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# The True Knight of British Columbia.

"The true Knight does no Man wrong."

Entered at the Vancouver Post Office as Second-class Mail Matter.

VOL. II. No. 3.

VANCOUVER, B.C., October, 1899.

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MONTHLY]



## The True Knight.

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Address all communications to P. O. Box 313.  
J. E. EVANS,

Secretary,  
Vancouver, B. C.

G. R. MAXWELL,  
Editor.

VANCOUVER, OCTOBER, 1899.

### A CALAMITY TO THE ORDER.

We cannot too sincerely deplore the illness that has laid our esteemed Editor, Rev. G. R. Maxwell, M. P., hors de combat, at least temporarily. That it may prove temporary only, in spite of its present serious aspect, is the heartfelt wish of all the knights. Bro. Maxwell's ready pen will be missed no less in the pages of the "True Knight," than is his kindly presence in Castle Hall and Lodge Room.

:o:

### PEACE AND PYTHIANISM.

Amid the ominous muttering of lowering war-clouds, the blare of the battle-cry and the strident declamation of the demagogue and anarchist, 'tis hard indeed for the still small voice of Peace to uplift its message above the din of nations. The North screams defiance to the South and the South takes up the threat with

speed; the Occident and Orient join in the pandemonium of discord, and throughout the Old World and the New the dogs of war cry havoc. The Powers Great and Lesser, would seem to yearn for naught but battle, and civil strife lies a lurid shadow across the blackened hearth and blighted roof-tree.

Such is the tableau on the world's stage to-day. Scarce has the New Nation to the south ceased dictating terms to the riven pride of Old Castile, and while even yet the spoils of war, Cuba and the Philippines, are dragged reluctant to the victor's chariot wheels, when the dripping sword is again dragged from its useless sheath, and from London to the Cape its shadow darkens all the way. At this very hour the word may go forth from leaguered Pretoria, which, vain and suicidal, will read destruction to the childish arrogance of the veldt, and absorption to annihilation in the maw of the Lion. Happy they, if the great Nation they so long have dared to irk with petty annoyances, finds it enough to gently shake them in their impotence and drop them in their place. They will have learned the lesson that the strong and weak must teach each other.

That the great Trinity, Friendship, Charity and Benevolence, will succeed even at the twelfth hour, in stemming the torrent of hatred and strife is hardly to be hoped. When we review but the incidents of the past year, it is forcibly borne in on us that these three have as yet small part in the councils of nations. At The Hague men hoped that the olive-branch held out by the all too feeble hand of the Great White Tsar, would blossom and bear fruit, and stretch its kindly branches into all lands. But the Millennium is not yet. Even with the text of Universal Peace irradiating that Board of Councillors, the apple of discord found its insidious way to the heart of the conclave, and the meeting broke up with nothing accomplished but a hollow pact, which subsequent events and present happenings have proved Dead Sea fruit indeed. That on the very morrow of these futile deliberations, the world, hardened and cynical as it is, should have been shocked to its foundations by the horrors of the tragedy of Rennes, suffices to prove that the time was not ripe. That in the Nineteenth Century; staged in a land whose boast is civilization, whose heritage is honor, so foul a drama as "L'Affaire Dreyfus," should be played out in all its hideous effrontery of Inquisitorial torture and incredible disregard of fame and name, is more than enough to stagger the watching millions of both hemispheres. That blot must be wiped from the ex-cutcheon of the nation that perpetrated it and the world that countenanced it, before it can be said that Truth and Charity find a place in the hearts of men. Their reinstatement will lie with

men who already dimly see what they signify to the generations yet to come. That there are such men is the silver lining to the cloud of misery. True, they are but few, but faithful as they are few, and perhaps, of all the little bands that have girt themselves together with the triple girdle of Friendship, Charity and Benevolence, there is none so stalwart, none so closely and intimately united as the Pythian Order. Those who throng its ranks, imbued with the spirit of the Church Militant and inspired with the watchword of the Supreme Chancellor of All, have chosen to fight beneath a banner which is in the van wherever good deed and noble aspiration find a place. Theirs it is to strike the blow where Honor demands it, to turn the other cheek where Humanity pleads; to assist when Love and Charity point; to be in all things gentle gentlemen, knightly knights, manly men. Their work may be long and tedious; sneers and checks may meet them as they push forward; Hope and Faith may be hard put to it to sustain the wearied warrior; but in the end the example, the lantern of their life, will light the strait way for men, till all nations shall awake from the nightmare of conflict and darkness, and enter the flower-strewn way of prosperity and peace.

:o:  
GOOD OF THE ORDER.

ADDRESS DELIVERED AT ST. OMER MEMORIAL SERVICE.

The following address was delivered by Grand Prelate, Rev. George M. Bodge, at the memorial service of St. Omer Lodge, says the "Pythian Gleaner":

PYTHIANISM.

This was the title given me as the proposed topic of this memorial service, and in taking up the theme, it is well to speak a word or two of explanation as to what the term Pythianism means to us, in its connection with the spirit of this occasion.

In general I do not like to use words which end in "ism," as they nearly always betoken a narrow prejudice in regard to theology, politics, religion or custom, and define the limits of a sect or party. But Pythianism has nothing of this meaning; Pythianism is not a sect or party, but an atmosphere; not exclusive, but inclusive; broad, in its idea, as the coping arch of the heavens, as deep, in its intent, as the springs of human affections may reach, as high as the divine purpose may extend to lift and hallow humanity's life.

But while Pythianism is neither a sect nor a party, it is an embodiment of high principles and noble aspirations, around which human hearts and human endeavors may centralize in order to attain braver achievement and truer life. May centralize, but not crystallize, for a crystal is a thing finished, and cold and dead, while Pythianism is living, moving onward, and mounting upward forever.

In its name it grows from the old beautiful Greek story of Damon and Pythias, familiar to all; in its motive it lifts up the standard of loyal and faithful hearts, in the sight of all men; in

spirit, patient, tender and true, it seeks to translate sympathy into service, love into active help; in spirit indeed, it would live up to the poet's thought and aspiration.

"We live in deeds, not years, in thoughts, not breaths,  
In feelings, not in figures on a dial;  
We should count time by heart throbs; he most lives,  
Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best."

Such then, and so high, I believe Pythianism to be in its ideal, or perhaps we may say in its theory. I believe that, in general, all true Knights of Pythias hold something near this as their theory of Pythianism, at least most have been taught this. It is possible that there may be some members of our Order, however, who have missed the highest meaning, and hold but the narrow and small ideal, which looks little beyond self, and is content to receive benefits without seeking to bestow. Such as these, if such there be, have surely missed the true end and highest aim of Pythianism. And then again there may be some who hold their Pythian faith as some people hold their religion, as a thing of church worship on Sunday, to be put on and put off with their Sunday suits. Such as these most surely will not achieve much for the Order, nor will they receive those benefits which are most valuable and most lasting from the Order, for the same truth holds here as in religion, and in all relations among men, he who gives most, and with truest motive, will receive most, and of the best and highest rewards. This is especially true when he gives to a noble cause or fails to lift up, encourage or help a needy fellow-man.

In order to attain the fullest enjoyment of the benefits and privileges of the Pythian Order a Knight of Pythias must live his principles, in the spirit of his solemn obligations, not because of the obligations, but for love of the principles embodied in them, and joy in helping make the Pythian fraternity throughout the world, live, not for self, but,

"For the cause that lacks assistance,  
For the wrong that needs resistance,  
For the future in the distance,  
And the good that it can do."

\* \* \* Pythianism stands for all that is highest and truest in brotherhood, with special emphasis on friendship, which embodies the fraternal ideal and crowns the relation as between head and heart, between two human lives.

Friendship! not only the crown but the sum and jewel of the Pythian purpose. I know of no relation on earth so grand, and at the same time so gracious, as that which may exist between two trusting and faithful friends, who believe fully in each other, while each knows that he is known and believed in by the other. What an unfailing strength lies in this profound faith between two lives, surviving all difficulties, overcoming all obstacles, abiding still through evil report and good report, an anchor of life, sure and steadfast, holding still, beneath the tides and currents of life's troubled sea.

