

**CIRCUMAMBULATION.**

The apparent motions of the heavenly bodies, have many instructive embodiments in Freemasonry.

Astronomical symbolism is strikingly manifest in Masonic Lodge circumambulation.

Procession from east to west around an altar, is a relic of one of the most ancient of religious cults, often erroneously called "sun worship,"—wherein in its purest form, the "god of day" was but deemed to be the grandest visible manifestation of the great Creator of all things.

In those ancient days, and even in more modern times, on all sacred occasions, the priests and people made a threefold procession around the sanctified enclosure, having the altar always on the right,—imitating the example of the sun and following his benevolent course,—and during which circumambulation, sacred hymns were chanted in praise of the great Creator, whether known to them as "Jehovah, Jove or Lord!"

We, as Freemasons, have ever practised and will ever retain this sacred custom in Lodge circumambulation. This procession should not be in the form or upon the lines of an oblong square as some innovators improperly do,—but it should be upon the circumference of a circle,—or rather as in the real motion of the earth around the sun,—in the form of an ellipse, having the east, south, and west, as the three tangential points of contact,—and the altar being in the focus nearest to the east.

The W. M. and Wardens should never allow any deviation from this beautiful, instructive and impressive symbolism, and to this end, all novitiates should be duly and fully instructed thereanent in order, that at all times, on all proper occasions, they may take due heed thereof and govern themselves accordingly.

**KNIGHTS TEMPLAR PILGRIMS.**

The Boston Journal gives a racy report of the recent anniversary of one of those Masonic associations for which the "Hub" is happily peculiar.

In 1863, it appears that one hundred and sixty-eight Sir Knights, under the banner of the Boston Commandery of Knights Templar, with their ladies, made a pilgrimage across the continent to the triennial conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States, at San Francisco, under the command of Col. John L. Stevenson, Eminent Commander of Boston Commandery, Knights Templar.

These pilgrims have held annual re-unions, and made annual pilgrimages ever since. Last year, they formed a permanent organization to hold annual re-unions as long as there shall be pilgrims living to reunite. Nine Sir Knights have made their "last" pilgrimage since the first trip across the continent.

This year, September, one hundred and twenty-eight of the original party, with their ladies, made a pilgrimage to Mount Washington and to other interesting resorts amongst the White Mountains of New Hampshire,—when everything seems to have passed off to the general satisfaction.

Why should we not have more annual re-unions to celebrate important events in the history of Freemasonry in Canada?

Cannot the remaining veterans who, in convention, founded each of the Grand Lodges and other Grand Bodies in the Dominion, hold annual re-unions until the "last survivor" shall have gone to reunite with the majority beyond? Should not every Lodge, Chapter, Council, Preceptory, &c., celebrate the anniversary of its constitution? If so, incalculable good would be the result. May such forthwith be generally done. Move, Brothers, life's brief day will soon be o'er.