

A GRAND OCCASION.

So much interest is felt among the Masonic fraternity in, reference to the approaching Eighteenth Triennial session of Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, together with the meetings of other Masonic bodies, which will be held at Baltimore from 19th to the 21st of September, and such generous preparation and whole-souled efforts are being made by the Baltimore brethren, that we give below, from the *Baltimore American*, an account of their action, with a sketch of the programme for the occasion, and other interesting facts bearing upon the case :

"The Committee of Arrangements, who have been entrusted with the programme of events which are to characterize the Masonic Triennial which occurs in this city in September next, have decided upon the following programme :

Thirty Commanderies have notified the committee that they will attend the Convention and that they will be accompanied by twenty-five bands of music, which, of course, means that the "crack" bands of the United States will discourse sweet music day and night in Baltimore during the session of the august body of Sir Knights. The Convention will be in session four days, commencing on the 19th, and a large number of delegates will arrive at Baltimore on Sunday, the 17th. The two first days of the session will be devoted to the business of the Order, and on Thursday a grand parade and review of upwards of 5,000 Sir Knights, arrayed in all the regalia of the Order, will be had through the principal streets of the city, after which the procession will march to Druid Hill and a grand review be had at the new lake by the Grand Master of the G. E. Encampment of the United States, Wm. Sewell Gardner. While at the Park an address of welcome will be delivered by G. E. M. John H. B. Latrobe, of the G. E. L. A. F. and A. M. of Maryland,

after which an entertainment, will be proffered to the Sir Knights and their ladies and other invited guests. General James M. Anderson has been appointed Grand Marshal of the day.

An important feature in the procession will be the appearance of thirty mounted Sir Knights of the Red Cross, arrayed in appropriate regalia, and attended by mounted aids and marshals. The entire procession will be in charge of the Grand Commandery of Maryland, assisted by the subordinate Commanderies of the city. Three of the visiting Commanderies have already secured the Concordia, New Assembly Rooms and Raine's beautiful hall for four days, and will keep open the house during the day, and at night will entertain their friends.

"In order that some of the visitors may not lack the society of the ladies, one Commandery has written to the Committee of Arrangements that forty married men of that particular organization will be accompanied by their wives.

"The Commanderies of Chicago are determined that their visit to Baltimore will be on as grand a scale and as convenient as possible, and to render the trip such, they have engaged four Pullman palace cars to convey them to and from Chicago.

"Excursions down the bay will be numerous while the strangers are in Baltimore, the Committee having already chartered three of the best steamboats belonging to this harbor.

"On the 22nd, the visitors will be handed over to the Commanderies of Washington, when a visit to that city and Mount Vernon will be made by such as desire to participate in the excursion. All in all the affair promises to be one of the most imposing civic demonstrations that has ever been seen in our streets, and it is estimated that in addition to the five thousand Knights Templar, who are to visit the city, that a like number of other strangers will accompany them.