Between lives thus bound, the highest joy will come from loving and helpful service—in doing the work and living the life which will meet the approval of the other. That ideal friendship between Jesus and the "beloved disciple," was based upon a true and high purpose, not, we must believe, limited by the brief years of their human life, for it is told how the life of John was transfigured to his latest hour by the Christ influence, and we may well believe is still going forward in the realms of a higher life. Even thus was the friendship of our Damon and Pythias fraught with a high purpose of loving service. Each held the other's honor dearer than his own life; and to love and serve each other was their highest thought, and in this they fulfilled the Master's own test of truest love.—"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend!" Both these in turn exemplified this test.

Thirty odd years ago our Pythian brotherhood was founded, in the hope to make this olden ideal a reality, to transform the theory of friendship into practice and to transmute the beauty of sentiment and romance into solid and substantial fact. How well this first high purpose has been fulfilled, let the manifold thousands of grateful Pythian hearts and homes throughout our country make answer. For among the chief principles to which the founders consecrated the order, stood the country and the home. Patriotism and family love and duty are never absent from the work and thought of Pythian lodges. The country's flag is always unfurled in the meetings, the sanctity of the home is one of the most solemn pledges; widows and orphans are the most special trust. It is not only in the household of our Order, of course, but here, as nowhere else, perhaps, friendship has shown its innate power of out-reaching influence, outward among men, and upward towards God.

And so Pythianism is no longer an experiment of a theory, but a living and gracious experience. On this memorial occasion, which appeals to the deepest and tenderest sentiments

of all hearts, while we loyally unite in paying our tribute of fraternal affection to those brothers who have passed on from the activities of this earthly stage, to the larger brotherhood of the life immortal, we will not attempt to exalt or eulogize their names and characters, but while we recall the memory of all they were, and what they did in this life, at their highest and best, we would pay tribute to those qualities, not only, which helped and served the Order, not only what they were and did as Pythian Knights, but also what they tried to be and tried to do, as men according to their chances; thankful too for that infinite love which measures not the achievement, but the honest endeavor, not what we seem, but what we try to be.

It is not for us, then, to praise our brothers gone, because we may not judge them save by the small standard of our partial knowledge of them. If we could see as God sees, then might we speak. We cannot tell how hard they tried to achieve some noble end in life, which just short of full attainment they missed, and to our dim eyes perhaps they seemed to fail. We cannot know what temptations were resisted, they seemed perchance so strong and free. We thought they could not be tempted, while in fact perhaps their lives were full of strenuous battles against passion, pride or evil tendencies. And of their highest gain, we cannot know how far short it was of what they meant it should be.

We recall Whittier's tender apology and request to be judged by what he longed to be and meant to do:—

"Not on the page, word painted,  
Let life be banned or sainted;  
Sweeter than any sung,  
My songs that found no tongue,  
Nobler than any fact,  
My wish that failed of act."

So by the gracious standard of our Pythian brotherhood we will to-day give our simple trib-



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## ROBERT CLARK

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utes of affection, as we bring our flowers, and place the Myrtle-spray, the glorious emblem of our Order, upon the altar.

And while the great questions spring to our lips—Do they know? Can they hear our words of tribute? Can they see these tokens of our memorial? And as our hearts thrill with the hope of the answer, which does not come, and we long

“ \* \* For the touch of a vanished hand,  
And the sound of a voice that is still,”

we must rest in the strong faith that the bond of friendship, the very soul of Pythianism—that bond which seems to us now broken, sometimes and somewhere we shall find more closely knit, because we have thus met in loving memory for them this day, joining with their friends and families. So we keep this memorial under the folds of that Pythian banner which they loved loyally, and seek to cherish all that was truest and best in their lives, and ever to keep their memories fresh and green in our hearts. While

we lay garlands and plant our Pythian flags their graves, may we resolve to pay them the higher tribute, that here, with their names on our lips and their memory in our hearts, we pledge ourselves to live yet more faithfully to the Pythian purpose, and to exemplify more loyally than ever before, the noble principles of our brotherhood.

So shall we make their names a token of renewed faith, their memories a lasting inspiration, while “we find in our dull road, their shining track.”

In every nobler mood  
We feel the orient of their spirit's glow  
Part of our life's unalterable good;  
Of all our saintlier aspiration  
They come transfigured back,  
Secure from change, in their high-hearted ways.  
Beautiful evermore, and with the rays  
Of morn on their white shields, of expectation.”



REV. G. R. MAXWELL, M.P.  
Editor of the TRUE KNIGHT.

OUR EDITOR.

The subject of this sketch, Rev. G. R. Maxwell, M. P., and Past Chancellor of Rathbone Lodge, No. 7, became a Knight in the year 1894. No more earnest worker is to be found in the field of Pythianism than Bro. Maxwell, when the duties of his legislative work will allow him.

Bro. Maxwell has just returned from the North where he visited Dawson and Atlin in the early part of August. An earnest, faithful worker, true friend and brother, he is ever assisting and helping those who are struggling along against the tide. At present, owing to regrettable temporary indisposition, he is sadly missed by the members of the Committee conducting “The True Knight.”



W. D. MEARNS

Grand Chancellor of British Columbia.

G. C., W. D. MEARNS.

Bro. Mearns became a member of the Order in the year 1883, being a charter member of Peace Lodge, No. 43, of Louisiana. He joined Rathbone by card, December 1890; was elected C. C. in 1891; Representative in 1894; G. V. C. in 1898, and G. C. in 1899. Unfortunately during the last three months, Bro. Mearns has not been enjoying the best of health. We trust, however, that our good brother may soon be restored to

perfect health, and may long be spared to labor for the best interests of Pythianism in this Domain. Bro. Mearns has been prominently identified with the Legislative Committee work of our Grand Lodge for the past five or six years, and in every capacity has proven a thorough and efficient member of the Order. During his term of Grand Chancellor, we ask for him the loyal and hearty support of every brother. And may our brother at the end of his official term be able to point with pride and satisfaction to the good work accomplished.

TRAITORS IN THE CAMP.

The Grand Lodge, K. of P., of the Grand Domain of New York, is throwing hot shot after those who would upset the present Constitution of the Supreme Lodge, as witness the following resolutions enacted at the recent Convention of the Grand Lodge:

The following preambles and resolutions were introduced at the Session of the Grand Lodge, K. of P., of New York, July 27th, 1899, P. P. XXVI., and unanimously adopted:

JOHN J. ACKER, G. K. of R. and S. Albany, July 31st, 1899.

Be it resolved, by the Grand Lodge, Knights of Pythias, of the Grand Domain of New York: Whereas, the Grand Lodge, Knights of Pythias, of the Grand Domain of New York has learned that during and since the last Convention of the Supreme Lodge, certain members of and prominent in that body, have advocated as well as secretly conspired for, the overthrowing

of the Constitution of the Supreme Lodge; and

Whereas, the present system of Government, under which the Order exists to-day, is organized strictly along the lines dear to every true American lover of Constitutional liberty; and

Whereas, the evident intent and purpose of those who would thus subvert and destroy the fundamental law of our Order is self-evidently for the purpose of opening wide the gates for the admission of legislation as pernicious in its purpose as it is personal in its inspiration; and

Whereas, The present Supreme Constitution guarantees to every Pythian citizen equal rights before the law, and absolute protection against an inimical majority; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this, the Grand Lodge of New York, American in its every fibre and pulsation, unqualifiedly condemns the efforts made and being made, with the purpose and aim thus to rob our Supreme Constitution of its force, and our Pythian Government of its life; and further be it

Resolved, That the Supreme Representatives of this Grand Domain be, and hereby are, requested to advocate and vote for the defeat of every act or measure which by its adoption would in any wise weaken or sap the foundations upon which rest our Pythian rights, privileges and liberties; and further be it

Resolved, That the Supreme Representatives from this Grand Domain be, and hereby are, requested to work and vote against the election or promotion of any member or officer in the next Convention of the Supreme Lodge, who has been or is a party to, or advocate of, the dangerous and communistic heresy that our Constitution is of no force; and be it further

Resolved, That our Supreme Representatives be, and hereby are, requested to work and vote against the pending proposition before the Supreme Lodge, to so amend the amending clause of our Constitution as to take away from our Grand Lodges the opportunity of first passing or all proposed amendments to our fundamental law before their final consideration by the Supreme Lodge; and

Resolved, further, That copies of these propositions and resolutions be forwarded to each Grand Lodge, and also to the entire Pythian press.

