

Masons are only allowed to take their place by an act of courtesy, and as visitors; for it will be observed by reference to the Book of Constitution, that although provision is made for their position in the procession, following members of sister Lodges, and immediately preceding the Lodge of which the deceased was a member, no order of precedence to be observed by them, is laid down. On the occasion of a funeral, all unnecessary display should be avoided; and at a Masonic funeral, no regalia is so suitable as that of the Master Mason, the officers wearing the collar of their office, the jewels, and tassels of the apron covered with crape. If the brethren are dressed in black, with white gloves, and thus clothed, they present an appearance appropriate to the mournful occasion for which they are assembled, and the solemn duties in which they are engaged.

Somewhat similar reasons may be urged against any other regalia than of the Blue Lodge, when a procession is formed for the purpose of attending Divine service. The custom prevails in the United States, among the Knights Templar, of attending Divine service on Good Friday, Easter Sunday or Ascension Day, when the ceremonies observed are of a very striking and emblematic character; but the costume of the Knights Templar is the only regalia worn, and the eye is not distracted by a diversity of dress. We fear however that our American Fratres are like many of our Craft Masons, too fond of display. It is not for us, however, to criticise our neighbours.

On the only other occasion on which Freemasons appear in public as such,

the laying of a foundation or corner stone, the presence of other than Craft Masons would be ridiculous, for reasons which are apparent to all.

We agree then with Bro. Klotz, that when Masonic processions are formed for the three purposes to which we have referred, it were better to confine the regalia worn to that of the Blue Lodge. Royal Arch Masons and Knights Templar are, must be, Master Masons, and if they are ashamed of, or not content with the honorable badge which they are entitled to wear, their absence on these occasions is preferable to their presence.

In conclusion, we call attention to a communication which appeared in the CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN of July, 1879, from "one of the Council of the Great Priory of Canada," in which our correspondent calls attention to the fact that the General Statutes and those of the Great Priory of Canada lay down that the distinctive costume of the old Templar Order is to be worn at meetings of Preceptories, but there is no provision made, or is it intended that it should be *paraded in public*, or that the British Association of Templars should assume any rank or precedence *whatever outside* of the meetings of such Preceptories. And at the last Annual Assembly of the Great Priory of Canada, Col. W. J. B. Macleod Moore, Great Prior of the Dominion, stated in his address, that his views were expressed in that communication. Knights Templar therefore, as such, should have no place in Masonic processions.

---

THE CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN.—A very ably edited Masonic Magazine. We always read it with pleasure.—*London Freemason.*