

from the Guilds growing out of them. By A. D. 1727 they had lost all characteristics of the founders, and had but one degree. The other two were added in 1721 and 1725. The Templary of our day originated after the suppression of the old Knightly Order of the Crusaders, their doctrines being preserved and perpetuated through the Hospitallers of St. John, and the Builders or Masons being all originally from the same source.

Templary was introduced into the United States by the members of the Rite of Perfection in 1790, or thereabouts. Joseph Myers, who was a Deputy Inspector General under the Charleston Jews of the Lodge of Perfection, conferred a degree there, then known as the "Knight Templar," and organized the body there known as the Baltimore Encampment.

It would appear that Jews in Charleston, under Stephen Morin, had appointed seventeen deputies for the different States, fourteen of whom were Jews, all of them in possession of a considerable number of outside degrees, among which was the Templar. Myers resided in Baltimore from 1788, removed to Charleston after 1790, and left the country for the West Indies in 1795. It was claimed by Mackey that they had the degree in Charleston as early as 1768, but it does not appear that any body was formed there. Even the establishment of Baltimore Encampment in 1790, by Myers, is not certain, as no record appears; these statements and claims resting on tradition and memory.

Dr. Creigh's history of Knight Templary in Pennsylvania fixes the date of the introduction into that State in 1794. But he has apparently forgotten that the degree was in that year and some years before conferred in Blue Lodges. Their authority evidently came from England, and proves conclusively the truth of the statement made by Carson, of Ohio, viz.: "That in 1721 at the revival of Masonry, there were 'Templars,'

i. e., Masons who held the old doctrine, among those who chose to hold their own lodges and ceremonial outside of the lodge." In connection with this an extract from "Addison's Knights Templar," page 545, revised edition of 1876, will not be out of place:

"From the era of the Reformation, the combined Orders of the Temple and Hospital (Malta) appears in Scotland only as a Masonic body, but the late Mr. Denchar averred that so early as 1590 a few Templars had become mingled with the Architectural Fraternity, and that a lodge at Stirling, patronized by King James, had a chapter of Templars attached to it, who were termed 'Cross-legged Masons,' and whose initiatory ceremonies were performed, not in a room, but in the old abbey, the ruins of which are still to be seen in the neighborhood."

The whole extract is highly interesting, extending to page 549, and gives an inside view of the peculiar spread of Templary in England and the Continent, and subsequently to the United States, arising from Grand Lodges.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania continued under that system up to 1850, and chartered chapters of the "Royal Arch" and the "Templar" system, all on "Blue Lodge Warrants," hence the various bodies of so-called Templars in the United States previous and up to 1814. The system, as connected with Grand Lodges, can be traced in the United States back to the middle of the Eighteenth century, and fully confirms the truth of Carson's statement.

Again, "The Consistory on Rhode Island, established in 1811, gave the degrees of Knighthood, there being no Encampment there, but when the Grand Encampment of New England was formed, those who had received the degrees of Knighthood joined and became subordinates of that body, and received a dispensation to confer the degrees, according to the terms of