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centres of population we will have candidates thronging to us from a distance, and be able to erect halls and to provide those scenic properties and surroundings which would enable us to confer the degrees with proper impressiveness and beauty. The Malta degree is seldom, if ever, exemplified in the district over which I have had the honor to preside; the Red Cross is either conferred in the most perfunctory manner or omitted entirely. These most beautiful portions of our ceremony I must report to you, Eminent Sir, as being largely neglected. Nor can I blame the Preceptorles which I have visited for neglect. They find it taxes their powers to confer the Templar degrees in anything like a proper manner. If our Very Eminent Chancellor were to give you a report of the number who have received the Malta degree or Red Cross degrees in Toronto and other districts I think you would be surprised to find how frequently these portions of our work are slighted. If we are to do the best we can for the Order we should centralize our efforts, and spend what money we have to spare in erecting and furnishing encampments where the magnificence and full scope of the precepts we teach may be exemplified with all the impressive beauties that our ritual suggests. Until this is done, Eminent Sir, I am of the opinion that Knight Templarism not only in Toronto district but elsewhere, though it is making some progress, will make but slow progress and will not become what its glorious founders intended it should be. And I would respectfully suggest in this report, and, Eminent Sir, I believe you will pardon me for making the suggestion, otherwise a report such as I am making would be utterly worthless—that new warrants for Preceptorles in small places be withheld, that every possible effort be made to amalgamate Preceptorles which are already in existence, that proper scenery, surroundings and costumes be provided, and that the proper working of every degree be insisted upon, and the result, I believe, Eminent Sir, will be to make it the proudest aspiration of a Royal Arch Mason to reach the door which enters into the Temple, and to see the beauties which are hidden from him by the sacred veil.

In conclusion, lest I be misunderstood, I desire to say that I am convinced that Toronto District is making as much if not more progress in Knight Templarism as is being made in any other district in the Dominion, and the suggestions I have made are those which come from my heart, which I hope is devoted to the cause, and they are supported, also dictated, by my judgment, which is fairly well equipped in this matter, inasmuch as I have seen what has been accomplished in the United States and elsewhere, and I have thereby been enabled to compare our small and almost insignificant gains