

A rebate of twenty-five per cent. on dues was allowed to each subordinate Commandery for the ensuing year.

Frater William J. Kelly reports on correspondence and notices Canada for 1890.

Commanderies, 66 ; members, 9,270 ; increase, 428.

Joseph S. Wright, (Philadelphia,) G. C.

Charles E. Meyer, (Philadelphia,) G. R.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

Eighth Conclave, Watertown, June 8th, 1891. John F. Schrader, G. C.

On the state of the Order, he says :

"It affords me pleasure, Sir Knights, to inform you that during my official term not an instance has arisen where an inquiry has been made calling for a decision upon some well settled proposition of Masonic Jurisprudence or otherwise. No question of difference has been brought to my attention, and I have no matter of grievance to refer to you. On the contrary I can report that a state of good feeling and harmony exists among the members in all the subordinate bodies, and our numerical growth during a portion of that self-same period is deserving of special mention."

The Jurisprudence Committee believe that the too free use of the prerogative of granting special dispensations should not be encouraged, as it tends to "decrease the opportunities of preventing the admission of those who might possibly be found unworthy after more mature deliberation, and that the dignity of the Order to which the candidate seeks admission should not be detracted from by being compelled to seek the convenience of the candidate so applying, except in cases of the most extreme and urgent necessity."

In the report of the Committee on the Knightly Dead, we find the following sympathetic allusion to our recent loss :

"One of the strongest of the ties that bind together the hearts of the members of a household, is the sharing of mutual sorrows as well as of mutual joys. Indeed, to weep with them that weep, often begets greater affection than comes from rejoicing with them that do rejoice. Accordingly, we can and do sympathize most heartily with our brothers in the Dominion of Canada in their great loss in the death of Sir Knight McLeod Moore, the Sovereign Grand Master of the Great Priory of that Jurisdiction. They, like us, have lost a leader, and our like afflictions increase and strengthen our bonds of brotherhood."

Commanderies, 8 ; members, 559 ; increase 56.

Samuel H. Jumper, (Aberdeen,) G. C.

Bruce M. Rowley, (Huron,) G. R.