

We honestly think that this "Field Encampment and Review" business is productive of no good, but of much evil, and would like to see it discontinued. There is too much of it.

The Grand Commander very pertinently remarks:

"Before dismissing this subject, I cannot feel that I have done my duty to many highly respected members of our Order, without suggesting in their behalf whether our public Encampments have not failed in accomplishing their original design. They are attended with great expense and inconvenience to the members of the several Commanderies, which are not, in their judgment, compensated for by any advantages derived from them.

"The time spent in drill, they say, is too brief for any one to acquire a valuable knowledge of military tactics, and even if such knowledge could be acquired, it is of doubtful utility at the best, in view of the objects for which our Order is organized. Are we not in this country growing into the practice of giving too much publicity to our Masonic orders? Should we not be more retiring and exhibit ourselves only on strictly Masonic occasions? I hope this matter may receive from you the most careful consideration."

This subject was referred to a committee, a majority of whom reported in favor of abolishing such performances, and a minority in favor of having them continued. The minority report was adopted.

GEORGIA.—MAY, 1870.

"It was resolved, that hereafter

"On the creation of any Sir Knight, he shall be invested with Knightly spurs, accompanied with the appropriate charge"

Isn't that a misprint? Shouldn't it be "appropriate charger"? For of what use would be the "spurs" without the "charger"?

The Sir Knights had a grand parade, a grand banquet, and a grand oration from Sir and Rev. David Wills. The subject was "Christian Chivalry," and the theme was admirably well treated. We must make one or two extracts:—

"The present purposes of Templar Masonry are compendiously expressed in one sentence: 'The protection of innocent maidens, helpless orphans and destitute widows, and the Christian religion.' Every true Templar is sworn to support these objects at every cost, and if he fail to do it he is guilty of the grossest perjury. He is instructed to copy the precepts and examples of Him who 'spake as never man spake.' The Lord's Prayer is the model for his devotions. The Apostles' Creed is the excellent epitome of his faith. The holy Beatitudes are embraced in his beautiful Liturgy. He is taught to believe in the doctrines of the unity of God, a Trinity of persons in the Godhead, the incarnation of Christ, His spotless purity and bloody passion, His resurrection and ascension to the Throne of universal power and glory, and His final advent to judge the world. The emblems of the Order are the Cross and Crown, the Square and Lamb, the Level and Triple Triangle, the Eagle and the Sword, and it were needless to tell you, *fratres*, that the moral significance of these symbols involves the practice of the cardinal principles of Christianity."

MAY 1871.

"Again our Georgia Fratres had a grand parade, an eloquent oration, a sumptuous banquet, the latter of which was graced by the presence of ladies—as all Masonic banquets should be. The bill of fare is published in the proceedings, and that of itself is enough to tickle the palate of the most fastidious epicure. But we are pained beyond measure to learn what barbarians these Sir Knights of Georgia have become. Among other delicacies which adorned their well filled tables we find "calf's head" mentioned—and yet Sir Knight Blackshear was there and ate thereof. Is there no law to prevent such cannibalism? They also had "Grenadin of *veal* with cucumbers." Good gracious! what kind of "innards" must they have. Horace's "*dura messorum ilia*" couldn't have stood that. Wonder if it didn't prove to be *Gripe*-adin