

vancement ever attained in Freemasonry was by the fourth Duke of Atholl, who received the three degrees, was elected and installed Master of the Lodge, and was elected Grand Master of the "Ancients" (England), all in one day, viz, March 1st, 1775.—*Keystone*.

The Grand Lodge of England has upheld the appeal of Bro. W. H. Messenger, P. M. of Canterbury Lodge, (Church), against his expulsion by the District Grand Lodge of Canterbury for alleged adultery and desertion of his wife and family. The appeal was upheld on the grounds that the District Grand Lodge had not power to deal with the charge.

The *South African Freemason*, published at Cathcart, Cape Colony, says: We must once more protest against the error made by several of our exchanges in stating that there is a movement on foot to establish an independent Grand Lodge in South Africa. We ought to know, and certainly are unaware of anything of the kind. Here and there isolated Masons have spoken in favor of such an idea but it has never taken root in the minutest degree. We have written once upon the subject and expressed ourselves as against any "swarming off."

A short time since the English brethren at Johannesburg, Bohemia, applied to Grand Lodge of England for a charter under the English Constitution. It is announced that His Royal Highness the Grand Master cannot see his way to depart from the rule laid down, not to grant charters to Lodges out of British jurisdiction. It is hoped, however, says the *East Province Herald* that the representations which Past Masters Keith and Crowe, from Pretoria, will make, and the petitions which they will lay before the Grand Lodge, will induce His Royal Highness to re-consider the matter. Another contemporary says it will be the cause for much regret should the English Freemasons of such an essentially English town be shut out of communication with English Freemasons, and compelled to affiliate themselves with lodges under the jurisdiction of other Constitutions.—*Freemasons' Chronicle*.

At a recent communication of Builders' Lodge, Ottawa, W. Bro. J. C. Kearns, P. M., was made the recipient of a handsome Past Master's Jewel.

Knights Templars.

THE OBJECTIONABLE RITUAL.

Among the Knights Templar who have studied the ritual of the Order, says the *Masonic Advocate*, there is a general feeling of dissatisfaction, if not absolute disgust, with the ritual adopted by the Grand Encampment at St. Louis in 1886. So strong is this feeling that there would be open rebellion against it in several Grand Jurisdictions were it not for their loyalty to the Grand Encampment, which influences them to remain quiet and endure it until the meeting of that body in 1889, when the ritual will undoubtedly undergo another revision. So far as concerns Grand Commanderies, it is thus receiving a quasi-indorsement by them, for the time being, except in Iowa, where there is open rebellion against its use. Much as we dislike the ritual promulgated by the Grand Encampment, we can not approve the action of the Sir Knights of Iowa in opposition to its use. While holding allegiance to the Grand Encampment they must obey its laws. If any such are obnoxious, let the proper course be pursued for their repeal. When all efforts in that direction have failed, then rebellion may perhaps be justified, but until then obedience to the constitutional authority is a Masonic and Knightly duty. Let the ritual be thoroughly discussed and understood by those Sir Knights who will compose the delegates to the Triennial meeting next year, and we think they will be satisfied to return to the old ritual under which Templarism was established and acquired its present popularity.

IOWA'S PROTEST:

Grand Commander Varnum, of Iowa, has issued an address in reply to Grand Master Roome's edict, which is an able defence. The Grand Commander not only assumes the defensive, but points out in most courteous language the violation of law and usurpation of power by Grand Master Roome, and asks the several Grand Commanderies to withhold judgment until the whole case has been placed before them. The Grand Commander takes the position: That the "supposed ritual" was never lawfully adopted legally by the Grand Encampment; if it were legally adopted the use