerned. We apprehend that at present no such resolution could begin to pass in the Grand Commandery of New York, while it is but justice to say that there is not an overweening desire to make public displays where there is so much temptation to that course, nevertheless we put it to the inner consciousness of the Knights whether there is not wisdom in submitting to a general regulation that, some time or other, may prevent the banners and emblems of the Order from thoughtless and unnecessary display. The development of the Order in this jurisdiction has hardly yet begun, and it may be well to accustom ourselves to some deprivation that in the future good may come of it.

The Grand Commander submitted a very important question of law to which we desire to call attention. The Commander of a Subordinate writes, that one of his members had applied for a dimit, stating in his application that on the previous evening he had been admitted to membership in another Commandery. The questions arise, "should he have sent an official certificate from the Recorder of the Commandery to which he had

been admitted verifying the fact, or should the body send a communication to the original Commandery asking it to relinquish jurisdiction ?"

The Grand Commander in his reply places the irregularity of the proceeding on the cleeting Commandery, on the ground that it had made a member of one who was already a member of another body, in contravention of the law against double membership.

Assuming that the announcement by the applicant that he had been "admitted to membership" in another Commandery, is to be taken literally, then clearly the Grand Commander is right, for the reason stated by him; but if, as we suspeet, the applieant only intended to convey the fact that another Commandery had signified its willingness to admit him to membership—by ballot, if desired—then the case is materially altered. In the State of New York, the ballot, on the application for initiation or membership or for an elective officer at an annual election, is not a finality and does not complete the transaction. In the case of a profane, the ballot must be supplemented by initiation; in that of an adjoining member, by the signature of the applicant to the by-laws, and in that of the elected officer by installation. With us the adjoining member can only be allowed to sign the by-laws when he produces an honorable discharge from his last membership, and thus we can with advantage allow a member of one Commandery to petition for membership in another, the usual investigation to be had as well as the ballot, before granting the dimit, without which he cannot sign the by-laws of the Commandery which he has petitioned and thus transfer his membership. It may be that the same rule obtains in Massachusetts; but, if not, we seriously commend its advantages to their consideration.

It was resolved that henceforth no wines or intoxicating liquors shall be furnished or be permitted to be introduced at any banquet given by this Grand Body.

Which we heartily commend.

This Grand Commandery again refused to adopt the Representative system, and no steps were taken looking to the appointment of a Committee on Correspondence. Both of which we regret, as arguing a spirit of exclusiveness that may possibly yield to the influence of time, but against which argument seems for the present, at least, to have no effect.

R. E. Sir Nicholas Van Slyck is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder continued.

MICHIGAN.

Sixteenth Annual Conclave at Detroit, June 14, 1872.

Present: R. E. Sir Irving M. Smith, Grand Commander, E. Sir Wm. P. Innes, Grand Recorder, and the representatives of twenty-seven Subordinates.

In a lengthy address the Grand Commander speaks with some natural

complacency of the growth of the Order in his jurisdiction, the increase during the past seven years having been in round numbers six hundred *per centum*. He nevertheless adds words of caution and the well-known *festina lente*. It will be curious reading for the Templars fifty years hence, when the present dimensions of the Order will be as a village to a crowded city, to look back and note the care with which, as a general thing, we are exercising over our rate of progress. If they do as well, the glory of the latter day will be something marvelous to behold. Much space is given to the doings at Baltimore, and the marked success of the Michigan Knights on that occasion is referred to with pride. He decided that it is not proper for a Knight Templar to loan his regalia to a clandestine Mason, knowing him to be such, to personify a member of the Order in a street parade, and that the offender should be tried and disciplined.

We move to amend by adding the word—heavy. A candidate having been accepted, changed his residence before receiving the Orders. Some two years later, being on a visit, he asks to have the Orders conferred. The Grand Commander very properly said No. He condemns the practice of installing officers by proxy, and shows by conclusive evidence its illegality.

Sir Wm. P. Innes, Grand Recorder, presented the Report on Correspondence, which is well and thoughtfully prepared—indeed, one of the best of the series under review. We imagine that if it were read at the Annual Assembly of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, some one moving to get up a similar document for that jurisdiction would succeed in having his motion adopted. New York receives pleasant and extended notice, but our Frater fails to catch our idea about the Representative system. We do not want it as a medium for adjusting differences, because while we fervently pray that there may never may be any to adjust, the machinery for that purpose is all ready and in good working order; but that when the Grand Commandery of Michigan meets in annual conclave, we want New York to be represented there, not by its printed transactions, not by the fact that every one knows there is a Grand Commandery in the Empire State—and right good fellows compose it, by the way—but by a *living man*, whose presence shall be a symbol and a guarantee of friendship—of kind and knightly regard for your welfare—of an earnest desire to be remembered in your labors and your devotions, and thus "draw closer the bonds of sympathy and union between us." The iron clothing of mere utilitarianism presses hardly enough upon us in our every-day life, surely in this Order of ours where we seek to unloosen the bonds that hamper us in the world, and draw nearer together under the influence of the mystic tie, we may occasionally indulge in a little poetry.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That no Sir Knight within the jurisdiction of this Grand

Commandery shall loan, give or hire the use of the uniform of any of the Orders of Masonic Knighthood, or any portion of such uniform, to any person whomsoever, except it be to a Sir Knight in good standing and membership; and then only to be used in a lawful conclave or assemblage of Sir Knights of the order.

Resolved, That no Sir Knight who shall be elected to office in this Grand Commandery, or in any Commandery under its jurisdiction, shall enter upon the duties of his office until he shall have PERSONALLY taken the obligation of office required by Section 2 of Article 4, of the Grand Encampment of the United States, and by the statutes and regulations of this Grand Commandery.

Resolved, That the Orders of Masonic Knighthood shall not be conferred by any Commandery upon any candidate after the lapse of SIX MONTHS from the date of the election of the candidate; PROVIDED, that, for good reasons appearing, the Commandery within such election was held may extend the time not more than one year from the date of such election, by resolution adopted previous to the expiration of the said term of six months.

While agreeing in general with the spirit of these resolutions, the spirit moves us to say that the regulation were better left to the discretion of the Subordinates, to be settled by a clause in their respective by-laws. In fact, they must determine, because their records are the only evidence by which to fix the time. In our judgment, Grand Bodies of all grades should be as chary as possible of legislation tending to interfere with a proper exercise of discretion on the part of working bodies and it should be the rule to leave all such matters to them, and not consider them within the scope of proper legislation by the governing organization. We may be pardoned for calling attention to the fact that the real point involved in the case which called out this resolution is not one of time but of residence. The candidate, after being accepted, moved to another part of the State and acquired a residence there, and that fact terminated the jurisdiction of the accepting Commandery. When therefore, after two years, he paid a visit to his former place of residence he bore the same relation to the Commandery there as any Royal Arch Mason who had never petitioned for the Orders of Knighthood; and the question for the Commandery to ask itself was, not with regard to the time elapsed since his petition, but as to the fact of his residence among them. It being ascertained that he lived nearer some other Commandery, further proceedings would by that fact be rendered illegal.

It was resolved that a petition for the Orders of Knighthood should not be withdrawn after being referred, which is correct.

R. E. SIR O. L. SPAULDING, is Grand Commander, Grand Recorder as before.

MINNESOTA.

SIXTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE at St. Paul, June 24, 1871.

Present: R. E. Sir George L. Otis, Grand Commander, E. Sir George A. Savory, Grand Recorder, and the Representatives of six Subordinates.

New York was represented by Sir Alfred E. Ames.

A brief address referring to the official business and paying tribute to the memory of the first of the Grand Officers dead since the organization of the Grand Commandery, was delivered by the Grand Commander.

Sir E. D. B. Porter read a very elaborate and carefully-written report on Correspondence, in which the most strait-laced critic will find it difficult to discover any mutual admiration, but take it out of the published transactions and there would be left simply the dry record that the Grand Commandery opened, audited the accounts of its officers and closed.

Grand Commander and Grand Recorder continued.

MISSISSIPPI.

Twelfth Annual Conclave at Holly Springs, Jan. 20, 1872.

Present: R. E. Sir Wm. S. Paton, Grand Commander; E. Sir J. L. Power, Grand Recorder, and the Representatives of Eight Subordinates.

From the annual address of the Grand Commander, we excerpt the following passage, as containing matter of thought:

"To our mind there never was a time fraught with so much interest to our Order since its existence as an institution, as at the present. Whilst the builders of the Temple have reared its battlements even unto the skies, and its incense daily ascends from its numberless altars erected by faithful hands, again descends to the earth, distilling its sweet fragrance like the dews upon the children of men, where it exerts its beautifying and vivifying influence upon the minds, unseen and unheard, except as seen and heard and felt in the mental elevation of those who visit its sacred Christian precincts. But we feel, resplendent as it has become with its own beauty and perfection, it is now an object of universal admiration. In times like the present, when corruption, a deceit of the world, has almost gained the mastery over all that is just, true and upright, it becomes our duty as true believers in that religion we profess, to guard well our thoughts and actions, bringing to bear every moral influence that good may be accomplished.

"The imagination of man can soar above where the eye has never yet been permitted to travel; where other stars glitter in the mantle of night, and a more effulgent sun lights up the blushes of the morn. He may gaze on all the beauties of created worlds, and in the fancy of his mind travel over the mighty void where existence still sleeps in a wide abyss of possibility. He can revert back to the source of time, and survey the monumental trophies of ancient art and glory, and wander into the retired parts of eternity, until he loses sight of stars and sun. Surrounding creation tells of his greatness by subserving his wants. For his benefit day and night visits the world, and the seasons course their regular round; he is permitted to taste the dainties of festivity, breathe the perfumes of the morning, revel in the charms of melody, and regale his eye with all the beauties of vision. Not only this, but he can commune with his Maker, and become conversant with the true teachings

of Heaven. But with all these blessings bestowed upon him, he is the creature of passion. Uncontrolled, he is more of the fiend than the angel. Like the mighty avalanche turned loose from the mountain side, everything in his way is borne down and crushed, and all the refined feelings of society are outraged. Honesty stands mute, and sympathy's pathetic appeals are urged before a heart hard as adamant, and cold as the frozen region. The bleeding and mangled bodies of his fellow beings are so many trophies; devastated fields mark his conquering track; burning villages are his beacon lights, and cities flame with midnight burnings to light up his pathway. But when the shrine of our Order is lighted with its holy lamp-lights, which ever grow brighter and brighter, and purer as years pass by, it causes the stormy sea of passion to be lulled to rest, and all the angry shoutings hushed to silence. It is under the teachings of true Knighthood, eternal peace sways an undisputed sceptre, and passion lies a conquered, prostrate victim at her feet."

Sir P. M. Savery makes his bow as Reporter on Correspondence, and does his best to keep clear of the Mutuals, without, however, succeeding. He is much too modest for one who does so well; and, as we see that he is continued, we make no doubt that in due time his helmet will be as badly battered as that of any of the old stagers. We propose him for membership in the association.

Resolutions were offered by Sir E. T. Henry, looking to a closer union with Masonic chivalry in Europe, through the Grand Encampment, and a change of name for the Order of the Red Cross, substituting Knights of Jerusalem.

The first proposition has since been adopted by the appointment of a Commission, one member of which is now in Europe, with a view to securing the object first-named. The change of title would hardly do much good, seeing that the objection is not the name, but the fact that the Order represents a purely Israelitish episode, and is therefore not an Order of Christian Chivalry. This is the ground of objection in Europe, and this will be the stumbling-block, it is to be feared, when we endeavor to conclude a treaty.

The same Sir Knight offered a resolution, making Simons' Book of the Commandery the text-book for Mississippi, which was adopted. We have always thought that these Mississippi Knights had a vein of strong good-sense in their composition, and now we know it.

One new Charter was granted.

R. E. Sir E. Geo. De Lap is Grand Commander. Grand Recorder continued.

MISSOURI.

Eleventh Annual Conclave at St. Louis, October 3, 1871.

Present: R. E. Sir Jno. D. Vincil, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir Geo. Frank Gouley, Grand Recorder; Thirteen Subordinates by their Representatives, and New York by Sir Gouley.

The annual address is both lengthy and interesting, local topics being

discussed freely, and local failings scalped by one who knows the right and fears not to do it.

Several questions of law are presented. He decides rightly that it is indispensable for the candidate to sign the original application, otherwise, in case of an adverse result, *somebody* else would be rejected.

It seems that, in Missouri, Commanderies are allowed to have a by-law, permitting them to receive a petition, ballot and confer the orders all at one meeting, provided that unanimous consent be obtained. One of the natural results is, that in the hurry to get candidates through, the formality of asking for unanimous consent is overlooked, and the candidate receives a black ball. In one such case the Grand Commander decided the proceedings void, because the law had not been complied with. We are glad to be able to say in this connection that the Grand Commandery now requires petitions to lie over from the stated conclave at which they are presented, to the next.

The Grand Commander also decided that a petition, after being presented, cannot be withdrawn, which was approved.

In the matter of waiving jurisdiction over candidates, he says very correctly: "I do not recognize the power as resting in a Grand Commander to do any such thing." The inference, of course, is, that the power rests in the subordinate Commandery nearest the residence of the candidate.

In conclusion he refers, in touching phrase, to the loss of his wife during the year. The warm sympathy of many hearts will be with him in his sorrow.

A new constitution was adopted in the second article, of which it is attempted to secure the present jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery against "moving accidents by flood and field," thus: "Its jurisdiction shall extend over the territorial limits of the State of Missouri as defined in 1871." This is backed up by an act of incorporation, doubtless expected to be a tower of strength, should the hour of trial ever come. We hope most fervently that it never may, but our Missouri Fratres will find that, if ever the State of Missouri is divided by competent authority, their claim will be severed by the same stroke, and that the new State, whatever it may be, will set them and their incorporation at utter defiance.

The report on Correspondence, by Sir G. Frank Gouley, is exceedingly good, even for him. New York is treated to half-a-dozen pages. The decisions of Grand Commander Preston are quoted, and a variety of good things from the correspondence report segregated. He fails to catch our idea about advancing a maimed Knight of the Red Cross, but let him keep at it, and in time he will reach there. In his concluding remarks he observes:

It is a wise arrangement that the Orders of Knighthood follow the calm and conservative degrees of Masonry. The latter are the best schools in the world to prepare the mind for a common-sense view of

things, and without them Templars would in all probability to-day (owing to their numerical strength), make as great a mistake as did their ancestors, by engaging in some fool's experiment of trying to convert the heathen with spears and battering rams. Freemasonry, as the embodiment of common sense and conservatism, has taught us all that Education is the two-edged sword with which to fight bigotry, intolerance and ignorance, and is worth more than an army with banners.

From the proceedings before us, and from an intercommunication with the representatives of the various States in Baltimore last month, we are convinced that the grand army of Templars have adopted the battle-cry of "Light!" in their march to the hoped-for future of Glory, Goodness and Truth. Intolerance has no place in our ranks worth speaking of—there is just enough of it to set off the bright gems of Christian charity and forgiveness.

The business transacted, other than herein noted, was private.

R. E. Sir Francis M. Tufts is Grand Commander. Grand Recorder as usual.

NEBRASKA.

On the 28th December, 1871, the representatives of four subordinate Commanderies, located in the State of Nebraska, and holding legal warrants from the Grand Encampment of the United States, assembled at Omaha, and, in presence of V. E. Sir Theodore S. Parvin, duly accredited as proxy of the Grand Master, formed, opened and established the Grand Commandery of Nebraska.

One of the first acts was to require all new Commanderies to select for name one of the Sacred Mountains. Eventually it is to be presumed this will be found up-hill work, especially if the blessed elevations give out before all the New Commanderies have had a chance.

The proceedings were crowned by a banquet tendered by the local subordinate.

