

The number of Templars in the United States has very slightly increased during the past year, while the number of Master Masons has diminished by nearly ten thousand. We may reasonably expect a decrease in the number of applications for the Orders, though not in the proportion of the falling off in the Lodges, since the great majority of those who have withdrawn on account of the stringency of money matters, or for other pecuniary reasons, would not have been able to bear the expense of the Commandery. As our Order is dependent upon the Lodges and Chapters, it is of consequence to us to see that proper interest is maintained in those bodies.

It is gratifying to see the determination to purify the Order by the reformation or elimination of all those who do not attain to and preserve the standard of Christian Knighthood. While we are opposed to the enactment of any sumptuary or temperance law, fixing what we shall or shall not eat or drink, we think that every Commandery should require and demand that its members shall be *gentlemen*, possessed of the affirmative qualities which go to make up that character, as well as free from the vices which detract from it.

Sir Kt. Morton B. Howell is Grand Recorder. His address does not appear upon this record.

VERMONT, 1879.

The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and Appendant Orders of the State of Vermont met in its Thirty-seventh Annual Grand Conclave in the City of Burlington, on Tuesday, June 10th, A. D. 1879, Sir Kt. Edward S. Dana, New Haven, R. E. G. Commander.

Nine Commanderies were represented, and a large number of visiting fratres were present.

The Grand Commander's address is full of interest. Among other things, he takes occasion to say:—

It is with much pleasure that I inform you that at the Third Annual Assembly of the Great Priory of Canada, at Montreal, P. Q., October 11th, 1878, at the suggestion of the Great Prior, our worthy Grand Treasurer, Sir Knight George Otis Tyler, was elected an Honorary