

He opened a new Commandery at Bristol. On the passage of the ritual by the Grand Encampment he says :

"I regard the adoption of the Ritual as one of the most important of the Grand Encampment's actions. I have had the honor to be present at many of its councils, and for years have heard the wrangling over Ritual, witnessing many stormy scenes; so many that I feared it would be an impossibility to adopt anything that all would agree on. But when I witnessed that grand scene, when for two hours or more the Encampment was almost as still as death, heard the delivery, or rather exemplification, of the Work by Sir Knight Connor, as Secretary of the Ritual Committee, and then saw it adopted almost without the dotting of an i or the crossing of a t, I tell you I felt that it was well worth going the many weary miles that I did to hear and see all. And I must attribute much of this, without fulsome flattery, to Sir Knight Connor for the masterly and charming manner in which he exemplified the Work of the Committee. Connor only could have done it so well, and may he live long enough to see the fruit of his good work."

Frater Connor has received almost unlimited praise for his beautiful rendition of the new ritual which assisted so largely in securing its unanimous adoption. The favor with which it was received was a surprise to all present, as it was expected that there would be, as in former years, considerable diversity of opinion on the subject. However, the wisdom and ability of the Ritual Committee, coupled with a strong desire for uniformity, finally triumphed over all obstacles and now they have but one authorized ritual for all the States. This achievement by the Grand Encampment will alone be a sufficient justification for its existence. The new ritual is now worked in almost all the Commanderies in Tennessee.

The following resolutions were adopted :

"*Resolved*, That the new Templar Monitor, Shibboleth, prepared by our scholarly Grand Recorder, Sir G. C. Connor, P. G. C., be adopted as the Templar text-book of this jurisdiction."

"It is hereby declared to be an offence subjecting the offender to Knightly discipline for an elective officer of a Subordinate Commandery to fail to prepare and qualify himself in the work of the Commandery, so far as it may apply to his particular office, within a period of three months after his election."

The Conclave of 1894 will be held on the summit of Lookout Mountain, near Chattanooga.