We take great pleasure in tendering to this new star in our Templar galaxy, the heartiest and most knightly welcome within the lines, and hope in due time to shake pens with its reporter, and vote for his admission among the Mutuals.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Annual Conclave at Concord, Sept. 26, 1871.

Present: V. E. Sir Jno. D. Patterson as Grand Commander; E. Sir Jno. A. Harris, Grand Recorder, and the representatives of seven subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's annual address was read by the Grand Recorder, the Executive being prevented by official engagements from being present. The document is a clear statement of the affairs of the Order in the jurisdiction, the part most interesting to us being the following:

The past year has been one of unusual quietness and prosperity. Our growth in numbers has been steady and healthy, if not rapid. No note of discord has been heard within our lines. Our banners float proudly over the walls and watch towers of our new Jerusalem, fanned by the gentle breezes, to the sweet music of union and harmony. No wail of lamentation for beloved Knights fallen from our ranks, weary and worn by the turmoils and struggles of the great battle of life, disturbs the unalloyed pleasures of this day. No complaint against Knights, of vows broken, pledges unfulfilled, and duties neglected and forgotten, has reached the ear of the Grand Commander. Peace, order and fraternity everywhere prevail.

The Committee on Early Records reported progress. This is a subject of vital importance, and it is to be hoped that it may be pursued to its legitimate conclusion, that the past history of the order in that jurisdiction may not be covered with the dust of oblivion.

The subject of Tactics and Drill was referred to a Committee to report next year. Indeed this course was adopted in regard to all important items of business; but we respectfully venture to hope that the Committee will not exercise their brains in trying to invent a new system. Let them put on their store clothes and come to us, and we will relieve their anxiety.

Sir J. W. Fellows presented a report on Correspondence, which is dignified, carefully considered, and exceedingly well worth an attentive perusal. Speaking of these reports, he says in his opening remarks:

> This part of the proceedings of Grand Commanderies is becoming the most important. It stimulates the desire to extend exchanges, and unites in the closer intimacy of direct communication the near and the far distant in the Order of the Temple.
>
> It is not for the writer hereof to admonish the many gifted and distinguished Knights, whose writings have done so much for the pleasure and instruction of their fraters, what Templar Masonry means; and yet to our mind the jests, jokes, and retorts, and the not very well selected language which too often occurs, is hardly in keeping with the beautiful and impressive lessons in the ceremonies of our ritual.
>
> "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven."

The admonition is timely, and we hope that Carson, Hopkins, Drummond, Hornor, Munger, Brown, Langridge, Gouley, and other champions of that ilk, especially the members of the Mutual Association, will take the lesson to heart. As for New York, her reporter can say with Past Grand Master Shakspeare, "Our withers are unwrung."

We cannot take leave of this pamphlet without recording our appreciation of the really artistic manner in which it is arranged and printed. Clear white paper and good bold type, printed with the blackest of ink, are a sight so comfortable to eyes tried beyond endurance with the pearl and diamond type so commonly employed, that really if the printer comes our way we will make it pleasant for him, if it takes a whole day's wages to do it.

R. E. Sir JOHN D. PATTERSON is Grand Commander. Grand Recorder as before.

NEW JERSEY.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE at Trenton, Sept. 12, 1871.

Present: R. E. Sir John V. Mattison, Grand Commander, E. Sir Thomas J. Corson, Grand Recorder, the Representatives of ten Subordinate Commanderies and New York in the person of R. E. Sir George B. Edwards.

The annual address shows a careful attention to duty on the part of the Grand Commander, the result of which is a continuance of the marked prosperity attending the Order in New Jersey which we sincerely pray may ever continue.

The Associate Grand Officers made encouraging reports of their doings.

The following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That our representatives to the Grand Encampment of the United States, be requested to procure the passage of a law requiring all Commanderies under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment of the United States, to administer a test oath to an applicant for the honors of Knighthood, to this effect, that he has not been previously rejected in any Commandery,"

the point of which we are unable to discover; the matter at issue being clearly within the province of the several Grand Commanderies.

The following has our unqualified approval:

The Committee recommend, that the Committee on Grievances and Jurisprudence be hereafter, a Standing Committee for the year, and that the Grand Commander be requested to send to the Chairman of said Committee, from time to time, such decisions as he may make, and that the Committee report upon the same at the next Grand Conclave.

In announcing the Report on Correspondence by Dr. Corson, we are of course saying what everybody expects; but when we say that it is excellent, we make a remark which will surprise our readers, and prepare them for the advent of the comet. Really, this time Sir Thomas has made a report up to the level of the Mutuals, and they will each give him the "Grand Hug" when they come to read it.

He still continues unable to "see" the point of the general law, that the objection of a sitting member is fatal to the hopes of a candidate, while such objection is maintained; but, with his usual nobility of sentiment, admits himself to be in the minority. There was once a judge who acquired celebrity from the fact that it took him twenty-four hours to discover the point of the most ordinary joke, but when it did reach him he always responded with an appreciative laugh, though engaged in sentencing a culprit under capital conviction. We expect, one of these days, while engaged in the most serious duties of the Order, to be surprised with a telegram from friend Corson announcing that he has discovered his error, and begging pardon for his long delay. We accept the apology in advance, and accord the coveted boon with our best wishes that at last he may be led out of the way of temptation and into the paths of rectitude.

We thank him for his advanced views as to the stability of New York and Brooklyn, and espeeially so that he positively avers they will not be in danger until his paternal relative comes after them.

His report on the Baltimore reception is, beyond all odds, the best that has appeared, but as it has been reproduced in every Masonie journal in the land, we do not feel warranted in eopying it here. Let it suffiee to say that those who do not take a Masonic paper, and have thus missed this rare treat, are not entitled to very much sympathy.

There is a considerable amount of tabular matter, and altogether New Jersey may be said to have done well.

R. E. Sir Wm. Wallace Goodwin is Grand Commander. Grand Recorder continues.

OHIO.

Twenty-Ninth Annual Conclave at Sandusky, Sept. 26, 1871.

Present: R. E. Sir Heman Ely, Grand Commander, E. Sir Jas. Nesbitt, Grand Recorder, the Representatives of twenty-two Subordinates, and New York by R. E. Sir Kent Jarvis.

The annual address opens with a most touching and affeetionate tribute to the memory of the late Sir Thomas Sparrow, who was a warm and sineere friend, and a most devoted and exemplary Mason. We most sincerely unite with his immediate brethren in deploring his loss.

During the official terms of Grand Commander Ely, the jurisdiction has largely increased in the number of Subordinates and members; and now, at the eonclusion of seven years' service, he retires with the honor due to one who has earnestly and suecessfully labored for the common good.

The law in this jurisdiction has hitherto permitted expulsion for non-payment of dues. On report of the Committee on Jurisprudenee, it was ordered that hereafter no greater penalty than suspension shall be inflieted for mere non-payment of dues.

The same committee offered a report, which was agreed to, that when a eandidate has been proposed and aecepted for the orders, and before he has aetually received any order, objeetion is made, then nothing further ean be done until the objeetion is withdrawn or the objector cease to be a member of the Commandery.

A few years ago this was the general law, but one by one the brethren are eoming to see its injustice and to ehange front. As, for instanee, a eandidate being proposed in a Commandery, and the ballot on his application being about to be taken, Sir A. B., in the exereise of his right as a member, when his turn comes, deposits a black ball, the candidate is declared rejected, and must wait as many months as the law preseribes before he ean again apply; but there is a term to the delay. Now, if, instead of using the black ball, Sir A. B. should wait till the ballot closed and the candidate had been declared eleeted, and then rise in his place and object, then the delay would be without a definite period, Sir A. B.

living forty years, and continuing, or refusing to withdraw his objection, no reconsideration could take place. The question arises why the objection of a sitting member should be more potent than a black ball regularly cast at a ballot. We do not believe it is, and hold that the result in either case should be the same. If the objection be made at some subsequent conclave, on the ground that the objector could not be present at the time the ballot was taken, there is nothing in that fact to show that the mere objection should outweigh the ballot. The decision above referred to is illogical and its effects unfair, and we trust that our Ohio fratres will reconsider it.

This jurisdiction has polished up the ritual, and the Grand Commander is to make known the amendments to the Subordinates.

Sir Robert Gwyn presents a courteous review of the transactions of corresponding bodies, and thus takes a final leave of the duties and pleasures—including the Mutuals—of such reviews. He has done well, and will be pleasantly remembered by his whilom confrères.

R. E. Sir Enoch T. Carson is Grand Commander. Grand Recorder continued.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Nineteenth Annual Conclave at Reading, June 11, 1872.

Present: R. E. Sir Chas. M. Howell, Grand Commander, E. Sir Chas. E. Meyer, Grand Recorder, the Representatives of thirty-eight Subordinates, and New York by R. E. Sir Jas. H. Hopkins.

The lengthy address of the Grand Commander, though principally devoted to local affairs, is none the less of surpassing interest, and most creditable to his head and heart. We note that he accepted the resignations of two elected officers, the Grand Generalissimo and Grand Recorder; and, though he does not state the reasons which governed his action in the premises, we nevertheless respectfully protest, on principle, against the course adopted. It is held as a principle of law that elected officers, after being installed, cannot resign; and we submit that the law-making body should not allow itself to set so bad an example as the open violation of so well-recognized a law.

The Grand Commander reports thirteen decisions; but as, with one or two exceptions, they are based on the local regulations of his jurisdiction, we do not quote.

He takes strong ground against the growing tendency to public parades, and desires to restrain them by forbidding any, without a dispensation from the Grand Commander is previously obtained.

It is doubtless well that some restraining hand should be in readiness when there appears a disposition to overstep the bounds of propriety; but a too frequent or too absolute exercise of authority in this matter will do more harm than good. We should greatly prefer an appeal to the pride and devotion of the Knights themselves, and trust to their good sense not to bring discredit upon the whole order to gratify a desire for mere display. It is proposed that no Commandery shall visit a jurisdic-

tion other than its own, without the consent of both Grand Commanders. This appears well, but in practice it cannot be of any avail, because the Grand Commander of the jurisdiction to be visited could not refuse his consent, without feeling so mean that he would want to go before a looking-glass and kick himself; hence such permission would be granted as a matter of course—and, being a matter of course, what is the use?

Sir Grant Wiedman presented the Report on Correspondence, which is his first effort, and a right creditable one at that; the chairman, Sir James H. Hopkins, having been unable to find time, amid the cares of business, to perform his duty as a member of the Mutuals. We greatly fear Sir James is lost to the "corps," and none more than the members of the guild will regret the absence of one who has labored long and well for the cause, and whose writings stamp him as one fully imbued with the principles of the order, for the love of the doctrines they inculcate.

The Masonic Home, under the auspices of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania and the guiding hand and warm heart of Sir Hopkins, is making encouraging progress. Something over thirty thousand dollars have been raised, and measures were adopted to push forward the work with increased vigor.

A considerable portion of the time was occupied in perfecting a new code of statutes for the Grand Commandery, which, together with forms for all possible emergencies, appear in the volume before us. It occurs to us in this connection, that the Grand Commandery of New York ought to have a series of similar blanks for the convenience of its officers and constituents.

R. E. Sir Geter C. Shidle is Grand Commander, E. Sir Chas. Eugene Meyer, Grand Recorder.

TENNESSEE.

Tenth Annual Conclave at Lebanon, May 14, 1872.

Present: R. E. Sir George S. Blackie, Grand Commander; E. Sir John Frizzell, Grand Recorder; the representatives of ten subordinates, and New York by R. E. Sir John Frizzell.

Before proceeding to business, the Grand Commandery witnessed an exemplification of the Tactics and Drill in the public square by Commanderies Nos. 1 and 10.

A lengthy and very excellent address opens the proceedings, in which eloquent tribute was paid to the memory of R. E. Sir John J. Worsham, Past Grand Commander. A most genial and pleasant companion in whose life the best tenets of the Order were consistently exemplified; we knew him well, and most sincerely join with his immediate comrades in deploring his loss.

Of the state of the Order, the Grand Commander says: "From all quarters, I have heard the most encouraging tidings," and makes the following recommendation of the New York Tactics:

"I have examined a work just published by Sir Orrin Welch, the eminent Drill-Master of New York, and have pleasure in confidently

recommending it to the attention of the Knights. It is the elaboration of the first kindred work of this distinguished authority, and as that work has formed the foundation of all the other works which have appeared, this deserves more than a passing notice. I think it not unlikely that in three years more it will become the standard work of the Grand Encampment. It gives tactics for public and private parades, for the Asylum and Council, ceremonial parades, burial service, and sword exercise, and is a cheap, elegant publication."

In conclusion, he says:

"Some say that the age of Chivalry is passed—that the spirit of Romance is dead. But they are wrong. The age of Chivalry is never past, so long as there is a wrong unredressed on earth and a man or woman left to say, 'I will redress that wrong or perish in the attempt! The age of Chivalry is never past, so long as we have faith enough in GOD and Christ to say, 'GOD will help me to redress that wrong; or, if not me, those that come after me.' The spirit of Romance will never die, as long as there is a man left to say that the world might and can be better, fairer, wiser, happier in all things than it is now, that GOD's will will be done on earth. 'Thy will be done on earth' is the utterance of the prayer we have by his instruction pronounced around the altar. He who bade us ask that boon for ourselves and generations yet unborn was 'VERY GOD of VERY GOD.' Do you think that He would have bidden us ask a blessing which He knew would never come?"

The same distinguished Sir Knight presented an elaborate Report on Correspondence, in which, unfortunately, New York has no place. May we ask that, in future, when he finds our place vacant at the table, he will do us the favor to write, and, if required, we will go on in person to respond.

Baldwin Commandery entertained the parent body at a banquet, and the report says that "for four hours the Chivalry of Tennessee paid its devotions to the grace and beauty of the fair dames of Lebanon, and the fair dames received their courteous attentions with the charming and bewitching attractions for which they are celebrated." All fair enough; but we would be willing to wager a fair-sized apple that the reporter went home without being exactly sure whether the wind was east or otherwise.

The business transacted, being local, does not call for comment.

R. E. Sir JOSEPH B. PALMER is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder continued.

TEXAS.

ANNUAL CONCLAVE at Houston, June 12, 1871.

Present: R. E. Sir William G. Veal, G. Genlo., presiding, E. Sir R. Brewster, Grand Recorder, and the representatives of six subordinate Commanderies.

A brief address from the Grand Commander, who was unable to be present, was read, and found to refer only to local matters.

The Commanders of the several subordinates were appointed a Com-

mittee to exemplify the Ritual and Drill before the Grand Commandery. A good idea. No report on Correspondence.

R. F. Sir A. S. Richardson was elected Grand Commander; Grand Recorder continued.

VERMONT.

Annual Conclave at Burlington, June 11, 1872.

Present: R. E. Sir Russell S. Taft, Grand Commander, E. Sir W. H. S. Whitcomb, Grand Recorder; representatives from seven subordinates. R. E. Sir George M. Hall appeared for New York.

The annual address, although lengthy and principally confined to local affairs, is, nevertheless, interesting, and bespeaks the early education of its author as one of the reportorial guild.

Of the condition of the order, he says this:

"My first actual knowledge of Christian Knighthood was in the spring of 1864, when I was made a Templar in the Asylum of Burlington Commandery. If we take a glance at its condition then, and compare it with its prosperity at present, we certainly have cause for great rejoicing. We then had four subordinates, with 193 members; now we have (with one under dispensation) eight, with 463 members. Then we had not a costume in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Encampment; now nearly all of our subordinates can make a creditable appearance, '*clothed and equipped as Knights Templar*,' according to law. Then the initiation, for the year were 21; now, for the past year, they have been 43. Then for the year there had been a decrease of one in the number of Knights in the State; now the statistics show an increase of 38.

"Only one of the Grand Officers, our valiant Sir Knight Samuel S. Brown, Grand Treasurer, has remained in office since that time, and the changes in our membership as well as officers serve to sadly remind us that our aged and esteemed Templars and staunch defenders of the faith are rapidly passing away."

