

And after making liberal extracts, comments thereon in these words:—

We do not mean to endorse all of the views contained in these extracts, for some of them are at variance with opinions expressed frequently in these pages, but he is so sensible in much that he says, that we claim him as an able advocate of what we regard as the spirit of our Order, and as such we commend these extracts to the careful consideration of all Templars. We do not feel able to cope with him in argument, having neither the information nor the skill, but this does not deter us from admiring what he says and the way he says it.

And further on says:—

The Report on Correspondence is a very pleasing and courteous review of the proceedings of thirty-one Grand Bodies. Of us he says, referring to our report of last year, "It is chatty and gossipy, and might well bear condensation." From so distinguished a Templar as "Provincial Prior Sir George H. F. Dartnell," this is rather a severe blow to our conceit, and these hieroglyphics before his name will startle us in our nightly repose, but, Sir George, by way of a little talk, permit us very meekly to observe, that we love chat; it is so nice to write just as you feel, to be on easy terms with your Templar friends, and if you are not as learned as some of the "big ones," avail yourselves of your privileges as a member of the M. A. S. and say what you please, always provided, you are courteous. As to being "gossipy," if you mean to say we resemble an old maid, you are mistaken; or that we like to make mischief, you are wrong; but if you mean to say we delight in imparting information, then, Sir George, you are right.

No, Sir George, we never forget Canada, but our views were so much better expressed than we were able to do (although Innes does sometimes chat), that we preferred to make use of his ideas.

Frazer Scott will accept our thanks. The word gossip is a corruption of "God-sib,"—Akin to God, or what is good. Kindly take it in this sense. And "this is the conclusion of the whole matter:"—

There is in these "Annual Proceedings," so much matter, so good, so valuable, so interesting, that it is a very nice thing to make proper selections. We do most heartily wish that every Templar could or would read them, for we are confident that he would rise from the perusal proud of his connection with the Order.

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