

(THIS IS APPENDEX "B," REFERRED TO IN THE ANNEXED PROCEEDINGS.)

"The Good of the Order," an Essay, by Sister S. M. Cummings, of Perseverance Lodge, No. 1, G. V. T.

It is certainly a comprehensive subject, for in this short phrase, taken in its broadest meaning, lie, bound up, the entire welfare and prosperity of the Order. How shall we at once interest, amuse and instruct those whom we gather within our family circle? How shall we make our Lodge home so homelike that even those who seek only amusement may find within its walls stronger attractions than they can find elsewhere? Our field is the world. St. Paul, "who strove to be all things to all men that perchance some might be saved," had scarcely a more difficult task than a Good Templar's Lodge when it sets itself to become attractive to minds of the most different character, and yet never lose sight of the great principle laid down in its Ritual "To promote the interests of the Order, and to advance the cause of Temperance." I believe there is no set plan or universal formula by which "Good of the Order" can be prescribed and administered in just the right doses for each Lodge. The method that applied to one is a glorious success, is an equally inglorious failure used in another. In the older and more settled communities of the East, society has, so to speak, become stratified, and among the members of a community, like has attracted like, until we are almost sure to find in every organization, a sort of equality and similarity of tastes that makes questions of this kind much easier to solve. How is it with us? The East is sending us some of her noblest sons and daughters, but with them comes many a one glad to escape from a parent's control; whose conduct has silvered a father's hair and made a mother's heart throb with pain. What shall we do with them—how bind them to our cause? A difficult question, for in the answer to this lies the answer to the other one, "what shall we do for the Good of the Order?" Too narrow a definition of these important words is often at the root of the failure of so many Good Templars' Lodges. The generally accepted definition is, that Good of the Order means simply the exercises, musical and literary, that some few of the members are obliging enough to supply for the entertainment of the rest. There was never a greater mistake. It is true these exercises are important, but it is also true that every part of the Lodge ceremonies, every act of its members, should be in the true spirit and meaning of the Ritual, having the principles of the Order next to our religion, if not a part and parcel of it. There is in every Lodge a little, sometimes a very little band of

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