He pays eloquent and appropriate tribute to the memory of the Knightly dead, among whom are a Past Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, and a Past Grand Recorder, and concludes—as do most of the Grand Commanders during the present year—with a full and genial notice of the triennial meeting at Baltimore.

The Committee on Correspondence not having been able to make a report, asked to be excused, which request was granted. Very good as far it goes, but we wish it to be understood that the Grand Commandery must not indulge in these excuses, or it will have the W. O. O. R. O. T. M. A. S. after it with a sharp stick.

The business transacted was purely local.

We note that the seal of the Grand Commandery has a new title, etc. which we respectfully ask to have explained.

R. E. Sir Joseph L. Perkins is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder as usual.

VIRGINIA.

Annual Assembly at Richmond, Dec. 14, 1871.

Present: R. E. Sir John R. McDaniel, Grand Commander, E. Sir John

Dove, Grand Recorder, and the representatives of eight subordinates. New York was present in the person of Sir J. R. McDaniel.

We copy from the terse and excellent address of the Grand Commander the following paragraphs, which are exceedingly to our mind:

"The committee appointed by you to present a petition asking leave to separate, was fully prepared in due time to urge the application with proper zeal and fidelity. They will doubtless report to you in detail. The result, I have heard, (though not officially) was, that the Grand Encampment declined to accede to your wishes, and, though your Committee were unsuccessful, I am sure they discharged their duty faithfully. Though forming a part of the large minority on the questions at your last Grand Conclave, I, as in duty bound, however, extended all official and personal aid in my power to your behests.

"As the question is now decided, it seems meet and proper it should rest in quiet until other terms and other causes shall render its revival necessary upon more recent issues. I have no doubt you will acquiesce, and let 'the past be buried in the eternal past,' and as valiant Templars, emulate the foremost in good works, seeing 'who can best work and best agree' for the advancement of our glorious cause, and, as the Old Dominion was ever wont to do in all good things, be found battling in the foremost rank, *yielding* or wearing the palm, as merit may decide.

"I am not partial to an organization of General Grand Masonic bodies, but I do not class Templarism as such. It is a military and Christian institution, requiring a different organization, a central government, one general head—but representative in its charity—by which the sovereignty of each Grand Commandery is secured. Such I regard the Constitution of the Grand Encampment to be: and, in its operations, as far as it has come under my observation, I conceive it has been carried out. I speak more particularly of the period during my official connection. The late official head of that Grand Body has ruled justly, with kindness, courtesy, and leniency. Such, in my opinion, has characterized his administration.

"His successor—my acquaintance with his reputation as a man, a Mason, and a Templar—justifies me in expecting no less from him.

"The best government is that which is best administered. The officers of the Grand Encampment are but the creatures of the Grand Commanderies; it is, therefore, secured to them to decide who shall rule and govern us. It is true that every Commandery may not have all as they wish in all things, but 'partial evil is sometimes for universal good. The same arguments to induce our associations of Commanderies to fraternize a State under one Grand Head, holds equally good as to a General Grand Head to fraternize the several States.

"Harmony and concert of action, as well as the encouragement of the most courteous and knightly relations between the subordinates and the several sovereignties of the General Grand Body, is important and desirable. To this end there is nothing more conducive than the representative system which nearly all have adopted. Several have appointed representatives near this Grand Body. It would, I think, be a step in the right direction to accredit those appointed, and to respond by the appointment of representatives near each Grand Body that have so desired it, and so continue until you shall be represented at each and every Grand Body.

We regret exceedingly that the last suggestion was not deemed of sufficient importance to be acted upon by the body, but we still entertain the hope that the law of kindness will prevail, and that, yielding to the

universal wish, they will allow some favored Knight in each jurisdiction the distinguished privilege of appearing for Virginia. We respectfully refer to our remarks on this subject under the head of Michigan.

Resolutions looking to an annual encampment and drill at the discretion of the Grand Commander, and measures to incite the members to procure uniforms at an early day after entering the order were adopted.

Sir James A. Scott presented the Report on Correspondence which, though not as lengthy as some, is exceedingly courteous and genial. In his notice of Indiana, where they have a Committee on Correspondence, but expect the Grand Commander to perform the duty, he remarks: "We would suggest to the Knights composing the Committee, that, if they have several weeks of leisure at their disposal, they try their hands at this business of reviewing the proceedings of sister Grand Bodies. It *is* a business, and we are inclined to think it requires a regular course of preparation to become fit members of the 'Mutual.' We are not fit."

It is not considered polite to dispute a gentleman's word, but we must be permitted to say that, if Scott of Virginia is not cut out for a first-rate member of the M. A.'s, then the rest of us may as well give it up at once. Thus, in speaking of the admirable report of Sir E. D. B. Porter of Minnesota, he says: "We most sincerely congratulate him on his success, and we congratulate the 'Mutuals' on such a valuable acquisition, and we tender him a cordial welcome to the bosom of a society, which will ever be found ready to pitch into him with Knightly courtesy and sometimes quite the reverse."

We defy Hopkins in person to beat that.

We add, in behalf of the "Association," that his insinuation about "quitting in December" cannot be entertained. The Mutuals have some rights which Virginia is bound to respect, and, among them is, the right to keep Scott at the head of the Correspondence Bureau. We speak by the Card; for we know Sir James A. personally, and would mourn his departure from the reportorial guild as we would that of a dear friend from the little circle in which we move. Hold on, Sir James, and you shall see.

The Committee on Separation presented a report, in which it is pleased to speak of the refusal of the Grand Encampment to accede to their request as pronouncing their "doom."

If an earnest desire to maintain the ranks unbroken, to do every thing to make the position of Virginia comfortable, to promote the kindest and most fraternal feelings toward them, and to induce them to reciprocate, be pronouncing their doom—why then so. But, we aver, with a full knowledge of that whereof we speak, that not one member of the Grand Encampment voted to refuse, under any but the best and most friendly feelings, nor with any other view than that of thus convincing our Virginia Knights how ardently we desire to keep them in the family as gallant and true exemplars of all that is best and most to be admired in the tenets of our profession. We trust and believe that time and continual

intercourse with the other Grand Commanderies will convince them of the wisdom contained in the suggestion of R. E. Sir McDaniel, that the "past should be buried in the eternal past;" and so, from every quarter, we extend to them hearts and hands, as the symbol of a new departure of lasting amity and union.

Grand Commander and Grand Recorder as before.

WISCONSIN.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE at Milwaukie, Jan. 17, 1872.

Present: R. E. Sir A. V. H. Carpenter, Grand Commander; E. Sir Wm. T. Palmer, Grand Recorder; the representatives of ten subordinates, and New York by M. E. Sir Henry L. Palmer, of whom a life-like portrait adorns the printed transactions.

The lengthy address of the Grand Commander is so full of excellent thoughts, well-put and timely suggestions, that we confess to a strong desire to copy it entire, and feel certain of approval in the following excerpts. Thus:

"I thus have given a brief sketch of my official acts since the close of the last conclave of this Grand Body.

"But I should *consider myself* derelict in duty to you to thus rapidly skim over the events of the year, or let them go by without further comment. I propose, therefore, to give you all a view of the interior life of the Order as it appeared to me,—and my views thereon; and firstly, I have a very pleasant feature of the 'Christening' of the several Commanderies to commemorate. This consists of the fact that, on all these occasions, the families of the Knights and Brethren had an opportunity of witnessing the ceremonies and participating in the festivities.

"I am glad to have our gatherings enlivened by the cheerful presence of our household divinities.

"We have been too exclusive in times gone by, and the Order has suffered thereby. All right at the time was the quasi-monastic vow of the Knights of the Temple, but it is out of joint with modern civilization to adhere to those effete customs.

"If we expect to be considered a live institution, we must keep pace with the 'logic of events.' The Knight Templar of to-day should be eminently a social being, and never forget that his brother Mason, at the symbolic grade, is his *peer*, *Masonically*, and *may* be his *superior* in *manhood*.

"The ceremonies of constituting a Commandery and installing its officers are impressive, and afford an insight into the inner life of the principles which characterize the Order, and are, consequently, the best refuters of prejudice against us, provided our outward conduct conforms thereto.

"There should be no jealousy or rivalry between any branches of the Masonic family; and will not be, if we are careful and observant of the courtesies due to all Masons in good-standing—ever remembering that, from the Entered Apprentice to the Knight Templar, there is *but one test of worth*, and that is the value of the *personal character* of each individual, and no one should be admitted to the 'ground floor, who is unworthy of the full privileges of the entire edifice.'

"There are too many in all the grades, whom, though they are endured, no upright Mason would care to trust. There would not be so many of that

class, if every conscientious Mason was always attentive to the affairs of the Blue Lodge. Occasionally, a bad egg might get into the basket, even under the scrutiny of the best of judges, but not as likely to do so under the supervision of experts as when the selection is left to novices.

"There is no danger of being too careful in these matters.

"The Templar circle is not so *recherche*, that there is any danger of 'losing caste' with the 'Great Captain of our Salvation' by being cosmopolitan with our Masonic brethren, and recognizing the fraternal tie that unites us. We owe it to our brethren of every grade to give them the benefit of our more enlarged experience, and we owe to the Order the exercise of our best faculties and knowledge to guard its purity and advance its interests.

"The mingling of the members of the different grades, and the admission of our families to our festivities and assemblages on public occasions, are very good ways of discovering the *inner texture* of the men who may, at some time, seek admission through our portals. Whether it be coarse or fine, association in this manner draws out the inner man, and develops the respect he entertains for the rights and feelings of his fellows. But, these considerations aside, it is better for us all to have the benefit of the refining influence of those we are under such obligations to cherish and protect at our festivals. It checks the tendency to excess, and humanizes us; besides, it is a delicate compliment to them, and such as every *true Templar* should be proud to pay to the innocent of the gentler sex; and, in relation to our brethren of the symbolic and intermediate grades, it is an acknowledgment of the intimate relations between the Orders of Knighthood and the institution of Ancient Craft Masonry, and of our paramount allegiance thereto."

Touching the matter of representation, he remarks that, having appointed a representative near the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts, the appointment was respectfully declined,—on which we remark, that the Bay State not being any better than the rest of us, this refusal to enter into relationship by the mutual appointment of representatives might be construed by the enemies of the Order as an assertion of local supremacy, and thus lead to antagonisms we are all anxious to avoid; a difficulty which we trust Massachusetts may in due time enable us to avoid.

Of the national meeting last September, he thus discourses:

"In relation to the Grand Encampment at Baltimore, in September, I crave your indulgence while I recur to it. There are some matters pertaining thereto which seem worthy of a more extended notice than seemed to be apropos to the business portion of this report.

"A noticeable feature, and most interesting in its character, was the cordial reception and welcome of the Grand Encampment by the Grand Master of Masons of Maryland.

"There was great significance in that; being a reciprocal recognition between the 'old and new dispensations' of the broad Masonic, which embraces all who believe in God and a future existence, and those who add to that a belief in the essentials of the Christian religion as a *sine qua non*.

"This auspicious event will ever be fresh in the remembrance of those who were privileged to witness it. It was so cordial, so sincere, and so earnest, that it carried all hearts with it.

"The address of welcome will be ever valued as one of the richest gems of Masonic literature.

"It has a still greater significance, in the fact that he who made it is *not* a Knight Templar, and it cannot be said that he was admiring his own image in the mirror, while commending the 'valiant and Christian Order of Masonic Knighthood.'

"Another memorable event of that eventful occasion, was the convention of Masonic Reviewers; a gathering of the Chairmen of Committees of Foreign Correspondence of all the Masonic grades. Though not a member of the *craft*, I felt an interest in listening to their proceedings; so, with characteristic Western assurance, I marched into their midst, and found myself *vis-a-vis* with the wielders of those shining pens which have diffused such lustre upon the pages of Masonic literature. I will not repeat names; the giants were there in force. I felt a manly respect for the grand characters which adorned this galaxy of talent and worth. Although I did not imitate '*Moses*' on a certain memorable occasion and put off my shoes, I took off my hat, and would have given it to the meanest man in the assembly—had he been hatless.

"I do not render this tribute to the distinguished brethren because I think it will strengthen their reputation abroad or enhance *their own* estimation of their importance. I should say, judging from the tenor of what I heard, that they were all perfectly self-conscious in this latter respect. Therein, their heads are level; for, if any one does not entertain a tolerably respectable opinion of himself, no one will do so for him.

"As a general rule, none but tax-assessors value our own possessions above our own estimate."

After a review of his visits to the several subordinates, he gives these conclusions:

"This completes the account of my inspection tour, and the results of my observation. This round is an imperative duty; and in order that it may be of service, I think the several Commanderies should be informed of each other's condition. I have, therefore, held up a mirror, so that they may 'see themselves as others see them.' A just and kind criticism every true man challenges; and it is infinitely better for his welfare and advancement than any namby-pamby, whitewashing fiddle-faddle, which deludes the parties whom it concerns, and is a *lie* to all others.

"I trust this review will stimulate the Commanderies to the assertion of all their finest capabilities, and if from no higher motive than emulation, better so than not at all. Let us have a high moral and chivalric tone in all our organizations, and the beautiful and just come to regency in our individual characters, and we will not resent the truth spoken concerning us. I think the laxity of discipline is the cause of much of the want of interest in the members which produces the light attendance of the conclaves; neglect in this respect is very demoralizing.

"It is just possible, too, that their want of interest is occasioned by their attempting to copy the humdrum character of the proceedings in the preceding degrees, sticking to *forms* and letting the *substance* go unheeded. Men of brain get tired of this everlasting repetition, and hurry on from stage to stage, hoping to find some place where the significance of things is taught, and so when they get within an *Asylum*, and find the same method still pursued, they get disheartened if not disgusted, and instead of trying to regenerate the order of things by aiding to infuse vitality into the exercises, they lapse into a total neglect of the whole matter. This is abnormal to Masonry or the Orders of Knighthood, and should not be so.

"Every Commander has room and verge enough, without committing any heresy against the *ritual*, to make the subjects embraced therein glow

with beauty. Every symbol—like the block of marble—enshrines a beautiful figure; but as it requires *genius* to evoke symmetry and grace from the stone, so it requires *brain* to unfold the beauties of the signs and emblems in Masonry. Mere hacking away with chisel and mallet will never realize the vision of the artist's soul, without the soul's conception to guide the cutting; so will no amount of repetition of the ritual and enactment of the ceremonies in Masonry make a Mason, unless the spirit of the teachings inspires the heart. Brain, heart, culture, growth are as essential in Masonry as in any other department of life; and it is because these essentials are overlooked in the handling of the matter, that we find it languishing anywhere. There is a sublime force in it when rightfully asserted, ennobling and attractive.

"The fault is not in our stars,
But in ourselves, that we are underlings."

And here follows, a matter to which we desire to call attention, and to fully endorse the views of Sir Carpenter:

"I must call your attention to another fact, and a very disagreeable one; that is, the carelessness, to call it by no worse name, which is prevalent in regard to the obligatory nature of a summons. I have no doubt the practice of issuing summonses on trivial grounds has sometimes prevailed, and then paying no attention, to neglect to respond thereto by being present, or sending a good reason, having operated to create a disregard for the sacred nature of the obligation, and is a great promoter of loose habits in regard to other matters of a vital nature. The penalty of the obligation expresses the value a man places upon his honor. We should "stir the mind" of the violator thereof, "by way of remembrance," in a manner that will bring him to time, or relieve us of his presence altogether.

In regard to regular conclaves, I would never summon the members, except in case of an unexpected emergency. I don't think we can by any galvanic process infuse a *healthy life* into those who don't take interest enough to attend when they can. In nine cases out of ten, probably, those who live at the greatest distance are the most *anxious* to attend, and it is necessity only which keeps them away. To attempt, therefore, to force them to attend the regular conclaves or send a reason for their absence, would be a hardship not compatible with the *freedom* of a *mason*."

