

its train embarrassment and distress to all classes, has had its baleful influence also upon the progress and development of our beloved Order. As a result, we are numerically weaker than when we gathered in Annual Conclave a year ago. It affords me pleasure, however, to report that while there has been such scant encouragement in this direction, the utmost good feeling has existed throughout the entire jurisdiction; peace and harmony have prevailed; thorough discipline has been maintained in most of the Commanderies, and all seem to have perfected themselves in the ritual of the Order.

But however uneventful the year may have been in other respects, Death never fails to make his record. At each annual Conclave, as the lines are formed anew, the broken ranks remind us of the losses we have sustained. A great wave of sadness sweeps over our hearts as we call to mind the beloved Frateres who have "fallen asleep," and whose fraternal counsels and Knightly Comradeship we shall enjoy no more until we, too, shall "cross over the river," and assemble with them in the Grand Conclave above.

Sir John Frizzell, Past Grand Commander and Past Grand Recorder of this Grand Commandery, died at his residence in Nashville, on November 30th, 1894. Official announcement of this bereavement was made through General Order No. 3, on the 6th of December last. He was a devoted Mason and Templar, a wise counselor, a faithful and trusted guide. Whether in the Subordinate Commandery, or the Grand Encampment of the United States, he was "a leader among men," wielding at all times an influence that was irresistible. "A Prince in Israel, and a great man is fallen."

The reduction of the per capita tax in 1893 from \$1.50 to \$1.25 was unwise, and has resulted in an exhausted treasury and a small deficit. but the dues remain the same.

A question of disputed jurisdiction with Virginia was referred to the Grand Encampment. It appears from the correspondence that the State of Virginia has a civil law allowing a non-resident of the State to declare his allegiance to Virginia and his citizenship therein. The candidate lives in Tennessee, but because he declared his citizenship to be in Virginia and he was a voter there, the Virginia Commandery assumed they had jurisdiction. This assumption appears to us to be unwarranted. The actual residence must govern in these cases, otherwise the whole border line of Tennessee and all other States adjoining Virginia will be exposed to the deprivation of their rightful membership.

On life membership, the following report was adopted: