

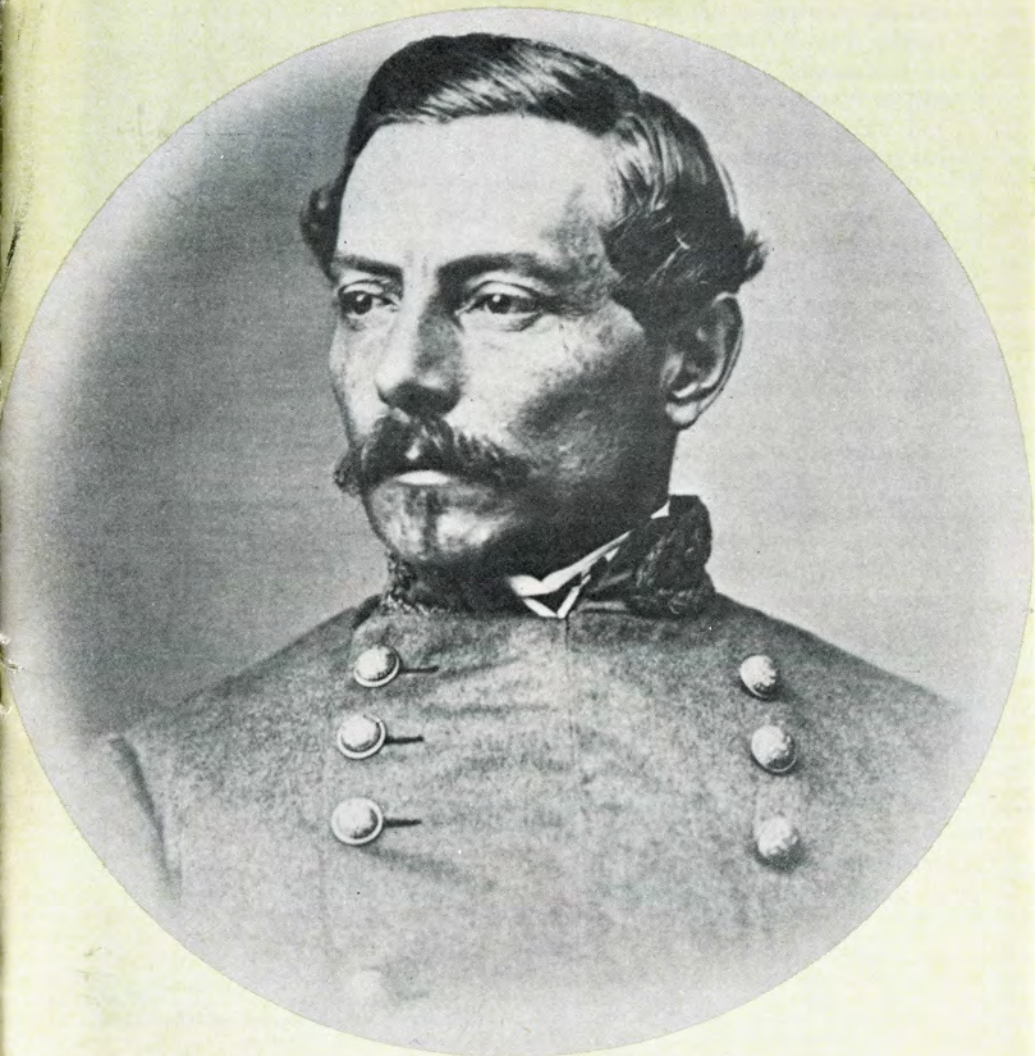


# Knight Templar

VOLUME XXIX

MAY 1983

NUMBER 5



**PIERRE GUSTAVE TOUTANT BEAUREGARD**  
American Confederate General  
1818 – 1893

## GOLDEN ERA OF SPORTS

There can be no questioning or denying that television is one form of entertainment which brings enjoyment to millions of viewers around the world. Broadcasting, whether radio or TV, has become a standard pastime in which you and I both can find relaxation and a form of recreation. This year especially we have received, and are receiving, a full quota of sports events, ranging from the efforts of three major leagues of professional football to basketball to baseball to bowling, to golf, soccer, racing, boxing and many more. The broadcasting of sports has grown tremendously.



I certainly am not about to criticize the trend except to comment that it does seem the pendulum has swung a bit far when salaries of sports figures so greatly outdistance those for literary and academic achievement, when a sports celebrity commands many times more than the President of our country and the statesmen and officials of government to whom we entrust the future of the nation.

It is well and good to enjoy broadcasting fare — as long as you and I realize that there is a bit more to life than passively viewing a television tube, as long as we understand that the vitality of living takes precedence, as long as we recognize that vicariously watching and listening to the activities of others does not divorce us from certain obligations in the game of life itself.

There are other commitments that also call for a measure of attention. We have made several vows, promises and resolutions. We need to keep them inviolate. It is not necessary to forego the pleasure of watching television, as one example, but we do need to recognize the immediacy of other opportunities. One, of course, is our fraternal involvement. If we neglect Christian Masonry today, we not only deprive ourselves but the Knights of the future from experiencing the soul-stirring and spiritual essentials of life we enjoy in our asylums.

Obviously, it's no sin to appreciate entertainment, but it is well for us to remember there's always a proper time and place. Keep in mind that we share associations in the greatest fraternity on the face of the earth. Let's cultivate and promote an awareness of what is genuinely worthwhile and enduring. Let us recognize what is right and vital! What is good for others — not only our own enjoyment.

Enjoy the tube but don't neglect your storehouse of fraternal talent!

*Wesley E. Dull*

# Knight Templar

"The Magazine for York Rite Masons — and Others, too."

**MAY:** General Pierre Gustave Toutant-Beauregard, Louisiana's Creole Hero, is our cover subject for May. His story begins on page 7. First attention goes to another successful Easter Sunrise Service, a Grand Encampment "first" at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia. Features of interest range from Norman Lincoln's "The Singing Brakeman" to John R. Blanton's "A Holy Brotherhood in Arms" — and many more, of course.

P.C.R.

## Contents

Grand Master's Message for May Ned E. Dull, M.E.G.M. ....	2
Paul C. Rodenhauer, R.E. Grand Recorder Sir Galahad of Southern Chivalry .....	7
York Rite Masonry and Christian Perfection The Reverend Gregory A. Megill, E.C. ....	11
Sir Knight Norman G. Lincoln, P.C. The Singing Brakeman — Jimmie Rodgers .....	13
A Holy Brotherhood in Arms John R. Blanton, P.C. ....	19
George Washington Rodgers (1781-1832) James R. Case, K.T.C.H. ....	23
Sir Knight David Andrews, P.C. In Support of York Rite Unification .....	25
-----	
Sun Shines on 1983 Easter Service .....	5
15th Annual Voluntary Campaign .....	10
Grand Commander's, Grand Master's Clubs .....	15
Masonic Readings and Writings .....	27
-----	
May Cover .....	3
Editor's Journal .....	4
In Hallowed Memory .....	15
The Family of Masonry .....	16
Knight Voices .....	30

MAY 1983

VOLUME XXIX NUMBER 5

Published monthly as an official Publication of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

**NED E. DULL**

Grand Master  
P.O. Box 429  
Van Wert, Ohio 45891

**PAUL C. RODENHAUSER**

Grand Recorder  
14 East Jackson Blvd., Suite 1700  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

312-427-5670

Editor  
Paul C. Rodenhauer  
Assistant — Joan E. Behrens

Mail magazine materials and correspondence to the Editor, 14 East Jackson Blvd., Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

Material for the Grand Commanderies' two-page Supplements is to be directed to the respective Supplement Editors.

Address corrections from members are to be sent to the local Recorders.



## EDITOR'S JOURNAL

**Strauss:** Richard M. Strauss, P.G.C., Michigan, Chairman of the Grand Encampment Committee on Dispensations and Charters, was the scheduled representative of the Grand Master at the Grand Bodies of Chapter and Council in Alaska April 15-16. While there, he officially presented Dispensations for new Commanderies in Skagway and Kodiak.

**Deputy Grand Master:** At New Jersey in March, Donald H. Smith, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, was elected president of the Honorary '45'ers, an organization formed in 1964 when the 49th Triennial Conclave was held in Philadelphia.

**Red Cross in Readiness:** Joseph C. Bryan III, K.G.C., Grand Sovereign of the United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders for the United States and Mexico and the Philippines, has announced that St. Cyprian Conclave, Baltimore, Maryland, will host the 111th Annual Assembly of that Order in the City of Baltimore, June 9-11, 1983. The headquarters hotel is The Hyatt Regency, 300 Light Street, Baltimore. Reservations information is available via William M. Koenig, General Chairman, 2217 Dalewood Road, Timonium, Maryland 21093.

**Message:** After we had detected the misprint — too late to correct — a number of letters told us that a typesetting mistake changed 1870 in the April message of the Grand Master to 1970. In referring to John Burroughs, the date of his withdrawal from city life to rural should have read 1870-71, not 1970-71.

**Medal from Massachusetts:** James C. Sirios, Grand Recorder for Massachusetts — Rhode Island, called upon Grand Master Ned E. Dull during the Easter Weekend events at Washington to present a medallion from Most Worshipful Grand Master J. Philip Berquist. The medal commemorates the 250th Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts which was celebrated April 10 with a parade, church service and banquet.

**McGaughey:** Just prior to presstime, the Editor was notified of the passing, on April 13, of Mrs. Betty McGaughey, wife of Charles K.A. McGaughey, General Grand Secretary, General Grand Chapter, R.A.M., International. Memorial services were held in Lexington on April 14.

**Needlepoints, Alas:** Amazingly, less than five years after the first announcement of their availability, the supply of "cross and crown" needlepoint kits has been depleted. Some 1,000 kits were sold at cost during that period.

**Bon Voyage:** Some 400 Sir Knights and guests have made reservations for two Grand Encampment sponsored tours to the British Isles, May 12-20 and June 16-24. Grand Generalissimo Marvin E. Fowler and Past Grand Master John L. Crofts, Sr., will accompany the May tour; and the June excursion will be headed by Grand Master Ned E. Dull, along with Grand Captain General William H. Thornley, Jr., and Grand Prelate Eugene H. Buxton. Scheduled for both groups is a side tour to the site of the DeMolay martyrdom in France where a wreath and Grand Encampment plaque will be placed and a brief memorial service held.