WM. LADEW, S. R



J. E. EVANS

Past Grand Chancellor of British Columbia

#### PAST GRAND CHANCELLOR EVANS.

Bro. Evans was born on the 25th day of October, in the year 1865, at Charlottetown, P. E. Island. He came to Vancouver in the year 1891. At the organization of Crusader Lodge, No. 13, in the year 1894, Bro. Evans was one of the Charter members, and was unanimously chosen as Chancellor-Commander. He was further honored in being the first Grand Representative of Crusader Lodge, attending the Grand Lodge holding its session at Vancouver in the year 1895. From his first entrance into the Grand Lodge his influence was felt. At the next session of the Grand Lodge, held at Nanaimo, in 1896, he was nominated for the office of M. at A. Although defeated on this occasion he had every reason to feel proud of the support he received for so young a member in the Grand Lodge. In January, 1897, a vacancy having oc-

curred, in the office of the Grand Vice-Chancellor, caused by the resignation of the Grand Chancellor, Bro. F. W. Dowling, and the accession of the Grand Vice-Chancellor, Bro. J. B. Kennedy, to the office of Grand Chancellor, Bro. Evans was appointed Grand Vice-Chancellor for the unexpired term. At the next session of the Grand Lodge, held at New Westminster in the same year, the services of Bro. Evans were so much appreciated by the Representatives that he was unanimously elected to the office of Grand Chancellor. During his term of office, he proved an ideal Executive—warm-hearted and generous to a fault, he threw his whole heart into the work, and endeavored to advance the cause of Pythianism to the highest plane. How well he succeeded is a matter of record. During his term of office he visited every lodge in this Grand Domain, advising and assisting the brethren in such a way that at the end of his

term, the Order had progressed in spite of the general depression of the times. Two new lodges were added to the Grand Lodge, and a better feeling existed among the members throughout the Domain. A true Pythian at heart, an untiring and ceaseless worker in the field of Pythianism, always ready to assist and counsel those less fortunate, Bro. Evans has proved himself an honor to the Order. As Past Grand Chancellor he gives his time and devotes his energy to the advancement of Pythianism in this Domain. At present he is Secretary-

Treasurer of "The True Knight," a publication sustained by the three lodges in Vancouver, and it is not too much to say that its success is due in great measure to the zeal and enterprise of Bro. Evans. Bro. Evans enjoys the confidence and respect of his fellow-knights to the highest degree, as also that of his business associates. At the present time he is engaged in the insurance business, being Manager of the Union Mutual Life Assurance Company, of Portland, Maine, for British Columbia. A loyal friend, a true Knight, we wish him every success.



T. A. SPINK

Past Chancellor and Publisher of THE TRUE KNIGHT.

THOS. A. SPINK, P. C.

Primrose Lodge, No. 20, Kamloops.

Bro. Spink is a Canadian, born in the City of Toronto, Ont., in the year 1859. His early years were spent in Toronto, where he became prominently identified with the printing business. After some four years engaged in this business in Manitoba he came to Vancouver, for a considerable time occupying the position of foreman for the "News-Advertiser." In 1894 he removed to Kamloops, and together with P. C. Bro. W. H. Jones and Mr. A. W. Finbow published for a couple of years that very bright and creditable paper "The Inland Sentinel." In 1895, at the institution of Primrose Lodge, No. 20, Kamloops, Bro. Spink was one of the first Charter members, and was its first Chancellor Commandant, serving in that capacity for two terms, with marked ability and with beneficial results to Primrose

Lodge. Bro. Spink has at all times taken an active part in the work of his Lodge, and has given his time and best efforts, as far as possible, for the general welfare and prosperity of our Order in this Domain.

In 1898 he returned to Vancouver, and resumed his old position on the "News-Advertiser" staff, which position he occupies at the present time. Bro. Spink is also in charge of the publication of the "True Knight," occupying the position of publisher. His efforts in this direction have been of great service to the Committee in Charge, and we cannot but congratulate the good brother on the labor so generously given. Owing to our brother being engaged during the evenings at his business, we seldom see his cheerful countenance in our Castle Hall, and we venture to say that none regret the fact more than the worthy brother himself.



## OUR FOUNDER.

The following poem was read at the dedication of the monument erected to the memory of Justus H. Rathbone, founder of the Order of Knights of Pythias, on Wednesday, July 26th, 1899, by Charles A. Lee, Supreme Representative, Pawtucket, R. I.:

## RATHBONE.

Founder and friend!  
Who from the ancient story wove  
The modern version bright and treasure trove;  
When war the country filled with fratricidal  
strife,  
And youth and manhood met in conflict rife,  
Thou didst within thy heart its precepts grasp,  
And taught thy countrymen their hands to  
clasp,  
In reconciliation sweet, and thenceforth strove,  
To span the gulf of hate with bridge of love.  
Strong be our Order, remembered be thy name  
Who lit the torch of Friendship's everlasting  
flame.

## FRIENDSHIP.

True friendship is a bond divine,  
Ordained our natures to refine;  
Our besoms to expand by love,  
Responsive to the throne above.  
Much like the blooming of the rose  
That with pure fragrance overflows.

Our friendships form the golden chain  
To link us to the angel train,  
Receiving and imparting good,  
As members of a brotherhood.  
Like stars, that deck the arch of night,  
Diffusing life-inspiring light.

Without a friend, how dark and lone!  
What all earth's music but a moan!  
A direful exile that would be,  
Cut off from all men's sympathy!

But, with true friends, re-doubled life  
With priceless consolations rife.

In friendship's circle what delight—  
Heart beats to heart, though hid from sight.  
Soul blends with soul as only one,  
And joys through every service run,  
So in their purpose friends agree  
To live as in one family.

The Saviour calls His followers friends—  
A fellowship that never ends;  
An education here below,  
For other worlds to which we go,  
Where all true friendship sure will meet,  
To make felicities complete.

## DEDICATION.

So let us dedicate this shrine  
As holding somewhat the divine;  
A fit memorial of a friend,  
Who toiled pure friendship to extend;  
And on its face this legend bind—  
He lived to love and serve mankind.

—:o:—

## QUEST FOR FRIEND'S BODY.

Two New Orleans Men Bid Defiance to Co-  
lombian Law.

To recover the body of Charlton K. Browning, who was buried in Colombia, where disinterment is not allowed for 18 months, Joseph B. Derbes, a New Orleans attorney, and J. E. Jolet, a travelling man in the employ of a Chicago firm, braved all kinds of dangers, narrowly escaped death by shipwreck, spent money lavishly, and with their own hands opened the grave into which the body had been placed two months ago, and brought the casket to this country, arriving home the other day.

It was on June 1st that a naphtha launch, on which Mr. Browning, who was the confidential agent of a New Orleans firm, was a passenger, exploded off Bocas del Toro. He died on June

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11th and was buried the next day. Permission was refused the representatives of his family to exhume the body. The Colombian Government pointed to its law prohibiting the disinterment of bodies until 18 months had elapsed, and declined to listen to arguments.

Derbes and Jolet sailed from New Orleans in the middle of July to secure the body of Browning in whatever way they could. They had the direct backing of the Knights of Pythias, and behind them stood the members of the Masonic, Essenic and Druidical organizations.

Upon reaching Bocas del Toro they applied to United States Consul Hands, who told them their mission was hopeless, and according to the two men, threw all possible obstacles in their way. Alcalde Bravo of Bocas refused to allow them to open Browning's grave.