And again, to another fact, escaping perhaps the general recognition, but none the less truly stated:

"In the span of time which covers the space from our last annual conclave, many of our number have been transferred from our rolls to those of the Asylum above. Let their history be ascertained, so far as practicable, and suitable tribute be paid to their memory, and words of comfort spoken to those who hold them dear. If they have been distinguished for aught above the common level of human achievement, place it to their credit; if not, let eulogy alone.

"Death is but a transition to a higher state; we miss our friends, and it is not unmanly to weep when they leave us on that journey, nor to say tender words to others who have had similar experiences; such actions bespeak our humanity and nobility. But the stereotyped *bosh* of ordinary obituaries, and the solemn nonsense doled out as sympathy with the sorrowing, have long enough harrowed the souls of surviving friends.

"Let us have a '*revised edition*' of tributes of respect to the memory of the departed, and essay something that has not formed the staple of the preambles and resolutions of all societies, from prize fighters to Chris-

tian associations, for a generation. This language is not dictated by an unfeeling desire for *novelty;* but it is so common to hear and read the same language concerning persons as dissimilar in character and capacity as is possible for humanity to compass, that I feel pained when I listen thereto."

Once more:

"I am happy in the belief, notwithstanding the slight drawback on our prosperity and advancement, that the outlook from our present position is propitious both in retrospect and prospect. The only enemies capable of harming us *are in our own ranks.*

The achievements of the illustrious Knights of old, and all along the line of the Order's history, are a warrant for saying that we are not the remnant of a "forlorn hope," but a band of chieftains of a victorious host assembled to sketch new campaigns, with "standard full high advanced." This is a proud eminence, from which to survey the situation. Shall we maintain our leadership among the beneficent forces of the world? If so, then, '*en avant!*' must ever be the order. If we expect that we can stand still and keep our place 'at the front,' we shall find ourselves the most mistaken souls on earth. We shall be a power in the world, or the subject of an *epitaph*, according to our mode of treating the matters committed to our charge."

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Sir John Turner, who understands, as we do, that the business of the Committee is as much to criticise acts calling for remark, as to state the bare facts by themselves; as thus we learn to know whether our acts are such as to justify themselves. Nevertheless he deals courteously and justly by all, and states his objections—when he has any—in language befitting the dignity of the occasion and the aims we have in view. Our proceedings for 1870 are noticed, and the decisions of our Grand Commander for that year quoted in full.

A resolution was adopted providing for district schools of instruction to be held by the Grand Commander, at which the elective officers of Subordinates are required to attend.

Remaining business local.

Grand Commander and Grand Recorder continued.

KENTUCKY.

Twenty-fifth Annual Conclave at Frankfort, July 10, 1872.

Present: R. E. Sir M. H. Smith, Grand Commander, E. Sir Wm. C. Munger, Grand Recorder, and Representative of New York, and the representatives of eleven Subordinates.

"Harmony and prosperity, peace and good will prevail," says the Grand Commander, who likewise pays Knightly tribute to the memory of the late Sir Philip Dwight, who had been a Templar for more than a quarter of a century. In speaking of Baltimore, he very truly says that "if the best interests of the Order are to be subserved, we must, in future, subordinate the social to duty."

Touching the uniform, he says this, which it would be difficult to gainsay:

"The subject of uniform has been fully discussed by my predecessors

in office; yet I cannot forbear a remark in passing. The uniform of a Knight Templar was not *recommended* by the Grand Encampment, but was *prescribed*. It is therefore the duty of every Sir Knight to uniform himself according to law. The wisdom of the regulation is demonstrated in the fact that those Commanderies whose members are uniformed excel in the drill, in the work, and in devotion to the Order. It is next to impossible to drill much or well without a uniform of some kind; and it is quite impossible, in the conference of the Orders, to render our sublime and beautiful ceremonies in the most solemn and impressive manner without both the uniform and drill. The prescribed uniform is chaste and elegant, while the expense is not burdensome. I would therefore recommend that some definite time be fixed, and that every applicant for the Orders be required to promise in his petition to uniform himself within that time.

The Associate Grand Officers made report of their doings.

A motion to reprint the transactions from the beginning was adopted, and it was also resolved to select one from each Subordinate to form a Committee to procure uniformity in the work.

The report on Correspondence is from the pen of the genial and courteous Wm. C. Munger; and, as usual with his productions, does credit in equal proportions to his head and heart.

We regret in view of our personal admiration for him to be obliged to turn him off thus briefly, but the "devil" stands behind us as we make this "copy," and the Grand Recorder and foreman of the press-room are patroling the side-walk in front. Under these circumstances, brevity is the soul of wit. Nevertheless, we most joyfully shake hands with Kentucky, and congratulate ourself that, once more, no one of the pleasant and welcome faces of the State Grand Commanderies is absent from our annual feast. So may the coming years ever find it, and, as now, peace and prosperity continue to prevail.

R. E. Sir Wm. H. Warren is Grand Commander.

Grand Recorder continued.

ENGLAND.

We are in receipt of the Calendar and Transactions of the Grand Conclave of Masonic Knights Templar of England and Wales, for the current year. On opening the pamphlet, one is struck with the formidable array of officers, no less than thirty-six subordinate or appointed officers appearing therein. The fact seems to have occurred to some of the members, as an effort has been inaugurated to curtail the number, the Knight offering the resolution rather dryly remarking that the Grand Conclave was getting to be all officers.

The business transacted was of no special importance, save the proposition above alluded to, and another to increase the admission fee to the Order of the Temple from twenty-five to thirty guineas.

The proceedings closed with the usual banquet. M. E. Sir William Stuart is Grand Master, and there are about one hundred Subordinates located in various parts of the British dominions throughout the world.

From the appended table, it will be seen that during the year there has been an increase of two Grand Commanderies, 43 Subordinate Commanderies, and 3,946 Knights in the several State jurisdictions under the Grand Encampment.

Jno. W. Simons,
Orrin Welch,
Ezra S. Barnum,
} *Committee*

GRAND COMMANDERIES IN CORRESPONDENCE.

NAME.	YEAR.	GRAND COMMANDER.	GRAND RECORDER.	ADDRESS.	NO. OF COMS.	NO. OF KN'TS.
ALABAMA	1872	Jos. H. Johnson	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery	9	283
ARKANSAS	1872	Luke E. Barber	J. W. Rison	Little Rock	4	200
CALIFORNIA	1872	W. W. Traylor	Chas. L. Wiggin	San Francisco	10	503
CONNECTICUT	1872	Sereno S. Thomas	Jno. W. Stedman	Norwich	10	1183
GEORGIA	1872	Geo. S. Obear	Chas. R. Armstrong	Macon	8	369
ILLINOIS	1871	Wiley M. Egan	James H. Miles	Chicago	40	2530
INDIANA	1872	Chas. Cruft	John M. Bramwell	Indianapolis	22	1268
IOWA	1871	P. C. Wright	Wm. B. Langridge	Muscatine	21	843
KANSAS	1871	Jno. H. Brown	E. T. Carr	Leavenworth	5	175
KENTUCKY	1871	M. H. Smith	Wm. C. Munger	Franklin	11	587
LOUISIANA	1872	R. Lambert	Gustavus Sontag	New Orleans	3	278
MAINE	1872	H. H. Dickey	Ira Berry	Portland	11	1224
MARYLAND	1872	Chas. H. Mann	Frank J. Kugler	Baltimore	5	599
MASSACHUSETTS AND R. ISLAND	1871	N. Van Slyck	A. F. Chapman	Boston	31	4266
MICHIGAN	1872	O. L. Spaulding	Wm. P. Inness	Grand Rapids	29	1886
MINNESOTA	1871	Geo. L Otis	Geo. A. Savory	Minneapolis	7	409
MISSISSIPPI	1872	E. G. De Lap	J. L. Power	Jackson	9	262
MISSOURI	1871	F. M. Tufts	Geo. Frank Gouley	St. Louis	19	771
NEBRASKA	1872	Harry P. Duel	Robt. W. Furnas	Brownville	4	211
NEW HAMPSHIRE	1871	Jno. D. Patterson	Jno. A. Harris	Concord	9	852
NEW JERSEY	1871	W. W. Goodwin	Thos. J. Corson	Trenton	12	754
NEW YORK	1872	Frank L. Stowell	Robert Macoy	626 Broadway, N. Y.	50	5989
OHIO	1871	Enoch T. Carson	James Nesbitt	Troy	26	1924
PENNSYLVANIA	1872	Geter C, Shidle	Chas. E. Meyer	Philadelphia	45	4555
TENNESSEE	1872	Jos. B. Palmer	Jno. Frizzell	Nashville	12	782
TEXAS	1871	A. S. Richardson	Robt. Brewster	Houston	7	296
VERMONT	1872	Jos. L. Perkins	W. H. S. Whitcomb	Burlington	8	482
VIRGINIA	1871	Jno. R. McDaniel	John Dove	Richmond	17	686
WISCONSIN	1872	A. V. H. Carpenter	Wm. T. Palmer	Milwaukee	10	698
				Totals	454	30,765

Sir Geo. Babcock, Treasurer of the Platt Monument Fund, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received:

To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of New York:

Greeting,—The Treasurer of the "Platt Monument Fund" herewith respectfully submits his Annual Report:

Dr.

To balance on hand per last report	$2,047 72
" amount of interest accrued	89 08
	$2,136 80

Cr.

By paid Mr. Jenkins, for printing, etc., as per voucher herewith	959 52
Balance on hand	$1,177 28

Troy, N. Y., *Oct.* 1, 1872. Geo. Babcock, *Treas.*

On motion of Sir Orrin Welch, it was

Resolved, That the reports of the Grand Officers on Visitations be referred to the R. E. Grand Commander, and, if approved by him, be printed in the Transactions.

On motion of Sir Wm. E. Lathrop, the Grand Commandery adjourned.

In Annual Conclave.

Norwich, Oct. 8, 1872,
3 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Commandery met pursuant to adjournment.

Sir Robert Newlin Brown, R. E. Grand Commander, in the chair.

On motion of Sir John M. Rowel, it was

Resolved, That the election of officers for the ensuing year, be made the special order for to-morrow at 11 o'clock A. M.

Sir S. W. Coffey offered the following amendment to the Statutes and Regulations, which was, on motion, adopted.

Resolved, That the following be adopted as Sec. 62 of the Regulations, viz:

The reports required of the several Subordinate Commanderies under Sec. 7 of the Statutes, shall be made up to the 1st of September of each year, and transmitted to the Grand Recorder before the 15th of the same month.

Also,

Resolved, That the present Sec. 62, be hereafter numbered Sec. 63 in the Regulations.

Sir JOHN W. SIMONS, from the Committee on the Grand Commander's Address, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and the recommendations adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

The Committee to which was referred the address of the Grand Commander, respectfully report and recommend, that so much thereof as refers to the matter of creating the office of Inspector-General, be referred to a Special Committee of three; that so much as relates to Dispensations and Warrants, be referred to the Committee on Warrants; that the appointment of Representatives near other Grand Commanders, be confirmed; that the several decisions reported by the Grand Commanderies, bereferred to the Committee on Jurisprudence; that so much as refers to the memorial volume, be referred to a Special Committee to devise means for its prompt sale; that so much as relates to exemplification of tactics and ritual at our Annual Conclaves, be referred to a special committee; and, finally, that so much as relates to the closing ceremonies, be referred to the whole Grand Commandery.

Courteously submitted,

JNO. W. SIMONS,
ORRIN WELCH,
WM. E. LATHROP,
} *Committee.*

The Grand Commander appointed the following Committees on subjects referred to in his Annual Address:

On Appointment of Inspector-General,

Sir ORRIN WELCH, Sir W. A. BALDWIN,
Sir HARVEY BARNARD.

On Platt Memorial Volume,

Sir JOHN G. WEBSTER, Sir JOHN W. SIMONS,
Sir ORRIN WELCH.

On Tactics and Ritual at Annual Conclaves,

Sir JOSEPH B. CHAFFEE, Sir S. BICKFORD,
Sir G. FRED. WILTSIE.

On motion of Sir JOHN A. LEFFERTS, the Grand Commandery adjourned until to morrow morning, and to appear, in accordance with the invitation, at the Dress Parade of the Commanderies forming Camp Welch.

In Annual Conclave.

NORWICH, Wednesday, Oct. 9th, 10 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Commandery met pursuant to adjournment.

Sir ROBERT NEWLIN BROWN, R. E. Grand Commander, in the Chair.

Minutes of previous Conclaves were read and approved.

In consequence of the inclemency of the weather, the Grand Commandery was unable to appear on the ground at Camp Welch, in compliance with the invitation accepted yesterday. The Grand Commander ordered a recess for thirty minutes.

At the expiration of the recess, the

Special Order

Being the election of officers, was ordered by the Grand Commander. Sir ORRIN WELCH, P. G. C., was called to the Chair, who appointed Sir H. BARNARD and Sir GEO. L. WARREN, Tellers.

On counting the ballots, the following Sir Knights were declared to be elected

Grand Officers:

Sir FRANK LEWIS STOWELL, *Olean*.....R. E. Grand Commander.
" MEAD BELDEN, *Syracuse*.....V. E. Deputy Grand Com.
" A. EUGENE LYTLE, *Auburn*.....E. Grand Generalissimo.
" CHARLES ROOME, *New York*..... " Grand Capt.-General.
" AND REV. JOHN G. WEBSTER, *Palmyra*.. " Grand Prelate.
" ROBERT BLACK, *Brooklyn*..... " Grand Senior Warden.
" TOWNSEND FONDEY, *Albany*..... " Grand Junior Warden.
" JOHN S. PERRY, *Troy*..... " Grand Treasurer.
" ROBERT MACOY, *New York*..... " Grand Recorder.
" WALTER KEMPSTER, *Utica*..... " Grand Standard-Bearer.
" CHARLES H. HOLDEN, *Saratoga Springs*. " Grand Sword-Bearer.
" GEORGE WM. SOUTHWICK, *New York*.... " Grand Warder.
" JOSEPH B. CHAFFEE, *Binghamton*..... " Grand Lecturer.
" JOHN GORDON, *Newburg*..... " Grand Sentinel.

Sir G. FRED. WILTSIE, from the Committee on the Next Time

and Place of the Annual Conclave, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and the recommendation adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

The Committee on Time and Place of Meeting of the next Annual Conclave, would respectfully report and recommend the city of Newburg, on the Hudson, as the place, and the second Tuesday in October (14th), 1873, at 10 o'clock A. M., as the time for said Conclave.

G. FRED. WILTSIE,
JAS. W. CUSACK. } *Committee.*

Sir C. G. Fox, from the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and the recommendations adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

The undersigned, the Standing Committee on Appeals and Grievances, respectfully report that the several matters referred to said Committee have been duly considered.

The Committee find, in the case of appeal of Sir Lorenzo D. Patterson, who was suspended from all rights and privileges of the Order for a period of three years, by Monroe Commandery, No. 12, that the appellant failed to give the Commandery notice of his intention to appeal from its decision within the time prescribed by Sec. 58 of the Statutes and Regulations. The Committee is, therefore, of the opinion that the Grand Commandery has no jurisdiction in the matter, and recommends that said appeal be dismissed.

The Committee also reports that Norwich Commandery, No.46, in response to a notice of appeal served upon it, has supplied the Grand Commandery with a report of its proceedings in the case of George W. Avery, who was expelled from the Order by said Commandery; but as no appeal has been made to the Grand Commandery by said Avery, the Committee recommends that the papers be returned to Norwich Commandery, No. 46.

All of which is courteously submitted,

CHRISTOPHER G. FOX,
CHARLES ROOME,
A. G. GOODALL, } *Committee.*

On motion of Sir S. W. COFFEY, it was

Resolved, That the Installation of the officers elect be made public.

Amended by Sir ORRIN WELCH,

That the Installation take place immediately after the opening of the Conclave to-morrow morning.

On motion of Sir Cyrus Stewart, it was

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to select a place for the Installation of the Grand Officers.

Sirs Edwin J. Loomis, Geo. W. Southwick and Cyrus Stewart, were appointed the Committee.

Sir John A. Lefferts, from the Committee on Testimonial to Sir Geo. Babcock, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and the recommendation adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

The undersigned Committee, appointed to procure and present a suitable testimonial to Past Grand Commander Babcock, respectfully report that they had expected to present it at this time, but unexpected delay having occurred, they respectfully ask that their power may be continued for a short time, and that an appropriation of two hundred dollars be made to cover the expense of the testimonial.

Courteously submitted,

John W. Simons,
Orrin Welch,
John A. Lefferts, } *Committee.*

Sir Wm. E. Lathrop, from the Committee on Jurisprudence, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received and adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of New York:

The Standing Committee on Jurisprudence, to which was referred the several decisions made by the R. E. Grand Commander, and reported in his annual address, respectfully report that they have had the same under consideration, and find them in accordance with the established Statutes and Regulations of this Grand Body.

W. E. Lathrop,
Christopher G. Fox,
T. C. Chittenden, } *Committee.*

On motion of Sir H. W. Pell, the Grand Commandery adjourned.

In Annual Conclave.

WEDNESDAY, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Commandery met pursuant to adjournment.

Sir ROBERT NEWLIN BROWN, Grand Commander, in the Chair.

On motion of Sir CHAS. ROOME, it was

Resolved, That Sir G. FRED. WILTSIE be, and he is hereby, authorized to install Sir JOHN GORDON as Grand Sentinel.

On motion of Sir J. M. ROWEL, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Commandery are hereby tendered to Norwich Commandery, No. 46, for use of their hall, and for the generous hospitalities extended by them during the present Conclave.

Sir THOS. C. CASSIDY offered the following question, and asked its reference to the Committee on Jurisprudence:

"Does suspension in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for non-payment of dues suspend a member in the Commandery?"

Sir GEO. W. SOUTHWICK, from the Committee on Place for Installing the Grand Officers elect, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and the recommendation adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

The Committee of Arrangements for the Installation of the Grand officers elect, would respectfully beg leave to report that the ceremonies be held in the First Congregational Church, on Thursday, A. M., at 11 o'clock.

GEO. W. SOUTHWICK,
CYRUS STEWART, } *Committee.*

Sir HARVEY BARNARD, from the Committee on so much of the Grand Commander's Address as refers to the appointment of an Inspector-General, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and the recommendation adopted.

To the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

Your Committee, to whom was referred the matter of creating the office of Inspector-General, would respectfully report, that, after consultation with

Representatives to this Grand Body, they deem it inexpedient; for the following reasons:

The creation of this office would necessitate a discontinuance of those annual visits of officers of this Grand Body to Subordinate Commanderies, which visits have been so prolific a source of information, as well as pleasure, to said officers, bringing them, as they do, in connection with officers and members of our Order throughout the State, and creating a social feeling which it is not well to disturb. These officers, being in line of promotion, by their visits, and by questions naturally brought before them in their official character, become better acquainted with Templar Jurisprudence, and are thereby better fitted for advanced positions. The projected office, being a salaried one, would bring a large item of expense, which this Grand Body is not prepared to incur, and would also be onerous in a pecuniary view to Subordinate Commanderies, by putting them to an expense for that which is now accorded them gratuitously.

The officer would be supreme, with a power in his hands, no matter how judiciously used, that might be a prolific source of trouble and discontent in course of time.

HARVEY BARNARD,
WM. A. BALDWIN, } *Committee.*
ORRIN WELCH,

Sir JOSEPH B. CHAFFEE, from the Committee on Warrants and Dispensations, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and the resolutions adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

The Committee on Warrants respectfully beg leave to report, that they have carefully examined the several reports and petitions submitted to them, and would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That a new Warrant be issued to St. Lawrence Commandery, No. 28, in place of the original Warrant of that Commandery, which was destroyed by fire, without fee.

Resolved, That the Grand Commander be requested to issue a Dispensation to Ogdensburg Commandery, U. D., to continue their work for another year, without additional fee.

Resolved, That the Warrant of Little Falls Commandery, No. 26, be restored to the original members of said Commandery, whose names appear on the petition.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. CHAFFEE
CLAUDIUS F. BEATTY, } *Committee.*
B. RATHBURN,

Sir JOHN G. WEBSTER, from the Committee on the Platt Memo-

rial Volume, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and the recommendation adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

The Special Committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Commander's address as relates to the memorial volume in honor of the late Sir and Rev. Charles H. Platt, respectfully report that they have given the subject earnest consideration, and they respectfully ask that the Knighthood of this jurisdiction will unite in carrying the work they have inaugurated to completion. The case stands in this wise: The volume, of some 400 pp., on good paper, with clear, legible type, is now published and ready to issue. The edition consists of 500 copies, and the price per volume is two dollars. If the edition can be sold at the price named, the resulting amount can be handed to the widow of our departed friend, together with the stereotype plates and copyright, free of all incumbrance, and be a capital on which future editions of the work can be published. Now, among the six thousand Knights of this jurisdiction, there ought certainly to be five hundred willing to buy one copy each, and thus bring the work to its legitimate conclusion; and we ask that the Grand Officers and Commanders would take early opportunity, not only to lay the matter before their respective Commanderies, but to urge upon the membership the duty of aiding in the work. The average of ten purchasers to a Commandery, will at once bring the matter to a conclusion, and redound to the infinite credit of the Order in having erected to the memory of one of our best exemplars, a monument more enduring than granite, and calculated to ennoble our profession as Christian Knights and loving brethren.

Courteously submitted,

JOHN W. SIMONS,
ORRIN WELCH,
JOHN G. WEBSTER,
Committee.

On motion of Sir ORRIN WELCH, it was

Resolved, That all moneys in the hands of the Committee on the Platt Monument Fund, after all expenses are paid, be paid to the widow of our late Sir CHAS. H. PLATT.

Sir CYRUS STEWART, from the Committee on Books and Accounts, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and the recommendations adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

The Committee on Books and Accounts, most respectfully offer the following report: That they have examined the books and accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, and find them correct in each and every particular.

They have also examined the several bills referred to them, and recommend the following appropriations:

To Robt. Newlin Brown (Grand Commander), for Printing, Stationery, Postage, etc.	$89 06
To Robt. Macoy (Grand Recorder) for expenses during the past year for Printing, Postage, etc.	66 11
To Robt. Macoy (G. R.), for 50 copies Tactics and Drill, used for distribution to Grand Officers of State Grand Commanderies.	50 00
To John W. Simons, for compiling report on foreign correspondence	200 00
To Gen'l Grand Encampment, for assessment of five (5) cents *per capita* on the membership in this Jurisdiction (5,989) members	299 45
	$764 62

All of which is courteously submitted,

GEO. VAN VLIET,
CYRUS STEWART, } *Committee.*
CHAS. HILTON,

On motion of Sir THOS. R. CROCKER, it was

Resolved, That a Special Committee of three be appointed to take charge of the arrangements at the Church during the Installation of officers.

Sirs THOS. R. CROCKER, GEO. RYDER and MARTIN MCLEAN, were appointed the Committee.

The Grand Commander requested the officers and members of the Grand Commandery to be present in the Asylum, promptly, at half-past 8 o'clock this evening, in full uniform, to attend the Reception of Norwich Commandery, No. 46.

On motion, the Grand Commandery adjourned until half-past 8 o'clock this evening.

In Annual Conclave.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, 8½ o'clock.

The Grand Commandery met, pursuant to adjournment.

Sir ROBT. NEWLIN BROWN, R. E. Grand Commander, in the Chair.

The Grand Commandery was then formed into line, under the direction of Sir ORRIN WELCH, as Grand Marshal, for the purpose

of attending the Reception tendered to the Grand Commandery by Norwich Commandery, No. 46, when they marched, preceded by a band of music, under escort of Norwich Commandery, to the commodious tent erected for the occasion in the public square. Within the space of the immense tent a flooring was laid, capable of accommodating many thousands of people, upon the side of which a grand orchestra stand was erected. The decorations were of a most profuse character. Around the walls of the tent were suspended the coats-of-arms of the officers of the Grand Commandery, and Masonic emblems of the Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery, together with a profusion of flags of the great nations of the earth. The whole was brilliantly illuminated with several hundreds of gas jets, artistically arranged, which gave a gorgeous appearance in the blending of colors, as the lights fell upon the beautifully-displayed decorations.

At 10 o'clock the Sir Knights of Norwich Commandery, No. 46, numbering more than 200, marched into the tent, under the command of Sir Edwin J. Looms, E. Commander, and formed in two lines upon one side of the platform, and, upon the announcement of the approach of the Grand Commandery, formed cross of steel, under which the Grand Body passed through the entire length of the line, and formed in two ranks upon the opposite side of the platform. Sir B. Gage Berry, chairman of the Reception Committee, then welcomed the Grand Commandery as follows :

Right Eminent Sir, and Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of the State of New York :

In behalf of Norwich Commandery, No. 46, I welcome you to our Asylum, and we cordially extend to you the hospitalities, not only of the Sir Knights, but of our citizens at large as well. In their behalf, I thank you for this assembling in our village, and I trust it has not been without pleasure to you: I know it has been profitable to us. We recognize among your number many whose names have been familiar to us as household words in the history of Masonry: who have borne the heat of the battle for the re-establishment of our Order upon the firm foundation of truth and fraternal fellowship, and we rejoice that they, though in the "sere and yellow leaf," have been spared to witness the hour when prejudice no longer seeks to oppress and destroy: when to be a Mason, and especially a Knight Templar, is to be recognized as belonging to an order whose distinguishing traits are unsullied honor, universal benevolence, and good will to all. Others among you are in the vigorous strength of manhood, whom we recognize as active, efficient

and honored members in the Masonic field. We are gratified also that so many visiting Sir Knights have graced this occasion with their presence. It is an omen of good. As we mingle and know each other well, we feel stronger, and, in the magnetic strength of fraternity, go forth with more confidence to fight the battle of life. Sir Knights, all, we thank you for this assemblage in our village. All are welcome. Let us enjoy the present, and as you go home you will carry with you the best wishes of every Norwich Sir Knight, and we trust you will bear in kind remembrance the fifth-ninth annual conclave.

Sir Robert Newlin Brown, R. E. Grand Commander, responded as follows:

Eminent Commander, officers and Sir Knights of Norwich Commandery, No. 46, on behalf of the officers, representatives and visitors of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of New York, I thank you for this beautiful and knightly reception.

I should do injustice to you, Eminent Sir, to the officers and Sir Knights of your command, as well as to the Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery, did I not assure you that our anticipations of pleasure in visiting your beautiful village, and participating in your unbounded hospitality, have been more than realized.

To the citizens of Norwich I should, also, do great injustice, did I not assure them of our high appreciation of the kindness, courtesy and hospitality they have extended to us.

To the ladies who have graced this occasion with their presence, I return our grateful acknowledgements for the honor they have done us.

And now, Sir Knights, believing that the ladies would much rather join us in the dance, than listen to a speech from me, I say in their behalf—let the dance go on. Break ranks and enjoy yourselves.

It is unnecessary to say that the injunction to enjoy themselves was fulfilled to the letter, "and the dance did go on." The glittering uniforms, the gorgeous regalia, the rich dresses of the ladies, and the dazzling surroundings, all lent a charm to the scene; and, until a late hour, the happy throng enjoyed themselves in the giddy maze of the dance. Thousands of spectators lingered to look upon the scene, and even at the hour of departure, hundreds who had been spectators merely, regretfully turned with the merry dancers to their homes. The Reception was a splendid success, and will be long remembered by all who were fortunate enough to witness it.

In Annual Conclave.

THURSDAY, Oct. 10, 10 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Commandery assembled pursuant to adjournment.

Sir ROBERT NEWLIN BROWN, R. E. Grand Commander, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous Conclaves were read and approved.

Sir THOS. R. CROCKER, from the Committee of Arrangements for the Installation of the Grand Officers, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and the recommendation adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

The Committee appointed to take charge of the Church during the public services of this day, ask leave to recommend that so much of the resolution of yesterday as relates to the use of the Church building be rescinded and that the large tent in front of this hall be used in place of the Church.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

THOS. R. CROCKER,
GEO. RIDER,
M. MCLEAN,
} *Committee.*

Sir S. DE WITT, from the Committee on Pay of Representatives, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received and adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

The Committee on Mileage and Pay of Representatives, respectfully report that they have given due attention to the subject assigned to them, and award, in accordance with the requirements of the Statutes and Regulations of this Grand Body, such mileage and compensation set forth in the following statement:

COMMANDERIES.	LOCATION.	MILEAGE	PER DIEM.	TOTAL AMOUNT.	DUES PAID IN.
1 Columbian	New York	$15 00	$25 00	$40 00	$70 00
2 Temple	Albany	6 80	25 00	31 80	120 50
3 Utica	Utica	3 00	25 00	28 00	224 50
4 Morton	New York	15 00	25 00	40 00	239 00
7 Lafayette	Hudson	8 12	25 00	33 12	62 50
10 Genesee	Lockport	11 60	25 00	36 60	67 00
11 Watertown	Watertown	8 80	25 00	33 80	111 50
12 Monroe	Rochester	8 36	25 00	33 36	157 00
14 Clinton	Brooklyn	15 00	25 00	40 00	172 50
15 Apollo	Troy	6 90	25 00	31 90	153 50
16 Salem Town	Auburn	4 64	25 00	29 64	68 00
17 Jerusalem	Penn Yan	....	.....	.....	.....
18 Palestine	New York	15 00	25 00	40 00	137 50
19 St. Omer	Elmira	5 60	25 00	30 60	138 00
20 Lake Erie	Buffalo	11 08	25 00	36 08	66 50
21 Malta	Binghamton	2 52	25 00	27 52	103 50
22 De Molay	Hornellsville	9 72	25 00	34 72	78 50
23 Cœur de Lion	New York	15 00	25 00	40 00	119 50
24 St. John's	Olean	11 32	25 00	36 32	105 00
25 Central City	Syracuse	3 56	25 00	28 56	117 50
27 De Witt Clinton	Williamsburgh	15 00	25 00	40 00	84 50
28 St. Lawrence	Canton	14 00	25 00	39 00	41 00
29 Geneva	Geneva	6 14	25 00	31 14	48 50
30 Hugh de Payens	Buffalo	11 08	25 00	36 08	66 00
31 Manhattan	New York	15 00	25 00	40 00	182 50
32 Lake Ontario	Oswego	6 00	25 00	31 00	59 00
33 Washington	Saratoga Springs	9 30	25 00	34 30	186 50
34 Batavia	Batavia	8 48	20 00	28 48	65 00
35 Hudson River	Newburg	14 60	25 00	39 60	58 00
36 Ivanhoe	New York	15 00	25 00	40 00	68 00
37 St. George	Schenectady	6 12	25 00	31 12	62 50
38 St. Augustine	Ithaca	7 24	25 00	32 24	68 00
39 Cyrene	Rochester	8 36	25 00	33 36	70 50
40 Dunkirk	Dunkirk	16 72	25 00	41 72	80 00
41 Zenobia	Palmyra	6 48	25 00	31 48	68 00
42 Westchester	Sing Sing	16 40	25 00	41 40	44 00
43 Poughkeepsie	Poughkeepsie	10 00	25 00	35 00	72 00
44 Delaware	Port Jervis	10 32	25 00	35 32	80 50
45 Rome	Rome	3 30	25 00	28 30	42 00
46 Norwich	Norwich	....	15 00	15 00	168 00
47 Yonkers	Yonkers	15 00	25 00	40 00	29 00
48 Constantine	Harlem	15 00	25 00	40 00	49 50
50 Cortland	Cortland	2 94	25 00	27 94	35 00
51 Holy Cross	Gloversville	6 18	25 00	31 18	48 50
52 Rondout	Rondout	14 00	25 00	39 00	43 50
53 Bethlehem	New Rochelle	15 80	25 00	40 80	26 00
Grand Officers.					
Robert N. Brown, G. C.	Buffalo	13 50	25 00	38 50	.....
F. L. Stowell, D. G. C.	Olean	14 00	25 00	39 00	.....
Mead Belden, G. G	Syracuse	3 56	25 00	28 56	....
A. E. Lytle, G. C. G	Auburn	4 64	25 00	29 64	.....
Rev. J. G. Webster, G. P.	Palmyra	6 48	25 00	31 48	.....
Chas. Roome, G. S. W.	New York	15 00	25 00	40 00	.....
Robt. Black, G. J. W.	Brooklyn	15 00	25 00	40 00	.....
John S. Perry, G. T.	Troy	6 90	25 00	31 90	.....
Robt. Macoy, G. R	New York	15 00	25 00	40 00	.....
T. Fondey, G. St. B.	Albany	6 80	25 00	31 80	.....
Wm. Kempster, G. S. B	Utica	3 00	25 00	28 00	.....
C. H. Holden, G. W.	Saratoga Springs	9 30	25 00	34 30	.....
Jos. B. Chaffee, G. L.	Binghamton	3 00	25 00	28 00	.....
H. Cain, G. S.	Norwich	....	25 00	25 00	.....
Past Grand Officers, U.					
Ezra S. Barnum, P. G. M.	Utica	3 00	25 00	28 00	.....
W. E. Lathrop, P. G. M.	Rochester	8 36	25 00	33 36	.....
John W. Simons, P. G. M.	New York	15 00	25 00	40 00	.....
Z. C. Priest, P. G. C	Little Falls	3 90	25 00	28 90	.....
Orrin Welch, P. G. C.	Syracuse	3 56	25 00	28 56	.....
J. A. Lefferts, P. G. C.	New York	15 00	25 00	40 00	.....
H. C. Preston, P. G. C.	New York	15 00	25 00	40 00	.....
		$625 48	$1,635 00	$2,260 48	$4,158 00

Respectfully submitted,

S. De Witt,
W. Samuel Coffey,
Lyman Cobb, Jr., } *Committee.*

The Grand Commander appointed Sir John W. Simons, P. G. M., and Sir Orrin Welch as Grand Marshal, to conduct the ceremonies of installing the Grand Officers elect, and Sir Joseph B. Chaffee as Grand Marshal during the Dress Parade, to take place at 2 o'clock P. M.

Sir Wm. E. Lathrop, from the Commitee on Templar Jurisprudence, presented the following report, which was, on motion, received and adopted:

To the Grand Commandery of the State of New York:

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred a resolution asking the decision of the Grand Body, on the status of a Knight Templar suspended by a Royal Arch Chapter for the non-payment of dues, your Committee have taken the matter into consideration, and are unanimously of the opinion that a Royal Arch Mason suspended from the Chapter of which he is a member for the non-payment of dues or any other cause, is also suspended from his Commandery of Knights Templar until restored by the Chapter.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. E. Lathrop,
C. G. Fox,
Thos. C. Chittenden, } *Committee.*

The Grand Commandery now proceeded, under the escort of delegations from the several Commanderies attending the Annual Conclave, preceded by a band of music, to the large tent, for the purpose of assisting in the ceremonies of installing the Grand Officers elect, Sir John W. Simons acting as installing officer, when the following-named Sir Knights were inducted into office respectively:

Sir Frank Lewis Stowell.....R. E. Grand Commander.
" Mead Belden.....V. E. Dep. Gr. Commander.
" A. Eugene Lytle.....E. Grand Generalissimo.
" Charles Roome..... " Grand Captain-General.
" and Rev. John G. Webster.. " Grand Prelate.
" Robert Black..... " Grand Senior Warden.
" Townsend Fondey..... " Grand Junior Warden.

Sir JOHN S. PERRY ....E. Grand Treasurer.
" ROBERT MACOY..... " Grand Recorder.
" WALTER KEMPSTER..... " Grand Standard-Bearer.
" CHARLES H. HOLDEN..... " Grand Sword-Bearer.
" GEORGE WM. SOUTHWICK..... " Grand Warder.
" JOSEPH B. CHAFFEE. ..... " Grand Lecturer.

Sir JOHN G. WEBSTER offered the following resolutions, which were, on motion, unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Commandery and its constituency are eminently due to our retiring Grand Commander, R. E. Sir Robert Newlin Brown, for his acceptable and courteous discharge of the duties of the high office he has so well filled.

Resolved, That in the several preceding stations held by Sir Knight Brown, and in all matters of official and Templar duty he has deserved well of his fraters.

Resolved, That a committee be named to procure and present to him a suitable mark of our fraternal esteem.

Sirs JOHN G. WEBSTER, ORRIN WELCH, and JOHN W. SIMONS, were appointed the Committee to carry the resolution into effect.

On motion, the Grand Commandery adjourned until 2 o'clock P.M.

In Annual Conclave.

2 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Commandery met, pursuant to adjournment.

Sir FRANK L. STOWELL, R. E. Grand Commander, in the Chair.

On motion of Sir ORRIN WELCH, it was

Resolved, That in consequence of the inclemency of the weather, it is deemed inexpedient to attend the contemplated Dress Parade and Review this day.

The morning was beautiful and spring-like, and gave evidence of a fair day. As a consequence the trains were loaded to their utmost capacity, and every road leading to the village was thronged with people anxious to witness the promised display. At 10 A. M. the public installation of the new officers took place in the tent in presence of several thousands of spectators. The ceremonies were conducted by

M. E. Sir John W. Simons, Past Grand Master, assisted by R. E. Sir Orrin Welch, Past Grand Commander, which were impressive and interesting, especially to the uninitiated. The ritualistic portion being concluded, Sir John W. Simons added appropriate and eloquent remarks of his own, upon the duties and responsibilities assumed by the newly-installed.

While the installation ceremonies were going on, the crowds in the streets were being continually augmented; and, alas, for the frailty of human calculations, the sky had overcast, and a slow drizzly rain set in, which increased until, by 2 o'clock, the hour fixed for the grand parade, it had become a pelting rain which, continuing, all the afternoon, precluded the possibility of the parade. Of course everybody was disappointed, and none more so than the Sir Knights themselves. Had the weather been favorable the parade would have been one of the most grand and imposing ever witnessed in Central New York. From 1,200 to 1,500 Sir Knights from all parts of the State were present to participate in the parade, and the spectacle would have been one of unequalled grandeur and beauty. But disappointment is the lot of mankind, and all had their full share of it on Thursday. The afternoon, however, was occupied as best it could, by impromptu concerts at the tent, which were enjoyed in a great degree by the vast throng which crowded it. The following Commanderies were present with large detachments: Manhattan, No. 31; Malta, No. 21; Apollo, No. 15; Central City, No. 25; Cortland, No. 50; Cœur de Lion, No. 23; Palestine, No. 18; Clinton, No. 14; De Witt Clinton, No. 27; Utica, No. 3; Lake Ontario, No. 32; and representations from many others whose names we were unable to obtain. All showed themselves to be highly proficient in the drill, and were a fine looking body of men. In their intercourse with each other and the community at large, all bore in mind that they were gentlemen, and their deportment was characterized by that knightly courtesy which should always be the distinguishing traits of members of the Order.

The petition of Sir Geo. W. Avery, expelled from Norwich Commandery, No. 46, asking to be restored to the privileges of the Orders of Masonic Knighthood as a non-affiliated Sir Knight, was read.

On motion, the petition was denied.

Sir John H. Dusenbury, Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Commandery of the State of Pennsylvania, was received by the Grand Commandery in due form, with appropriate Knightly ceremonies, welcomed and invited to a seat in the East.

By Sir George T. Ilsley,

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder be authorized to publish each

year, until otherwise ordered, 2,000 copies of the Transactions of each Annual Conclave.

The R. E. Grand Commander announced the following

Standing Committees:

On Correspondence,

Sir John W. Simons, Sir Orrin Welch, Sir Ezra S. Barnum.

On Templar Jurisprudence,

Sir Wm. E. Lathrop, Sir C. G. Fox, Sir T. C. Chittenden.

There being no further business before the Body, the minutes were read and approved, and the Fifty-ninth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of the State of New York, was closed with appropriate ceremonies and in Ample Form.

✠ FRANK L. STOWELL,

Grand Commander.

✠ Robt. Macoy

Grand Recorder.

The Sixtieth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of the State of New York, will be held in the City of Newburg, on Tuesday, Oct. 14th, 1873, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

APPENDIX.

	COMMANDERY.	PLACE OF MEETING.	COUNTY.	COMMANDER.
1	Columbian	New York	New York	Fred. W. Herring.
2	Temple	Albany	Albany	S. M. Craver
3	Utica	Utica	Oneida	Walter Kempster.
4	Morton	New York	New York	Albert G. Goodall.
7	Lafayette	Hudson	Columbia	Aaron Colton
10	Genesee	Lockport	Niagara	C. P. T. La Roche.
11	Watertown	Watertown	Jefferson	T. C. Chittenden.
12	Monroe	Rochester	Monroe	Wm. Shelp
14	Clinton	Brooklyn	Kings	C. F. Beatty
15	Apollo	Troy	Rensselaer	Jas. W. Cusack
16	Salem Town	Auburn	Cayuga	Thad. B. Barber.
17	Jerusalem	Penn Yan	Yates	James Burns
18	Palestine	New York	New York	Geo. Van Vliet
19	St. Omer's	Elmira	Chemung	Suth. De Witt
20	Lake Erie	Buffalo	Erie	Hawley Klein
21	Malta	Binghamton	Broome	O. W. Earl
22	De Molay	Hornellsville	Steuben	Wm. L. Collins
23	Cœur de Lion	New York	New York	John T. Conover.
24	St. John's	Olean	Cattaraugus	Wm. A. Baldwin.
25	Central City	Syracuse	Onondaga	Orrin Weleh
27	De Witt Clinton	Williamsburgh	Kings	Chas. Aikman
28	St. Lawrence	Canton	St. Lawrenee	O. A. Hine
29	Geneva	Geneva	Ontario	Wm. P. Durrant.
30	Hugh de Payens	Buffalo	Erie	Chris. G. Fox
31	Manhattan	New York	New York	G. W. Southwiek.
32	Lake Ontario	Oswego	Oswego	Sidney Bickford.
33	Washington	Saratoga Springs	Saratoga	Chas. H. Holden.
34	Batavia	Batavia	Genesee	A. R. Warner
35	Hudson River	Newburgh	Orange	G. F. Wiltsie
36	Ivanhoe	New York	New York	V. S. Leggett
37	St. George's	Schenectady	Schenectady	Jay Westinghouse
38	St. Augustine	Ithaca	Tompkins	Mareus Lyon
39	Cyrene	Rochester	Monroe	J. F. Whitbeek
40	Dunkirk	Dunkirk	Chautauqua	B. Rathbun
41	Zenobia	Palmyra	Wayne	J. G. Webster
42	Westchester	Sing Sing	Westchester	John M. Rowel
43	Poughkeepsie	Poughkeepsie	Duchess	Jno. Trowbridge.
44	Delaware	Port Jervis	Orange	Chas. B. Gray
45	Rome	Rome	Oneida	Jerome Graves
46	Norwich	Norwich	Chenango	Edwin J. Loomis.
47	Yonkers	Yonkers	Westchester	Lyman Cobb, Jr.
48	Constantine	Harlem	New York	G. W. Walgrove.
49	De Soto	Plattsburg	Clinton	B. H. Beekwith
50	Cortland	Cortland	Cortland	Geo. L. Warren
51	Holy Cross	Gloversville	Fulton	Cyrus Stewart
52	Rondout	Rondout	Ulster	Abel A. Crosby
53	Bethlehem	New Rochelle	Westchester	W. S. Coffey

GENERALISSIMO.	CAPTAIN-GENERAL.	RECORDER.	La't report.	Creat'd this y'r	Affili'd	Rein'd.	Wh'dr'n	Susp'd	Exp'l'd	Died.	Tot. No m'bers
Peter Forrester....	Geo. W. Millar ...	Archibald McLean.	100	10	..	1	4	18	..	4	85
Wm. R. Winchell.	Charles Hilton....	Thos. P. Way	169	18	1	1	1	...	..	2	186
Harvey Barnard..	Geo. Kincaid	T. C. Latimore....	357	23	..	..	2	...	..	3	375
George Smith....	Matthew Glenn...	S. E. Gardner....	354	31	1	..	9	...	..	3	374
Jean Bach.	Wm. R. Elting...	Almon Snyder. ...	89	9	..	..	...	..	..	3	95
W. C. Raymond..	Geo. A. Torrance..	Chas. Craig.....	106	7	..	..	6	...	..	3	104
J. C. Armstrong ..	L. C. Greenleaf....	L. H. Brown.. ..	175	12	2	2	1	8	.	3	179
H. M. Plant.....	S. V. McDowell ..	Daniel T. Hunt....	278	9	3	..	4	1	..	6	279
John Scrimgeour..	G. D. Custess.....	E. S. Van Orden..	221	31	1	..	4	26	.	5	218
Henry B. Harvey..	Edward B. Cox..	J. F. Kilfoile.....	199	27	..	..	...	1	..	3	222
Frank H. Griswold	John C. White....	A. G. Wheeler....	100	9	..	1	1	...	2	..	107
F. E. Smith.....	M. S. Hicks	M. H. Rose.....	43	..	..	..	...	...	..	..	43
Jos. F. Waring....	H. V. Myers.....	Thos. S. Crump...	155	30	2	1	7	4	..	4	173
J. S. Bartlett.....	J. M. Shoemaker..	G. D. Parsons	240	9	..	1	3	10	..	3	234
Wm. S. Bull.....	Henry Smith.....	Stephen M. Evry.	125	2	1	..	1	...	..	1	126
M. E. Anderson ...	Z. L. Tidball.....	E. W. Sherwood..	171	9	1	..	8	5	..	..	168
S. P. Arnett.....	John J. Bentley...	L. S. Boardman...	125	8	3	20	6	40	..	1	109
A. L. Northrop ...	James M. Bilger.	Charles W. Sy.....	139	25	..	..	4	6	..	4	150
E. D. Loveridge ..	M. B. Fobes.....	Geo. N. Fobes.....	150	15	..	..	3	...	2	.	160
E. H. Brown.....	D. E. Bennington.	Geo. J. Gardner ..	179	14	1	..	1	1	..	1	191
Geo. McKay.....	John H. Mott	J. A. Foster	97	18	1	1	1	...	..	3	113
B. D. Bragdon....	W. H. Gray.....	C. C. Nightingale.	66	4	..	..	..	..	..	3	67
S. N. Anthony ...	D. P. Nelson	W. N. Smith.....	89	2	..	..	1	...	..	1	89
D. E. Morgan	Wm. S. Sizer.....	James Inglis.....	120	3	1	..	5	10	..	..	109
Wm. A. Blanck .	C. V. R. Ackerman	Thos. M. Miler....	273	23	6	1	2	3	..	6	292
R. C. Day.....	T. H. Jolley.....	J. B. Farwell	66	13	..	..	3	...	..	..	76
F. D. Wheeler, Jr.	Geo. H. Gillis.....	Oscar A. Day.....	169	51	..	..	...	...	4	..	216
E. N. Stone.....	L. R. Bailey.....	F. M. Jameson....	74	14	..	1	1	...	..	3	85
N. H. Schram	G. W. Leonard....	C. B. Black.....	84	8	1	..	2	9	..	..	82
Fred. Gugel, Jr...	P. W. M. Hoeven..	Mal. Stewart . ..	80	14	..	1	4	...	..	1	90
E. M. Jenkins.....	John K. Paige....	Geo. Gilbert.....	81	11	..	..	...	5	..	..	87
R. C. Christance...	De Witt C. Apgar.	L. Van Orden.....	56	20	..	..	7	...	..	..	69
Hiram Wood.....	P. B. Hulet	Chas. M. St. John .	77	16	..	..	...	...	..	1	92
W. M. Lester	M. L. Hinman. ...	M. D. Cushing....	76	21	2	..	3	4	.	2	90
J. W. Corning....	I. F. Taber.....	E. W. Cumings ..	96	10	..	..	3	...	..	..	103
J. B. Noxon.....	Geo. Douglass....	Nelson Baldwin ..	56	8	1	..	2	...	..	1	62
Oliver S. Atkins..	James Smith	S. K. Rupley	84	15	..	..	1	...	..	..	98
A. Kirkman.....	Jas. Taynton	C. T. Branch.....	61	25	2	..	2	...	..	.	86
James Aikin.	F. E. Mitchell...	F. B. Beers.....	60	6	..	..	1	...	..	2	63
George Rider.....	Martin McLean....	H. M Ashcraft....	224	28	1	..	1	...	..	3	249
S. S. Crane.....	Thos. Turner.....	A. C. Mott.....	34	6	1	..	3	...	..	..	38
A. N. Brockway...	M. D. Myers.....	C. P. Peirce... ...	59	10	2	..	1	...	..	1	69
H. P. Gregory....	Robt. Bailey.....	J. A. Martin.....	19	..	..	..	...	...	..	..	..
E. M. Seacord	Geo. W. Cottrell..	H. R. Rouse	40	8	..	..	2	...	..	.	46
W. H. Shaw	Chas. Smith.....	D. F. Cowles.....	36	17	..	..	7	...	..	..	46
Jas McCausland..	Andrew Dodge...	Geo. Webster.....	31	14	..	..	...	...	..	..	45
Geo. R. Crawford..	Wm. H. Carpenter	James W. Todd...	28	6	1	..	...	...	..	1	34
			5711	669	35	31	117	151	8	77	6074

Representatives of the Grand Commandery of New York near other Grand Commanderies in the United States.