## SUN SHINES ON EASTER SERVICE AT GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC NATIONAL MEMORIAL



The George Washington Masonic National Memorial provided a majestic backdrop to the 53rd Annual Easter Sunrise Memorial Service sponsored by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., on Sunday, April 3, 1983. Rising beyond the plumes of the seated Sir Knights, the solemn structure on Shooter's Hill in Alexandria, Virginia, stood sentinel as 560 Sir Knights marched to the strains of the combined bands of Kena and Almas Shrine Temples from the District of Columbia, directed by Brother Donald Stratton, Jr.

Below, The Reverend Eugene H. Buxton, R.E. Grand Prelate, paused for a moment on the speaker's platform before the parade march and the beginning of the service at which he presented his Easter sermon, "He Came Back." Behind him are the bas relief of Brother George Washington, and the cross of lilies, donated each year by Clarence Shaffer in memory of his father, the late Sir Knight George J. Shaffer.



Though a heavy rainfall the night before threatened the outcome of Easter 1983, those attending awoke to a clear, cloudless sky — truly a spectacular "turn-around" by Mother Nature.

The line of march included 30 members of the Grand Master's staff, plus, from Ohio — 210 Templars; from New York —



65; Maryland – 45; Massachusetts and Rhode Island – 40; New Jersey – 35; Illinois – 35; Virginia – 30; Pennsylvania – 28; District of Columbia – 25; Connecticut – 16; plus an additional 36 Templars from as far away as Texas, South Dakota, and California.

Local members of the Order of DeMolay served as ushers for the standing-room-only audience which was estimated at 2,000. Some 1,600 chairs arranged on the grounds of the Memorial before the new granite entranceway could not accommodate the Sir Knights and guests, many of whom skirted the seating area on foot.

The combined chanters of Almas and Kena Shrine Temples, Brother William H. Osborne, conducting, led the vocal selections during the service.

And afterward, Grand Master Ned E. Dull, and his wife, the officers of the Grand Encampment and their wives and some 600 other Templars and family members attended the annual Easter Breakfast held at the Twin Bridges Marriott Motel in Arlington, Virginia.



## **SIR GALAHAD OF SOUTHERN CHIVALRY**

by

**Paul C. Rodenhauer, R.E. Grand Recorder  
and Editor of the *Knight Templar Magazine***

He was dashing and daring and glamorous. Variably, he was arrogant, considerate, critical and controversial, aristocratic and knightly in bearing, a projection of Napoleon on the battlefield, a highly skilled West Point engineer whose strategic ability was sometimes questioned as a commander of the Army.

Throughout the long years of the war, both men and women of the Confederacy idolized him. Songs were written in his honor; poems of glowing praise were composed; proud parents named their offspring for him. It was a name recognized with adulation in the South and with some diffidence in the North.

The man was Pierre Gustave Toutant-Beauregard, Louisiana's colorful and dramatic contribution to the Confederacy. A slight man of some five feet six or seven inches, he was called the Creole incarnation of Napoleon, the general he so much admired and emulated.

Almost constantly at odds with President Jefferson Davis, and a range of other leaders — not excluding Lee, he was concerned that credit for many of his army accomplishments were not properly attributed to him. He was one of the first to eventually acknowledge — privately — that the war for the preservation of national unity was lost for the southern cause, although he continued a valiant fight to the end to preserve its honor.

P. C. Beauregard, as he later signed himself, was born in the same month of this magazine issue — May 28, 1818, the son of Jacques Toutant-Beauregard, master of Centreras, just below New Orleans in the parish of St. Bernard. The

father could trace his lineage to the 13th century; his wife, a member of the De Reggio family of St. Bernard, had an equally prestigious background. The son was born just 15 years after the 1803 cession of Louisiana from France to the United States.

Pierre Gustave Toutant-Beauregard was identified as a Mason and a Knight Templar. Some of his inspirational phrases in combat and in private life seemed to reflect and attest to that fraternal membership.

Denslow's list of 10,000 prominent Masons gave him recognition as a "Confederate General, a graduate of West Point in 1838," and noted that he was superintendent of the Military Academy at the outbreak of the war. He did not have the space to mention that his tenure as superintendent was extremely brief. On the day in 1861 when he was placed in charge, General Totten, U.S.A., wrote that his appointment was revoked and directed him to turn the office over to the incumbent who preceded him. A matter of chagrin to him for many years was that the government failed to pay his return fair (\$165.00) to Louisiana, which had then seceded.

Earlier, in the years of the conflict between the United States and Mexico over the Texas border, he, as a lieutenant, distinguished himself as an efficient and thorough engineer on the staff of General Winfield Scott. His Louisiana State University biographer says: "As usual with him, Beauregard worked at his job with tremendous energy . . ." Scott's report to the Adjutant General's office → → →

was highly complimentary and said "the works were admirably devised."

Beauregard was an intimate in the Army family of General Scott, who was recognized to be an outstanding general accomplishing impressive results. Scott gathered around him competent advisers who had specialized training. Among them was popular Beauregard, a member of what was known as the Engineer Company. After hard fighting, Scott, his engineers and his army captured Mexico City and ended the war. A new Mexican government was formed and peace established by the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848. Mexico ceded to the United States two-fifth of the territory it had claimed and was paid an indemnity of \$15,000,000.

After service in "the Halls of Montezuma," Beauregard spent the next 12 years in charge of the Mississippi and Lake Defenses of Louisiana. Much of his time was devoted to forts outside the state. He repaired many along the Florida coast and built new ones, designed to repel a foe attacking from the sea. He worked diligently and brilliantly. In this period, he also tried consistently to secure a brevet for his service in Mexico; with success.

Beauregard was known as a devoted family man. In 1841, he had met and fallen in love with Marie Laure Villere, the beautiful sister of an old friend, Charles Villere. In 1850, his domestic happiness with his wife and two sons was shattered by the death of Marie Laure while giving birth to a daughter. Several years later he married Caroline Deslonde, also a Creole, who was variously described as "one of four beautiful sisters" or somewhat plain. Through the marriage, Beauregard acquired a noted brother-in-law, United States Senator John Slidell, who had far-reaching connections. Later, as a southern commissioner, Slidell and a fellow commissioner Mason were forcibly removed from a

British steamer, almost precipitating England's entrance to the war on the side of the South.

On March 1, 1861, after his brief service as superintendent of West Point, which had been gained through the influence of Slidell, Beauregard resigned his commission. The government accepted without hesitation. In the same month, he wrote to congratulate Jefferson Davis, chosen as President of the Confederate States, and asked for an appointment. Again, Slidell and friends used their efforts to have him promoted.

On February 26, Beauregard conferred with Davis and learned he was assigned to Charleston to take command of the South Carolina and Confederate Forces. What to do about Fort Sumter in the Charleston harbor was a major point of tension. Beauregard went to Charleston as the Confederacy's first brigadier general! He won the immediate approval of Governor Francis Pickens and the populace and took complete command of all operations.

W. A. Swanson, in *First Blood, The Story of Fort Sumter*, commented that Governor Pickens "got his commander-in-chief, the Louisiana Creole who had skyrocketed from major in the federal army to brigadier general in the Confederate Army." He noted that Beauregard, West Point, '38, "was a hero of the Mexican War in which he had been twice wounded."

At Charleston, the defender of Fort Sumter was Major Robert Anderson, Beauregard's artillery instructor at West Point. Beauregard, at Anderson's recommendation, was then given the post of assistant instructor of artillery. They knew each other well with apparent respect for the other.

In his official report of March 6, Anderson wrote: "The presence here as commander, of General Beauregard, recently of the United States Engineers, insures, I think, in a great measure of the



exercise of skill and sound judgment. God grant that our country may be saved from the horror of a fratricidal war."

General Beauregard distinguished himself heroically in that war. At Manassas, known as the Battle of Bull Run in the North, he routed the foe but failed — because of confusion of orders and division of opinion of Confederate leaders — to follow up his success. Bruce Catton, chronicler for the North, said of that battle it was "a disgrace in sober truth, and a shameful licking to boot, out of which the people of the north drew shame, indignation and the beginning of wisdom."

At Shiloh, where Beauregard took command after General Albert Sidney Johnson was killed in action, it has been said that "on paper it was a draw . . . It was a battle the Confederacy had to win."

At Corinth, Beauregard confused the Union Army by leaving "at night, arranging one final deception of the Yankees by having steam engines coming, fuming and whistling into the town at intervals to the accompaniment of loud cheers."

At Petersburg, the Federal consensus was that "it should have fallen June 15 — when it was found to be defended under the merest handful of Confederates under Beauregard . . . but the attack was muffled . . . Beauregard began to receive reinforcements . . . had ample reason to believe he was about to be driven in total defeat, yet the opportunity was never grasped."

Beauregard was a valiant champion of the South. He was a classic warrior, one of the eight full generals of the Confederacy. He was critical and prone to take affronts readily. A few short pages cannot describe a man whose entire life was a paradox, a man singularly gifted with both brilliance and charm, a visionary, a general who constantly railed at authority. His post-war enterprises and activities with railroads and the Louisiana

lottery are a story in themselves and have been discussed elsewhere by other writers.

When the war finally drew to a close, only one possible southern objection could be lodged against Beauregard. Unlike Lee, who lived modestly on a college president's salary, Beauregard had adopted the "New South" and had flourished. Confederate generals were not supposed to be wealthy.

General Beauregard died Saturday, February 18, 1893. After services at the home, the body was escorted by National Guard units — whom he had commanded for nine years after the war — to the City Hall. Thousands of mourners passed through the rooms to see for the last time the Creole Hero.

In September of 1865, after consulting with Lee and Johnson — who counseled him to apply for amnesty, Beauregard had appeared before the Mayor of New Orleans and had sworn allegiance to the United States of America. His words, as he sought absolution, were direct and concise:

*"In taking up arms during the late struggle (after my native State, Louisiana had ceded) I believed, in good faith, that I was defending the constitutional rights of the South against the encroachments of the North. Having appealed to the arbitration of the Sword, which has gone against us, I accept the decision as settling finally the questions of secession & slavery — & I now offer my allegiance to the Govt. of the United States, which I promise, truly and faithfully, to serve & uphold hereafter, against all external or internal foes."*

He signed the oath of loyalty — "late Genl. C.S.A." □



## 15th Annual Voluntary Campaign — Coming to the Wire

Preliminary indications point to another record for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation Voluntary Campaign. Totals for the 19th week, ending April 8, are \$567,493.88 — almost \$80,000 more than the same week in the 14th Campaign.

