OFFICIAL GRAND ENCAMPMENT BICENTENNIAL EMBLEM
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JUNE: Illustrated on this month's cover is a design now familiar to well over 7,500 Templars. It's the three-color emblem which appears on the Bicentennial Marble Paperweights, one of the popular offerings from the Grand Encampment. Another Bicentennial Commemorative (metalized, self-adhesive stickers) will be announced and described in the July issue of the Knight Templar Magazine as a new service for 1975-1976.

Currently featured among other items of interest are special articles on Newfoundland, Masonic signers of America's four Freedom Documents and the story of Nathan B. Haswell. We hope you find them interesting and informative.

Paul C. Rodenhausser, Editor
ELEVEN MONTHS LATER

Eleven months ago, the Grand Encampment Officers agreed with your Grand Master that a copy of our Masonic Americana should be made available to every Templar, every Mason and all friends of the fraternity so that they could share with us the accounts of those who have made our country great.

Offered as a special service from the Grand Encampment office, you have proven by your repeated orders for more and more copies of Masonic Americana that you value highly this compilation of scenes and events and that you appreciate the efforts which have gone into it.

As Grand Master, I am indeed proud that we have been able to issue during this triennium a volume of history which has been, and continues to be, so widely accepted. I think you should know that almost 22,000 copies of the compilation are in distribution and that the total continues to increase daily. This makes it perhaps one of the “best sellers” of any similar publication in Masonry. It tells the story of our nation’s founding and development; it describes the outstanding roles played by Masons in its history. As a reference and as a souvenir, we feel that each Templar should possess this record of the 200th birthday of our nation.

The Grand Encampment has been in the forefront of offerings for your Bicentennial programming. There are films of a patriotic and historic nature available for use — if ordered sufficiently far in advance. The demand for these and for numerous color slides and scripts is great and sometimes exceeds the supply. More than 7,500 Bicentennial Marble Paperweights have been supplied to Grand, Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies since February of this year.

And there is more to come! The July issue of the Knight Templar Magazine will contain news of a commemorative nature in which I believe you will be interested. Later there will be a revised and augmented Masonic Americana containing the former basic content but in an enlarged edition.

Your Grand Encampment office is at work — for you and all Templary. Make use of it for mutual benefit. The purpose continues to be service to you — the individual Templar.

Roy Wilford Riegel
The KNIGHT WRITERS
COMMENTS FROM READERS

As President of the United States Capitol Historical Society and as a Templar I take pleasure in announcing the creation of a new art piece in the Capitol of the United States by Brother Allyn Cox, a famed muralist. This art piece is of the Masonic laying of the Cornerstone of the Capitol Building by George Washington. The first publication in color is in a booklet about Sound and Light at the United States Capitol. The Society will send a copy of the publication with a picture of the cornerstone laying suitable for framing to any Mason who donates $5.00 or more to the Society for its Bicentennial program. Hon. Fred Schwegel, President, United States Capitol Historical Society, 200 Maryland Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20515

The Atlanta Masonic Library and Museum Association is collecting all types of Masonic Memorabilia with special emphasis at this time on Memorial Coins and Emblems. Items relating to the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, Commandery, Shrine and others will be welcomed and would include Buttons, Medals, Flags, Caps, Clothing, etc. Anyone having such items and wishing to donate them to our growing Library and Museum may write to me. William H. Murphy, Atlanta Masonic Library and Museum Association, 1690 Peachtree Road, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30309

A Past Commander’s sword and its scabbard engraved with the name of “H. J. Humpstone” has been missing for several months. This sword was given to Past Commander David Robertson of my Commandery by the widow of Sir Knight Humpstone. Sir Knight Robertson presented it to me for my use during my year as Grand Commander of North Dakota. Any help in recovering these two items will be greatly appreciated. James C. Newland, P.G.C., 723 North 20th Street, Grand Forks, North Dakota 58201

I have 20 of the George Washington 200th anniversary tokens available for sale at $5 plus $.25 postage. Thomas E. Devine, 358 Howell’s Road, Bayshore, New York 11706

My late husband, James B. Gourlie, received a Templar Sesquicentennial plate several years ago with a statement by Grand Master Wilber Brucker on the back. Through an accident this plate was broken. Since it is a memoir of my late husband and means so much to me I would very much like to find another plate like it. Lucille Gourlie, 564 Goff Terrace, Union, New Jersey 07083

Knight Marion Civerolo, 411 Zecca Drive, Gallup, New Mexico 87301, has a collection of pens, which he started in 1918, which he would like to sell, the proceeds going to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Anyone interested please correspond directly with him. Alfred Myers, Recorder, Box 1266, Gallup, New Mexico 87301

I have a book about which I am seeking information. It is The Temple Church and Chapel of St. Ann, Etc. An Historical Record and Guide, by T. Henry Baylis, printed by George Philip and Son., London, 1893. The fly leaf is inscribed:

To
HRS Prince Christian K.G. V.D.
Hon. Bencher of the Inner Temple
with Permission
from
The Author
T. Henry Baylis (sig.)
Grand Day 25 April 1894

I am wondering if this particular book is of an interest or particular significance. Any information that can be supplied would be most appreciated. Bernard R. Hawley, 913 South Santa Fe Avenue, Salina, Kansas 67401

I do not think Masonic bodies should be allowed to use such a reputable magazine as our Knight Templar to misrepresent Masonic items for sale. They should be held responsible for return of items plus postage or advise prospective buyers when they receive an order that if item is not as advertised before they accept the money and ship a different item than advertised. Edward E. Becher, 58 Springfield Street, Belmont, Massachusetts 02178

June 1975
"The Arizona Plan" is divisive in purpose and intent. The supporters of the plan would have this Christian Order of Masonry lose its distinctive semi-military identity, do away with the Templar uniform and break the traditional link with the past. The plan would weaken the spiritual thrust of our uniform ritual which is intended to reach the receptive thought of Christian men.

It must be recognized not all Masons aspire to become “Soldiers of the Cross.” However, the full dress uniform with the sword and the cross is emblematic of Templary and distinguishes this unique Masonic organization from all others.

If any change is to take place, let us direct our efforts toward innovative and corrective programs aimed at greater emphasis on new member procurement and retention.

I am proud to wear the Templar uniform and to actively participate in my Commandery. I feel strongly that elite uniformed units of this great Order should continue to take an aggressive stand in support of Christianity and to parade and witness publicly on special occasions. Knights Templar is the one fraternal organization which was meant to make a more meaningful and sustaining impression on the minds of men of good will. There is none other like it! Albert B. Firth, 2681 West Long Lake Road, Troy, Michigan 48084

It is good to read of the many ideas of Uniform change. One thing is certain the new Uniform, if and when one is chosen: it will behoove each of us to support it, whatever it is. Being conservative, I feel quite honored to be permitted to wear the present Uniform as that of traditional Knights Templar. Ronald M. Sands, P.C., 424 Eureka Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15211

The discussion over the “Arizona Plan” has been batted about a bit over here in Germany as well as in the Knight Templar. There have been a few counter plans: that the uniform be changed to reflect what the Templars actually did wear; that an apron and sword be used. In all the suggestions I have heard the members over here agree that the present uniform is outdated, has no reference to true Knighthood, cost too much money for the general rank and file, that a sword should be and is an integral part of the dress of a Templar and should be retained. These are a few comments to add more of a perspective to the proposed change.

Mark K. Spangler, HHC, 11th AD Sig Bn, APO New York 09227

May I add my affirmation that in today’s anti-military world we modern Templars should soon forget our military style dress uniforms and put ourselves back into the exalted realm of Masons who have learned lessons far beyond our highest Degree, that of Master Mason, including the wearing of the apron.

My own uniforms cost me in excess of $500 just two years ago, including both dress and fatigue in the Ohio code. Most of our present-day members cannot afford such an outlay and settle for ill-fitting, cast-offs from deceased fratres. I am 60 years old and, when Knighted, my uniform had not yet been delivered so the coat in which I was Knighted was six years older than I was!

All hail, the advent of the Masonic apron in Templary again. C. Weston Dash, 160 Prospect Street, Berea, Ohio 44017

We of Fresno Commandery No. 29 are interested in the Arizona Plan as outlined in the February issue.

That plan or a similar one can be the salvation of the small Commandery and we urge that it be given every consideration.

There are many among us that consider the Templar Uniform the symbol of a Sir Knight and are very proud to wear it but the economy is gradually forcing us to change our sentiments and our thinking. Our membership is declining and everything we purchase is increasing in price. Our dues will soon reach a point where the prospective candidate can no longer afford the Orders.

We urge that those in authority consider their welfare and ours and make the changes they deem necessary to protect the Order.

Marven L. Sharp, Recorder, 1368 North Vagedes, Fresno, California 93728

When I was Knighted and also was active in the Templar Work I respected the Uniform very highly and felt it was a most important part of the work. The consideration of the possible change to the Aprons is quite acceptable for Stated Meetings and the like; however, I would like to suggest that each Commandery, where possible, retain a team to confer the work in uniform and on special occasions. I definitely feel that each plan has it’s virtues.