They hired a crazy tug and set off for Colon. The drunken pilot lost his reckonings, a storm came up, they were blown 60 miles from their course, and for a while death seemed certain. At last the wind went down and Colon was reached after many hardships. There the prefect listened to what they had to say and finally gave them an order on the Alcalde at Bocas instructing him to allow them to disinter Browning's body.

When they reached Bocas, armed with the order, they thought their troubles were over. But they could find no one who would open the grave. One man offered to have it done on payment of \$1,000, but the offer had a suspicious look, and the Americans refused it. There was nothing left but to open the grave themselves.

Lest further obstacles should be thrown in their way, Derbes and Jolet waited until midnight. They carried the casket which had been sent for the reception of the body to the spot where Browning had been buried, and then went to work. Their hands, unused to manual toil, were bleeding before the task was finished, but after four hours' hard work the body had been placed in the casket and carried to the steamship Utstein, which was in waiting. They sailed at once for Mobile.

Derbes and Jolet were given a great reception by the Pythians of New Orleans when the train pulled in and they stepped off in charge of the body.

Browning was a Master Mason, Past Grand Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias and the President of the Past Grand Chancellors' Assoc-

iation of Louisiana. He was also a member of the Ancient Order of Druids, the Essenic Knights and the American Legion of Honor, besides other societies. All the expenses of the trip made by Derbes and Jolet were borne by the Knights of Pythias.

—:0:—

### THE HEARTS OF MEN.

(Continued).

It was a beautiful Sunday morning when my chum and I took our first walk. A typical January day, clear, bright and frosty, the white snow glistening and sparkling like diamonds, not a breath of air moving, but light, glorious sunlight everywhere, even away as far as the shining mountain-tops, which rose majestically from the far side of an intervening arm of the sea, their jagged summits outlined sharply against the clear blue of a perfect sky.

Strange to say we had climbed over the very ground where Hugh had met with his accident, away above the divide to a spot well-named "The Observatory," commanding as it did a view many miles in extent, one of those nature pictures, rich in color and perspective and awe-inspiring grandeur, such as true artists love.

There was an inspiration in everything around, even to the stillness and hush. We seemed far above the world, in a sphere and mood one sometimes reads of, and but rarely experiences. Our hearts were too full for week day talk.—Did you ever sit still and imagine yourself drinking from the "Well of Life," that life which holds our little earth in its eternal orbit round the sun, in perfect rest, perfect peace?—And as we sat thus drinking in new strength to live, into our line of vision rose one tiny speck, growing more and more distinct the nearer its approach, until at last we were able to descry a large bird. Soon it was on our level, and then above us upward into the clear blue, again a mere speck and then lost to sight.

"Had I but wings I would fly with thee!"

The spell was broken and we began to talk. "Fly whither, friend?" I asked.

"To the Source of Wisdom, to the Solver of the Riddle of Life."

"Life! Let's talk of Life. Hugh, won't you explain that remark of yours to Jim, the other day? You said did we but know it we might live and not see death, or did I misunderstand you?"

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"Well chum," he replied, "'tis hard to put some things into words, but to repeat myself, both Enoch and Elijah did not see death. How was that and is it or is it not impossible to us to-day?"

"You are tantalizing, Hugh. You ask me questions, but do not answer mine."

"Can I or any man answer in a few brief words that which Indian adept, Egyptian mystic and Chaldean sage have sought to learn and have but half attained. Moses learnt much and so did Daniel. Both could read the future, our to-day, for instance, yet they are dead and gone, both men of science and of learning, away above and beyond the cleverest men of our to-day. Do our scientists understand anything but the A. B. C. of Truth? Dick, my boy, I am weary, cast down when I look around and see the one ambition of to-day. What is it? Stop and think. Self. Get gold! gold! gold! for self. Have a good time, enjoy yourself, which generally means, make a beast of yourself in a refined kind of a way, perhaps; and make it up by leaving your fortune after you cannot use it any more to some 'charity.' How the Devil must laugh and God, the God of Love—What of Him? The Christians say their Christ wept on two occasions, once over Jerusalem when He foresaw her fall, and again when He wept with Martha. But I think He wept every day. Dick!" Hugh said abruptly, "did you ever see a 'perfect man'?"

"No, I cannot say that I have. Have you?"

"Well, not here, but, you know, when I was ill I sometimes seemed to leave this world, sometimes saw strange things and it was in such a moment as this that I saw that which I shall not, cannot forget. One day when half asleep and half awake, and then asleep, again I seemed to open my eyes in a place more beautiful than even this one is. I was free from that awful pain in my head and what a blessed relief that was, for you know how I suffered. I was just resting in the shade, when I saw some one near me, a man, more than a man one would say, perfect in form, stature, power, a very Son of God: some instinct within me prompted me to speak, and, frightened as I was, I asked him who he was. 'Who I am, I may tell thee, but as yet thou canst not understand. I am thy future self and know not Death any more, having passed from Death into Life Eternal, but the way thou hast to walk in is strait and steep.

Look into thyself, for the light is in thee, placed there by the Almighty, All Loving Father Himself. Arise, for I am sent to call thee; we must ascend.' Stooping he took me by the hand and as he did so the earth seemed to drop from beneath our feet. We seemed to be motionless whilst the worlds around us seemed to pass us by. Soon we stood at a gate, guarded, but at a word from my guide it swung on its hinges revealing behind a street of pure gold. Along this street we went towards one central light. Suddenly I seemed struck blind and only hearing was left me, and I heard a voice speaking and thought it was the voice of God. He told me who I was and what I am. He told me my work and my destiny, that self-pleasing must cease, that He was Love, and that therefore men were to love one another. He said He did not wish men to die, but because man sinned He died. 'Twas there I received my commission. Dick, dreams are strange things, and I am puzzled sometimes to know if some of these dreams, as we call them, are not more than mere dreams. Who was man, what is he, what shall he be? Let me quote you a line or two:

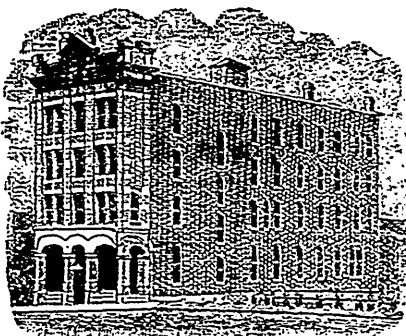
'And' this to fill us with regard for man,  
With apprehension of his passing worth,  
Desire to work his proper nature out,  
And ascertain his rank and final place.  
For these things tend still upward, progress is  
The law of life, man is not man as yet;  
Nor shall I deem his object served, his end  
Attained, his genuine strength put fairly forth,  
While only here and there a star dispels  
The darkness; here and there a towering mind  
O'erlooks its prostrate fellows; when the host  
Is out at once to the despair of night;  
When all mankind alike is perfected,  
Equal in full-blown powers, then, not till then,  
I say, begins man's general infancy.' "

(To be continued).

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"RAISE YOUR VISOR."

Come, raise your visor, worthy Knight,  
And shield your ready steel;  
'Tis meet within this hall to-night,  
At home, at ease to feel.

Hate, envy, fear, deceit and doubt,  
Man's vilest foes since Adam's fall,  
By loyal Knighthood put to rout,  
Live not within the castle hall.

What nobler work, what grander theme  
Was e'er bequeathed a secret band?  
The weak and falling to redeem,  
Blessed by an omnipresent hand.

'Tis here that caution's warning voice  
Is made indelible and clear,  
'Tis here true friendship may rejoice,  
Untrammelled by a sense of fear.

For wrong construction has no place,  
With any speech, in any zone,  
Where caution is taught the human race,  
And charity surrounds the home.

Then where sweet charity is found,  
There caution will appeal;  
And pure benevolence is bound  
To linger ever near.

'Til pain and grief, disease and care,  
By stronger will and gentler hand,  
Their brighter robes are made to wear,  
Beneath the K. P.'s mystic band.

Then kindle each fraternal fire,  
Turn on true Pythian light;  
Let friendship every soul inspire,  
With justice, truth and might.

And when benevolence doth burn  
The fuel from caution's hand,  
The oil of friendship in the urn  
Will perfume every land.