Alabama .....	\$ 3,731.75	Oklahoma .....	2,481.95
Arizona .....	2,092.29	Oregon .....	3,882.30
Arkansas .....	2,956.30	Pennsylvania .....	21,770.00
California .....	16,791.80	South Carolina .....	5,773.87
Colorado .....	10,776.54	South Dakota .....	2,866.45
Connecticut .....	2,046.50	Tennessee .....	12,357.76
District of Columbia .....	6,652.00	Texas .....	165,179.70
Florida .....	15,295.50	Utah .....	17,576.72
Georgia .....	28,707.50	Vermont .....	3,436.41
Idaho .....	3,479.70	Virginia .....	12,856.25
Illinois .....	8,755.14	Washington .....	4,104.75
Indiana .....	5,087.55	West Virginia .....	5,630.38
Iowa .....	23,464.00	Wisconsin .....	6,689.00
Kansas .....	8,216.98	Wyoming .....	1,297.75
Kentucky .....	4,395.40	Philippines .....	80.00
Louisiana .....	7,052.84	Hilo, U.D., Hawaii .....	30.00
Maine .....	3,257.21	St. John's No. 1,	
Maryland .....	12,150.01	Wilmington, Delaware .....	220.00
Massachusetts-Rhode Island .....	11,776.55	Honolulu No. 1, Hawaii .....	160.00
Michigan .....	25,482.25	Panama Canal No. 1, Balboa,	
Minnesota .....	13,737.60	Republic of Panama .....	1,395.10
Mississippi .....	5,378.04	Alaska No. 1, Fairbanks .....	50.00
Missouri .....	8,007.15	Porto Rico No. 1, San Juan .....	719.00
Montana .....	8,087.25	Anchorage No. 2, Alaska .....	200.00
Nebraska .....	3,939.95	Bavaria No. 3,	
Nevada .....	1,328.24	Munich, Germany .....	50.00
New Hampshire .....	3,496.00	Hermann von Salza No. 1,	
New Jersey .....	5,067.20	Frankfurt, Germany .....	90.00
New Mexico .....	2,311.00	Heidelberg No. 2,	
New York .....	11,736.05	Heidelberg, Germany .....	930.00
North Carolina .....	5,117.76	St. Andrew's No. 2,	
North Dakota .....	1,295.00	Dover, Delaware .....	335.00
Ohio .....	17,169.35	Miscellaneous .....	8,493.09

### Long Beach No. 40 Honors Kenneth C. Johnson, P.G.M.

Eminent Commander Arthur C. Switzer, Officers, members and Past Commanders of California's Long Beach Commandery No. 40, together with the ladies of Long Beach Assembly No. 39, Social Order of the Beauceant, Mrs. Charles J. Soyster, Worthy President, honored M.E. Past Grand Master Kenneth C. Johnson with an Honorary Membership at a special Reception in March.

A number of the Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery of California, headed by Southwestern Department Commander Fred W. Scurlock, attended the Reception. Sir Knight Johnson spoke to the assemblage about the great work that Templary is doing not only in the United States but also in our Subordinate Commanderies in many foreign countries.

The S.O.O.B ladies served refreshments including a special large personalized cake surmounted with a Purple Salem Cross honoring Sir Knight Johnson.

While in Long Beach, Past Grand Master Johnson visited the conferral of Degree work of the Valley of Long Beach Scottish Rite Bodies. He also took part in the special York Rite — Scottish Rite joint Palm Sunday ceremonies, in which a tableau of "The Last Supper" and Mystic Banquet was presented by the Scottish Rite.

## **YORK RITE MASONRY AND CHRISTIAN PERFECTION**

by

The Reverend and Sir Knight Gregory A. Megill, Eminent Commander  
Gray Commandery No. 16, Marshall, Texas

*The author of the following treatise is a Methodist Minister. His thesis concerns the comparison of John Wesley's theory of "Christian perfection" and the Masonic symbolism of "perfecting the rough ashlar." The author's belief that John Wesley was a Mason is challenged by other researchers, most notably William R. Denslow who does state that Samuel Wesley, a nephew, was a member of the Craft.*

Masonry has many images which suggest to us that our goal is to be the perfecting of ourselves. We are to take the Rough Ashlar of our lives and slowly chip, chisel, and polish it till it more nearly represents the Perfect Ashlar.

There is one image from within Christendom which parallels this Masonic image closely. It is the idea of "Christian perfection" as developed most fully by John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement. Records exist showing that not only Samuel Wesley (John Wesley's nephew), but also John Wesley himself was a Master Mason.

John Wesley's development of the idea of Christian perfection drew upon notions from the holiness movement in Christian history, but perhaps some of the inspiration for the way he developed the idea came from his Masonic connection. The idea of having as a goal "perfection," as a Christian, should be appealing to York Rite Masons. The well-being of Christian Masonry depends upon its Sir Knights pursuing perfection in the sense that John Wesley used the term. Let's examine more closely what he meant by "Christian perfection."

First, let us understand what Christian perfection is *not*. It is not being free from ignorance. It is not something you acquire by becoming better educated or by getting

more advanced college degrees. John Wesley never used the term "Christian perfection" to refer to someone with infinite wisdom.

Nor is this term used to refer to someone who is free from mistakes. Christian perfection does not involve being infallible. Christian perfection is not being free from infirmities. It is not having a body which looks like that of Charles Atlas, Hercules, Tarzan, or Arnold Schartzenegger. Nor is Christian perfection to be free from temptation. To be tempted is an inevitable part of being human.

Neither is Christian perfection being free from ethical error. And it is not a form of spiritual arrogance which enables us to look down our noses at others who aren't aware of the idea of Christian perfection. So, there is much that Christian perfection is not. But what is it, really?

We use the word "perfect" in the 20th century in ways which make it difficult to understand what John Wesley meant when he talked about "Christian perfection." I am reminded of this in thinking back to Valentine's Day in elementary school many years ago. We used to give funny or "humorous" Valentines to classmates. I remember one of them which was never very pleasant to receive. On the front it said, "Who says no one's perfect?" And on the inside → → →

it said, "You're a perfect idiot!" So, our use of the word "perfect" yields some confusion in comprehending "Christian perfection."

Kenneth Wuest was a brilliant New Testament scholar. He wrote a three-volume set called *Word Studies in the Greek New Testament*. In one of the volumes he has an essay on how the word "perfect" is used in the New Testament. He said that when applied to a Christian, the word *perfect* means a complete, spiritually mature person, one who is well-rounded with regard to Christian character. This definition gets a whole lot closer to what Mr. Wesley meant by "Christian perfection." Basically, Christian perfection means becoming more godlike (godly behavior), having the "mind" of Christ, showing the fruit of the Spirit (see Galatians 5:22-23). Synonyms for "Christian perfection" include: perfecting holiness, growing in grace, holiness of heart and life, the conversion of the subconscious, and sanctification.

But what Mr. Wesley meant by Christian perfection is most accurately stated by describing another phrase used as a synonym for it: "perfect love." We see the application clearly in I John 4:12 — "No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us." This is the sense in which Mr. Wesley thought of perfection as a goal for Christians — being made perfect in love!

When Mr. Wesley ordained preachers to be sent out to spread the Methodist movement, among the questions he asked them were these: "Are you going on to perfection? Do you expect to be made perfect *in love* in this life?" and he expected an affirmative answer from the candidates for ordination! Mr. Wesley even thought that being made perfect *in love* was attainable in this life. He thought he knew some people who *in this life* had been made perfect in love, although he thought this occurrence was rare.

Mr. Wesley encouraged Christians everywhere to strive for this kind of sanctity in everyday living. He thought that it was always to be the goal of Christian people. But he knew that its achievement was not something which could be earned solely by our own efforts. It takes power from on high. It is a gift of God.

One of the interesting things about Christian perfection as Wesley understood it is that it can go hand-in-hand with a sense of personal unworthiness. One does not have to be spiritually arrogant to be made perfect in love.

I think Mr. Wesley, thought by some to be a fellow Mason, if he could speak to us today down through the corridors of history, would still urge us, as Christian Masons, to make Christian perfection our goal. Christian perfection is the secret of growth and stability for this Order of Knighthood to which we belong. Without Christian perfection, without the process of perfecting holiness going on in the lives of Knights Templar, Christian Knighthood cannot be all that God wants it to be — more effective in reaching out in the world to spread word of the Savior and to offer Christian caring and assistance to the needy of the world. The goal of the Christian life on this earth is perfect love. The well-being of Christian Knighthood depends upon this quest.

And so the question comes to each Christian Knight: Are you going on to perfection? And if not, where are you going?

The Reverend Gregory A. Megill is pastor of The First United Methodist Church in Jefferson, Texas. His address is 409 North Walnut, Jefferson, Texas 75657.

*The work and thoughts of an unknown good man are like a vein of water flowing and hiding underground, secretly making the earth greener.*

S. Leacock

## THE SINGING BRAKEMAN

by

Sir Knight Norman G. Lincoln, K. Y. C. H., P. C.  
Middletown Commandery No. 71, Ohio

Twenty-five years ago, Brother William Arthur Winstead, Representative to Congress from the Fifth District of Mississippi, introduced a Joint Resolution "that the 26th day of May each year is hereby designated as National Hill Billy Music Day." Younger readers as well as those unfamiliar with country and western music may wonder why this particular day was chosen. Anyone who recognizes the name Jimmie Rodgers understands.

James Charles Rodgers was born September 8, 1897, the youngest of the three sons of Aaron Rodgers, a maintenance-of-way foreman for the Mobile and Ohio Railroad at Meridian, Mississippi. Jimmie's mother died when he was four. Ten years later he dropped out of school to become a railroad man. At first he was a waterboy for the section gang. Later he worked as a callboy, flagman and baggage-master, until in 1915 he became a brakeman for the New Orleans and Northeastern Railroad.

