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SIXTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY, MONTREAL, 1889. 41

it is evident that the suggestion of the Provincial Prior of Toronto District is based on facts that cannot be controverted, when he points out that Preceptories in small places, where Royal Arch Masonry is in a stagnant condition, cannot prosper. Another suggestion from a similar source, that amalgamation of Preceptories in thinly populated localities is highly desirable, commends itself to your Council.

The proper exemplification of the work is apparently a secondary consideration in many of those Preceptories. This is scarcely to be wondered at when, in the majority of cases, the members can with difficulty muster a quorum.

A strong point made in the report from the Toronto District, is that closer attention should be paid to the exemplification of the Malta and Red Cross degrees, which, as a general rule, are communi- cated. The style of some of the reports is unique, at least in brevity. The information so necessary for an intelligent exposition of the con- dition of the Order, is sadly lacking.

The attendance at Preceptory meetings is a subject which is worthy of special attention, for the numbers present are not at all in proportion to the roll of membership.

It is difficult, of course, with so many other organizations in existence, to keep up a close and active interest in Templarism; yet, at the same time, efforts should be made to enliven meetings by dis- cussion on the principles and history of the Order, that would awaken new zeal, and encourage those whose day-dreams are the final triumph and success of the Templary Order.

The suggestion to hold a meeting of Great Priory in the Maritime Provinces is worthy of consideration.

The question as to future annual meetings is one that also in- vites discussion; and in this connection it may not be out of place to mark the fact that since this Great Priory has held its meetings at the same period of the year as the Craft, Capitular and Cryptic bodies, the attendance has been much above the average, and the Fratres have displayed an enthusiasm that has not only been bene- ficial to the Order, but pleasurable to those who love the work.

The aims and objects of Templarism are such as in other lands have endeared it to many craftsmen. It receives encouragement and has the good-will of all who work in the field of Masonic endeavor, and no reason can be advanced why, on Canadian soil, the Templar Tree should not flourish and shelter under its benign shade, the best and brightest minds of this young nation. If, therefore,