Sir Porter King.....Marion, Alabama.
" Isaac S. Titus.....San Francisco, California.
" W. R. Higby.....Bridgeport, Connecticut.
" Chas. R. Armstrong .. ....Augusta, Georgia.
" Harman G. Reynolds.... Springfield, Illinois.
" Wm. Hacker.....Shelbyville, Indiana.
" Theo. S. Parvin.....Iowa City, Iowa.
" Wm. C. Munger.... .....Louisville, Kentucky.
" Samuel M. Todd.. .....New Orleans, Louisiana.
" Moses Dodge .....Portland, Maine.
" Wm. S. Gardner .....Boston, Mass., and Rhode Island.
" Frank Darrow .....Pontiac, Michigan.
" Alfred E. Ames.....Minneapolis, Minnesota.
" Geo. Frank Gouley.....St. Louis, Missouri.
" Wm. Barrett.....Nashau, New Hampshire.
" Geo. B. Edwards.....Bergen, New Jersey.
" Kent Jarvis..... ..Massillon, Ohio.
" Jas. H. Hopkins.....Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.
" John Frizzell.....Nashville, Tennessee.
" Philip C. Tucker.....Galveston, Texas.
" Geo. R. Hall.....Swanton, Vermont.
" John R. McDaniel.....Lynchburg, Virgina.
" Henry L. Palmer.....Milwaukie, Wisconsin.
" G. J. Baihn... .....Natchez, Mississippi.
" John Blake..... Brownville, Nebraska.

Representatives of Grand Commanderies near the Grand Commandery of New York.

Sir John W. Simons..... ..for Pennsylvania.
" Ezra S. Barnum..... " Alabama.
" Robert Macoy..... ... " Tennessee.
" John W. Simons..... " Missouri.
" Orrin Welch..... " Minnesota.
" William E. Lathrop.... " Georgia.
" John A. Lefferts..... " Indiana.
" Robert Macoy..... .... " Texas.
" Charles Roome..... " Vermont.
" John W. Simons..... " New Jersey.
" G. Fred. Wiltsie..... " Ohio.
" John W. Simons..... " Illinois.
" Robert Macoy..... " California.
" John A. Lefferts..... " New Hampshire.
" George Babcock..... " Mississippi.
" Robert Newlin Brown.. " Nebraska.
" Albert G. Goodall..... General.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS ON VISITATIONS.

OLEAN, October 1, 1872.

R. E. Sir ROBERT N. BROWN, *Grand Commander.*

During the past year I have had no official duties to perform, except those of official visitations. The several Commanderies assigned me are all moving onward in harmony and prosperity. In all, I may say, the Ritual is well rendered, and with the thorough system of Tactics and Drill now adopted, I think that each of the Commanderies will not only try to improve but to excel.

I take pleasure in reporting that in all the Commanderies I have been received with courtesy and knightly hospitality.

Courteously and fraternally,

F. L. STOWELL, *Deputy Grand Commander.*

SYRACUSE, October 1, 1872.

R. E. SIR R. N. BROWN, *Grand Commander.*

Right Eminent Sir,—In obedience to your special order, dated October 20, 1871, I visited Gloversville, November 14th, constituted Holy Cross Commandery, No. 51, and installed its officers into their respective stations and places, in due form. As your representative, I was received with true knightly courtesy. I have to thank the Sir Knights of Holy Cross Commandery for the kind and hospitable treatment at that time, and every generous action afterwards.

I believe the Order to be prosperous throughout the Jurisdiction, and I am not aware of any special recommendations I can make to increase its usefulness or prosperity.

Courteously submitted,

MEAD BELDEN, *Grand Captain General.*

To SIR R. N. BROWN, *Grand Commander.*

RIGHT EMINENT SIR,—I would respectfully report that the Commanderies placed within my Jurisdiction for official visitation, are all in a good, healthy condition, and working for the best interests of our noble order. Circumstances, beyond my control, made it impossible for me to visit all the Commanderies assigned me, but those I did not visit make a very favorable report. I would take this occasion to thank the officers and members of Central City Commandery, for the very generous hospitality received at their hands.

With thanks for your kindness and favor, I remain,

Truly and courteously yours,

A. E. LYTLE, *G. C. G.*

Right Eminent Sir Robert N. Brown, *Grand Commander, Knights Templar:*

In accordance with Section 5 1 of the Regulations, and in obedience to your orders, I have visited the several Commanderies assigned me.

It gives me great pleasure to report that they are all in prosperous condition, that the Ritual is correctly rendered, and that knightly courtesy and hospitality prevail.

It would be well if more attention was paid to the drill. This I think will be done. The admirable system of Tactics prepared by Right Eminent Sir Orrin Welch is so simple, that any person having the least capacity for military manœuvres can understand and apply them.

Courteously submitted,

Charles Roome, *Senior Grand Warden.*

Brooklyn, October 7, 1872.

R E. Sir Robert N. Brown, *Grand Commander.*

Right Eminent Sir,—In accordance with the regulations of the Grand Commandery, I have the honor to report, that I have visited officially, the following Commanderies—Palestine, No. 18; Cœur de Lion, No. 23; Manhattan, No. 31; Ivanhoe, No. 36, and Westchester, No. 42, and am happy to report that the most cordial feeling is existing in all the bodies. The average attendance is better than heretofore, and there is manifested a greater degree of interest to acquire a better knowledge of the Drill than has heretofore prevailed. In conclusion, I return my sincere thanks to the several Commanderies assigned me, for their courtesy.

Truly and courteously yours,

Robert Black, *Grand Junior Warden.*

Albany, N.Y., October 3, 1872.

R. E. Sir Robert N. Brown, *Grand Commander.*

Dear Sir and R. E. Sir Knight,—In compliance with your instructions, I visited Rondout on the 22d of November last, with a corps of officers from Temple Commandery, No. 2, and had the pleasure of instituting Rondout Commandery, No. 52, and installing its officers, who vied with each other in paying us every attention. And I congratulate the Grand Commandery that they have established in that locality a Commandery that bids fair to vie with many of the older organizations.

In accordance with Section 31 of the Regulations, I have made official visitations to Utica, No. 3; Apollo, No. 15, and Hudson River, No. 35. These Commanderies are in a flourishing condition, and are doing good service in the cause of Templar Masonry.

Apollo Commandery has, within the past year, completed the fitting up

of its new rooms, and the energy and zeal manifested by its members in all their endeavors to promote the interests of Templarism, deserves the emulation and commendation of every "valiant and magnanimous" Sir Knight.

Utica and Poughkeepsie Commanderies are both in a prosperous condition, and the Order may congratulate itself on the great interest evinced by the members of those bodies.

I congratulate you, Right Eminent Sir, upon the peace and harmony that prevails throughout this jurisdiction.

With knightly courtesy, yours respectfully,

TOWNSEND FONDEY, *Grand Standard-Bearer.*

UTICA, October 3, 1872.

R. E. SIR R. N. BROWN, *Grand Commander.*

In accordance with the Regulations of this Grand Body, I have the honor to report, that the various Commanderies assigned by you to my jurisdiction, are in a flourishing condition. There is an evident desire to maintain the tenets of our Order, and promote the welfare of Templar Masonry.

It may be observed that there is a disproportionate number of Sir Knights present at the conferring of the different orders. It is said that the greater number attend the *Red Cross*, and the officers are appealed to for a remedy. We can only offer as an explanation that Persian territory is a favorite place of resort, notwithstanding the difficulties and dangers attending the journey. It must be the relish of excitement experienced during the first visit that keeps up the desire to re-enter that domain.

There is a tendency on the part of some Sir Knights to introduce the metal button on the coat, although the edict emanating from the Grand Encampment would appear to have settled that point. We have urged a strict compliance with the uniform adopted.

It gives me pleasure to state that the Sir Knights are perfecting themselves in the various evolutions. There has been a strong desire to obtain a drill book containing instruction for street, as well as Asylum manœuvres. We have this in the admirable Manual prepared by our P. G. C. Sir Orrin Welch. I have everywhere heard it spoken of in the highest terms.

With many thanks for the knightly courtesies extended to me during the past year, I remain, very truly yours,

WALTER KEMPSTER, *Grand Standard-Bearer.*

SARATOGA SPRINGS, October 7, 1872.

R. E. Sir R. N. BROWN, *Grand Commander.*

In accordance with Section 51 of the Statues and Regulations, and in compliance with your special order of October 30th, I have visited the following Commanderies, viz—Temple Commandery, No. 2, Albany; St. George's Commandery, No. 37, Schenectady; De Soto Commandery, No.

49, Plattsburgh, and Holy Cross Commandery, No. 51, Gloversville, and am happy to report them all in a prosperous condition, and a growing interest manifested by the officers and members, and a strong desire to improve in all that pertains to Templar Masonry.

The Sir Knights are usually well uniformed and well drilled. I visited Plattsburgh November 25th, in compliance with your special order of October 20th, and constituted and dedicated De Soto Commandery, No 49, and installed its officers. And allow me at this time to return my thanks to the officers and members of the several Commanderies who have extended to me such generous and knightly hospitality during my official visits.

Courteously yours,

CHARLES H. HOLDEN, *Grand Warder.*

ASSIGNMENT OF OFFICIAL VISITATIONS.

HEAD QUARTERS ✠ GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, STATE OF NEW YORK.
GRAND COMMANDER. BUFFALO, *October 31st*, 1871.

SIR,—Circumstances, beyond my control, compel me to be absent from our jurisdiction until about the first of January, 1872.

During my absence our V. E. Sir FRANK L. STOWELL, Deputy Grand Commander, of Olean, will give his prompt attention to all matters requiring immediate action.

I have made the following assignment of Commanderies for Official Visitations.

V. E. Sir FRANK L. STOWELL, Dep. Gr C.,	Nos.	1, 4, 19, 21, 22, 40.
Em. Sir MEAD BELDEN, G. Generalissimo,	"	10, 12, 20, 32, 39, 41.
" Sir EUGENE A. LYTLE, Gr. C. Gen.,	"	25, 29, 30, 34, 38,
" Sir CHARLES ROOME, Gr. Sen. War.	"	14, 27, 35, 47, 48, 53.
" Sir ROBERT BLACK, Gr. Jr. War.,	"	18, 23, 31, 36, 42.
" Sir TOWNSEND FONDEY, Gr. St. Br.,	"	3, 7, 15, 43, 52.
" Sir WALTER KEMPSTER, Gr. S. Br.,	"	11, 28, 33, 45.
" Sir CHARLES H. HOLDEN, Gr. War.,	"	2, 37, 49, 51.
" Sir JOSEPH B. CHAFFEE, Gr. Lee.,	"	16, 24, 44, 46, 50.

I have made arrangements for the institution and dedication of the five new Commanderies, for which Warrants were granted at our recent Annual Conclave, and the installation of their officers.

I need not assure you that I shall have you in remembrance during my absence—assuring you of my knightly esteem, and with my best wishes for your continued health and prosperity, I am,

My dear Sir Knight, Your Friend and Brother,

ROBERT N. BROWN, *Grand Commander.*

CHICAGO RELIEF.

HEAD QUARTERS
✠
GRAND COMMANDER.

GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR,
STATE OF NEW YORK.

BUFFALO, *October 31st*, 1871.

To all Knights Templar under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of New York:

I have just received from Sir J. Q. A. FELLOWS, M. E. Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, the following Order, which it is my will and pleasure shall be read in every Commandery under our jurisdiction, at the first stated Conclave after its receipt.

I need not assure you, Sir Knights, that I heartily approve of the Order of our Most Eminent Grand Master. I am confident that every Sir Knight in this jurisdiction will cordially and promptly respond to this knightly appeal.

I have to request that I may be fully advised of all contributions in this behalf, that I may inform our Grand Master of our action in the premises.

Courteously and Fraternally, your Friend and Brother,

ROBERT N. BROWN, *Grand Commander.*

BUFFALO, *Oct.* 19, 1871.

To VINCENT L. HURLBUT, *Chairman Relief Committee, Chicago:*

R. EM. AND DEAR SIR KNIGHT,—The Grand Commandery of New York, at its recent Conclave at Albany, appropriated $2,000 for the relief of our suffering Sir Knights of Chicago, which our Em. Grand Treasurer, Sir John S. Perry, of Troy, informs me has been forwarded to you, and which I trust has reached you safely. Hugh de Payens Commandery, No. 30, of this city, of which I have the honor of being Past Commander, at its recent Conclave contributed $500 for the same service. I hope that this money has also reached Chicago in safety.

These contributions were as large as the condition of the treasury would warrant. In the case of the Hugh de Payens it nearly exhausted their surplus.

I need not assure you, Right Eminent Sir, that the Sir Knights of Chicago have the sincere sympathies of every Sir Knight of New York in their great affliction. The donations to which I refer, are I hope but a mite of what will be contributed throughout our noble jurisdiction.

I enclose my personal contribution of one hundred dollars to your relief fund.

Courteously and fraternally yours,

R. N. BROWN, *Grand Commander.*

STANDARD UNIFORM.

ORDER No. 1.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

SIR J. Q. A. FELLOWS, M. E. GRAND MASTER.

To all the Grand Commanders of our State Grand Commanderies and the Commanders of Commanderies holding their Charters immediately from our Grand Encampment—Greeting:

Whereas, since the adjournment of our Grand Encampment, and the separation of its members from the Triennial Session at Baltimore, the latter part of the past month, a most wide-spread and desolating calamity has befallen the citizens and the Sir Knights of Chicago, whose great city in a few short hours was laid low in ashes.

This great affliction has rendered thousands upon thousands homeless and destitute. The affluent of yesterday are penniless to-day.