Jimmie was exempted from serving in World War One because of his railroad work, and in 1920 he married Carrie Cecil Williamson.

Times were hard for railroad workers, especially one with two young daughters. In 1923, Jimmie was ill with pneumonia, and the following year he contracted tuberculosis.

Informed that he must rest and do no more strenuous railroad work, Jimmie turned to a new career. He had taught himself to play the banjo, ukelele and guitar. From Black railroad workers he had picked up slave ditties and blues numbers. Spirituals, work songs, and folk

ballads were added to his repertoire. Completely self-educated, he never learned to read music.

Jimmie began to perform with medicine shows in Kentucky and Tennessee, often appearing in blackface. He sang and yodeled while strumming his guitar. But the railroad was still in Jimmie's blood. He moved to Miami and became a brakeman on the Florida East Coast Railroad. His health remained poor so he transferred to the Southern Railroad at Tucson, Arizona. But he was too weak to continue.

In 1927, a friend in Asheville, North Carolina, got him a job on the police force. With three other performers he was featured for three weeks on radio station WWNC. Then it was back on the road doing one-night stands.

At last a break came for Jimmie. Learning that RCA Victor was auditioning talent for potential recording contracts, he went to Bristol, Tennessee, and on August 4, 1927, cut two sides for Ralph Peer (who later became his manager). "Sleep, Baby, Sleep" a lullaby, and "The Soldier's Sweetheart," one of Jimmie's compositions, were released on Victor Record No. 20864. In six years, he recorded 127 sides for RCA Victor. His first royalty check was for \$27!

Within a year he was earning \$2,000 per week. He built a \$50,000 house in Kerrville, Texas. He made personal appearances around the country in spite of his waning health. He was called "The Blue Yodeler" after one of his popular songs. He met many of the big names of show business including Brother Gene Austin and Brother Will Rogers. → → →

He even went to Hollywood and made a short film, *The Singing Brakeman*. His phenomenal success was as great as his former obscurity. It was very similar to another Mississippi-born singer named Elvis Presley.

How can one account for the popularity of Jimmie Rodgers? He was, without a doubt, doing the right thing at the right time. The "Roaring 20's" had not yet given way to the Great Depression. People had plenty of money to spend for entertainment. Electrical recording techniques caused a boom in the sales of records. The public was able to hear performers on radio. This made them want to see them in person and buy their records.

Yet why was Jimmie Rodgers in particular so loved? The answer may be that he was a common man who appealed to common people. Like Abraham Lincoln, he had come from humble beginnings and overcome hardships. The working man was able to identify with Jimmie. And Jimmie returned the affection. His songs were simple, with words that everybody could understand. They touched the basic emotions of pain and loss and hope and love. His style was imitated by countless young aspiring singers. He influenced, among others, Gene Autry, Hank Snow, Ernest Tubb, Red Foley, Montana Slim, Jimmie Davis, Carl Smith, Lefty Frizzell and Roy Rogers. For this reason, he is often called the Father of Country Music.

He was the first star of Country and Western music and the first to get rich singing it. Although only one of his records sold more than a million during his lifetime (RCA Victor 21142, *Away Out on the Mountain*/ "T for Texas" or "Blue Yodel," No. 1) over 25,000,000 have been sold since. Their realism and vitality lifted many through the harsh Thirties. "My Old Pal," "Daddy and Home," "I'm Lonely and Blue," "Waitin' for a Train," "Pistol Packin' Papa," "Mississippi Moon," and "Brakeman's Blues" were very

## Joppa Lodge Commemorative

On February 22, 1983, Joppa Lodge No. 223, A.F. & A.M., celebrated 100 years of Masonic service in Leon, Kansas. Sir Knight Walter F. Jack, a member of El Dorado Commandery No. 19 in that state, writes on behalf of the Lodge that an "antique bronze medallion" has been



struck and is presently available to collectors at \$4.00 each. Mail orders may be sent to Sir Knight Jack at 1554 Norwood, El Dorado, Kansas 67042, with checks made payable to "Joppa Lodge No. 223."

meaningful. Today some of the original records are valued at more than \$50.00.

Jimmie Rodgers was raised in John L. Spinks Lodge No. 507, Meridian, Mississippi, on January 5, 1931. He later demitted and affiliated with Blue Bonnet Lodge No. 1219 in San Antonio, Texas. In May 1931, he joined the Scottish Rite in San Antonio and Alzar Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.

One of Jimmie's most popular songs was "Whippin' That Old TB." But on May 26, 1933, he died in New York City shortly after a recording session. Twenty years later, 75,000 people gathered in Meridian to honor him and unveil a statue in his memory. There is a Jimmie Rodgers Society with world-wide membership, and in 1961 he was made the first member of the Country Music Hall of Fame. He touched the tender chords of human emotion. Farewell!

Sir Knight Lincoln lives at 107½ North Barron Street, Eaton, Ohio 43250.

## IN HALLOWED MEMORY

### J. Ray Rex

North Carolina  
Grand Commander — 1969  
Born November 12, 1907  
Died November 6, 1982

### George Henry Bailey

New Hampshire  
Grand Commander — 1952  
Born September 18, 1893  
Died February 20, 1983

### J. Bayard Cole

Virginia  
Grand Commander — 1971  
Born April 16, 1902  
Died March 15, 1983

### Robert Bartholomew Mackey

Michigan  
Grand Commander — 1965  
Born July 1, 1908  
Died March 22, 1983

## Gerald O. Smith, Canadian Grand Master

M.E. Knight Gerald Orval Smith, K.C.T., Past Supreme Grand Master and Grand Chancellor of the Sovereign Great Priory, Knights Templar in Canada, succumbed to cancer on March 30 at Royal Victoria Hospital, Barrie, Ontario. Sir Knight Smith was a Past Master of Kerr Lodge No. 230, Barrie, and had also served as Grand Sovereign of the Grand Imperial Conclave of Canada, Red Cross of Constantine. In 1982, Sir Knight Smith had been named an Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U.S.A.

Masonic services were held under the auspices of Kerr Lodge on April 1; interment at Barrie Union Cemetery, Saturday, April 2. Most Illustrious Knight Smith is survived by his widow, Mrs. Margaret Smith.

## Knights Templar Eye Foundation New Club Memberships

### Grand Commander's Club:

Idaho No. 2 — Austin Woodworth  
Georgia No. 5 — Henton E. Howard  
Massachusetts No. 14 — Robert R. McKinney

### Grand Master's Club:

No. 440 — Arthur R. Cook (NJ)  
No. 441 — J. C. Culley (CO)  
No. 442 — Floyd S. Brown (WI)  
No. 443 — Harold E. Krause (WI)  
No. 444 — Gilbert J. Klein (WI)  
No. 445 — Leonard E. Gruszecki (WI)  
No. 446 — Norman A. Tarr (WI)  
No. 447 — Herman E. Freidrich (WI)  
No. 448 — Charles R. Farrell (WI)

*How to Join:* Any individual may send a check in the amount of \$100 or more to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation to begin membership in the Grand Commander's Club. With the initial contribution, the member pledges to make additional annual contributions of \$100 or more. Once Grand Commander's Club contributions total \$1,000, the individual is enrolled in the Grand Master's Club. Membership is open to individuals only (no clubs), and there is no Commandery credit for Club participation.

Information is available from G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M., Executive Director, Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 579, Springfield, Illinois 62705.

## Granville K. Frisbie, 1904-1983

The Reverend Dr. Granville Kimball Frisbie, Past Commander of San Luis Obispo Commandery No. 27, California, and former Grand Chaplain of the United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine, died February 26, 1983, at the age of 79. Sir Knight Frisbie was Raised in 1928 in Port Royal Lodge No. 242, A.F.M., South Carolina, later affiliating with Masonic Bodies in California. He was named Inspector General Honorary, 33°, A. & A.S.R., S.J., in 1977.

## Dr. Sweet, P.D.C., Retires



Dr. Paul W. Sweet, Jr., Past Department Commander of the Northwestern Department, retired in February after 40 years as a practicing obstetrician in Centralia, Washington. A February 22 surprise party was held to celebrate his 70th birthday and to honor him on his retirement.

Sir Knight Sweet — shown above with "M. J." (Marjorie Jean), his wife of 45 years — is a well-known figure in Washington. A member of St. Helen's Commandery No. 12, Chehalis, he was elected Grand Commander of Washington State in 1965. Last year at the 55th Triennial Conclave in Hot Springs, Arkansas, he was named by incoming Grand Master Ned E. Dull to chair the Grand Encampment Committee on Ritualistic Matters.

### HOPE

Hope is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul,  
And sings the tune without the words,  
And never stops at all.

*Emily Dickinson*

## Florida Hosts Grand Master's Class

The Third York Rite District in Florida sponsored a One-Day Class at the York Rite Masonic Temple in Clearwater on Saturday, March 26. Named in honor of Most Worshipful Harvey B. Eddy, K.Y.C.H., Grand Master of



Harvey B. Eddy

Masons in Florida, the class numbered some 100 candidates from over the state.

Among the many current and past Grand York Rite Officers on hand to observe the conferrals were: M.W. Franklin C. Smith, R.E. Grand Scribe of the Grand Chapter, R.A.M.; Sir Knight James Wilson, R.W. Grand Senior Warden; and Eugene N. Berato, R.E. Grand Commander of Florida Templars, who assisted with the Knighting of the candidates.

Sir Knight Eddy participated in both the Royal Arch and Select Masters Degrees, after which he was presented a double-sided, glass-framed picture of himself which was signed by all present.

## Canadian Templars Meet in Saskatchewan

Grand Master Ned E. Dull has been invited as guest speaker to address the Sir Knights of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada during its Annual meeting to be held at the Hotel Saskatchewan in Regina, August 13-16. Presiding at this historic 100th Annual Assembly of the Sovereign Great Priory will be Dr. Philip J. Kendal, Supreme Grand Master, who was named an Honorary Member of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., at the 55th Triennial Conclave in 1982.



