

all that was required of him. With such feelings there can be no looseness in performing the work.

FOUNDER OF THE ORDER.

As you are all aware, brethren, the founder of our Order, Justus H. Rathbone, was in the divine wisdom of the Almighty Ruler of the universe, summoned from this vale of tears to his Castle Hall on high, there to reap the reward of his labors here on earth.

You are familiar with much that has been said and written of the life and character of this noble man—one of earth's noblemen—and it is unnecessary for me to repeat it here; but while we deplore the death of Justus H. Rathbone, as one of the most severe shocks of late days to our Order, yet we rejoice to know that he has entered into those realms of light, where he will remember his earthly sufferings and trials no more, and where he will wait with calm content the blessings of eternal peace.

UNIFORM RANK.

There has been a large increase in the membership of the Uniform Rank during the past year, and the prejudices of members of the Order seem fast wearing away as against this Rank. I am happy to inform you that two Divisions have been instituted by our veteran member, Brother James Moulson, during my term of office, and it now only needs one more Division to entitle us to the organization of a Regiment of this Rank in this Jurisdiction.

MEMORIAL DAY.

This day was generally observed throughout this Jurisdiction, and I verily believe that the observance of this day has come to stay among us, and that it will ever be recognized as one of the institutions of the Order. There can be no question about its usefulness as a means of making the order known, for in localities where we observed the day this year, no such gathering of people has taken place as on the day the graves of our departed brethren were remembered. The services on this day give the public a very favorable impression of our Order, and make them think there must be something very binding in its mysteries if we are so particular to bear in our kindly remembrances those who have been taken away from our ranks. Let us keep this day and its object fresh in our minds, that each succeeding year while we have the chance we may be the more ready to do, to those who have preceded us into the unknown mysterious darkness, what we shall like to have done to us by those whom we leave behind.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

I beg to submit for your consideration the following recommendations, viz.:—That the Constitution of Subordinate Lodges be