C. H. Rochester, Sr., 2599 Kimball, Memphis, Tennessee 38114

On behalf of the Mid Cape Temple Club in Harwich we wish to thank you for making it possible for us to view the enjoyable film on “Cavalcade of Templary.” It was a beautiful film and greatly enjoyed by all.

Florence M. Utley, Secretary
Sir Knights Bell, Ploeser and Cottrell — Active Members.

Judge Grant places P.G.M. jewel on Sir Knight John L. Crofts, Sr.

Sovereign Grand Commanders Clausen and Newbury exchange comments.

Grand Marshal Marks and Installing Officer Ploeser clarify arrangements.

Pensive pose from Active Member and Past Grand Master Ruerat.

Appointed Executive Officer at Orlando was Walter Kinnin, New York.

Sir Knight Robert Walker was Congress Chairman at Orlando, Florida. Full participation in all DeMolay is urged by Grand Master Riegel, with special emphasis upon the Order of Knighthood, a project to which Templary lends support.
Early Newfoundland...

"FIRST OF BRITAIN’S OVERSEAS COLONIES"

June 24, 1497, marks the birthday of St. John’s Newfoundland, Oldest City in North America. In the feature which follows, the Masonic history of the most easterly point in the western world is told by the Most Eminent Supreme Grand Master of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, Sir Knight Mark B. Davis, St. John’s, Newfoundland. In his account, M.E. Knight Davis extends credit to Brothers K. C. Skuce and to J. R. Thoms from whose previous histories some of the material utilized in the resume has been compiled.

Newfoundland, which has been titled by some historians as “The Cradle of White Civilization in North America,” is the most easterly point in the western world. It was in this region the Viking Adventurers landed in 1001 A.D. and named it a newly discovered country “Markland or Land of the Forest.” Important discoveries made in 1968 at Port aux Choix and Lance aux Meadows on the northern tip of the Island have established ample proof that Newfoundland had visits from Nomadic groups up to several thousand years before this period.

These Viking Rovers apparently returned after each voyage to either Greenland or Iceland. The discoveries of Lief Erikson encouraged others to mount expeditions to the new country but none of them achieved permanent settlement and they too returned to Greenland. The wife of one of these Colonists, if we may call them such, brought back with her a small boy named “Snorri” – the first European born in North America.

So much for ancient lore. Let us pass from this period to the year 1497, when evidence of a more concrete nature has been definitely established. It was in this year, during the reign of King Henry VII, that John Cabot, who had sailed westward from Bristol, England, made his “landfall” at Cape Bonavista on June 24th, set up the Flag of England and took possession of the land in the name of his Sovereign. Thus Newfoundland had the proud honour of ranking as the first of Britain’s Overseas Colonies, and St. John’s, Newfoundland, the oldest City in North America. On the fifth of August 1583, Sir Humphrey Gilbert re-affirmed this right of British ownership when he claimed the Island in the name of Queen Elizabeth the First and in St. John’s set up the first Colonial Government of Britain Overseas.

It is a difficult task after a lapse of over two hundred and twenty five years to trace accurately the early Freemasonry of Newfoundland. Records are few and incomplete, but sufficient facts are established to substantiate the record that Freemasonry was practised in Newfoundland as early as 1746.

The earliest records of Masonic Lodges in Newfoundland refer to the Lodges being composed of members of military garrisons who were stationed on the Island during the long struggle between the French and English for supremacy in the New World.

Whatever records were kept of early Masonic activity in Newfoundland seemed to have been lost by fire or mislaid by the moving about of military or garrison Lodges.

It would appear reasonable...
to assume Masons had visited Newfoundland by the time the first Grand Lodge was formed in England on June 24th, 1717.

It may have taken some time for the first Lodges to be established but certainly Members of the Craft had visited those shores before the first recorded Masonic Lodge in Canada was established at Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia, in 1738.

The first Grand Lodge of England had been formed in 1717, and it was under this Grand Lodge that Massachusetts Freemasonry had been founded.

In 1751 a rival Grand Lodge was formed in England, known later as the “Atholl Grand Lodge” and named after its Grand Master, the Duke of Atholl, who was also Grand Master of Scotland in 1773. This rivalry was finally ended by the Act of Union of 1813, which formed the one body, since known as the United Grand Lodge of England.

The Second, or Atholl, Grand Lodge issued its Warrant on March 24, 1774, for the St. John’s Lodge in St. John’s, Newfoundland, which worked until 1832, and is, therefore, the direct predecessor of the present St. John’s Lodge No. 579.

This early St. John’s Lodge No. 186 was not the only early Lodge in St. John’s. The Fourth Battalion of the Regiment of Royal Artillery had formed a Lodge in New York in October 1781 under Warrant dated July 3, 1781. When the British Army withdrew from the newly formed United States in 1783 the Battalion was evacuated to Newfoundland and the Lodge accompanied the Regiment. The Regiment returned to Woolwich, England, and was later sent to serve in Quebec. The Lodge was later changed from a military Lodge to a civil Lodge and is still in existence as Albion Lodge No. 2 on the Register of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

Two other Lodges were formed in St. John’s under the Atholl Grand Lodge of England, both in the late 18th Century. A Lodge, No. 247, was formed in March 1788 known as “Benevolent St. John’s,” and another, presumably military, Lodge known as “Town or Garrison of St. John’s” No. 249, under Warrant dated March 1788. The only record known is the fact that the names appear in Grand Lodge Records. “Benevolent” No. 247 was renumbered 220 when the roll was closed up in 1832 and finally erased from the Register in 1853. The military Lodge, No. 249, lapsed in 1804, possibly due to changes in the military units forming the garrisons.

Lodges were also constituted outside of St. John’s. The “Lodge of Placentia” was formed in 1784 and numbered 456 under the original Grand Lodge of England. It was renumbered 367 in 1792.

In 1785 a Lodge was formed at Harbour Grace, known as “Harbour Grace Lodge No. 470,” Warrant dated April 30, 1785. This Lodge was later renumbered 381 in 1792 and erased from the Roll in 1813.

The second (Atholl) Grand Lodge also Warranted a Lodge at Placentia known as “Lodge of Harmony” in 1788. This Lodge, originally numbered 250, became No. 317 at the Union of the two Grand Lodges. The Warrant of this Lodge was dated May 2, 1788, and was erased from the Roll in 1815.

There is evidence of at least eleven other Lodges being formed in Newfoundland during the period from 1746 to 1824. Among them was Union Lodge No. 608, founded at Trinity under Warrant dated September 17, 1817. There may have been an earlier Lodge at Trinity, as several historians have mentioned “the date on the fly leaf of an old book on Freemasonry” which indicated a Masonic Lodge at Trinity, April 20, 1795.

It is interesting to note the lone remaining evidence in Newfoundland of the existence of this Lodge, No. 698, is the Lodge Jewels, which had been in the possession of a private individual and were purchased in 1868 by Lodge Tasker No. 454, S.C. of St. John’s. These Jewels were kept in St. John’s and went through the fire which destroyed the Masonic Temple in 1892. They were recovered from the ruins and are now hanging, framed, on the wall of the present Masonic Temple.
This is but a brief history of the first one hundred years of Masonic activity in Newfoundland. The reasons for the apparent lapses are difficult to ascertain at this time. The generally unsettled times, changing current of events and many other factors not conducive to the well-being of Freemasonry may have been some of the reasons why the Lodges dwindled into insignificance or closed up altogether.

The following one hundred and twenty-five years have been both productive and more firmly formed for at least six Lodges have celebrated their one hundredth anniversary and are still going strong.

The Lodges in Newfoundland have not severed their connection with the Mother Country and are working under Warrants from the United Grand Lodge of England and the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

The guidance of the 35 Lodges is under the supervision of District (or Provincial) Grand Lodges from both Constitutions.

You will note that the 24th day of June is of some significance to Newfoundland, both of an historic nature and Masonic tradition, for on that date John Cabot discovered our Island and entered the harbour of St. John’s. The Grand Lodge of England was formed; Avalon Lodge, one of the older Lodges, received its Warrant. “Landfall” Lodge was formed at Bonavista on June 24, 1945, very near the spot where John Cabot first sighted the New World. The name “Landfall” is appropriate and, by holding its Annual Installation of Officers on that date, in true Masonic spirit, commemorates the discovery of our Island Home.

Daniel Boone
Shot deer, bear and racoon.
The one thing he cudn’t do wel
Was spel.

Sir Knight C. Weston Dash, Holyrood No. 32, Berea, Ohio, stands in front of the Spanish Templar cross in Ponferrada Castle, northwest Spain, one of the last bastions of medieval Knights Templar in Spain. The castle was the setting for the Spanish novel, El Senor de Bembibre, which tells of the trials and destruction of the Templars in Spain after the dissolution of the Templars in 1308.