# FROM THE FAMILY OF MASONRY

## Continued Amaranth Support for K.T.E.F.

The Grand Court of South Carolina, Order of the Amaranth, Inc., once again showed their support of the Knights Templar eye Foundation when they presented a check for \$1,207.42 for the charity to the Grand Commander of Knights Templar in that State during the Amaranth Annual Meeting earlier this year. The Grand Commander acknowledged the charitable work of the Amaranth, Inc., in the past, and particularly thanked Sir Knight Rufus L. Shealy of Magnolia Court in Columbia, Grand Royal Patron, and Mrs. Beulah I. Poulsen of Friendship Court in North Augusta, who had served as Grand Royal Matron. Sir Knight Shealy is a member of Columbia Commandery No. 2.

## Centennial for Sterling Lodge

Sterling Lodge No. 54, A.F. & A.M., Colorado, is celebrating its 100th Anniversary this year and has designed a commemorative coin now offered for general sale. The item is 1 9/16 inches in diameter, of brushed antique satin finish, and is available on a limited basis for \$4.50 each, postpaid.

The coin may be ordered by writing to Sir Knight Leo M. Armstrong, P.C., Sterling Commandery No. 35, at 1420 Buchanan Street, Sterling, Colorado 80751.



## Marathon Lodge Glass Medallions

Marathon Lodge No. 203, F. & A.M., Ohio, recently purchased an abandoned church which they are remodeling for their Temple. The structure, writes Sir Knight James R. Jordan, will be "in the style of 13th century English parish church gothic" and is planned to include many unique features.

To help defray the cost of refurbishing, a Marathon Lodge Temple Fund has been established, and a "14-inch diameter, handmade, real glass medallion of the Masonic emblem" is offered to brethren who donate \$60 or more to the Fund. The medallions have been created by the self-styled "Glass Masters of Marathon" — Sir Knights James R. Jordan, K.Y.C.H., William Jones, P.M., and Ron Slater, P.M. (members of Cincinnati Commandery No. 3), and Brother David Morgan, S.W. The medallions have white emblems, blue background and yellow "G" and border. (Sir Knight Jordan notes that special emblems can be made to the contributor's choice of colors and Masonic body.) They come with loops for hanging and are "suitable for home or Lodge."

Inquiries may be sent to James R. Jordan, 18838 U.S. 68, Fayetteville, Ohio 45118.

## Wayne King Continues Big Band Show

Sir Knight Wayne King, known since the "Big Band Era" as America's "Waltz King," will be featured in the annual Big Band Show presented by the Valley of Cleveland, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, N.M.J., on May 13, at the Masonic Auditorium in that city. Reservations at \$2.00 per person are required and may be made with Donald Schmitt, 33°, Secretary, Valley of Cleveland.

## Ukiah Commandery No. 33 Installation

The 92nd Installation of officers of Ukiah Commandery No. 33, California, took place in January 1983 at the Ukiah Masonic Temple with Past Commander Gregory Pomares serving as Installing Marshal and Past Commander George Wilson taking the role of Installing Chaplain. Newly elected officers (shown in accompanying photo)



included Sir Knights J. Frank Bartleson, Sr., Eminent Commander (front row, center), Shaffer Breers, Generalissimo; Ralph G. Beach, Captain General; Jerry Pahl, Senior Warden; and Burton Swallow, Junior Warden. Also installed were Lloyd W. Hamlin, P.C., Prelate; Floyd J. Hawn, Treasurer; and Roy A. LeBaron, Recorder.

On Sunday, February 27, members of Ukiah Commandery sponsored an annual Eye Foundation breakfast to raise funds for the Knight Templar charity. The report of the installation and breakfast, relayed by Recorder LeBaron, included the side note that Ukiah No. 33 is the only Commandery in California that has, for 14 years in a row, contributed \$5.00 or more per capita to the Eye Foundation's Annual Voluntary Campaign. He states, "We proudly display each plaque for each year." And they hope to add yet another plaque to their collection at the end of the current 15th Annual Campaign.

---

### Illinois Chief Justice Knighted

On Saturday, February 26, the Honorable Howard C. Ryan, Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court, was Knighted as a member of St. John's Commandery No. 26, Peru, Illinois. Justice Ryan served as the Exemplar in a class of ten candidates from central Illinois, whose Knighting was the climax of a Chapter-Commandery Day conducted jointly by Peoria Chapter No. 7, R.A.M., and Peoria Commandery No. 3. Justice Ryan, 33°, was Knighted by Donald L. Dorward, a local attorney who is also Commander of Peoria Commandery.

Those attending the Chapter-Commandery Day saw 17 candidates receive the Degrees of the Royal Arch at the hand of George H. Morgan, Excellent High Priest of Peoria Chapter. In addition to the ten candidates receiving the Order of the Temple under the direction of Eminent Commander Donald L. Dorward, five others received the preliminary Orders of the Commandery. They will later be Knighted in their home Commanderies.

Each of Illinois' Grand York Rite Bodies was represented on February 26. Those in attendance included John B. Hall, Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter, R.A.M., and, from the Grand Commandery of Illinois, William Jackson Jones, Grand Generalissimo, and Frank Warren Smith, Grand Junior Warden.

A large group of Illinois Grand Council Officers was also in attendance.

---

## A HOLY BROTHERHOOD IN ARMS

---

by

Sir Knight John R. Blanton, P.C.

Jackson Commandery No. 13, Tennessee

Even after the Crusaders had captured the City of Jerusalem, the Moslems still remained a menace to Christian pilgrims, capturing them on the roads to the Holy City, taking their goods, and often putting them to death. In order to assist the Christian pilgrims, a "Holy Brotherhood in arms" was formed "to aid in clearing the highways and in protecting the pilgrims on their way to the Holy City."

### 1119 – 1313

The ancient order of Knights Templar, with Hugh de Payens as the first Grand Master, was founded in Jerusalem in 1119 and began as a military and religious order within the Roman Catholic Church. Like Hugh, who had distinguished himself during the siege of Jerusalem, the Knights of the order fought in the Crusades during which, it is reported, at least 20,000 members lost their lives. The Pope took the Knights under his special protection, and many European rulers granted them special favors. Eventually the order came to be known throughout Europe – first for its bravery, later for its riches and power in the Christian world.

The society grew rapidly, and Baldwin II, King of Jerusalem, gave Hugh and the other Knights quarters in his palace which was erected near the site of King Solomon's Temple. The locale provided the basis for their name, "Poor Knights of the Temple." The brothers wore white robes with red crosses and adopted a black and white beauseant as their battle flag. The black of the beauseant signified "terror to foes," and the white, "fairness to friends." The beauseant also

bore the motto *Non Nobis, Domine, Non Nobis, Sed Nomini Tuo, Da Glorium* – "not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to thy name give glory." For nearly 200 years, the beauseant carried consternation into the ranks of the Moslems. Today it is the standard of the Masonic Knights Templar, and it symbolizes light and darkness, good and evil, knowledge and ignorance.

To promote the cause of the Crusades, the Knights of the Temple established local offices or Temples in all of the Christian countries of Europe. The leaders of these offices recruited men for the crusading armies and also took care of the order's funds. The order was almost inevitably drawn into the banking business and thus gained new power and influence.

As a result of the Third Crusade, the City of Jerusalem fell once again into the hands of the Moslems under the leadership of Saladin. However, Saladin made a truce with Richard the Lion Hearted. One of the provisions of the agreement was the granting of free access to all pilgrims who desired to visit the Holy City. The truce did not last long, and it was not until the Sixth Crusade in 1240 that the Holy City was restored to Christendom. In 1291, the City was again taken by followers of the Prophet, and the Holy Land passed out of the hands of the Christians.

The Templars who survived the last siege took refuge with their Grand Master, Gaudini, on the island of Cyprus. Several years later, when Grand Master Gaudini died, Jacques DeMolay was elected Grand Master. He served as head of the order from 1295 until his ignominious death at the stake in 1313.

→ → →

Just how DeMolay came to be burned at the stake after years of imprisonment has been the subject of debate for centuries. It is known that the ruling Princes of Europe were hard-pressed for money and envied the Templars' wealth. Philip IV (the Fair) of France started an investigation of the order in the early 1300s. Scandalous charges were made against the Templars who were often tortured until they confessed to false accusations.

The final chapter began in 1306 when King Philip invited Grand Master DeMolay to Paris, supposedly to consult with him about another campaign for the recovery of the Holy Land. Attended by 60 of his Knights, DeMolay came to Paris from Cyprus. He walked unsuspectingly into his death trap. On the night of October 13, 1307, by a preconcerted plan, all the Knights Templar in France were arrested and thrown into prison. They were charged with all kinds of crimes, of obscene rites, of heresy, sorcery, and magic.

The Knights were handed over to the Inquisition and some, in the agony of torture, confessed to the indictments brought against them; later these confessions were repudiated. Others were thrown into dungeons and placed on the rack where bones were broken in order to wring confessions from them. Fifty-four Knights who refused to confess were taken to the suburbs of Paris and burned at the stake. Hundreds more were killed throughout France.

On October 16, 1311, Pope Clement V pronounced the abolition of the order of the Temple. The old, gallant soldier, Grand Master Jacques DeMolay, who had spent his life in the service of Christendom, was burned at the stake in 1313, along with three of his brother Knights, Gy of Auvergne, Godfrey de Goneville, and Hughes de Paralde.

Thus ended the Order of the Temple after an existence of nearly 200 years. What remained of its revenues and possessions was given to the Knights Hospitalers or Knights of St. John of

Jerusalem. The Knights Hospitalers also took refuge on Cyprus when the Christians were driven out of the Holy Land. From Cyprus, the Hospitalers went to Rhodes, and finally to Malta. They were known as the Knights of Rhodes in 1309 and Knights of Malta in 1530, and their insignia was the Maltese Cross. The order was in possession of the Island of Malta for 268 years, but in 1798 it was surrendered to the French army under Napoleon Bonaparte.

### Membership in the Ancient Brotherhood

There were four classes of members in the ancient order of the Temple. The first two, Knights and Sergeants, were the fighters; the farmers carried on the worldly affairs of the order; and the chaplains took care of the religious needs of the members. At first, the order was very simple in its organization, but before long it became quite complex. Each class of member had its own qualifications. Those seeking to be admitted as Knights or Sergeants had to meet strict criteria. They must:

1. be from a knightly family;
2. be born in lawful wedlock;
3. be free from all previous obligations;
4. be neither married nor betrothed;
5. not have made any vows of reception in another order;
6. not be involved in debt;
7. be of sound and healthy constitution of body.

