

'Warrant' granting permission to certain subordinates of the Grand Encampment to organize a Grand Commandery, is NOT the CHARTER of said Grand Commandery when organized. This approves the claim set up by your Correspondent in his report to you of last year. But Grand Master Hopkins affirms, in a paper read to the Grand Encampment, and which appears in the Appendix of this Annual, 'The Grand Encampment does not issue a formal charter for the organization of a Grand Commandery,' but in the report before us he uses this remarkable language:—

"If the action of the Grand Commandery of Iowa had been openly and flagrantly rebellious, we think the Grand Master could and should have promptly arrested their Warrant."

"The Grand Commandery of Iowa holds no Charter, but a WARRANT was issued in 1864, giving permission to certain subordinates of the Grand Encampment to organize said Grand Commandery, which act was duly performed and approved. Does Sir Hopkins insist that the taking of that Warrant out of the archives of the Grand Commandery of Iowa would have destroyed the Grand Commandery of Iowa, and released its subordinates from their allegiance thereto? If so, we are against his construction, soul and strength, and shall ever oppose any such power being given to the Grand Master, or to the Grand Encampment."

"We deny the power of the Grand Encampment to destroy a Grand Commandery, but we do admit and claim that it can expel a Grand Commandery from its Union, and can interdict all intercourse with said expelled Grand Commandery and all of its obedience. We also deny that the Grand Encampment has power to charter Commanderies within the jurisdiction of a Grand Commandery, after it has been expelled from Grand Encampment membership. This claim of ours is not the spirit of the Monkish Orders, or of the ancient Order of the Temple, which was autocratic and arbitrary, but it is the spirit of the free institutions of this glorious Union of States, which may God perpetuate."

"THE IOWA SETTLEMENT."

"This was one of the most unique adjustments that has ever come into our notice. That Jurisdiction were sinners, but not altogether sinners; they were disobedient, but not traitors; they deserved censure, but their conduct was not entirely without points for mild approval. They were tried, blamed and pardoned

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