Until the Chancellor Supreme,  
Grand Sovereign King of all,  
Shall raise His visor and redeem  
Us in His Castle Hall.

—H. A. STANLEY,  
in "Pythian Advocate."

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## HE EVIDENTLY WAS THERE.

Grand Chancellor Goodrich, in his report to the Grand Lodge of New York, July 25th, 1899, has the following to say:

"This branch of the organization went through a fiery ordeal last August at the biennial session of the Supreme Lodge, held in Indianapolis, and emerged therefrom entirely unscathed. The chronic and everpresent defiler of hard-earned and well-established reputation, made his appearance there and endeavored to get in some of his nefarious work, but his efforts to ruin character and destroy faith in the rank were futile. His utter failure and discomfiture were made the more noticeable and poignant by the fact that the Supreme Lodge not only endorsed the Management, but put its stamp of approval upon their work by re-electing the Board of Control by practically a unanimous vote."

:o:

FROM CRUSADER.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—I most humbly beg leave on behalf of Crusader Lodge No. 19, to extend to you the sincere congratulations of its officers and members, one and all, upon the entry of the "True Knight" upon the second year of its career, and also our most ardent wishes for its future prosperity.

Our Lodge is still keeping well to the fore and we are determined not to lose any ground, but to keep right on with the good work until we make the Pythian Order in Vancouver what it has an indisputable right to be—second to none.

Our Master of Finance, Bro. F. D. Tubbs, has returned to the City after a brief holiday in the Interior.

On Thursday, August 31st, we conferred the rank of Knight in the Amplified Form upon an esquire, the Rank Team carrying on the work in a most excellent manner. The warmest praise is due to Captain Anstie of the Team for the able and painstaking manner in which the rank was conferred. Under Good of the Order, Bros. S. R. Robb, of Rathbone No. 7, and H. J. De Forrest, of Crusader, favored us with comic recitations, which were highly appreciated.

We are pleased to note that Bro. W. D. Mearns, our esteemed Grand Chancellor, has returned from his official visit to the lodges in the Interior. It is needless to say that his trip will be productive of the greatest benefit to our Order throughout the eastern portion of the Province.

We are pleased to again see Bro. James McDonald, one of the charter members of Crusader, and one of our most ardent workers, in our Castle Hall, after a brief absence from the City.

On Thursday, September 7th, at our convention we received an invitation from the Mother Lodge, Granville No. 3, to be present at a social convention on Wednesday, September 13th. It is not necessary to state that our members availed themselves of the opportunity to enjoy the hospitality of the Pioneer Lodge of the Mainland. A most enjoyable time was spent. The programme was very interesting and amus-

ing. Bro. H. J. De Forrest, of Crusader, exhibited some remarkably fine specimens of his artistic skill.

Bro. H. C. Clark, of Granville Lodge No. 3, entertained the brethren with a very pleasing set of repetitions upon the graphophone. Several songs and recitations were also given and refreshments were passed around, and after having enjoyed themselves to their hearts' content, the brethren separated, happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again.

At our convention on September 14th Bro. A. Pride, of Granville No. 3, paid us a visit. Bro. Pride is a Charter member of Granville Lodge, and under Good of the Order he entertained us with a pleasing speech.

Bro. George Williams, P. C. of Granville, also favored us with a visit.

But let us stop for the present.

Yours in F. C. and B.,

GEORGE NOONAN.

Vancouver, B. C., Sept. 23rd, 1899.

:o:

FROM GRANVILLE.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—Granville Lodge, No. 3 has had very good meetings during the past month, but on September 13th we had such a gathering in our Castle Hall as, I am sorry to say, we do not see very often. This was caused by Granville Lodge giving an "At Home," to which all the Brother Knights in Vancouver were invited, and they responded in such numbers as to fill the hall to its full capacity, and a happier, jollier crowd than gathered on that evening would not easily be found again. After getting through with the regular routine business Bros. H. J. Anstie, S. R., J. E. Evans, P. G. C., P. C. Whiteway, H. C. Clarke, P. C., and several others favored us with very enthusiastic and eloquent speeches, and the loud applause with which all were received could be heard a block away. These over, the Lodge closed in due form and then the regular entertainment began, consisting of some 30 odd selections of a Columbia phonograph, the finest instrument of its kind, owned by Bro. H. C. Clarke, who had kindly brought this instrument to the hall and who manipulated it during the evening and the attention and interest with which piece after piece was received must have fully repaid Bro. Clarke for his trouble. It was voted the finest instrument of its kind by all who had the pleasure of listening to it. These selections were interspersed with an exhibition of Bro. De Forrest's beautiful paintings, taken from Nature during the last year and consisted of about 50 views from the vicinity of Vancouver, the Kootenays and the far-off Maritime Provinces. Bro. De Forrest's paintings prove him indeed an artist in every sense of the word, and the exclamations of surprise at the wonderful reproductions of nature in said paintings must have been like sweet music in the ears of Bro. De Forrest. During the entertainment the Committee of Arrangements served refreshments in the shape of ice cream, cakes, etc., furnished by Bro. Newton, of the Royal Cafe, and a ample supply of the fragrant "Spanish Blossom" cigars helped to make the evening pass like

dream. In fact it was very close on to 12 o'clock when the entertainment was brought to a close with a vote of thanks to Bros. H. C. Clarke, De Forrest and C. L. Behnsen and by the visiting brothers giving three cheers for their host—Granville Lodge No. 3. All present voted it the most successful entertainment ever held by the Knights of Vancouver.

Granville Lodge No. 3 intends to celebrate its 15th anniversary in a becoming manner. Further particulars and invitations will be issued in the near future. We take this opportunity of once more thanking all brothers who honored us with their presence at our "At Home," on September 13th, and we hope to have all with us again, and many more, on our anniversary celebration.

Yours in F. C. and B.  
C. L. BEHNSEN.

Vancouver, B. C., Sept. 27th, 1899.

:o:

#### FROM NEW DENVER.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—Our country is still in the throes of labor troubles, with no apparent sign of moment that the end is in sight. Business remains quiet, and but few men are working, where formerly so much was done and so many employed. The promises of a prosperous summer in the camp have been blighted, and now Winter is within measurable distance with practically no encouragement for the long, dreary months. If the mines do not start up within a month, they certainly will not until spring, and it will be a blank season indeed for many. Of course this bears heavily upon No. 22 and our brethren at Sandon, but we believe it to be but temporary, and when things are in full swing again our membership will increase and the cause of the Order strengthened and enlarged.

Bro. P. A. Munro, M. W., has disposed of his traveling business here and gone to Montreal on six weeks' vacation.

Bro. G. Sutherland, P. C., and our worthy Master-at-Arms has charge of the new buildings being erected at the Emily Edith mine, Fourmile. He has seen many dark days, but it is to be hoped prosperity has commenced to shine on him and his now for an indefinite period.

Bro. Ployart, one of Primrose's stalwarts, is sick with typhoid fever at the local hospital. The Knights are looking after him, he having been reported at to-night's meeting of the lodge.

Though our membership is greatly scattered, still there are enough left to keep the mill going, and each meeting night sees sufficient present to carry on business.

It is a great source of satisfaction to know and realize that the rent question has been so amicably and decisively adjusted. Our surplus is increasing steadily, because the disbursements are kept to the zero mark. If we do not increase membership, we are certainly strengthening our financial standing.

No. 22 will hold its annual ball some time next

month, and every effort will be made to make it as great a success as past efforts have been.

Yours in F., C. & B.,

C. E. SMITHERINGALE.

New Denver, September 18th, 1899.

:o:

#### FROM COLDSTREAM.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother,—I herewith enclose a few items from Coldstream Lodge for the "True Knight."

We have nothing much to chronicle this month, but hope to have more to say in the near future.

The brothers have had a slight recess from active service, during the heat of the Summer months, but are now once more getting into harness, and are making preparations for a hot campaign the coming Winter. We will keep the "True Knight" well supplied with news from the seat of war.

Yours in F., C. and B.,

J. J. BAKER, K. of R. & S.

Vernon, B. C., September 18th, 1899.