“Don’t Kiss Me, I’m Busy”

The sign on their aprons said, “Don’t Kiss Me, I’m Busy,” as Sir Knights Ray Hackbarth, left, Commander Joseph Spoerl and Alvin Anderson, Manitowoc Commandery No. 45, Manitowoc, Wisconsin, cooked pancakes for their annual pancake supper March 13. More than $200 was collected for the Eye Foundation.
DeMolay Leadership Conferences

The 1975 DeMolay Leadership Conferences dates and locations have been announced by Tom W. Moberly, Director of Activities and Field Relations. Each of the 13 week-long conference sessions will include lecture and discussion sessions, sports activities, entertainment, optional training and inspirational sessions. Reservation forms may be obtained from DeMolay Headquarters, 201 East Armour Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri 64111. Moberly stresses early registration.

The dates and locations of the 1975 sessions are:

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<th>Conference</th>
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<tr>
<td>Midwest No. 1</td>
<td>June 15-21</td>
<td>Mt. Vernon, Iowa</td>
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<td>Southeast No.1</td>
<td>July 6-12</td>
<td>Lynchburg, Virginia</td>
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<td>Southeast No.2</td>
<td>July 6-12</td>
<td>St. Simons Island, Georgia</td>
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<td>Western No. 1</td>
<td>July 13-19</td>
<td>LaHonda, California</td>
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<td>July 13-19</td>
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<td>Midwest No. 2</td>
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<td>Southwest No.1</td>
<td>July 27-Aug. 2</td>
<td>Jonesboro, Arkansas</td>
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<td>Western No. 2</td>
<td>August 25-31</td>
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Medina No. 84 Makes Goal

Medina Commandery No. 84, Medina, Ohio, became the first Commandery in Ohio to reach the 100% Life Sponsor Quota at its Annual Inspection. Mrs. Lois Bower, wife of Recorder W. Millard Bower, presented the Commandery a check for $780 accompanied by 26 Life Sponsor applications on behalf of the Ladies Auxiliary. This brings the total number of Life Sponsors in Medina to 158. The Commandery membership is 156.

Highlights of Templar History

Highlights of Templar History is an 87 page booklet prepared by the late William Moseley Brown, P.G.C., Virginia, for the Grand Encampment Committee on Templar History in 1946. It covers the history of Templary in the Crusades, the place of Templary in the Masonic system and a calendar of Templar events in the United States, 1769-1816. Copies, at $1.00 each, are available from the Grand Recorder, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604.
The first important freedom document of the American people was the Articles of Association, a declaration of colonial rights drawn up by the delegates to the first Continental Congress and signed by 53 of them on October 20, 1774. Nine were Masons — Richard Caswell, John Dickinson, Joseph Hewes, William Hooper, Charles Humphreys, Robert Treat Paine, Peyton Randolph (President of that Congress), John Sullivan and George Washington.

The thought of these colonial leaders was to protest the repression by the British. Armed rebellion probably had not occurred to them. But, six months later, at Lexington and Concord, protest turned into warfare. Following the Battle of Bunker Hill, in which Grand Master Joseph Warren, the second man to be Knighted in America, was killed, it became obvious the colonists would not settle for written protests.

In 1775 the Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia. They appointed George Washington Commander in Chief of the Continental Forces. The war went on, a rebellion. Finally, one year after Washington accepted command, the Congress heard Richard Henry Lee offer his resolution of independence.

"Resolved, That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved."

The date was June 7, 1776. The state of affairs had progressed from protest to armed rebellion to a call for independence. The thought was high treason. But it was becoming increasingly clear that independence was the only answer.

Five men, including Brothers Benjamin Franklin and Robert R. Livingston, were appointed to draw up a "Declaration of Independence." The committee reported on July 2 and the signing began on July 4, 1776. Most of the members signed in August. The last man to sign did not do so until 1781.

Of the 53 signers of the Declaration of Independence, nine were Masons — William Ellery, Benjamin Franklin, John Hancock, Joseph Hewes, William Hooper, Robert Treat Paine, Richard Stockton, George Walton, William Whipple.

Now the battle lines were drawn. It was no longer mere rebellion. For five long years the tattered colonials struggled against the superior British Army. Trenton, Brandywine, Germantown, Saratoga, Valley Forge, Monmouth, Savannah, Cowpens, then, finally, Yorktown. The treaty negotiated by Brother Franklin with the French in 1778 contributed much to the final outcome.

The colonies were finally free. Congress, foreseeing the problems involved in 13 little independent nations, had drafted the Articles of Confederation and sent them to the colonies on November 15, 1777. They called for a Confederacy to be called "The United States of America."

The Articles were signed by eight Masons — Daniel Carroll, John Dickinson, William Ellery, John Hancock, Cornelius Harnett, Henry Laurens, Daniel Roberdeau and Jonathan Bayard Smith. They were ratified February 22, 1781, eight months before the victory at Yorktown.

The Articles of Confederation gave no power to a central government. The colonies, after the long struggle for independence, were about to lose their sovereignty because the confederation was bound to disintegrate quickly.
Tennessee, West Virginia Show Gain

The Grand Commandery of Tennessee reported a net gain of 345 for the preceding Templar year. Every Commandery in the state had at least five Knightings according to Grand Recorder John R. Stracener.

West Virginia Grand Recorder Orville R. Bonnell reported a net gain of 88 for the last year.

Bell Speaks

Oregon Commandery No. 1, Portland, Oregon, presented Sir Knight G. Wilbur Bell, Past Grand Master and present Executive Director of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation at a meeting May 9 in the Portland Scottish Rite Auditorium. The public was invited. Admission was by donation to the Eye Foundation.

Masonic Tour to Egypt

Companion Allan Boudreau and Sir Knight Ralph W. Lichty will escort a Masonic tour to Egypt October 12-31 visiting the Pyramids and Sphinx at Giza, Memphis, Sakara, Valley of The Kings and Queens at Luxor, Karnak, Abu Simbel, Aswan, three churches near where the Holy Family worshipped and Ben Ezra Synagogue, oldest Synagogue in Egypt. Further details are available from Sir Knight Lichty, 430 West 24th Street, New York, New York 10011.

New Slides — Masonic Presidents

"Masonic Presidents" is the latest slide-script program to be offered as a Bicentennial service of the Grand Encampment. The 20 minute program features slides of the 14 Masonic Presidents. The accompanying script gives highlights of their lives.

"Masonic Presidents" as well as three other slide-script programs and seven color films of the Grand Encampment are suitable for showing to the public as well as to Masonic audiences.

To reserve "Masonic Presidents" or any of the other programs on a free loan basis, please send your name and address at least eight weeks or more in advance of showing date, listing first and second choice of dates, to the Grand Recorder, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604.
THE METRIC SYSTEM

The International System of Units is the metric system. The entire world of science, industry and commerce uses it. It is the common unit of measurement for citizens of almost every nation on earth. Americans and Canadians have clung to the English System, altho the English will be completely on the metric system in 1975.

The English System is based on the yard. It is easy to establish a yard — a yard was the distance from the point of his nose to the end of the thumb on Henry I’s outstretched arm. Henry ruled England from 1100 to 1135. Fortunately for us, the U.S. government has defined a yard as three feet, one foot being 1200/3937 meter — .9144 meter.

The Metric Study Bill of 1968 authorized the Secretary of Commerce to make a full-scale study of conversion to the metric system. In July 1971 the Secretary of Commerce proposed sweeping changes to put this nation on the metric system. There are those who still protest, but it is coming.

Much good can be said about the metric system, altho it seems as alien to most as the “new Math.” Originally, a meter was one ten-millionth of the earth’s quadrant (one-fourth of the circumference). Today it is measured on the International Prototype Meter, a platinum-iridium bar, at the International Bureau of Weights and Measures, Sevres, France.

Figuring in the metric system is much easier than the English System as everything is based on 10, a number by which it is easy to multiply and divide. There are no fractions.

Measure is based on the meter — everything else is a part of the meter as in centimeter (one one-hundredth of a meter) or dekameter (10 meters). It is simply a matter of learning the prefixes. There are 14 altho the average person will probably only use six of them.

Units of mass or weight are measured in grams, a gram being roughly the weight of one cubic centimeter of pure water at 4° Centigrade (roughly 40° Fahrenheit).

What this means is goodbye to six terms for measure (inches, feet, yards, rods, furlongs, miles) and another three different forms of weight measurement involving another six terms in favor of a sum total of two terms — meter and gram, with proper prefixes.

To measure capacity the term liter is used, again with proper prefixes. Goodbye drams, ounces, gills, pints, quarts, gallons, pecks and bushels.

We will give up 20 terms in favor of three. Even if one learned all 14 prefixes he would know 17 terms instead of 20. And the average person simply will not be dealing in megameters, megarams or megaliters (one million of each), nor in nanometers, nanograms or nanoliters (one-billionth of each).

The six prefixes we will mainly use are: kilo (1,000); hecto (100); deka (10); deci (.1); centi (.01); milli (.001). Combine those six with meter, gram and liter and you can weight or measure anything.