Membership in the order was first limited to laymen, but by order of Pope Alexander III in 1162, the Templars were given permission to receive spiritual persons who were not bound by previous vows. These members would be designated as chaplains and were required to take vows of poverty, charity and obedience. They performed all religious offices and officiated at all ceremonies, such as admission of members, installations, etc. The Chaplains were privileged to sit by the Master and to be served first at the table.

Finally came the so-called serving

brethren. The only requirement of these members was that they should be free born. Many men who were not of noble birth but who held both wealth and high position were found among this group. The serving brethren fought in the field and at home performed the menial duties of the household. The requirements for membership were in most respects the same as for the Knights; however, because they were not of noble birth, they could not be promoted out of their class.

In addition to the regular classes of membership, there were:

1. persons of either sex who were recognized by the Order and, though not connected with it, were entitled to its protection and admitted to some of its privileges;
2. youths, whose parents had destined them for service with the order when they had attained the proper age; and
3. adults who had bound themselves to aid and assist the order as long as they lived, solely from their admiration of it and their desire to share its honors.

All of the groups were presided over by a Grand Master or Master of the Temple. The Grand Master usually resided in Jerusalem — until that city was lost. The Grand Master then resided in Cyprus. He never lived in Europe.

The Grand Master was elected by the Knights in the following manner: On the death of the Grand Master, a Grand Prior was chosen to administer the affairs of the order until a successor could be elected. On the day set aside for the election, the Knights assembled and three or more of the most esteemed Knights were proposed. The Grand Prior collected the votes, and the one who received the greatest number was nominated to be the electing Prior. An assistant was then associated with him, and these two remained all night in the chapel at prayer. In the morning, they chose two others, and those four chose two more until a total of 12 (the number of Christ's Apostles) had been called.

The 12 then selected a thirteenth, who was the Chaplain of the group. The 13 then voted for a Grand Master, who was elected by a majority vote. Upon completion, the results were announced to the assembled brethren. After all had promised obedience, the Prior, if the person elected was present, said to him, "In the name of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, we have chosen, and do choose thee brother \* \* \* \* to be our Master." The Prior would then turn to the Knights and say, "Beloved sirs and brethren, give thanks unto God, behold here our Master." The Chaplain then sang a song and the brethren carried their new Master into the chapel and placed him before the altar.

\* \* \* \* \*

There is sufficient evidence to verify the fact that the early Templars had secret ceremonies somewhat similar to the Masonic Knights Templar of today. The organization fell into disrepute with Pope Clement V and some 120 accusations made — most of them no doubt malicious falsehoods invented by the Pope and his advisors. One of the chief accusations was that the Templars held their meetings behind closed and guarded doors, and no one except members were allowed to enter.

During the last years of its existence, little can be said in defense of the order. The manner in which they were extinguished has raised a feeling of compassion in their behalf, but the manner in which they used the property that had been bequeathed to them could not be forgiven.

The Templar dissolution in the 14th century has bequeathed an inglorious memory on the names of the order's two principal enemies: King Philip the Fair, anxious to secure the wealth of the order, and Pope Clement V, by whose command the order was destroyed.

Sir Knight Blanton lives at 60 Maywood Drive, Jackson, Tennessee 38301.

‡

At age 73, Sir Knight Elwyn Noyes Robinson of Santa Fe Commandery No. 1, New Mexico, achieved yet another Masonic milestone when he was admitted to the ranks of the Knights of the York Cross of Honour on February 21. Sir Knight Robinson, a resident of Albuquerque, now retired from the U.S. Air Force as a Warrant Officer, first retired to Arizona. In the spring of 1965, he moved to New Mexico as the Field Agent for the Masonic Service Association. He spends most of his time as a Masonic volunteer — up to 7 days a week — working primarily at the Veterans Hospital in Albuquerque where he instituted a Volunteer Youth Group consisting of DeMolays, Jobies and Rainbow Girls. For this contribution to youth, Sir Knight Robinson was awarded the Knights Templar Cross of Honor in 1970. He was also recognized for his work with New Mexico youth by the Scottish Rite in 1973 when he was Knighted a Commander of the Court of Honor.

Sir Knight Robinson's Masonic career began while he was a member of the Air Force stationed in France. He was raised in Liberty Lodge No. 70, G.L.N.F, Biarritz, where he also received the Scottish Rite Degrees. He went on to affiliate in New Mexico, serving several terms as Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge there. His York Rite membership today is in Sante Fe, where he is a past presiding officer of the Chapter, Council and Commandery. He has also served as Associate Grand Guardian of the Order of Job's Daughters; Commander of the Legion of Honor of Ballut Abyad Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Chief of Enchantment Council No. 21, Knight Masons; and he is a member of National Sojourners and Heroes of '76.

Speaking for the brethren in New Mexico, state Grand Commander Robert M. Abernathy admits to their "pride in having such a distinguished Mason in the State — one who has not asked for fee or reward." His "triple crown" of achievement — K.T.C.H., K.C.C.H., and K.Y.C.H. — is a first for New Mexico Masonry.

### **Mrs. Hobby Spreads the Word of S.O.O.B.**

Since her installation as Supreme Worthy President of the Social Order of the Beauceant on October 1, 1982, Mrs. Charles D. Hobby, Tacoma, Washington, has traveled to 32 of the 36 states which have Beauceant Assemblies. And at the last correspondence, she was still "on the move."

Her most recent trip was to Orlando, Florida, where she was to meet with 45 petitioners to constitute a new Beauceant Assembly.

Mrs. Hobby is a Registered Nurse and a veteran of the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps, recently employed as Occupational Health Nurse for the U.S. Army. Her husband, Sir Knight Charles, is a member of Ivanhoe Commandery No. 4, Tacoma.

### **International Masonic Day Called**

Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ohio Masons Vernon E. Musser has proclaimed May 21, 1983, as "International Masonic Day" in Cleveland as a way "to further cement American/Canadian Masonic fellowship." All Symbolic Lodges and Masonic organizations in Ohio have been asked to take an active part in supporting the international fraternal event, which will begin with a lunch for brethren and their ladies at the Scottish Rite Temple, 3615 Euclid Avenue in Cleveland.

At 2:00 p.m., the Fellowcraft Team from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police will exemplify the Master Mason Degree in full Canadian Form. Dinner and entertainment have been planned following the Degree presentation.

---

## GEORGE WASHINGTON RODGERS (1781-1832)

---

by

James R. Case, K.T.C.H.

Grand Historiographer of Connecticut

At six o'clock in the morning of October 18, 1826, there was an "assemblage" of Washington Commandery at New London, Connecticut. It was an early start, but there was a busy day ahead, with sixteen aspirants on whom the "degrees of knighthood" were to be conferred. Most of the candidates were notables, or became such in Connecticut Masonic circles, but among them were two naval officers, David Jewett, an Admiral in the Brazilian Navy, and "Companion George W. Rodgers a Captain in the U.S. Navy." The latter owned a home in New London, and it was "voted, as a compliment to him as a man and a Mason, to confer the degrees of knighthood on him gratuitously."

George Washington Rodgers was born on the 22nd of February 1781 at the family homestead on the banks of the Susquehanna, across the river from Havre de Grace. From that quarter sprang "one of the most noted of American naval families," the sons and later generations providing a dozen or more officers of distinction.

Under patronage of an older brother, George was appointed a Midshipman in 1800 and began his service afloat with the squadron stationed in the Mediterranean, sent there to protect American merchant shipping from North African pirates. He was promoted to Lieutenant in 1807 and assigned to the *Wasp* in home waters as Sailing Master or navigator. In one of those "brilliant naval duels" in which American vessels were engaged during the War of 1812, on October 18th the sloop *Wasp* closed on the British gun-brig *Frolic*, which had a convoy under escort

in West Indian waters. When severely hulled and dismasted by superior gunnery, the *Frolic* hauled down her colors. It was just in time, as the bowsprits were locked and a boarding party under Rodgers was about to scramble onto the forecastle. Commodore Jacob Jones, in dispatches reporting the encounter, commended Rodgers for his conduct. Later he was awarded a silver medal by Congress and given a presentation sword by his native state.

Both vessels were wallowing helplessly in heavy seas with spars and rigging cut up when the lookout on a British frigate spied them. Running up to investigate the entangled vessels, the frigate took possession of both. After a short internment in Bermuda, the Americans were returned to New York in a cartel.

Rodgers was next assigned to duty in Decatur's squadron which was blockaded at New London by a stronger British force for more than a year. There he met and married Anna Maria Perry, and here the couple established their home. Anna's brother, Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, won his fame in the battle of Lake Erie. Another, Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry, opened Japan to American commerce.

After a treaty of peace had been signed, Rodgers was given command of the *Peacock* in the Mediterranean. His next assignment was in the New York Navy Yard, where he was Acting Commandant in 1825 when promoted to Captain. On leave back home — if not in home port — he was honored by the Knights Templar. His mother Lodge and Chapter → → →

membership have not been ascertained.

The Falkland Islands, where contention over ownership has endured for centuries, were occupied by a small colony from Argentina in 1829. An over-zealous governor began to harass the New England whaling vessels which called and refitted there often. Some were seized "on grounds of encroachment." Argentina had just won her independence from Spain and was in a state of political turmoil not yet dispelled. The United States decided to send a flotilla to the South Atlantic to observe developments and protect the whalers. Selectivity had to be exercised in choosing a capable commander for the enterprise, one who had some diplomatic finesse and who could also command respect. The choice fell on reputable George Washington Rodgers.

The Brazil squadron was organized and outfitted at New York and departed late in 1831 for southern waters, with the Commodore's broad pennant flying from the masthead of the *Warren*. The first port of call was Rio de Janeiro where Rodgers conferred with Jewett then put in at Montevideo. There he was overtaken by a "visceral inflammation," said to be endemic in South American seaports. The victim's years of physical inactivity and his corpulence were not favorable to resistance. He died on May 21, 1832, and was buried at Buenos Aires.