:o:

#### A NEW SUBSCRIBER.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother,—I take great pleasure in handing you herewith my subscription for one year to the "True Knight." I have intended ever since its first publication to become a subscriber, but as my path in life has kept me at some distance from my home Lodge, and I have been denied the pleasure of attending Lodge meetings for some time past, I had overlooked my own interests, and partially forgotten the "True Knight." However, owing to a favored glimpse through Bro. John Jenkins' journal (of Kamloops) I have awakened to the fact that no true Knight in B. C. can afford to be without the "True Knight," even if he be employed on railroad construction and shut off from personal attendance at lodge meetings, as the journal is the more valuable then, for it gives him an idea of what his lodge is doing.

Wishing you all success,

Fraternally yours in F., C. and B.,

WALTER J. S. PAUL,

New Denver, No. 22.

Robson, Sept. 15th, 1899.

:o:

#### RATHBONE LODGE, NO. 7.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—The month just ending has been a very quiet one, although our dear old Lodge has not by any means gone behind.

Owing to absence from the City on business, our C. C. has been unable to attend. Vice-Chancellor Bro. Simpson has filled the chair most successfully. One event we must not omit mentioning, and that is the entertainment given by Granville, No. 3. Don't you think, boys, it is somebody else's turn now? Some people say so.

The attendance is slowly increasing, the advent of the Fall and consequent return to town

of absent members helping matters along.

We are pleased to state that Bro. J. N. Smith, at present residing in Port Blakely, and who was unfortunate enough to break his arm, is progressing favorably.

Bro. Grady kept the M. of F. very busy last Friday evening, and it was noticed that that officer had only time to write out receipts all evening long as a consequence. Never mind; John Grady is all right.

Yours in F., C. and B.

A. T. CROOK, Correspondent.  
Vancouver, B. C., Sept. 25th, 1899.

:o:

Those who know and understand the advantages and benefits of the Endowment Rank, realise more fully the importance attached to it, and the value which it is as a helpmeet to the organisation as a whole. Those who have watched its effects, and the strength which it has in late years given to many Lodges know that during the difficult and troublesome times when all organisations had to maintain themselves, and the financial stringency of the past few years in all business affairs, but for it, in many places, charters would have been surrendered and the Order weakened because of the existing conditions. It has been to many lodges a mainstay and support, held the membership together as by a common interest, and thus prevented many losses which would have otherwise taken place. For all this, and for the good that it has done irrespective of this, and further, because of the fact that it is a part of the great system of Pythian Knighthood, it should have a great deal more support and recognition by the general membership than it has hitherto received.—“Pythian Wave.”

:o:

#### CHANCELLOR COMMANDER.

When May a Knight or a Past Chancellor Perform all the Functions of a Chancellor Commander?

The query which gives rise to the consideration of the subject indicated by the above caption, is as follows:

“Where, from any cause, a Knight or a Past Chancellor is called to the chair in a Subordinate Lodge, to what extent is he clothed with the powers of the regularly elected and installed Chancellor Commander?”

The foregoing query came to us in a postscript to a letter from an old Pythian friend. While there was no expressed wish that the same should have an answer through the columns of the “Pythian Tribune,” still as this has been a question about which there has been a great deal of controversy, and as many still seem to be ignorant of the powers and prerogatives of a member (other than the Chancellor Commander) who, under certain circumstances, is called to the chair, we take up the subject and consider it, not only for the benefit of our correspondent, but for many other readers, that they may be thus informed.

Presuming by the words, “is called to the chair,” our correspondent means that such call is because of the absence of the Chancellor Commander or Vice Chancellor, who, were they

present, would of course be compelled to preside, no consideration will therefore be given to any other phase of the question, such as pertains to the temporary occupation of the chair by some member selected for that purpose during the conferring of the Ranks of Knighthood—the subject before us will be considered as bearing only upon the occupation of the chair, by either a Knight or a Past Chancellor, during the administration of the regular business affairs of a lodge.

Those of the older members of the Order whose membership dates back to the period covering from 1864 to 1894, will remember that almost everywhere one went they found different rules with reference to this question and all kinds of limitations put upon the prerogatives of a Knight or Past Chancellor so selected to preside—as a general rule, it was claimed that such a member could not communicate the semi-annual password, even though he acted as Chancellor Commander in conferring the work. Each Grand Lodge had a different provision of law with reference to this question, though in a great many of them, the general principles laid down were the same. In most of the Dominions, the rule provided that when the proper time had arrived for opening of the lodge, and the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor were not present, then some Past Chancellor was selected to preside, and, no Past Chancellor being present, the lodge had a right to call upon some Knight—there they left the matter, the duties, powers and prerogatives of the Past Chancellor or Knight selected, not being set forth or prescribed. This lack of properly designating the powers of such a temporary officer, led to many and many complications and often to serious dissensions—members present frequently questioned the authority of such a temporary officer, refused to be governed by his decision, and in several instances that have come before us the financial officers of the lodge refused to recognize or accept the authority of one so selected, to sign orders upon the treasury, or other documents which the law required should be signed by the Chancellor Commander. This often led to such peculiar and perplexing complications, that it is surprising to the “Tribune” that the question was allowed to continue so long undecided, when it would have been a simple matter for the Supreme Lodge to have made a declaration as to the limitations which must be placed upon the authority and prerogatives of a temporary officer such as described in the question herewith. The facts are, nevertheless, that nowhere in all the decisions of Supreme Chancellors, or the legislation enacted by the Supreme Lodge, did that body anywhere take cognizance of this matter until, in 1888, Supreme Chancellor Howard Douglass made the following decision, which was approved by the Supreme Lodge, and which may be found in the “Officia” Digest of 1890,” Section 113:

“In the absence of a Chancellor Commander, the Vice-Chancellor and all Past Chancellors the hour of opening having arrived, where the local law has made such provision, the Knight selected by the members present to preside over the lodge, for a time being, becomes an officer of the lodge, and may legally conduct the business of the lodge and preside while the

Ranks are being conferred." (S. L. Jour., 1888, 4123, 4409, 4580, 4581, 4659).

While that fairly well provided for the necessities of this case, it failed in many respects in definiteness, but it had at least the merit of having laid the foundation for the present provision which was prepared by the Constitutional Commission, and adopted by the Supreme Lodge in 1894, remaining unchanged to the present time. The Constitutional Commission deemed this matter of sufficient importance to give it a Chapter to itself in the Supreme Statutes—it is found under Title IV Chapter II., Section 307, and is designated a statute "relating to the selection of a presiding officer other than the Chancellor Commander or Vice-Chancellor."

As the section referred to is a lengthy one, for convenience of our readers and a better understanding of it, we have divided it as follows: 307. "Par. 1. The Chancellor Commander is the executive officer of a Subordinate Lodge, and in addition to his duties as such, it shall be his duty to preside at all the conventions of his lodge.

"Par. 2. In the event of his absence at the time fixed by law for calling a convention to order, or in case he is present at that time and fails or refuses to call the lodge to order within fifteen minutes of the time fixed by law for opening the Lodge, and a quorum is present, the Vice-Chancellor shall take the chair and perform, for the time being, the duties of Chancellor Commander.

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"Par. 3. If both of these officers are absent, or are present and neglect or refuse to preside, the members present shall proceed to select by vote, some one from among themselves to preside, voting first upon the Past Chancellors, and, in case of failure to secure a presiding officer from among them, then upon those who have received the Rank of Knight.

"Par. 4. The person so selected to preside shall have, while in the chair, the same power to conduct the business of the lodge and to preside while the Ranks are being conferred, that is devolved by the law upon a Chancellor Commander."

Accustomed as the average American is to the "town" convention, and the methods pursued in regard to calling such meetings to order, we presume that the Constitutional Commission did not deem it necessary to designate the manner in which the members present should bring the meeting to order, for the purpose of making the selection named—in all other respects, the law is plain and clear, free from ambiguity, and only open to but one construction and that is comprehended in the closing words, "that is devolved by the law upon a Chancellor Commander."