A switch to the metric system will probably involve a switch to Centigrade as a measure of temperature. In the Centigrade system water freezes at 0° and boils at 100°. What could be simpler?

Remembering all the complicated mathematics of conversions from school days makes the metric system rather frightening. However, when the whole world is on the metric system there will be no conversions. What will there be to convert to? There will be no other measure. All you have to do is multiply or divide by 10.

For awhile it is going to be strange to think in terms of meters, grams and liters. But there is a happy side. Suppose you weigh about 200 pounds. Under the metric system you will weigh 90.72 grams. If you don’t want to weigh that much you can “diet” instantly by changing to dekagrams and weigh a mere 90.72!
New Hampshire Masons Honored

Front row, left to right, Grand High Priest Johnson, Fred P. Trow, Grand Commander White. Standing, Commander Hutchinson, Lyman W. Hills, Myron P. Robie, Arlon W. Jennison, J. Lawrence Hall and Walter Evans. Jason T. Bickford, A. Call Ball and Vernon T. Leighton were unable to attend.

New Hampshire York Rite Masons honored six Nashua Masons in ceremonies March 3 at Greenbriar Nursing Home. Grand Commander Francis M. White and Grand High Priest Carroll M. Johnson joined Commander Herbert Hutchinson for the event.

Membership certificates and lapel pins covering 40-60 years of membership were presented. Sir Knight Fred P. Trow received a 60 year Chapter pin and marked 59 years as a Templar, according to Recorder Harry C. Downing, St. George Commandery No. 8, Nashua. He is believed to be the oldest living Chapter member in New Hampshire.

Nye Presents Plaque

As requested by Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell, Executive Director, Knights Templar Eye Foundation, with the approval of Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegel, John B. Nye, Department Commander, Southwestern Department, presented Sir Knight and Mrs. Norman R. Brindle a plaque in appreciation of their personal contribution of $5,000 to the Seventh Voluntary Campaign.

The presentation was made at a fund-raising dinner staged by Long Beach Commandery No. 40, California, and was “a surprise to all present, including the recipients. Only Commander Harry S. Stiller, Jr., and Department Commander Nye were aware of the presentation.”

The $5,000 contribution and an earlier contribution of $1,000 from Mrs. Harvey Kuns in memory of her late husband, in addition to the donations and proceeds from the dinner, placed the per capita of Long Beach over $12.00.

Fish Fry Open-Air Degree

Among events planned during the term of Grand Commander Sam E. Hilburn, Texas, is an open-air conferral of the Royal Arch Degree at 1 p.m., June 21, near Cranfill’s Gap, (in the general area of Waco) Texas.

The fish fry begins at 11 a.m. Conferral of the Degree starts at 1 p.m. Required — $5.00 donation and current dues card.

The event, says Grand High Priest James R. Davenport, will be known as “Eddie Bloomquist Day.”

Department Commander Nye, Mrs. Brindle, Sir Knight Brindle, Commander Stiller. Below is the plaque of recognition.
THE AMERICAN SEAL

In 1776 John Hancock appointed a committee to design a seal for America. He appointed Thomas Jefferson,* Benjamin Franklin and John Adams.* All of these men had been Biblical students all their lives, at least two of them were Masons and they put something of this into everything they did. Although they did not complete the work on the seal, they did: the initial work and Thompson and Barton completed it seven years later.

Thomas Jefferson wanted to have Moses shown on the seal, led by a pillar of fire, but this was not used. Benjamin Franklin wanted to have the Israelites crossing the Red Sea, with the water closing behind them, but they did not choose this.

They chose the American bald eagle as the bird of liberty: because he can fly highest toward the sun; because he is the only bird who can ride a storm to carry him to greater heights; because he permits small birds to sing in his presence unlike the hawk, which kills little birds around him.

On the eagle's breast they placed the escutcheon. Its 13 stripes are the 13 colonies. The blue bar is Congress. Congress holds the states together and unites them and Congress is upheld and supported by the states. The symbolism of the American Seal is that the United States never leans on other nations; it leans only on God.

In the eagle's right talon the designers placed an olive branch to show the United States stands for peace and they turned his beak toward peace. In his left talon they placed a sheaf of arrows to show the United States is willing to fight to maintain that peace.

We have 13 stripes, 13 arrows, 13 leaves on the olive branch, 13 berries, 13 stars in the sky, 13 letters in "E Pluribus Unum" ("Out of Many, One"). Out of many colonies we created our nation.

This is the face of our seal and we find it on our dollar bill. On the same dollar bill we also find the reverse of the seal.

In this we have an unfinished pyramid. This has 13 layers of stone. When completed the pyramid is to be capped by the stone of Wisdom which we see above it. This has the all-seeing Eye of God in the center.

There is a Latin motto curved above the seal which translates, "God has Prospered our Understanding." This has 13 letters also. Below the seal another Latin motto reads, "America has Come to Bring a New World Order to the Ages."

There is an Old Testament flavor to our early history and heraldry. For instance, the clouds which circle the stars are supposed to be the clouds which hovered over the tribes of Israel in their 40 years of wandering in the wilderness. The Hebraic Star of David can be traced in the arrangement of the stars. The rays around the stars are called "The Glory."

*Note: Jefferson's membership is very much in doubt. Adams was not a Mason. Other interpretations and symbols are based on "my daughter-in-law in New York" by Past Commander Harvey C. Smith, Box 656, Smithton, Pennsylvania 19479. Sir Knight Smith is now 91 years old.

Truman Performs Masonic Ritual

Previous Presidents, on occasion, had attended Lodge and it made news. Sir Knight Harry Truman, a Past Grand Master, was always attending Lodge. Not only did he attend, he frequently took part in the ritual and was often the Master.

On November 1, 1946, Truman slipped away to take the part of the Master at the conferral of the Second Degree on his nephew Harry A. Truman in Grandview Masonic Lodge No. 618. Truman’s brother Vivian, father of the candidate, took the part of Junior Warden.

Newsweek carried an account of another Masonic activity. On November 6, 1947, Truman walked to the Masonic Temple from the White House to take part in the Raising of Captain Thomas J. Burns, assistant White House physician. "Though some of the officiating Masons flubbed their lines during the initiation ceremonies, all noticed that former Grand Master Truman of the Missouri Grand Lodge recited his, after the 12 year lapse, without missing a syllable," the magazine reported. The "12 year lapse" is, of course, inaccurate.
Shrine Sessions July 1-4 in Toronto

The 101st Sessions of the Imperial Council, A.A.O.N.M.S., will be held July 1-4 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, with Imperial Potentate Jack M. Streight presiding. Streight, of New Westminster, British Columbia, is shown with G. Wilbur Bell as he assumed office last year in Atlantic City.

National Heritage Museum Opened

Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle was in attendance at Lexington, Massachusetts, April 20 when the nation received one of its most impressive birthday presents with the opening of the Museum of Our National Heritage. The multimillion dollar facility was built through contributions by members of the Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, and presented as a Bicentennial gift to the American people. Admission will be free at all times.

Over 400 Masonic officials from 15 states attended the ceremony. Sovereign Grand Commander George A. Newbury presided. Secretary of the Air Force John L. Lucas was the principal speaker representing President and Brother Gerald R. Ford.

Maine Grand Lodge Bicentennial Medal

The Grand Lodge of Maine has announced the Official Maine Bicentennial Art Medal. Serially numbered sterling silver medals will be $15 each. An unlimited number of bronze, at $4 each, and pewter, at $5 each, medals will be available. The first 200 will be matched, numbered sets of three medals — sterling, bronze and pewter — and will sell for $24. Serial numbers 1-10 will be reserved for mail auction with a cut off date of March 1, 1976, according to Chairman Roger I. White, P.G.M.

Further information on the medals, available August 1, may be obtained by writing the Maine Masonic Bicentennial Committee, 9 High Street, Belfast, Maine 04915, and enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Seay Honored by Salvation Army

Past Imperial Potentate Thomas F. Seay was honored May 2 with the public dedication of the Salvation Army’s Tom Seay Service Center on Chicago’s north side. The new center will provide multiple services to residents of the inner city. It was named for Sir Knight Seay in recognition of his efforts and contribution towards the acquisition and remodeling of the building.
XXI Annual Grand Convocation, Mexico

The XXI Annual Grand Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of Mexico was held April 5 in Ciudad, Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico. The present M.E. Grand High Priest, Zacarias Miramon Corral, now lives in Juarez.

There were 26 Companions registered from Juarez, Mexico City, Monterrey, Tijuana, San Ysidro, Albuquerque and El Paso Chapter No. 157, R.A.M., of El Paso, also six Grand Chapter Officers and 2 Past Grand High Priests.

El Paso was represented by Frank D. Hensel, P.G.P., P.D.D.G.H.P.; Harry A. Minniar, Commander El Paso Commandery No. 18; and Hubert L. Koker, Thrice Illustrious Master, El Paso Council No. 98. Hensel is the R.E. Grand Representative of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Mexico before the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas.

