

The proportion of Knights Templar to Royal Arch Masons in the United States is in the ratio of 112,885 to 201,880; equal to 1 to 1.79.

The smallest Commandery in this jurisdiction has a membership of 35 and the largest 540.

Membership 11,376; Commanderies 58; net gain 339.
 Arthur MacArthur, Troy, Grand Commander,
 John F. Shafer, Albany, Grand Recorder.

NORTH CAROLINA—1898.

18th Annual. Raleigh. May 18th.

The Grand Commandery was opened in ample and knightly form by R. Sir Kt. Joseph H. Hackburn, Grand Commander. Eleven Commanderies represented.

The Grand Commander's address was a business document. He regretted not being able to report a large increase in membership, and lays it to the financial depression, and to the fact that there were few large cities in the State, and that it was almost impossible for a small town to maintain a Commandery.

The question of uniform buttons was laid over until next year.

Sir Kt. John C. Chase writes his fourth report on Correspondence, in which Canada for 1897 is courteously reviewed. Upon the question of Great Priory conferring rank upon members of a subordinate Preceptory who have not earned it, he says he considers the Grand Master's stand "too sound to be questioned."

He thinks that if it was understood in the beginning that continuous membership must be maintained in all the bodies it would probably deter some, if not a good many, from going beyond the Blue Lodge, "as they would naturally hesitate about loading up with more than they could tote."

Sir Kt. Chase's running fire of comment makes pleasant reading.

Membership, 362; subordinates, 11; net gain, 13.
 Mumford D. Bailey, Winston, Grand Commander.
 Horace H. Munson, Wilmington, Grand Recorder.