

no solicitations, enter into no competition, issue no invitations. If any one comes to the door and knocks, there is no response unless he be found worthy, and, if he is, silently the door opens, and he may enter in. Our aim is to unite the best men in a sacred bond of brotherhood for the moral elevation of our race.—*Allen Andrews, G. M., Ohio.*

KNIGHTS TEMPLARY AND ARMENIA.

WHAT IS AMERICAN KNIGHTS TEMPLARY GOOD FOR?

Some time previous to the Triennial meeting of the Knights Templar of the United States in Boston, we took the opportunity of suggesting that that body, representing 100,000 of so called Christian Sir Knights, and claiming to be the successors of the brave men of Rhodes and Malta, should take some steps to let their principles be known on this, to them, so important a subject as the massacre of so many Christians by the insatiable Turk, the old enemy of the Order. The *American Tyler* referring to this matter in its issue of December 4th, says:

"Never in the history of Knight Templarism in America was a more golden opportunity afforded in which to write an imperishable record, than in the late triennial conclave in Boston. As avowed and obligated "Soldiers of the Cross of Christ," the clear duty of the hour binding upon every Knight Templar present was to have entered a scathing protest against the modern Soracens, in the horrible slaughter of Christians in Armenia. It was not incumbent upon them as Templars to have put on sword and shield and have inaugurated the "Eighth Crusade" in the close of the nineteenth century, but they had prominence unequalled in America, to have formulated a protest, having a moral force, that would have

"gone ringing round the world" against the "unspeakable Turk" and his centuries of monstrous atrocities that have painted Mohammedan lands with the crimson curse of hell's bitterest hate! But American Templarism could not behold these atrocities in the light of flaming homes, and the sparkling life-blood of mothers and babes, crying aloud to Christendom for succor and the Sin of Omission prevailed at Boston! The word virtually was, 'What is that to us, see thou to that!' and no resolution was formulated, no protest entered, no demurer recorded in the name of 1000,000 Christian "Soldiers of the Cross," representing civilized America! What can we say in extenuation of this Sin of Omission?

"We write as one upon whom the accolade of knighthood has been laid and our words are feeble, our pen paralyzed in giving expression to the feeling of indignation that pervades our every fibre, when we behold this glorious opportunity floating away into the eternity of the past, never possibly to return to the Templarism of America!"

"Yes, we admit that such a protest would have but little effect in staying the butchery in Armenia, but what is the position of the man who beholds a murder committed and holds his peace? He may not be able to save the victim, but he clears himself of responsibility in the crime by entering his protest. Fellow Sir Knights, is the inference clear? We dislike the 'I told you so' style of either writing or speaking, but in order to be just to ourselves we must use the expression. The *Tyler* for months before the conclave met in Boston, called attention to the coming 'opportunity,' that would place American Templarism on record, as being something more than a mere filterer, through which to distribute so many thousands of dollars; have a good time while doing it; return home satisfied with having faithfully performed our duty as Sir Knights, as commanderies, as jurisdictions, and as a Grand Encampment. We not only