Rainbow Contributes

Martha Curry, Charity, Bluebell Assembly No. 261, Order of the Rainbow for Girls, Houston, presents a check for the Eye Foundation to Grand Commander Aubrey C. Martin-dale at the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Texas April 12-15 in Houston.

Red Cross Regional Assemblies

The Western Regional Assembly of the Red Cross of Constantine will be held October 24-25 at the Riviera Hotel and Country Club, Palm Springs, California, according to Intendant General Irvin S. Gress, Chairman. The Eastern Regional Assembly will be held at The Inn, Buck Hills Falls, Pennsylvania, November 7-9. John G. Eshleman is Intendant General.

Letter to Sojourning Templars

Under the signature of Sir Knight Stephen L. Van Norden, P.C., letters have been mailed to "916 sojourning Templars in our area, for whom we purchased address labels from the Grand Encampment."

The area to which Sir Knight Norden refers is the combined York Rite Bodies of St. Petersburg, Florida. Labels for sojourning Templars, made available through the Grand Encampment office, were forwarded to the Recorder who reproduced and mailed the material.

The letter includes the names and telephone numbers of the officers and extends an invitation for the individual Sir Knight and his Lady to participate in the functions of the York Rite Bodies. A typical quote from the letter: "On Friday, 13 June, we will hold our annual Chicken Supper at 6:00 p.m., to which you and your lady are welcome."

"Sojourning" Templars are those who have moved from one area of the country to another but who maintain membership in the original jurisdiction.

Ecumenical Ordination

Sir Knight Olin E. Lehman, Pastor of the Ajo Federated Church, Ajo, Arizona, was a participant in the ceremonies ordaining Horacio V. Yanez as a Columban Father April 15 at the Immaculate Conception Church. Father Yanez was the first priest to be ordained in his home church in Arizona.
New Charting the Course

On July 1 copies of the “New Charting the Course,” an updated version of “Charting the Course” issued under the administration of the late Grand Master Wilber M. Brucker, will be available at $ .50 each.

The “New Charting the Course” is designed to be a handbook for newly-Knighted and all Templars. It contains a history of the Order of Knights Templar in the Crusades, the role and purpose of Templary today, guidelines on membership, leadership, patriotic activities, religious activities, youth groups, the Bicentennial and many other subjects.

The “New Charting the Course” makes a useful and informative booklet for the new Knight Templar as well as a handy reference for more experienced Templars. Copies may be obtained from the Grand Recorder, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604. Please enclose remittance with your order.

Inspection Candidate for All Bodies

Sir Knight Richard A. Muir was the Inspection Candidate of Oriental Commandery No. 25, Ohio, when he was Knighted by his father, Past Commander and Recorder Alexander Muir, on February 22. By coincidence, the new Templar was also the Inspection Candidate in his Lodge, Chapter and Council as he progressed thru the York Rite Bodies.

Pilgrimage to Templar Home

The Annual Pilgrimage to the Illinois Templar Home for the Aged Infirm, Paxton, will be Sunday, July 20. The Grand Commandery will conduct dedication ceremonies for the new facilities. Reservations for the picnic luncheon are essential and should be made directly to the Home’s Administrator at Paxton, Illinois 60957. All reservations must be accompanied by payment of $2.50 per dinner.

Congressional Medal of Honor?

The Norwich Bulletin, Norwich, Connecticut, of April 28 carried a picture of Sir Knight Herbert Emerson Lawrence receiving the Knights Templar Cross of Honor. P.G.M. G. Wilbur Bell and Grand Commander Franklin Ethelbert Robinson looked on while Mrs. Lawrence pinned the jewel on her husband’s uniform. The paper observed, “the award is comparable to the Congressional Medal of Honor.”

The paper also carried pictures of Connecticut’s line officers, Bell, Robinson, Department Commander Louis A. Beaudoin and Grand Master of Connecticut Masons R. Stanley Harrison in covering the Grand Commandery’s 148th Annual Conclave.

Gothic lettering by Sir Knight L. Sherman Brooks from “Reflected Rays of Light upon Freemasonry,” written by Brother W. M. Garey, Aberdeen, Scotland, 1869.
GRAND ENCAMPMENT PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES

A wide variety of publications, programs and services are available from the Grand Encampment free or for a nominal charge.

Program Films and Slides (no charge)


Four slide-script programs are now available: “Easter Sunrise Memorial Service” (15 minutes), “Flags on Parade” (20 minutes), “Masonic Presidents” (20 minutes), “Symbols of Faith” (10 minutes).

Color films and slide-script programs are available on a free-loan basis. Requests should be sent at least eight weeks to three months in advance and include first and second choices of showing dates.

Guidelines and Pamphlets (no charge)


Bicentennial Services

The Grand Encampment has three items which were especially designed to commemorate the Bicentennial of the United States. *Masonic Americana* is a book of features on people, places and events associated with the founding and development of the nation. Copies are $1.00 each.

Templar Bicentennial Paperweights, at $3.00 singly or $2.50 in lots of 60 or more, are marble, two inches square by three-quarters inch, with a three color circular metal plate inscribed: Knights Templar, U.S.A., Salute to the Nation’s Bicentennial.

Other Templar Publications

A variety of other publications are available for a nominal fee. They include: Drill Regulations, $1.00 each; Manual of Tactics, $1.00 each; Highlights of Templar History, $1.00 each; 1967 Constitution and Statutes with Addenda, $1.50 each; Manual of Public Ceremonies, $0.50 each, New Charting the Course (available July 1), $0.50 each; Membership Certificates (available to Recorders only), $.20 for each certificate under 100 and $.18 each in quantities of more than 100.

How to Order

To order any of the items offered by the Grand Encampment write to the Grand Recorder, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604. Print your name and address clearly and endose your check with your order.
Reception and Church Service

Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegel gave the address at the reception given by the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island in honor of Department Commander Louis Alfred Beaudoin April 19 at the Holiday Inn, Marlboro, Massachusetts. P.G.C. George C. Patton, Jr., was General Chairman. Department Commander Beaudoin and his wife Vicki were presented by Grand Commander David L. Esancy.

Earlier in the day the Grand Master attended a Bicentennial Church Service sponsored by the Grand Commandery and Boston Commandery No. 2 in Old North Church, Boston. Other participants and guests included Grand Commander Esancy, Department Commander Beaudoin and Sovereign Grand Commander, N.M.J., George A. Newbury.

Masonic Americana

Masonic Americana, the pre-Bicentennial compendium of articles from the Knight Templar Magazine on personalities, events and scenes associated with the founding and development of the United States of America, is available by writing to the Grand Recorder, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604. Copies are $1.00 each. Please enclose remittance with your order.

$1,350 for Eye Foundation

Grand Commander Lawrence M. Looker was in attendance at Hamilton Commandery No. 41, Hamilton, Ohio, March 24 when Mrs. Elizabeth Stump, President of the Ladies Auxiliary, presented each of the 27 living Past Presidents with an Associate Patron Certificate in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

The $1,350 for the certificates was raised by selling cookbooks which the ladies prepared, had printed and sold. An additional $500 from the profits was donated for improvements on the Masonic Temple.

Left to right, P.G.C. Cecil J. Pierce, Ohio Eye Foundation Chairman; Mrs. Stump, Commander Harold Stump and Deputy Division Commander Howard L. Burtis.

Beauceant 25th Anniversary

Mrs. Robert E. Simmons, first President of Oak Cliff Assembly No. 145, S.O.O.B., Irving, Texas, posed with Mrs. John W. Scheepf, Jr., 25th President, at the 25th Anniversary dinner party March 25. Approximately 120 Sir Knights and ladies were in attendance.
Few Commanderies of Knights Templar in the United States have a record of unbroken existence for 150 years, but one such is New Haven Commandery No. 2 in Connecticut. Organized in 1825 in the largest and most prosperous city in the state, during only one year since then has no new name been added to the rolls.

The New Haven Encampment (as it was then called) was the Asylum towards which candidates living in the western part of the state turned for the Orders of Masonic Knighthood. The majority of the charter members in three neighboring Commanderies were Knighted at New Haven and a considerable number were among the petitioners for two others. From a far distance came aspirants whose homes were in South Carolina and Vermont!

New Haven Commandery was the leader in organization of a Grand Commandery in Connecticut and, during the depression occasioned by the anti-Masonic excitement, maintained the state organization, or a cadre at least. From its beginning the New Haven Commandery sent representatives to Grand Encampment sessions and for many years New Haven fraters appeared on the official tableau of the national body.

The early minutes are written in a really beautiful script and are very informative in many respects. In more than one instance, however, the entries are tantalizingly crisp and cryptic. The minutes of one meeting in September 1844 were not of usual local interest, and earlier readers did not realize that an important event took place in New Haven at that time.

