

the possession of a common knowledge. Such, lastly, is Freemasonry, which is a secret society only as respects its signs, a few of its legends and traditions, and its method of inculcating its mystical philosophy, but which, as to everything else,—its designs, its objects, its moral and religious tenets, and the great doctrine which it teaches,—is as open a society as if it met on the highways beneath the sun of day and not within the well-guarded portals of a Lodge. The great error of writers who have attacked Freemasonry on the ground of its being a secret society, is that they confounded Freemasonry with political societies of revolutionary times whose object was the overthrow of governments. Masonry does nothing of the kind.—*Detroit Freemason.*

KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.

A Delegation from Palestine Commandery No 18, Knights Templars, of New York City, Visit Saint Omer Commandery.

A delegation of Sir Knights from Palestine Commandery, No. 18, of New York City, consisting of Em. Sir James W. Bowden, M. D., Commander; Sir Charles H. Gillespie, Captain General; Sir Mitchell Halliday, Senior Warden; Sir William R. Carr, Treasurer; Sir Hippolyte Vassel, Standard Bearer; Sir Charles P. Cocks, Sword Bearer, Sir James A. Rich, Asst. Quartermaster; Sir Stephen D. Afflick, Sir Francis T. Baker, Sir Joseph H. Barker, Sir Theodore Graeven, Sir N. B. Boutwell and Sir James N. Fuller, with Sir Adolphus D'Orville, Senior Warden of Adelphe Commandery, No. 59 of New York City, arrived in Boston Thursday morning for the purpose of paying a visit to Saint Omer Commandery at its special conclave in the evening. The visiting fraters were met at the Old Colony Railroad on their arrival by a committee of St. Omer's officers, and entertained at breakfast at the Adams House, the headquarters of the delegation. During the day the

visitors were the subject of marked attention from their Boston fraters, more especially from officers and Sir Knights of De Molay Commandery; between which body and Palestine Commandery a strong friendship, augmented by numerous exchanges of courtesies, has long existed. In the evening at eight o'clock, under the special escort of the full corps of officers of De Molay Commandery, the Sir Knights from Palestine Commandery, all in uniform, arrived at the Asylum of St. Omer Commandery in South Boston and were received with honors. Em. Sir Charles J. Noyes, the Commander, warmly welcoming the Eminent Commander and Sir Knights of Palestine Commandery and their escort, to which eloquent response was made by Em. Sir Knight Bowden.

Following the reception, the officers of St. Omer Commandery, in full costume, assisted by Sir Knights, and Sir Knight Carter's Instrumental Quartette, exemplifying the Order of the Red Cross, and at the close of the conclave all present were cordially invited to partake of the banquet spread in the upper hall. Cigars having been reached, Em. Sir Knight Noyes opened the post-prandial exercises by a speech of welcome to the guests of the evening who had journeyed so far to honor the Commandery with their presence, also to their escort, the officers of De Molay Commandery, and the large number of visiting Sir Knights from other Commanderies, and successively introduced Em. Sir James W. Bowden, Sirs Charles H. Gillespie, William R. Carr, James A. Rich and Stephen D. Afflick, of Palestine Commandery, Em. Sir Geo. T. Ambrose, P. Em. Sirs Rev. John W. Dadmun and Dr. Horace P. Hemenway of De Molay Commandery, each of whom made interesting speeches in response, and were roundly applauded.

Before a "good night" was said, "skyrockets" were sounded by the Palestine fraters, and responsive