Some readers of the "Pythian Tribune" may possibly question the breadth of the provision, as to its being sufficiently specific, particularly in view of the fact that where the statutes provide in regard to a knight being called to the chair to assist in conferring the Ranks, or when the work is by a "team," it is declared, in Section 256, that the semi-annual password "must be communicated only by the Chancellor Commander or (in his absence) by the Vice-Chancellor of the Lodge."

In reply to this, the "Tribune" can only say that the very fact that the closing portion of Section 307, above quoted, is devoid of details, makes it all the stronger—instead of picking out certain things which a temporary officer might do, that Section uses the language "shall have, while in the chair, the same power to conduct the business of the lodge \* \* \* that is devolved by the law upon a Chancellor Commander."

It seems to us that it would be impossible for anything to be made more comprehensive—surely, no one would expect that the temporary officer would be clothed with any more than the regular incumbent. Again, the restrictions placed upon and made in connection with the duties contemplated in Section 256, are entirely proper—such appointed may only occupy the chair for the purpose of conferring the Rank of Ranks—he is not there, in any sense, as the presiding officer.—The "Pythian Tribune."

**A GOOD EXAMPLE.**

The following clipping is copied from the "Kootenay Mail," Revelstoke. We commend the C. C., Bro. Gill, for the Pythian spirit displayed and the example set:

**RECEPTION TO K. OF P.'S.**

Last evening Chancellor Commander Gill, of Gold Range Lodge, Knights of Pythias, held a reception at his home, to which all brethren of the local Lodge and visitors were invited. A



very enjoyable evening was had by all present, songs and music being a part of the entertainment. Refreshments were served about midnight and several toasts drank, all joining most heartily in the toast of "Our Host," and again to Mrs. Gill, who had taken great care in preparing the splendid spread which was provided.

—:o:—

Every member of the Order owes it to himself and family to make proper provision against the possibilities of death. The Endowment Rank provides for the issuance of certificates to Pythians for \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000 and \$3,000, so that there is no excuse in any eligible member of the Order being without protection. It can be obtained at comparatively little cost, and is safe and secure.

—:o:—

### FIDELITY.

Written for the "Greater Advocate" of Minneapolis by Past Grand Chancellor W. L. Heiskell, of Indianapolis, Grand Instructor for Domain of Indiana.

Webster defines Fidelity, "as faithfulness, adherence to right, careful and exact observance of duty, or discharge of obligations." To what extent should this virtue be practiced in the Order of Knights of Pythias? To one who understands the nature of an obligation and has the moral capacity to observe it (and none other should be admitted), its practice should be absolute and universal. Any other way, anarchy lies. And, are we not as an Order, tending in that other direction? Are we not departing from the "Dirigo" of the Supreme Lodge, to which all of us have given our pledges of honor and vow of allegiance? And this, too, with that glorious example of Fidelity ever before us, as furnished by the prototypes of the Order—Damon and Pythias—whose devotion to this virtue, and principle, brought them, each in turn, to the headman's block.

While the above might be a fitting introduction to "furnish food for thought" in other

departments of our work, I shall use it in its application to the ritualistic. Every member of our Order who has had the honor and dignity of the position of Chancellor Commander conferred upon him, has been required to subscribe to the following, among other obligations: "To preserve the ceremonies of the Order from change or innovation." How lightly some consider this obligation, you know without the telling. I am one of those who believe that the Supreme Lodge promulgated the ritual of the Order, with the understanding that it was the highest law, and that its provisions and requirements were binding on all.

But is not the tendency of the times alarmingly in the direction of disregarding that solemn and binding obligation, and rendering it of no effect? The answer to the question must be in the affirmative, when you find the entire Grand Domains, and the officers at the head, giving tacit consent to the dramatically inclined in the various lodges, to go to almost any length in carrying out their own individual ideas, contrary to the ritual and laws of the Order in the ceremonies incident to the conferring of the several ranks. But the climax is reached after this license has had full sway, and these brilliant individual (not ritualistic) productions, are presented to the admiring gaze of the adherents of that special domain, through the so-called rank work, to find those high in authority, and honored in the councils of the Supreme Lodge, lauding to the skies and commending this class of work, not owned or recognized, but expressly and positively forbidden by the Supreme Lodge. What will be the result of this utter disregard of obligations and laws, if allowed to go unchecked? A spirit of rivalry and unrest will take possession of the Order, and the study and ambition will be to continually add to the work, to get ahead of the other fellows, and large amounts of the money of the lodge will be squandered in placing these glittering innovations on the floor with becoming pomp and splendor. Hear what the Supreme Lodge says on this subject in the installation of the Master of the Exchequer: "Let your influence be ex-

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tended, so far as it legitimately may be, to prevent an unnecessary expenditure of the funds of the lodge. They are not the property of the lodge, to be used as it may seem fit to its members, but are held in trust, and pledged to meet the calls which must surely come from those entitled to our benefits." And what is the answer to those of the Order who desire to be disloyal to the Supreme Lodge in all its edicts, when admonishing against these innovations? Well, others do it, and are not stopped; but are rather encouraged and commended by members of the Supreme Lodge. Why can we not have the same privilege of beautifying our work? Brethren, the law of God and man says, "Thou shalt not murder." Shall we become murderers because, forsooth, some escape the punishment due the crime?

Brethren of the Order, in authority, do you appreciate the fact "that a chain is no stranger than its weakest link," and while you thunder your anathemas at the many private enterprises, advertising in the name of the Order for private gain, do you first pause and consider how far you are responsible for such a condition of things. The power and authority of the Supreme Lodge set at naught or carelessly considered by those who should be first and strongest to uphold it, but invite the incursions of the depredator or lawless all along the line. "The Supreme Lodge is the source of all true and legitimate authority in the Order of Knights of Pythias wheresoever established."

Let us see to it then, as members of this great and beneficent Order, that we exercise fidelity to the vows that are upon us; and let those in authority enforce respect and obedience to this supreme authority; but if we consider this authority onerous, let us still be men—renounce the Order and absolve ourselves of the vows that are upon us. I would not be understood as discouraging beautiful and impressive ceremonies. The labor bestowed during the best part of my life, for the beautiful and impressive in our work, will prevent that misunderstanding. Nothing can be too beautiful or impressive. But I claim that it can be accomplished through and by the work of the ritual. My love, zeal and ambition for the Order of Knights of Pythias is such, that I would desire for it the most beautiful, impressive and perfect ceremonies that it is in the mind of man to conceive, or his genius to execute, but I want it enstamped with the "Dirigo" of the Supreme Lodge.

:o:

#### SUPREME LODGE REVENUE.

First Practical Operation of the New Law Requiring a Per Capita Tax from Each Grand Domain.—Grand Lodges Will, on Oct. 1st, 1899, Pay the Supreme Lodge \$18,803.32.—The Law and Its Origin and Operation.

Knights of Pythias, the world over, will clearly understand the provisions of the amendment made to the Supreme Statutes at the 1899 Convention of the Supreme Lodge, in connection with the new improved system of direct taxation, or per capita tax from each Grand Domain, based upon the membership of the Order for the

year ending December 31st.

It will be recalled that the original suggestion met with considerable opposition at the outset, but after the matter became more thoroughly understood and generally discussed, and the membership of the Order became advised that some such proposition was necessary to provide a fixed and sure revenue, the suggestion was taken up and approved with popular accord.

This, of course, required an amendment to the Supreme Statutes, and the following was adopted by the Supreme Lodge and went into force and effect December 31st, 1898:

27. Each Grand Lodge shall pay to the Supreme Lodge, semi-annually, on the first days of April and October, each year, such per capita tax as may be determined by resolution at each biennial convention of the Supreme Lodge, for each member in good standing on the 31st day of December next preceding; and the first semi-annual payment of the per capita tax herein provided shall be due and payable on or before the first day of October, 1899. Provided, that if the tax herein provided for shall not be paid at the dates named, a penalty shall be added of one dollar per day for every day that shall elapse until the same shall be paid; provided, also, that until the said per capita tax and the penalty, if any, shall be paid, the grand domain so delinquent shall not be entitled to representation in the Supreme Lodge, and the Supreme Chancellor shall in his discretion arrest its charter.