In September 1844 the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar and the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons were holding their Triennials consecutively at New Haven (a convention the city would not attempt to host nowadays). There is not one word in the minute book of the Commandery in reference to the joint gathering of two national bodies! It was the Grand Lodge which had the resources and arranged for a hospitable reception and dinner through a committee of which every member was a New Haven Knight Templar.

A special assembly of New Haven Encampment No. 2 was recorded on September 10, 1844, at which “the Sir Knights were stationed and an Encampment of Knights Templar opened in due form. Sir E. G. Storer proposed Companion Nathan B. Haswell of Vermont for the honors of Knighthood in this Encampment, a ballot was taken, and declared clear in favor of the Candidate. The Encampment was then dispensed with, and a Council of Knights of the Red Cross was declared open for the dispatch of business, when Companion N. B. Haswell was received and created a Knight of the Red Cross in due form. The Council was then closed, and the labors of the Encampment resumed, when Sir Knight Haswell was dubbed and created a Knight Templar and a Knight of Malta or Order of St. John of Jerusalem in due form.”

John B. Hammatt of Boston Encampment sat as Eminent Commander, supported by Grand Officers from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and Maryland in other capacities. The candidate was proposed by one who is said to have been a fellow apprentice printer in Bennington.

Nathan B. Haswell, present in New Haven as General Grand Marshal of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, was one of the great men in Vermont Masonry. During
the anti-Masonic frenzy, which raged with unusual violence and virulence in the Green Mountain state, he resisted the storm. He would not abandon the institution although attacked from within and without the membership. As Grand Master and Grand High Priest he commanded the "frontier post in Masonry" and never surrendered. His name was the first subscribed to a published appeal to the inhabitants of Vermont for reasoned judgment of the fraternity, which proved futile. The pressure was irresistible and in 1836 the Grand Lodge suspended meetings, remaining dark for ten years.

Ably seconded and later succeeded by Philip C. Tucker, Brother Haswell revived the Grand Lodge in 1849 with representatives from ten Lodges present. The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was restored two years later. In 1854 the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters was organized with Haswell as Grand Master. He was elected Grand Treasurer of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar when it reassembled in 1852. Meanwhile he had acquired the Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite and was created a 33° member of the Northern Supreme Council.

Born at Bennington in 1786, Nathan Baldwin Haswell became a printer's apprentice, then went to Burlington intending to study law. Circumstances forced him to abandon his studies and to work. He was in the Commissary Department during the War of 1812, for some time a Customs Inspector at Burlington, then began an active and successful business career. He was a promoter and trustee of several public institutions and a substantial member of the Episcopal church. His attachment to Masonry was no recommendation for a political career, but he was elected to the state legislature for two sessions.

Although Masonry was subdued in Vermont, Haswell kept up his outside contacts through correspondence and attended General Grand Chapter Triennials throughout the years of depression. He was President of the Masonic Convention which assembled at Lexington, Kentucky, in September 1853 "to take into consideration the propriety of establishing a confederation of Grand Lodges of the United States," but ill health prevented his attendance at the adjourned meeting in Washington, D.C.

Visits to his family and business trips often took him away from home and it was on such a journey in 1855 that he was fatally stricken and died at Quincy, Illinois. Interment followed at Burlington on St. John's Day in June, with Grand Lodge honors. Thus came to an end the life of a "venerable and staunch votary of Green Mountain Masonry," under whose wise and unswerving guidance the fraternity had risen above the trials of the most critical period in its existence.

Sir Knight Case resides at 39 Highland Avenue, Bethel, Connecticut 06801.

June 1775

When Brother George Washington left Congress to take command of the Army of the United Colonies he had not heard about Bunker Hill. He received the news enroute.

Gage had received reinforcements bringing the British army in Boston up to 10,000. This did not include the navy and marines in General Graves's fleet off Boston. The patriots, low in numbers but strong in engineering, had managed to hem in the British on every land side except Charlestown.

Gage notified the "infatuated multitudes (who) affect to hold the army besieged" pardon would be extended to all who lay down their arms, except Hancock and Adams. The colonials proceeded to fortify Breed's Hill in Charlestown on the night of June 16.

The British retook the hill at a cost of 1,054 men. The colonists lost 441, including Sir Knight Joseph Warren. Gage wrote home, "Those people shew a spirit and conduct against us that they never shewed against the French."

The British may have won the hill but the strategic and moral victory went to the patriots. They were now confident of their ability militarily. And General Washington was on the way.
GENERAL WASHINGTON’S VISION

This article was originally published by Wesley Bradshaw and later reprinted in the National Tribune of December 1880. It was submitted to the Knight Templar Magazine by Ralph W. Lichty, P.C., Coeur de Lion No. 23, New York City.

The last time I ever saw Anthony Sherman was on the fourth of July, 1859, in Independence Square. He was then 99 years old and becoming very feeble. But though so old, his dimming eyes rekindled as he gazed upon Independence Hall, which he came to visit once more.

“Let us go into the hall,” he said. “I want to tell you an incident of Washington’s life – one which no one alive knows of except myself; and, if you live, you will before long, see it verified.

“From the opening of the Revolution we experienced all phases of fortune, now good and now ill, one time victorious and another conquered. The darkest period we had, I think, was when Washington after several reverses, retreated to Valley Forge, where he resolved to pass the winter of 1777. Ah! I have often seen the tears coursing down our dear commander’s careworn cheeks, as he would be conversing with a confidential officer about the condition of his poor soldiers. You have doubtless heard the story of Washington’s going to the thicket to pray. Well, it was not only true, but he used often to pray in secret for aid and comfort from God, the interposition of whose Divine Providence brought us safely through the darkest days of tribulation.

“One day, I remember it well, the chilly winds whistled through the leafless trees. Though the sky was cloudless and the sun shone brightly, he remained in his quarters nearly all the afternoon alone. When he came out I noticed that his face was a shade paler than usual and there seemed to be something on his mind of more than ordinary importance. Returning just after dusk, he dispatched an orderly to the quarters of the officer I mention who was presently in attendance. After a preliminary conversation of about half an hour, Washington, gazing upon his companion with that strange look of dignity which he alone could command, said to the latter:

“I do not know whether it is owing to the anxiety of my mind, or what, but this afternoon, as I was sitting at this table engaged in preparing a dispatch, something seemed to disturb me. Looking up, I beheld standing opposite me a singularly beautiful female. So astonished was I, for I had given strict orders not to be disturbed, that it was some moments before I found language to inquire the cause of her presence. A second, a third and even a fourth time did I repeat my question, but received no answer from my mysterious visitor except a slight raising of her eyes. By this time I felt strange sensations spreading through me. I would have risen but the riveted gaze of the being before me rendered volition impossible. I assayed once more to address her but my tongue had become useless. Even thought itself had become paralyzed. A new influence, mysterious, potent, irresistible, took possession of me. All I could do was to gaze steadily, vacantly, at my unknown visitant.

“Gradually the surrounding atmosphere seemed as though becoming filled with sensations and grew luminous. Everything about me seemed to rarify, the mysterious visitor herself becoming more airy and yet more distinct to my sight than before. I now began to feel as one dying, or rather to experience the sensations which I have sometimes imagined accompany dissolution. I did not think; I did not reason; I did not move; all were alike impossible. I was only conscious of gazing fixedly, vacantly at my companion.

“Presently I heard a voice saying, ‘Son of the Republic, look and → → →
learn,' while at the same time my visitor extended her arm eastwardly. I now beheld a heavy white vapor at some distance rising fold upon fold. This gradually dissipated and I looked upon a strange scene. Before me lay spread out in one vast plain all the countries of the world — Europe, Asia, Africa and America. I saw rolling and tossing between Europe and America the billows of the Atlantic, and between Asia and America lay the Pacific. 'Son of the Republic,' said the same mysterious voice as before, 'look and learn.'

"At that moment I beheld a dark, shadowy being, like an angel, standing, or rather floating in mid-air, between Europe and America. Dipping water out of the ocean in the hollow of each hand, he sprinkled some upon America with his right hand, while with his left hand he cast some on Europe. Immediately a cloud raised from these countries, and joined in mid-ocean. For a while it remained stationary, and then moved slowly westward, until it enveloped America in its murky folds. Sharp slashes of lightning gleamed through it at intervals, and I heard the smothered groans and cries of the American people. A second time the angel dipped water from the ocean and sprinkled it out as before. The dark cloud was then drawn back to the ocean, in whose heaving billows it sank from view. A third time I heard the mysterious voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, look and learn.' I cast my eyes upon America and beheld villages and towns and cities springing up one after another until the whole land from the Atlantic to the Pacific was dotted with them. Again, I heard the mysterious voice say, 'Son of the Republic, the end of the Century cometh, look and learn.'

"At this the dark shadowy angel turned his face southward, and from Africa I saw an ill-omened spectre approach our land. It flitted slowly over every town and city of the latter. The inhabitants presently set themselves in battle array against each other. As I continued looking I saw a bright angel, on whose brow rested a crown of light, on which was traced the word 'Union,' bearing the American flag which he placed between the divided nation, and said, 'Remember ye are brethren.' Instantly, the inhabitants, casting from them their weapons became friends once more, and united around the National Standard.