Twenty years later, his remains were raised, borne to New York on the steam driven *Lexington*, taken to New London, and retired on June 6, 1850, in Cedar Grove Cemetery where a brown-stone column marks the spot. It was too soon after the anti-Masonic excitement for the Fraternity to assume a prominent place in the funeral procession. The local historian wrote that a "great concourse of people, from New London and neighboring towns assembled for the occasion." Governor Thomas H. Seymour (see *Knight Templar Magazine* July 1977) then a Mason and later Eminent Commander of Washington

## DeMolay Sword Presentation



Renton Chapter, Order of DeMolay in Renton, Washington, recently received several Templar swords — a gift from the members of Bethlehem Commandery No. 19, Seattle. The swords, which will be used by Renton Chapter during installations and for such ceremonies as the "Arch of Steel," were presented by Past Commanders Frank Davidson (left) and Walter Parrot (right). They were gratefully accepted by Master Councilor Andrew Dean (center).

The swords, according to Sir Knight Davidson, had originally belonged to Past Commanders of Bethlehem Commandery and are believed to be more than 100 years old. The news and picture were submitted by Robert Dickson, 2nd Preceptor and Public Affairs Co-ordinator, and forwarded by Sir Knight Anthony Dean of Rainier Commandery No. 28 in Renton. Sir Knight Dean is the Advisor of Renton DeMolay and the father of the current Master Councilor.

---

Commandery, came down from Hartford with the colorful Foot Guard as escort. "The large number of persons that assembled . . . the blending of military pomp with religious services, and solemn martial music from a U.S. service band . . . rendered it an impressive scene."

Home was the sailor — home from the seas!

Sir Knight Case is a member of Washington Commandery No. 1 in Hartford; his address is 55 Masonic Avenue, Apt. No. 302, Wallingford, Connecticut 06492.



## IN SUPPORT OF YORK RITE UNIFICATION

by

Sir Knight David Andrews, P.C.  
Watsonville Commandery No. 22, California

I read with a great deal of interest Sir Knight B. Kendall Pitkin's case for the unification of the York Rite which appeared in the December issue of the *Knight Templar Magazine*. Sir Knight Pitkin has most assuredly expressed my sentiments and, I daresay, those of many other Sir Knights across the country who have experienced the frustration and futility of trying to keep our York Rite bodies simply functioning while at the same time having to carry the burden of a cumbersome, unworkable, and totally unrealistic legal and administrative structure for today's environment.

At a time when escalating costs and diminishing manpower dictate a wiser deployment of our resources, we stubbornly stay the same course thinking that one day the "good old days" will return and all our troubles will miraculously evaporate. Sir Knights, those days will *never* return. We simply have to learn how to survive in a constantly changing environment. That means we have to have the flexibility and willingness to change often and quickly if we are to remain current and relevant.

Sadly, my discussions with others about appropriate changes suggest that resistance revolves around (1) blind refusal to accept any kind of change on some unfounded belief that our present system is somehow sacred and inviolate, and (2) as Sir Knight Pitkin puts it, personal ambition, pride, etc., often takes a higher priority than the good of the fraternity. It is no accident that any successful organization, be it a fraternal group or business, can only stand the test

of time by making appropriate changes to keep up with those times and meet competitive influences.

We have neither kept up with the times nor formulated strategies to match competition. Rather, it seems to me, we have remained totally oblivious to what is going on around us. We can all cite examples of business failures caused by unwillingness or inability to effect change. By what figment of the imagination do we think the York Rite is immune to the need for change and inevitable failure if we don't?

Sir Knights, the York Rite needs a face lift and a change in image fast, or we are doomed to extinction. We need leadership that can "turn on" our membership to goals and priorities for the *York Rite* that are consistent with the needs of people in the 1980s. Somehow the endless string of boring meetings and the incessant array of introductions at formal occasions designed to stroke over inflated egos fails to impress me, and I don't think they impress many of the kinds of men we should be attracting to Masonry and the York Rite.

Sir Knight Pitkin has thrown down the gauntlet. I hope every Companion and Sir Knight who cares about and believes in a future for the York Rite will take up the challenge and let his views be known. Unless there is a strong outcry from our membership, I feel certain that "business as usual" will prevail and, while unification is by no means a panacea for all our problems, it is a necessary step to position us to address those problems. It will allow us to make a more efficient and effective use of our resources . . . → → →



Manchester, Connecticut, was the site February 26 of a Tri-State Commandery Festival conducted by the Grand Commanderies of Connecticut, New York, and Massachusetts — Rhode Island, and hosted by Washington Commandery No. 1, Hartford. Pictured above are members of the class with the three Grand Commandery representatives: (l-r) Albert E. Thornley, Jr., Deputy Grand Commander, Massachusetts and Rhode Island; Leonard F. D'Amico, Grand Commander, Connecticut; and J. Robert Bourhill, Grand Commander, New York.

Following the Commandery opening at 9:00 a.m., Springfield Commandery No. 6, Massachusetts, William Richards, E.C., presented the Order of the Red Cross; the Order of Malta was then conferred by Bethlehem-Crusader Commandery No. 53, White Plains, New York, Robert Bennett, E.C. In the afternoon, the Order of the Temple was conferred by Washington Commandery, James B. Patterson, E.C.

---

### ... YORK RITE UNIFICATION

of time, money and manpower. Do not fail to respond. Your fraternity needs you now more than ever. This is the most important issue to face our fraternity in the immediate future, and upon its successful implementation resides its potential for advancement or certain demise. You can make a significant contribution simply by supporting a call for unification and letting your support be known by writing the *Knight Templar Magazine*. A strong grass roots demand for change cannot long be ignored.

Sir Knight Andrews lives at 2255 Twin Hills Drive, Santa Cruz, California 95065.

### \$125 Additional Contribution

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation was recipient of a \$125 check representing a second contribution raised from proceeds of the sale of "Washington Masonic First Day Covers," a project undertaken last year by Sir Knight John R. Allen, Ivanhoe Commandery No. 19, New Orleans, Louisiana. To date, Sir Knight Allen has forwarded contributions totaling \$785 to the Eye Foundation. His project also helped raise funds for the Scottish Rite Museum of Our National Heritage, the Louisiana Lodge Building Fund, and the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.

---

## AGING OR JUST GETTING OLDER?

---

by

Sir Knight H. C. Arbuckle, III  
Corpus Christi Commandery No. 57, Texas

In June 1982, I was attending an economic seminar in New York State and heard a speaker named Perry E. Gresham. Being duly impressed with his talk, I struck up a conversation with him, then saw he was wearing a pocket watch, asked to see it, and was pleasantly surprised when I saw a square and compasses attached to it. It developed that Brother Gresham is a member of Fort Worth Lodge No. 148, A.F. & A.M., Texas; Wheeling Commandery No. 1, West Virginia; and the Detroit Scottish Rite Bodies. In fact, in only 13 years Brother Gresham will be eligible for a Texas 50-year Masonic Service Award.

One thing about Brother Gresham that really impressed me was his vitality. He is a dynamic speaker, and goes around the country speaking, working, directing, and so forth. When you consider he was born in 1905, the result — a live, vibrant, septuagenarian — is even more impressive.

His latest book, *With Wings as Eagles*, gives this remarkable man's philosophy about growing older. Brother Gresham believes that the typical scenario of the human life cycle of childhood, adolescence, maturity, slow decline, and death is not necessarily the way it has to be.

Brother Gresham's chapter titles are enthusiastic, too. "The Surge of the Sixties" sets forth his thesis that obsolescence is not the final goal in life, and he goes on to point out the people who were and are still creating at and past retirement age.

"Aging in America" lists the misconceptions gained by stereotyping older Americans. He styles the present generation "The Throwaway Generation" and makes his case rather well.

In the chapter titled "Not If I Can Help It," he indicates what he can do about the problems in Chapter Two. One in particular tickled my fancy: "I shall . . . restrain my tongue — even though I have been a teacher, lecturer, preacher, speaker and opinionater throughout my professional life." That's an admirable goal for anybody and everybody.

The next two chapters, "The Images of Aging" and "Providing the Conditions," set out Brother Gresham's philosophy and how he works towards achieving his goals. Then in "Retirement and Renewal," "Renewal and Persistent Problems," and "Renewal and Personal Relationships," he discusses problems that will crop up at retirement age and after and gives suggestions on how to overcome these problems.

His final chapter, "Soaring Over the Valley," deserves quoting: "Renewal means that life can be glorious and triumphant before death comes." (p.151) "... the great trilogy of 'faith, hope and love' can lift the renewed person above the terror and despair which may invite an early demise." (p. 152) "The fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man is a basic assumption of my entire life." (p. 154) "A belief in life after death is an extension of belief in God." (p. 160) And finally, "The person who lives by faith need not fear the everlasting shadow." (p. 163).

Old or young, Brother Perry E. Gresham's book is one you will enjoy and be able to use. Order it for \$10.95 from Brother Gresham at Bethany College, Bethany, West Virginia 26032. And tell him Herb sent you. □

---

## HISTORY OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT

---

### CHAPTER VI (continued)

#### KNIGHT TEMPLARY IN AMERICA PRIOR TO 1816

As noted, the self-styled Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island — later titled the “Grand Encampment of Knights Templar and the Appendant Orders — was active in its efforts to unify and expand the Order in the United States. In May 1816, when the Constitution of that body was again revised, the following motion was adopted:

*“Resolved, That three delegates be appointed from this Grand Encampment to meet and confer with any or all other Grand Encampments that are now established within the United States or with such delegates as may be appointed by any or all of the said Grand Encampments, upon the subject of a general union of all encampments in the United States under one head, and general form of government, and that the said delegates be, and they are hereby, invested with full power and authority to enter into such engagements and stipulations, and make such arrangements upon the said subject, as they may deem expedient, and proper to promote the honor and interests of the orders of Knighthood.*

*“Resolved, That M. W. Sir Thomas Smith Webb, and W. Sir Henry Fowle of Boston and W. Sir John Snow of Providence, be, and they are hereby, appointed delegates for the before mentioned purposes.”*

This brings us to the time of the formation of the General Grand Encampment in 1816. So far we have noted the establishment of Grand Encampments in Pennsylvania, New York and in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

The *first* and earliest Grand Encampment in the United States was that reported by Alfred Creigh as being established in Pennsylvania in 1794. It was of very short duration, and a second Grand Encampment in that State was organized in 1814. This Grand Encampment had the beginning of a General Grand Encampment as it had subordinate bodies in Maryland, Delaware and in New York. However, it did not follow up the lead and later became dormant.