The hungry must be fed, the naked clothed, and the wounded heart bound up by sympathizing friends, whose property has been spared these terrible ravages. No sudden effort like that of the destroyer will do, but a persistent, united one, through the cold winter before us, must be had, that suffering may be relieved, sorrow abated, and hope and courage revived, till, like a Phœnix, Chicago, the wonder of the West and of the world, shall arise and be able to take care of her own children, and place them beyond immediate want.

The officers named herein, immediately upon the receipt of this order, will take such measures as to them may seem best for the relief of the sufferers, and remit all collections speedily to Sir VINCENT L. HURLBUT M. D., Grand Generalissimo, G. E. Chicago, Illinois.

This order has been delayed, owing to the fact that neither of the Grand Officers had returned to their homes, or been able to get in communication with each other.

Done at New Orleans, Louisiana, this 14th day of October A. D. One thousand Eight hundred and Seventy-one.

(L. S.

BY THE GRAND MASTER.

Attest my hand and the Seal of our Grand Encampment at Iowa City, Iowa, October 14th, A. O. 753.

THEODORE S. PARVIN,
Grand Recorder.

ORDER No. 2.

HEAD QUARTERS
✠
GRAND COMMANDER.

GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR,
STATE OF NEW YORK.

BUFFALO, *February 20th*, 1872.

To all Knights Templar, under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of New York:

Your attention is directed to the Edict of our Most Eminent Grand Master, hereto annexed, in relation to the uniform of a Knight Templar.

I trust this Edict will be strictly complied with throughout our jurisdiction; and, that all may be informed, I request that this Order be read in each Commandery at the first Stated Conclave after its receipt.

It affords me great pleasure to promulgate this timely and necessary Order. There can no longer be any doubt as to the manner in which the Knights Templar of the United States should equip themselves.

Truly and fraternally, your Friend and Brother.

ROBERT N. BROWN, *Grand Commander.*

ORDER No. 3.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

SIR J. Q. A. FELLOWS, M. E. GRAND MASTER.

To all the Grand Commanders of our State Grand Commanderies, and the Commanders of Commanderies holding their Charters immediately from our Grand Encampment—Greeting:

Whereas, The first clause of paragraph one of Section 5 of Article I of Constitution of the Grand Encampment, in defining the duties of the Grand Master, expressly provides that, "as a part thereof, he shall have a watchful supervision over all the Commanderies, State and Subordinate, in the United States, and see that all the constitutional enactments, rules, and edicts of the Grand Encampment are duly and properly observed, and that the dress, work, and discipline of Templar Masonry everywhere are uniform.

And whereas, At this time, under the foregoing provision of the Constitution, the Grand Master has occasion only to call the attention of all Commanderies, whether Grand or Subordinate, to the edicts of the Grand Encampment upon the subject of dress, enacted in 1862, and to urge a greater uniformity.

To this end, therefore, he has caused to be republished the Edict of the Grand Encampment of 1862 (pp. 45 to 50 of the Proceedings of that session,) as hereto appended, and to order a strict compliance therewith. That edict is absolute in its character, and supersedes and repeals all

former enactments, rules, and edicts upon the subject. The costume it prescribes is, as reported by the committee, neat, durable, economical, and distinctive in character, and no excuse can be considered satisfactory why the same should not have long since become universal.

In addition to the failure to adopt, a worse evil has, however, begun to prevail—that of innovation and change; and to this tendency this order is more particularly directed. Simply to illustrate the character of the departure from a strict uniformity, the coat may be instanced. The only description in the edict is, "black frock coat." This can mean nothing else than the frock coat of society, cut in the usual style, of the ordinary length, with such buttons as are usually worn, and those placed in the ordinary manner; in other words, a "black frock coat" is one that can be worn on any occasion, and wherever a black frock coat may be worn, and which may not cause any distinctive observation or remark whatever.

These remarks may be applied to every other article of dress, costume, or uniform, or whatsoever may be included in the edict hereto appended.

There are to be added to the articles specified, under the heads "Full Dress" and "Fatigue Dress," those trimmings, &c., which are described in the edict, and as there described, and absolutely no other. A strict observance of these directions is necessary to uniformity, and to prevent that tendency to extravagance of dress which is hardly consistent with the vows of a Templar.

We trust, therefore, that each Commander to whom this shall come will comply with the terms of this order, and enforce a strict uniformity, and see that his command is fully and properly uniformed.

Done at New Orleans, Louisiana, this 30th day of December, A. D. One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-one.

(L. S.)

BY THE GRAND MASTER.

Attest my hand and the Seal of our Grand Encampment, at Iowa City, Iowa, December 30th, A. O. 753.

THEODORE SUTTON PARVIN,
Grand Recorder.

EDICT OF 1862.—TEMPLAR UNIFORM.

UNIFORM OF A KNIGHT TEMPLAR.

Full Dress.—Black frock coat, black pantaloons, scarf, sword, belt, shoulder straps, gauntlets, and chapeau, with appropriate trimmings.

Fatigue Dress.—Same as full dress, except for chapeau a black cloth cap, navy form, with appropriate cross in front, and for gauntlets white gloves.

Scarf.—Five inches wide in the whole, of white, bordered with black one inch on either side, a strip of navy lace one-fourth of an inch wide at the inner edge of the black. On the front centre of the scarf, a metal star of nine points, in allusion to the nine founders of the Temple Order, inclosing the Passion Cross, surrounded by the Latin motto. "*In hoc Signo Vinces;*" the star to be three and three-quarter inches in diameter. The scarf to be worn from the right shoulder to the left hip, with the ends extending six inches below the point of intersection.

Chapeaux.—The military chapeau, trimmed with black binding, one white and two black plumes, and appropriate cross on the left side.

Gauntlets.—Of buff leather, the flap to extend four inches upwards from the wrist, and to have the appropriate cross embroidered in gold, on the proper colored velvet, two inches in length.

Sword.—Thirty-four to forty inches, inclusive of scabbard, helmet head, cross handle, and metal scabbard.

Belt.—Red enameled or patent leather, two inches wide, fastened round the body with a buckle or clasp.

Shoulder Straps.—For Grand Master and Past Grand Masters of the Grand Encampment.—Royal purple silk velvet, two inches wide by four inches long (outside measurement,) bordered with two rows of embroidery, of gold, three-eighths of an inch wide; the Cross of Salem embroidered, of gold, in the centre, lengthwise.

For all other Grand Officers of the Grand Encampment.—The same as the Grand Master, except for the Cross of Salem the Patriarchal Cross, of gold, with the initials of the office respectively, embroidered, of silver (*Old English Characters,*) at the foot of the cross, narrow-wise of the strap.

For the Officers and Past Grand Officers of the Grand Commandery.—Bright red silk velvet, two inches wide by four inches long, bordered by one row of embroidery, of gold, quarter of an inch wide; the Templar's Cross, of gold, with the initials of the office, respectively, to be embroidered (*Old English Characters,*) in silver, on the lower end of the strap.

For the Commander and Past Commanders of a Subordinate Commandery.—Emerald green silk velvet, one and a half inches wide by four inches long, bordered with one row of embroidery, of gold, quarter of an inch wide; the Passion Cross, with a halo, embroidered, of silver, in the centre.

For Generalissimo.—Same as the Commander, except for the Passion Cross the Square surmounted with the Paschal Lamb.

For the Captain General.—Same as the Commander, except for the Passion Cross the Level surmounted with the Cock.

Cap.—Navy form; black cloth, four to five inches high, narrow

leather strap fastened at the sides with small metal Templar's Cross, and with appropriate cross in front.

Distinctions.—The Sir Knights will wear white metal, wherever metal appears. Commanders and Past Commanders, Grand and Past Grand Officers, gold.

Crosses.—Sir Knights, Commanders, and Past Commanders of Subordinate Commanderies will wear the Passion Cross; Grand and Past Grand Officers of State Commanderies, the Templar Cross; Grand and Past Grand Officers of the Grand Encampment, the Patriarchal Cross; the Grand Master and Past Grand Masters of the Grand Encampment, the Cross of Salem, which is the Patriarchal Cross with an additional bar in the centre.

The various crosses, as designated, to be worn on the side of the chapeau, and on the scabbard of the sword. Those on the chapeau to be three inches in height; on the sword, one inch.

Hangings for Jewels.—The hangings of Grand and Subordinate Commanderies may remain as at present.

Grand Standard.—Is of white woolen or silk stuff, six feet in height and five feet in width, made tripartite at the bottom, fastened at the top to the cross bar by nine rings: in the centre of the field, a blood red Passion Cross, over which is the motto, "*In hoc Signo Vinces;*" and under, "*Non Nobis Domine! non Nobis, sed Nomini tuo da Gloriam!*" The cross to be four feet high, and the upright and bar to be seven inches wide. On the top of the staff, a gilded globe or ball, four inches in diameter, surmounted by the Patriarchal Cross, twelve inches in height. The cross to be crimson, edged with gold.

Beausant.—Of woolen or silk stuff, same form and dimensions as the Grand Standard, and suspended in the same manner. The upper half of this standard is black, the lower half white.

Prelate's Robes.—A full white linen or muslin robe, open behind, reaching down within six inches of the feet; fastened around the neck below the cravat, which should be white, and having flowing sleeves reaching to the middle of the hand. A white woolen cloak, lined with white, fastened around the neck, and extending down to the bottom of the robe; on the left front, a red velvet Templar Cross, six inches in width. A blue silk stole, reaching down in front to within six inches of the bottom of the robe, and having on it three Templar Crosses of red silk. Mitre of white merino, bordered with gold, lined with green, having the Red Templar Cross extending to the edges, and surmounted by a Passion Cross three inches high. The special badge of his office is a Crozier.

A true copy from the Records.

Attest: THEODORE SUTTON PARVIN,
Grand Recorder.

GRAND COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR,
BUFFALO, N. Y., August 19th, 1872.

GEO. WM. SOUTHWICK, Commander Manhattan Commandery, No. 31, New York.

My Dear Sir and Eminent Sir Knight:

Referring to your letter of the 6th instant, on the subject of our uniforms, (the receipt of which I acknowledged a few days since,) I have to say that while I do not intend to issue any orders or adopt any coercive measures in reference to it, it is my earnest desire that every Sir Knight who attends the annual conclave of our Grand Commandery in October next, be equipped in accordance with the edict of the Grand Encampment, and the orders of the M. E. Grand Master, which were promulgated and approved by my circular of Feb. 20th, a copy of which is herewith enclosed.

The Grand Encampment of the United States is the only body that has the power to prescribe what shall be the uniform of a Knight Templar under its jurisdiction; and the Grand Commandery of New York, and every Sir Knight under its jurisdiction is in honor bound to obey the edicts of the Grand Encampment on this or any other subject.

Therefore, any Sir Knight who continues to wear the metal button upon his coat, disobeys the edict of the Grand Encampment, and the order of the Grand Master, to whom, in his obligation as a Knight Templar, he vows allegiance.

I do not think there can be any objection to the single-breasted coat, with "stand-up collar" and dark buttons, with which so many are provided, as this can be called a "coat of society." It is worn almost universally by clergymen, and can be worn on all occasions by those who fancy it.

Grand Master Gardner, in his annual address (1868–1871), gave the following opinion:

"The order of the Grand Encampment, as I understood it, does not require Commanderies, already equipped, to change for the new regulation; but when new regalia is required, or new Commanderies constituted, the uniforms prescribed by the Grand Encampment should be obtained."

Our present Grand Master, J. Q. A. Fellows, had this opinion before him when he issued his order of Dec. 30, 1871; but, inasmuch as he does not refer to it, I must believe that he does not concur in it, and must, therefore, obey his order as I receive it.

In conclusion, I see no reason why this question should produce any ill-feeling among us. I certainly shall not encourage any. It was my duty to promulgate the order of the Grand Master, and it is my duty to urge obedience to it on all occasions. It is not my order. It is the order of my superior, which I am bound by my honor, as a Knight Templar, to obey—thereby setting an example to my subordinates

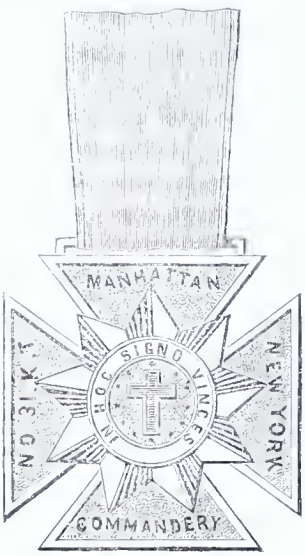
which a proper respect for my position, at least, should induce them to follow.

I shall request the Grand Officers to omit the metal button, and hope to have the pleasure of informing our Grand Master that the officers of our Grand Commandery have complied with the order.

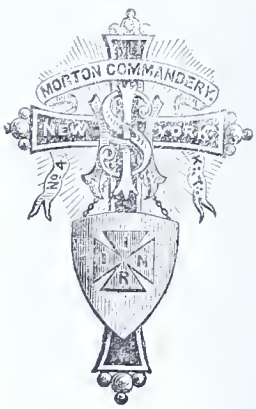
Thanking you again for your kind letter, and with the hope that the metal buttons will not be numerous at "Camp Welch," I remain,

Courteously and fraternally, Your friend and brother,

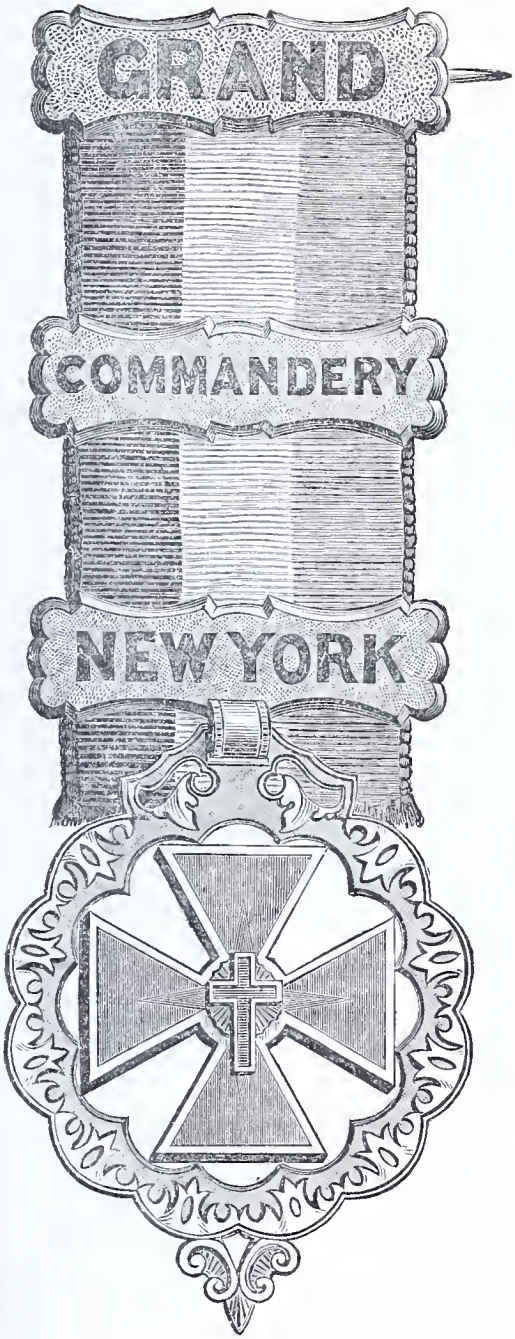
ROBERT NEWLIN BROWN, *Grand Commander.*



BADGE OF
MANHATTAN COMMANDERY, No. 31.



BADGE OF
MORTON COMMANDERY, No. 4.



Official Jewel of Grand Commandery.[1]



Badge of
Clinton Commandery, No. 14.



Badge of
Cœur de Lion Commandery.