"And again I heard the mysterious voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, look and learn.' At this the dark, shadowy angel placed a trumpet to his mouth, and blew three distinct blasts; and taking water from the ocean, he sprinkled it upon Europe, Asia and Africa. Then my eyes beheld a fearful scene: from each of these countries arose thick, black clouds that were soon joined into one. And throughout this mass there gleamed a dark red light by which I saw hordes of armed men, who, moving with the cloud, marched by land and sailed by sea to America, which country was enveloped in the volume of cloud. And I dimly saw these vast armies devastate the whole country and burn the villages, towns and cities that I beheld springing up. As my ears listened to the thundering of the cannon, clashing of swords, and the shouts and cries of millions in mortal combat, I again heard the mysterious voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, look and learn.' When the voice had ceased, the dark shadowy angel placed his trumpet once more to his mouth, and blew a long and fearful blast.

"Instantly a light as of a thousand suns shone down from above me and pierced and broke into fragments the dark cloud which enveloped America. At the same moment the angel upon whose head still shone the word 'Union,' and who bore our national flag in one hand and a sword in the other, descended from the heavens attended by legions of white spirits. These immediately joined the inhabitants of America, who I perceived were wellnigh overcome, but who immediately taking courage again, closed up their broken ranks and renewed the battle. Again, amid the fearful 'noise of the conflict, I heard the mysterious voice saying, 'Son of the Republic,
look and learn.' As the voice ceased the shadowy angel for the last time dipped water from the ocean and sprinkled it upon America. Instantly the dark cloud rolled back, together with the armies it had brought, leaving the inhabitants of the land victorious.

"Then once more I beheld the villages, towns and cities springing up where I had seen them before, while the bright angel, planting the azure standard he had brought in the midst of them, cried with a loud voice: 'While the stars remain, and the heavens send down dew upon the earth, so long shall the Union last.' And taking from his brow the crown on which blazoned the word 'Union,' he placed it upon the Standard while the people, kneeling down, said, 'Amen.'

"The scene instantly began to fade and dissolve, and I at last saw nothing but the rising, curling vapor I at first beheld. This also disappearing, I found myself once more gaping upon the mysterious visitor, who in the same voice I had heard before, said, 'Son of the Republic, what you have seen is thus interpreted. Three great perils will come upon the Republic. The most fearful is the third (The comment on his word 'third' is: "The help against the THIRD peril comes in the shape of Divine Assistance. (Apparently the Second Advent. – Ed. P.N.)' J.J.S.) passing which the whole world united shall not prevail against her. Let every child of the Republic learn to live for his God, his land and Union.' With these words the vision vanished, and I started from my seat and felt that I had seen a vision wherein had been shown me the birth, progress and destiny of the United States."

"Such, my friends," concluded the venerable narrator, "were the words I heard from Washington's own lips, and America will do well to profit by them."

The Lawyers of the Temple

In Leon Uris’ best seller, QB VII, which was made into a film and shown by ABC-TV, he describes a court battle which takes place in a court in London.

In the preface to his ‘Brief to Counsel’ Uris explains the history of the court, a history which is related to the ancient Knights Templar.

The City of London, he points out, is an area of one square mile running along the banks of the Thames. Greater London, of course, encompasses a much larger area as one of the world’s largest cities.

Within the City of London are the Tower of London, Fleet Street, the Bank of England and the Royal Courts of Justice. Three of the four Inns of Court are within The City.

In 1099 the Knights Templar, "holy brothers in arms," were given the area now known as the Inns of Court as their home. Uris points out the Templars were "abolished" in 1312 (in England) but "Templars survive today through the Masonic Fraternity whose Freemasons cherish the distinction of the degree of Knight Templar."

As the Templars lost power the lawyers, who were also priests as the church, for the most part, administered the law, began to use the Templar domain. Following the Magna Carta and the advent of common law usage the Inns became the permanent possession of lawyers and legal education.

One of the four Inns is the Inner Temple, home of the Knights Templar Church. The round church, dedicated in 1185, is modeled after the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem. The Knights Templar Church has historical and architectural significance. An article on it appeared in the September 1971 Knight Templar Magazine.

The Inns form the Law University, complete with libraries and the courts. Unlike our system, the lawyers take cases for a set fee and receive no part of the client’s settlement. "Corruption," says Uris, "is unknown."

The new student "is fearfully admonished that he is in the home of the Knights Templar...." A student must have a diploma and is given a "master" to study with. He reads the master’s paper, does research, drafts pleas, takes notes in court, etc.

Eventually he moves to larger quarters and does more work. He is a "junior." About 20 years after he begins, with luck, he may be appointed to the Queen’s Counsel. Maybe, by the time he is 50, he will become a judge and automatically be knighted.
Dr. J. George Lang

Sir Knight J. George Lang, Chairman of the Grand Encampment Committee on Publication Spanish Language Ritual until the publication of the ritual, died April 13 after a long illness. Lang, who was Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of New York in 1959, also served on the Easter Sunrise Memorial Service Committee of Grand Encampment. Dr. Lang had a distinguished record in the Public Health Service as well as in private practice.

A TRIBUTE TO DEPARTEDTEMPLARS

As pilgrims, each Knight Templar moves
Across the sands of time;
And gently God each one removes
Unto that land sublime.

Nor should we weep because of this,
It's but His destined plan;
They dwell in realms of light and bliss,
In that Asylum grand.

But weep we do for Fratres gone,
We sense that grief of loss,
Of silent breast on which once shone,
The gleam of Maltese Cross.

The sword in sheath, gloves in repose,
White-plumed chapeau beside,
All tell of that which did compose
The Templar’s knightly pride.

Gone they are, but forgotten not,
Though vanished from our sight;
We’ll cherish them in noble thought —
Keeping memories bright.

Our Blessed Saviour bade them come,
And leave this pain and strife;
To journey to the Father’s Home
Where dwells eternal life.

Sir Knights, in concord let us sing,
To Him our anthems raise —
For death has lost its dreadful sting,
And His dear name we praise!

Rev. Ernest G. Rice, Grand Prelate
Grand Commandery of West Virginia

J. George Lang
New York
Grand Commander — 1959
Born June 23, 1891
Died April 13, 1975

James H. Thompson
Colorado
Grand Commander — 1959
Born September 13, 1899
Died April 14, 1975

Donald B. Waldhaus
Connecticut
Grand Commander — 1970
Born March 31, 1895
Died April 17, 1975

Arthur W. Johnson
New Hampshire
Grand Commander — 1960
Born August 13, 1893
Died April 26, 1975

M. Shields Edwards
Arkansas
Grand Commander — 1972
Born October 5, 1908
Died May 3, 1975

Last Supper Sculpture

While in Kansas City see the Last Supper Sculpture, a life-size basswood sculpture in the round of the Last Supper by renowned sculptor Domenic Zappia. It is in the Unity Church at Country Club Plaza and is open to the public for a few hours each day Wednesday through Sunday. The church also has 65 stained glass windows.
A Capsule Chronicle of Templary

"A Capsule Chronicle of Templary" is a brief history of the Valiant and Magnanimous Order of Knights Templar by Grand Recorder Paul C. Rodenhauser. It is a brief and effective promotional piece for all Knights Templar and for anyone interested in the Order — members of other Masonic bodies and prospective members. Copies are available at no charge from the Grand Recorder, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

"Miscellanea" from Argentina

Sir Knight Fred Neild, Cangallo 315, Buenos Aires, Argentina, is the publisher of "Masonic Miscellanea." Sample copies can be secured from Sir Knight Neild without charge. Annual Subscription rates are quoted as:

"Argentina: $50. — ley
Overseas: u$s 5. — or 2 pounds
(including air-mail and postage)"

The publisher notes that "cheques to be made payable to Fred Neild, British sterling resident account pounds are acceptable."

To Gylden from Potter

Earl M. Potter, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, was in attendance May 7 for the presentation of a 50-year pin to the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, Albert W. Gylden, at Glenview Lodge No. 1058. With the exception of three, all Past Masters of the Lodge were present — including Illinois Grand Commander Forest Calvin McDaniel, P.M. Junior Warden James O. Potter announced that 144 were served refreshments following the Stated Meeting.

Master of Glenview Lodge is Thomas Lothian. Senior Warden is J. Rufus Oldham, C.G., Evanston Commandery No. 58, Illinois.

* * Let Freedom Ring * *

Let freedom ring throughout the land,
But let it ring with pride,
In memory of our founders who
Made "Trust in God" their guide.
They fought and died with one concern
To build a peaceful land,
That we today might carry on
This nation truly grand.
In all our tumult of today
Across the land and sea,
Our nation is far better off
Than any others be,
With all our faults in government
Like men with greedy hands.
Let's count our blessings and be proud
"In God we Trust" still stands.

—Earl Strub, Edgeerton, Ill.