The unusual procedure followed in the organization of the Grand Encampment of New York in 1814 has been noted. This Grand Encampment also had one foreign subordinate encampment, that in New Orleans.

The Grand Encampment of Rhode Island, later becoming the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, was established in 1805. There were no other Grand Encampments in existence at that time, so the honor of being the oldest Grand Encampment in the United States having a *continuous* existence goes to that body.

Under the active leadership of Thomas S. Webb, steps were soon taken to extend its jurisdiction to other states. Even the name of the Grand Body was changed to the “United States Grand Encampment” in keeping with this idea. The constitution adopted at that time is of interest as it is *in reality* the constitution of a *General* Grand Encampment. There is no doubt that Webb intended that this body should be the supreme governing body

for the United States, but for some reason it did not go over, and it was not until 1816, evidently with the assistance of Thomas Lowndes of New York, that his dream of a supreme Grand Body for the government of the Knights Templar of the United States was carried into execution. With delegates from the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island and from the Grand Encampment of New York, a *second* and the present General Grand Encampment was established.

## CHAPTER VII

### FORMATION OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF THE UNITED STATES

We come now to the year 1816, a banner year in the history of the Grand Encampment, for in this year it had its beginning.

In the New England states, the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, under the zealous direction of Henry Fowle, had been active, and, as we have seen, anxious to spread its influence over other Encampments of Knights Templar wherever located in the United States.

At the meeting of May 15, 1816, the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island adopted the following resolution:

*"Resolved that three delegates be appointed from this Grand Encampment to meet and confer with any or all other Grand Encampments that are now established within the United States, or with such delegates as may be appointed by any or all of the said Grand Encampments, upon the subject of a general union of all the Encampments in the United States under one head and general form of Government, and that the said delegates, be, and they are hereby,*

*invested with full power and authority to enter into such engagements and stipulations, and make such arrangements upon the said subject, as they may deem expedient and proper to promote the honor and interests of the Orders of Knighthood.*

*"Resolved, That M. W. Sir Thomas Smith Webb, and W. Sir Henry Fowle of Boston, and W. Sir John Snow of Providence, be, and they are hereby, appointed delegates for the before-mentioned purposes."*

In New York, the Grand Encampment had been organized in 1814, and by 1816 had two constituent bodies, Columbian Encampment in New York and Indivisible Friends Encampment in New Orleans. A special meeting was called on June 9, 1816, "to consider the propriety of deputing a delegate, or proxy, to represent this Grand Encampment in the convention of Representatives from the Grand Encampments of several States of the Union, to be held at Philadelphia on Tuesday next." Apparently the consideration was favorable:

*"Upon motion, duly made and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that Sir Thomas Lowndes be delegated from this Grand Encampment to said Convention, with powers to prose the acknowledgment of a General Grand Encampment for the United States of America, should one be formed by said Convention, provided that the said General Grand Encampment recognize this Grand Encampment in its present powers, and as supreme over the State of New York."*

(to be continued)

Scully's HISTORY OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT, soon to be updated in book form by the Committee on Templar History, is included as a monthly feature of the KNIGHT TEMPLAR MAGAZINE.



## KNIGHT VOICES

COMMENTS FROM READERS



▣ For sale — set of 45 Commemorative coins of Blue Lodges, Scottish and York Rite Bodies. Entire set \$200 or each coin \$7. Send for list. *Irv Bressler, 2215 Bressler Court, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610*

▣ I am a past presiding officer of several Masonic Bodies and also a Past International President of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. I am wondering whether or not any Sir Knights, or their families, may have had a father, or grandfather (or otherwise) interested in magic — and may have acquired their magical apparatus items. If so, and if they would like to place them with a person genuinely interested in magic, I would like to add the items to my own personal collection and would give the donor(s) full credit in my display, in my home, to visiting magicians who come by to look at the older magical items of “yesteryear.” Any apparatus items, catalogs, photos, or other memorabilia would be appreciated. *Bill Pitts, 506 N. 2nd Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901*

▣ Since having been disabled by a stroke and unable to work steady, I have taken up knitting and have stockings and ski hats for sale. Wool or acrylic stockings (size 7 to 13), basic colors — \$12.00 a pair, and personalized hats — \$6.00; plus shipping charges of \$1.50. I am a member of DeMolay Commandery, Skowhegon, Maine. *Roland C. Jones, Route No. 1, Box 2340, Norridgewock, Maine 04957*

▣ Knight Templar watch fob for sale. *John Kilgore, 3303 Parkside Terrace, Fairfax, Virginia 22031*

▣ Query: David Louk, born Montgomery Co., New York, April 19, 1789, married Clarry Scott from Vermont. She was born June 4, 1796. They came to Fulton Co., Illinois, in early 1800; had 8 children. One, Benjamin Franklin Louk, was my great grandfather. David was a veteran of the War of 1812, Hart's Co., Churchill Div., died 1845, buried Fulton Co., Illinois. Trying to ascertain who David's father and mother were. Name probably changed from Laux or Louck. *N. C. Louk, 2111 Van Buren, Topeka, Kansas 66611*

▣ Seeking information on the names Jameson and Finley. Wm. D. Jameson, b. January 31, 1839, Monroe Co., Georgia; m. Mary Josephine Finley, daughter of James Finley and Mary Ann Akin (Arkin), both b. Georgia, d. Union Co., Arkansas. Wm. D. Jameson joined Mt. Carmel Masonic Lodge which was then located at Pigeon Hill, Arkansas. Made Master Mason at New London, Arkansas. Was lawyer, County and Probate judge at El Dorado. Cannot find burial or cause of death about 1899. Rumored murdered by disgruntled defendant. *Mrs. Colby McDonough, 360 Mockingbird Lane, Midlothian, Texas 76065*

▣ For sale — Hamilton pocket watch, gold case. Instead of numerals on face, each hour is represented by the working tools of Masonry. 23 jewels; no longer manufactured. Thin case, 1¾ inches across. Appraised at \$500; will take \$400. Will send pictures in color, if interested. *Mrs. J. F. Edmonds, P.O. Box 157, Orangeburg, South Carolina 29115*

□ Seeking descendents of George Washington Warner and Gabriel B. Warner, two of five brothers separated by the Civil War. Warner family lived near Vicksburg, Mississippi, or possibly Memphis, Tennessee. *S. A. Warner, 4900 N.W. 36, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73122*

□ I would like information on several descendants. John Keister and two brothers came to America to fight against the English in the Revolutionary War. I would like information on the two brothers. *Beman Keister, 3805 Walmar Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43224*

□ I am interested in hearing from anyone having books, magazines, memorabilia, etc., about the U.S. Marine Corps which they are willing to dispose of either by gift (I will pay postage) or by selling. *Donald H. Scroggins, 1708 Liberty Street, Parkersburg, West Virginia 26101*

□ I have in my possession Masonic Buckles and Shrine neckware, square and compasses, twoball-cain (sic), and 47th problem. Great conversation pieces. Write for information. *Walter Kominicki, 69 Edmund Street, Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895*

□ Our house was broken into and my Knight Templar sword was stolen. It was engraved, "Charles F. Skinner, Damascus Commandery No. 42, Detroit, Michigan." Any help in locating my sword would be appreciated. *C. F. Skinner, R.R. 2, Fife Lake, Michigan 49633*

□ Could any of the Companions give me some assistance in the value and history of the famous Masonic coins, "Sterling Silver Proofs of the 11th through the 50th Commemoratives Privately Struck by International Commemorative Society"? I would appreciate any information. *Don Johnson, Medford Center Building, No. 332, 33 North Central, Medford, Oregon 97501*

## Cross Stitch Craze

A March 4, 1983, letter from Sir Knight Orlando M. Bowen, Allen Commandery No. 20, Allentown, Pennsylvania, began, "I hope that there is never any doubt in your mind whether or not your excellent magazine is read. I have had requests from every state in the Union for the Masonic Cross Stitch charts which were first announced in the *Knight Templar* in 1981." His correspondence included a check for \$200 made out to the Eye Foundation and the statement, "A portion of each chart sale is donated to a Masonic Charity, hence my check enclosed . . . I have also made a contribution to the Scottish Rite Museum in Lexington, Massachusetts."

Charts, which include instructions and a list of threads to be used, have been developed for Blue Lodge, Knight Templar, Shrine, Eastern Star and, more recently, Rainbow for Girls. They may be ordered, while quantities last, at a cost of \$3 each from Sir Knight Bowen, 721 South 25th Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18103. A "Scottish Rite Combination" (two charts, for 32° and 33°) is available for \$4 (name of Valley should be included).

---

□ Wanted: Murfreesboro Commandery No. 10, Tennessee, is in need of swords, sword belts, scabbards and chapeaux. Any Sir Knight having such items for sale, please send price and description of condition to: *C. Doug Thomas, P.C., Route 4, Box 340, Tullahoma, Tennessee 37388*

**Editor's Note:** To those of you who have forwarded items for "Knight Voices" and are wondering why they haven't appeared as yet — we currently have a backlog of more than 100 letters on hand awaiting publication. In general, items are printed in order of receipt. Our backlog now dates back to July of 1982.

## SO PROUD

“Be good, my son,” she told me  
When she saw me off to school;  
“Play fair, be kind and generous  
And follow the ‘Golden Rule.’  
Stand for the right things always,  
Speak out manly and loud —  
Your mother will be waiting  
And she will be so proud.”



“Learn to fight life's battles,” she said,  
“But always be true and fair;  
Work for the things you cherish  
And only claim your fair share.  
Keep joy and sunshine within you  
With seldom a frown or a cloud —  
Your mother will be watching  
And she will be so proud.”



“Be the ‘man of tomorrow,’ ” she said;  
“Be big in thought and deed:  
Prepare for trials and frustrations,  
Stay clear of smallness and greed.  
Make each day a glad adventure,  
Each duty, a summons aloud —  
Your mother will be praying  
And she will be so proud.”



If success should crown my efforts,  
If I should reach my goal;  
I will thank the blessed guidance  
Of her sweet, unselfish soul.  
I will thrill to the joy of winning;  
Not for the shouts of the crowd,  
Not for the gaudy ribbon,  
Not for the praises loud;  
But just for the joy of knowing  
That she would be so proud.

