

WASHINGTON.

Fourth Conclave, Seattle, June 13th, 1891. Yancey C. Blalock, G. C.

Templarism has kept pace with the astonishing growth of the new State. A new Commandery was opened at Fairhaven.

The following resolution was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who reported that it was "in accordance with law and custom," in which we think that they were slightly astray, Past Rank being now generally confined to those obtaining that rank by service in the proper jurisdiction :

"Resolved, That the Rt. Em. Sir Nathan B. Rundle, P. G. C., and a late member of the Grand Commandery of Wisconsin, and Rt. Em. Sir William Pelan, P. G. C., of the Grand Commandery of Indiana, but now members of Cagaract Commandery No. 3 of this Grand Jurisdiction, be and are hereby elected to membership in this Grand Commandery and accorded all the rights and privileges of Grand Commanders of this jurisdiction."

The Grand Commander decided that a Templar who had been tried for unmasonic conduct in his Lodge and acquitted there, could still be tried in his Commandery for the same offence. This decision was over-ruled by the Grand Master, and on this subject the Committee on Jurisprudence made the following deliverance :

"In the matter of the decision in the case of Sir Knight O. Hinman, who was charged by a member of Temple Commandery of gross violation of moral and Templar law, and who confessed his guilt as charged, by reason of having been acquitted by Ellensburg Lodge No. 36, F. & A. M. for the same offense pleading bar to further proceedings, your committee are unanimous in opinion that the decision of the Rt. Em. Grand Commander is not only equitable, but just and correct. Your committee are of the further opinion that Templar law should in all cases be in consonance with the moral principles taught by the Holy Order of the Temple to which every Templar is pledged by the most solemn vows. We cannot countenance fraud or corruption in our ranks, nor is a Templar bound by the edicts of any lodge or other body inconsistent with virtue, conscience, truth, the laws of Freemasonry or Templarism. Your Committee do not fail to recognize the right of the Grand Master to decide all mooted questions of Templar law for the time being, and we patiently submit thereto, but courteously assert the right to our opinion."

Commanderies, 9 ; members, 365 ; increase, 138.

S. Harry Rush, (Spokane), G. C.

Yancey C. Blalock, (Walla Walla), G. R.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Seventeenth Conclave, Wheeling, May 13th, 1891. W. M. Hovey, G. C.

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