Sir Knight Strub writes: "I received over 500 letters from each state and several foreign countries on the poem, 'So Mote It Be.' This includes one from President Ford and Bess Truman."

Templar Bicentennial Paperweights

The marble Templar Bicentennial Paperweights, two inches square by three-quarters inch, are available at $3.00 each or $2.50 in lots of 60 or more from the Grand Recorder's office as a Bicentennial Service of the Grand Encampment. Send checks with orders to the Grand Recorder, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

Kansas City Information

Templars and their families who plan to attend the 53rd Triennial Conclave in Kansas City, Missouri, August 14-19, 1976, can obtain information on things to do and see, restaurant guides, tour information maps and the like from the Convention and Tourist Council of Greater Kansas City, 1212 Wyandotte, Kansas City, Missouri 64105.
GRAND COMMANDER’S MESSAGE

How does one express himself, after having been installed into the highest Office in Templar? It is with a deep sense of humility, also with great pride that I accept this High Office. Sir Knights, with God’s help and your Prayers, plus the hard work of all Knights Templar throughout this great Commonwealth, I’m confident Templary will Progress. To the Elected and Appointed Officers and those Hard working Division Commanders, I ask your cooperation and I pledge mine.

Spring is the time of year, when all nature comes alive, also the time for house cleaning. Sir Knights it behooves each of us to spring alive, divest ourselves of the cloak of indifference, of self complacency, burst forth in newness of enthusiasm, add some invigorating essence and personal contact to that already pollinated seed of York Rite Masonry to our uninhabited Blue Lodge friends, that we might reap a harvest of New and productive Knight Templars.

Let us clean house of those programs that have been unproductive, implant in our lives and minds, a better understanding of the human values of life and those thoughts and Ideas that might bring a better tomorrow today.

A thought for today – Whoever sincerely endeavors to sow all the good he can, will probably do much more than he imagines, or will ever know to the day of judgement, when the secrets of all hearts shall be made manifest.

DeMolay State Conclave

The Annual Conclave of the Order of DeMolay will be held at Seven Springs near Somerset, Pennsylvania, June 20 and 21, 1975, legislative sessions will be conducted Friday afternoon and all-day Saturday, I’m sure all Masons would be welcome at any of the sessions. There will be a Dinner Friday evening and a Grand Ball Saturday night. To all DeMolays, my best wishes for a successful Conclave.
GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICERS OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF PENNSYLVANIA
1975-1976

Grand Commander
Francis R. Black
2308 Pine St.
York 17402

Deputy Grand Commander
Warren R. Williams, Jr.
Griffis St.
Montrose 18801

Grand Generalissimo
Martin E. Edwards
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Bethlehem 18017

Grand Captain General
William C. Graham
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Butler 16001

Grand Senior Warden
Howard T. Hardie, Jr.
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Grand Junior Warden
(Next Issue)

Grand Prelate
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Grand Treasurer
Perry L. LaBarr
317 Beadling Rd.
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Grand Recorder
(Next issue)

Grand Standard Bearer
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Grand Sword Bearer
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Grand Warder
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Grand Sentinel
Lawrence R. Breletic
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McKeesport 15135

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Carlisle 17013

Division No. 16
Kenneth L. Fink
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Cashtown 17310

Division No. 17
Jay E. Chaapel
600 W. Central Ave.
S. WilliamSPORT 17701

THE BICENTENNIAL YEAR
1776-1976
The 123 Annual Conclave will be held in York May 25-26 1976
Come to York First Capitol of the United States
Cortland Hosts Templar Festival

Cortland Commandery No. 50, Cortland, New York, hosted a Templar Festival April 5 when 42 candidates were Knighted. Thirteen Commanderies from Central New York were in attendance. Deputy Grand Commander Harold J. Sandwick, P.G.C. and current Grand Treasurer Neil R. Baker, Grand Junior Warden Burr L. Phelps, Grand Standard Bearer Carol A. Turek and Grand Sword Bearer Louis E. Geer joined Cortland Commander Carlton G. Bowerman for the event.

Fifty Year Members

Dr. Curtis J. Lee, Oklahoma City Commandery No. 3, has received 50 year pins in all his York Rite bodies. The 91 year old Templar is a resident of the Masonic Home for the Aged, Guthrie, Oklahoma. He and his wife Catherine received 50 year pins from Nova Chapter No. 263, Order of the Eastern Star, and Sir Knight Lee is a Past Grand Patron. The Lees celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary last January 11.

Youngest Templar?

Lonny Haakonstad was one of 15 candidates Knighted in the Fred R. Bagley Class April 22, 24, 25 and 26 at Boise, Idaho, sponsored by the Boise Valley York Rite Bodies. Sir Knight Haakonstad, Past Master Councilor of M. W. Wood Chapter of DeMolay, was 18 at the time of his Knighting.

Templars as Symbolic Masons

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts will participate in the Bicentennial of the Battle of Bunker Hill Sunday, June 15, with a parade starting from the Boston Navy Yard, Charlestown, at 1 p.m.

Every Blue Lodge Mason of Massachusetts has been requested by Grand Commander David L. Esancy “to give full support to the Grand Lodge by appearing for the parade in Symbolic Blue Lodge aprons – no uniforms.” The Grand Commander says assembly time will be 12 noon.

Masonic War Certificates

The March issue carried an item on the “War Certificates” issued by the Grand Lodge of Illinois to Masons and their minor sons who served in the Army during the Civil War. A total of 1,737 were issued.

Sir Knight Earl A. Sprague, Conrad, Montana, forwarded a photocopy of certificate number 1,372 issued to his grandfather Jacob Isiminger of Heyworth Lodge No. 251, McLean County, Illinois, on October 16, 1863.

Brother Isiminger was a prisoner at Andersonville. He was recognized as a Mason and given extra medical supplies, blankets and food, writes Sprague. The Masonic War Certificate saved his life.

Notice to Contributors

When forwarding news to the Knight Templar Magazine be sure to include the event, date and location — including Commandery number, city and state — along with the proper names and titles of the participants. It is also helpful to include your own name and address should questions arise.
The Trustees of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation will gather at the Palmer House, Chicago, for their 1975 Annual Meeting. The session will extend from 1:30 p.m. Saturday, July 26, through noon of Sunday, July 27.

The organizational structure is headed by Grand Master Roy Wilford Riegle as President and consists of: Willard M. Avery, Deputy Grand Master and First Vice-President, also General Counsel; E. Guy Frizzell, Tennessee, Second Vice-President; Harold S. Gorman, Nevada, Treasurer; Paul C. Rodenhauser, Secretary; John B. Cottrell, Jr., Grand Generalissimo; Kenneth C. Johnson, Grand Captain General; John L. Crofts, Sr., Past Grand Master; G. Wilbur Bell, Past Grand Master and Executive Director.

Trustees-at-Large are: E. Guy Frizzell; Howard T. Joslyn, New Hampshire; Alvin L. Crump, Illinois; Edmund F. Ball, Indiana; Charles S. McIntyre, Jr., Michigan; George W. Sorrell, Alabama.

A complete report of the 1975 Edmund F. Ball Voluntary Campaign is expected to be released July 1.

I have often heard the term sideliners used to denote the Brethren in all bodies of Masonry. Having served in the East in all bodies of the York Rite, I have come to the conclusion that to use the term sideliners in Masonry is altogether improper.

The dictionary defines a sideliners as one who is an observer, not actively involved or participating in the main activity taking place. When we consider this definition and try to apply it to our membership we come to the only conclusion There Are No Sideliners in Masonry. No matter what position a man holds he has an integral part to play in our Fraternity. It is the duty of all members to show the world the true meaning of Masonry, to show by his actions, words and deeds the importance of being a Mason. It is not necessary for a Brother to hold an office in order to be an active participant in our work. Neither must a Brother know the ritual or even attend meetings. Far more important than this is for a Brother to live by the teachings of our Fraternity, to practice, every minute of his life the principles we hold so sacred and continue to live under God's rules, never ceasing in spreading the cement of Brotherly Love and affection. It is the duty of all Brethren to see that the honor, duty and reputation of our Fraternity is firmly established and world at large convinced of its good effects. As soon as a man enters our door, kneels at our altar, professes his faith in God and submits himself to the teachings of Freemasonry he ceased to be a sideliners and enters the ranks of the Craft from which he can never disassociate himself. For as long as a Brother lives with love in his heart he is an active participant in our institution and then There Are No Sideliners in Freemasonry.

Submitted by Don Freberg, K.Y.C.H.
Bristol Commandery No. 29
Attleboro, Massachusetts

Samuel Johnson, 1755

Oats: (His own definition) A grain, which in England is generally given to horses, but in Scotland supports the people.
Be it known:

that on the 17th day of March 1975 at a stated communication of this Lodge the decision was made to aid and assist in the forthcoming celebration of our nation's Bicentennial.

Accordingly – to further education in our history – this Lodge donates the book "Masonic Americana" as published by the Knights Templar to the Sinclairville Public Library.

By order of the Worshipful Master