

It took the name of the "United Sup. Council for the Western Hemisphere," on account of the union of the Sup. Gr. Council for the United States of America with the Sup. Gr. Council of South America, New Spain, Porto Rico, the Canary Isles, etc., embracing upwards of eighty members. In 1846 it changed its name to the original, viz.: The Sup. Gr. Council for the United States of America, their Territories and Dependencies. From this date it continued until 1862, when the "Raymond Council" merged into it the Sup. Gr. Council for the United States of America, etc., retaining its name, status, and jurisdiction. In 1865 it changed its name to the "Northern Jurisdiction," and so continued for one year, viz.: December 13th, 1866, on which day the Council was dissolved by its Sov. Gr. Commander, Simon W. Robinson, and all its members absolved from their oath of fealty. Thus the members of the Ancient Council were left alone, their commander, Robinson, forsaking them, taking upon himself the "successorship" of Edward A. Raymond, deceased, for the purpose of resuscitating the "Gourgass-Raymond Council," as it was before its union with the Hays Council. This act of treachery toward the Cerneau members was carried out, the Gourgass-Raymond Council was revived, and is now the "Sup. Gr. Council for the Northern Jurisdiction."

In consequence of this base act of Robinson, the Sup. Gr. Council for the United States of America, their Territories and Dependencies, has been resuscitated by its ancient members and is now in active and successful operation. The members are not adventurers or speculators, but mainly old men who have been active laborers in the field of Masonry for thirty years or more. They do not peddle degrees, nor have any Masonic charges ever been preferred against them except that one, viz.: "that they have resuscitated the Ancient Council."—*Loomis' Journal*.

## REGIMENTAL MILITARY LODGE.

This was one of twenty military lodges organized by dispensations from the Grand Master of Indiana during the years 1861 and 1862. It was one of the few that after the close of the war made a full report of its work to the Grand Lodge, and closed up its business in a regular and systematic manner. The records of this lodge furnish the early Masonic history of Bro. Charles Cruft, of whose death mention was made in our last issue, and they thus become of interest to the Craft at this time. The following sketch of this lodge and Bro. Cruft's connection with it, has been kindly furnished us by Bro. William H. Smythe, Grand Secretary, which we take pleasure in placing before our readers:—

Military Lodge, 31st Regiment, Indiana Volunteers, was granted a dispensation by the Grand Master of Indiana, on Sept. 18, 1861. It first met in the hall of Terre Haute Lodge, No. 19, and its first work was the initiation, passing and raising of Charles Cruft, the Colonel of the regiment. At Calhoun, Ky., for three months the lodge held weekly meetings in the Masonic Hall at that place. Committees were appointed, by-laws adopted and printed, and a neat set of jewels purchased, together with a sufficient number of lambskin aprons and a "tin box" with lock and key in which to keep them.

February 9, 1862, the regiment received marching orders and embarked on transports for Fort Donaldson, where it arrived in time to take part in the fight; and it is made a matter of record that "fortunately not one of the brethren was numbered among the slain." From Fort Donaldson the regiment moved to Fort Henry, and from thence to "Pittsburgh Landing," participating in the ever memorable battle of Shiloh. In this engagement the little band of Masons were not so fortunate. Here Bros. Jas. Harvey and Fred Arn were killed,