

met by representatives from Houghton Lodge, Houghton, Quincy Lodge, Hancock, and Calumet Lodge, Calumet. A special train being in readiness, those who wished to visit the Calumet mines (the largest copper mines in the world) had an opportunity of doing so, as they are but twelve miles from Hancock, where we first landed. At one o'clock p. m., those who remained were taken to Torch Lake by steamer, where the smelting works of the above-named mines are situated. As the steamer neared the dock, a cannon was discharged three times as a salute, and two brass bands struck up "God Save the Queen" and the "Red White, and Blue." At this place we were joined by the rest of the party who had been sent from Calumet there by another special train, and after a stay of an hour and a half we went on board the boat and returned to Houghton, and where entertained at tea, and afterwards a splendid ball, given at the Douglas House. Leaving early on the morning of the 25th, we returned home, all being loud in their praises of the royal manner in which we were received and entertained by our American brethren, who certainly spared neither trouble nor expense. Besides the enjoyment, we had the satisfaction of adding largely to our Lodge funds after paying expenses. Yours fraternally,

P. A. L.

Costume of the Masonic Knights Templar.

To the Editor of THE CRAFTSMAN.

R. W. SIR AND BRO.,—The question of adopting an "out-door" costume and drill, by members of the Templar jurisdiction of Canada, in imitation of the U. S. Templars, lately brought forward and strongly advocated by a section of the Canadian Order, having attracted some attention, it appears necessary to point out how completely such an innovation would be at variance with the general statutes and practices of British Templary,

the two systems being so totally dissimilar. We endeavor to conform to the history and traditions of the Ancient Order, whereas they show no historical connection between Knighthood and Freemasonry, founding their system on degrees of the A. & A. S. Rite, and have engrafted Masonic forms and usages that never existed in the early Order, differing materially from what we consider genuine Templary in Ritual, Doctrine, and Nomenclature. The General Statutes, and those of the Great Priory of Canada, lay down that the distinctive costume of the old Templar Order is to be worn at meetings of Preceptories, but there is no provision made, or is it intended, that it should be paraded in public, or that the British Association of Templars should assume any rank or precedence *whatever* outside of the meetings of such Preceptories, bearing in mind that as a rule in civil life, little or no honor is accorded to Masonic dignities, and the less conspicuous they are made the more are they appreciated. The *White Mantle, with the blood red cross, as of old*, is the distinguishing symbolical badge of the Order, as the white apron is that of Craft Masonry, both of which it is equally objectionable to wear in public. The modern military uniform of the U. S. Templars has no such significance, being merely a modification of that worn by the staff officers of their army, without any reference whatever to the costume of the old Knights. Imitation, therefore, on this particular point, by the adoption of a *foreign military uniform*, however proper and appropriate it may be for U. S. Templars, would be quite out of place, if not an impropriety on the part of subjects of Her Majesty the Queen, whose son, the heir to the throne, is our Grand Master. Indeed, we might expect to hear that the appearance of Canadian members of the Order visiting the Mother Country, and appearing in such a military dress, instead of being taken