On the afternoon of the ninth day of the 1898 Convention, the Committee on Ways and Means presented their report, recommending that the tax be fixed at "sixteen cents" for the ensuing term of two years, to be paid at the rate of four cents for each semi-annual term. An amendment was offered, suggesting "twelve" and "three" in place of "sixteen" and "four," but same was rejected and the report of the Committee was adopted as presented.

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derwear, Pyjamas, Neckwear,  
Waterproofs, Umbrellas.

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We here present a detailed statement of the amount of this tax from the several grand domains, first payment on or before October 1st, 1899. We also present a statement of the membership of each grand domain for the year ending December 31st, 1898, upon which showing the per capita tax is based. Minnesota will pay its proportion at the end of the current month (August), this being the closing month of our fiscal year.

GRAND DOMAINS	No. Members. Dec. 31, '98.	Am't of Semi-Annual Per Capita Tax.
Alabama.....	7,556	302 24
Arizona.....	711	28 44
Arkansas.....	4,421	176 84
British Columbia.....	1,332	53 28
California.....	11,075	443 00
Colorado.....	6,172	246 88
Connecticut.....	6,087	243 48
Delaware.....	1,038	41 52
District of Columbia.....	1,238	49 52
Florida.....	2,817	112 68
Georgia.....	5,795	231 80
Idaho.....	1,165	46 60
Illinois.....	37,124	1,484 96
Indiana.....	38,645	1,545 80
Indian Territory.....	1,622	64 88
Iowa.....	24,844	993 76
Kansas.....	11,286	451 44
Kentucky.....	6,242	249 68
Louisiana.....	6,334	253 36
Maine.....	12,350	494 00
Manitoba.....	379	15 16
Maritime Provinces.....	1,254	50 16
Maryland.....	6,953	278 12
Massachusetts.....	14,617	584 68
Michigan.....	11,437	457 48
Minnesota.....	7,613	304 52
Mississippi.....	5,389	215 56
Missouri.....	19,759	790 36
Montana.....	2,021	80 84
Nebraska.....	5,863	234 52
Nevada.....	786	31 44
New Hampshire.....	5,403	216 12
New Jersey.....	12,959	518 36
New Mexico.....	820	32 80
Ney York.....	19,881	795 24
North Carolina.....	4,172	166 88
North Dakota.....	1,757	70 28
Ohio.....	55,972	2,238 88
Oklahoma.....	1,073	42 92
Ontario.....	1,163	46 52
Oregon.....	3,525	141 00
Pennsylvania.....	40,448	1,617 92
Rhode Island.....	2,953	118 12
South Carolina.....	4,770	190 80
South Dakota.....	1,920	76 80
Tennessee.....	8,377	335 08
Texas.....	14,160	566 40
Utah.....	1,115	44 60
Vermont.....	1,277	51 08
Virginia.....	4,533	181 32
Washington.....	3,798	151 92
West Virginia.....	7,134	285 36
Wisconsin.....	8,226	329 04
Wyoming.....	722	28 88
Subordinate lodges.....	715	.....
Total.....	470,798	18,803 32
—Minneapolis, "Greater Advocate."		

TEMPUS FUGIT.

(Written especially for "The Senator" by J. P. Kennedy, G. V. C. of Oregon.)  
Too swiftly, Oh, my brother, speed the years,  
Far too swiftly with their sorrows and their tears.

With their days of Summer sunshine,  
With their days of Winter gloom,  
With their gladness and their sadness  
As we journey to the tomb—  
Too swiftly, Oh, too swiftly speed the years.

Too swiftly, Oh, my brother, speed the days  
That are leading to the parting of the ways,  
That are leading to the darkness  
Or are leading to the light,  
That are leading—who knows whither?  
To the left or to the right,  
Too swiftly, Oh, too swiftly, speed the days!

Too swiftly, Oh, my brother, in the strife,  
Speed the years, the days, the minutes of life!  
Of the tasks we set before us  
There are many left undone,  
Of the glorious vict'ries dreamt of  
Oh, so few, so few are won!  
So quickly, Oh, so quickly ends a life!

—:o:—

The brethren should understand that there is no medical examination fee as was formerly the rule, but that the Board of Control pays this fee—it has its own examiners, who are under its pay. This is stated because of the fact that many understand differently.

—:o:—

PLACING HER.

Quinn—"They say Miss Elwood is a regular singing bird."  
De Fonte—"She only hums."  
Quinn—"Then she must be a humming bird."

—:o:—

Where there are some members of the Endowment Rank who are members of sections in other localities, it will be well for them to organize within the lodge to which they belong. In that way the Rank will be benefited and the membership will be in a position to have the business and affairs of their section brought up and considered at every lodge meeting. In addition to this, it will be an accommodation to manv.

—:o:—

PAST SUPREME CHANCELLORS.

Wilbur H. Myers.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
Edward Dunn.....	Washington, D. C.
Ikeny Clay Berry.....	Chicago, Ill.
David B. Woodruff.....	Macon, Ga.
George W. Lindsay.....	Baltimore, Md.
Howard Douglass.....	Cincinnati, Ohio.
W. W. Blackwell.....	Henderson, Ky.
Walter B. Ritchie.....	Lima, Ohio.
Philip T. Colgrove.....	Hastings, Mich.

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### LODGE CARDS.

The Committee in charge of "The True Knight" have decided to reduce the price of Lodge Cards advertisements to \$4.00 per annum, payable quarterly in advance. At this figure, we trust that every lodge in this Grand Domain will see to it that their lodge card appears in our advertising columns.

### LOCALS.

Bro. knights, patronize the merchants who advertise in our columns.

P. C. J. McAloney, of Nanaimo Lodge, No. 4, paid the City a flying visit last month.

Bro. A. M. Tyson and wife have been visiting friends at Abbotsford, enjoying farm life.

Bro. Charles Rawlinson, of Nanaimo, No. 4, paid Vancouver a flying visit on September 24th.

Bro. Lipsett is reported to have caught ten shoes, and is making some of the brothers a present of a salmon each.

Bro. knights, are you assisting the Grand Chancellor in making this the banner year of Pythianism in British Columbia?

Bro. H. G. St. Dennis, C. P. of Granville Lodge, has got a very happy countenance. His steamer is catching lots of halibut.

Crusader Lodge, No. 19, has organized a strong Senate and Drill Team. The "True Knight" wishes them every success.

We note from the "Kootenay Mail" that the P. of that city took a leading part in the dedication of the I. O. O. F. new hall.

The wife of P. C. Grady, Rathbone Lodge, is, we are sorry to say, in a very critical condition. We earnestly hope for her speedy recovery.

Still another bicycle accident is reported. Bro. Fowler fell from his wheel, dislocating his knee, the other day. We hope the brother will soon get his knee re-adjusted.

The "True Knight" would be indebted to the different grand keepers of Records and Seal of outside jurisdictions for copies of their respective Grand Lodge proceedings.

Bro. P. C. Stephen Jones, the best known hotel man on the Pacific Coast, paid Vancouver a visit last month, and was well pleased with the business appearance of the city.

Bro. Charles Fosberg, the pioneer cigar merchant of Vancouver, met with a painful accident the other day, owing to a fall from his bicycle. His brother knights and friends hope for a speedy recovery.

Through the medium of exchanges received, we notice that a new Pythian paper is being published in the City of Montreal in the interests of the Order in the Eastern Provinces. We have a slight recollection of a request received at this office to exchange some months ago. As the paper has failed to materialize, other than through the courtesy of our S. R., H. J. Castle, who has favored us with July and August copies received by him.

The Endowment Rank insures Pythians up to 50 years of age, and issues to them certificates for either \$500, 1,000, \$2,000 or \$3,000. The rates are remarkably low, considering that the institution is on such a safe basis. For instance, at the age of 37 a member can insure his life for \$3,000 at the monthly cost of \$3—or, if he only wants to take \$2,000, it costs him only \$2 per month—and in the same proportion for the two lesser amounts. These rates never change, but remain the same through life.

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