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[Note: This transcription is divided into two sections, the material that pertains to James Buchanan has been copied and put in the front, followed by the entire publication.

[Cover page]

ST JOHN'S HERALD

[photo caption]

James Buchanan

April 1 1935

A. O. 887

STONEY BATTER, PA.

April 22nd, 1791

Lancaster, Pa.

June 1, 1868

Age 77 Years, 39 Days

[page 4]

James Buchanan

JAMES BUCHANAN was an accomplished statesman and of a wide and ripe experience. He was a keen and able lawyer. Born and grew up in Pennsylvania and had served his State in Congress as representative and a senator, had been minister to Russia under President Jackson; been a member of the cabinet of President Polk as secretary of state. During the four years previous to his election to the Presidency he had resided abroad as the minister of the United States to Great Britain, and in that capacity had greatly added to his reputation as a statesman. He was sixty-five years of age when he was inaugurated President of the United States the fourth of March, 1857. He was a bachelor—the only bachelor president our country has had, and the only president from the state of Pennsylvania. Perhaps Buchanan is the only President whose entire life had been devoted to the service, in office, of his country, either by election or appointment. And, further, perhaps no man has ever occupied the White House, whom was so well trained in statesmanship and better fitted to ably administer the office of President than James Buchanan. And with him, perhaps, has ended the especially trained for this high office. Today Pennsylvania is proud to honor her distinguished and able son—James Buchanan. And the United States is beginning to correctly evaluate his services as President; this last he predicted just before his death.

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James Buchanan
Our Bachelor President
By ALFRED L. SNYDER, P. C.

IF THE PRESIDENCY should go to a man trained in state-craft surely James Buchanan, the fifteenth elected president of the United States came to his own. In 1814 he was elected to the House of the Pennsylvania's state legislature. In 1820 he was elected to Congress and re-elected four terms, serving there five terms. President Andrew Jackson sent him as Minister to Russia. In 1833 he was elected to the United States Senate. President James K. Polk made him his Secretary of State. In 1853, President Franklin Pierce sent him as Minister to Great Britain. In 1856 the Democratic party nominated Buchanan for president and he was elected by a plurality over Fremont of 496,905. But as there were three candidates, Buchanan was a minority president, he received 1,838,169 popular votes and the other candidates 2,215,798; he received 174 electoral votes and the others 122. With Buchanan, perhaps, ended the selecting of our presidents from men that had spent many years in public life. True, Hayes, Garfield and McKinley spent many years in Congress previous to their being elected to the presidency. But James Buchanan had much experience in state and diplomatic affairs.

JAMES BUCHANAN was a soldier too, serving as a private in the war of 1812 with England. President Buchanan was a Pennsylvanian, being born and educated in the Keystone state. He was a precocious lad and was found, at the age of fourteen, a student in Dickinson College at Carlisle, Pa. He was said to have not been a close student, but it seems he was able to graduate with the highest honors in 1809. The following year he entered the law firm of James Hopkins in Lancaster, Pa., and began his residence in that city and Lancastrians claim him as their foremost and greatest citizen. And all Pennsylvanians will arise and give honor to his memory.

JAMES BUCHANAN was born April 22, 1791, at Stoney Batter, a wild mountain gorge, some three miles from Mercersburg, Franklin county, Pennsylvania. He was the son of an immigrant, a native of Donegal, Ireland; his mother was Elizabeth Speer, a daughter of an Adams county, Pennsylvania, farmer. Buchanan's grandfather Speer was a man of rank and ability. When the boy was seven years of age, the family moved into the town of Mercersburg, thus the lad had the advantages of as good public schools as the state maintained in that day. He was admitted to the bar in 1812. He entered politics being a member of the Federalist Party. He favored Andrew Jackson for president in 1828. Jackson awarded his fidelity by sending him as Minister Plenipotentiary to Russia. While here he concluded the first commercial treaty between the two countries, securing for the United States valuable privileges in the Black and Baltic seas. While in the Senate he was a strong supporter of President Jackson. He was a strong supporter of the claim that appointments might be made by the president alone when the Senate was not in session. When Congress proposed to exclude petitions for the abolition of slavery; Buchanan went further, he desired to prevent even the discussion of slavery by Congress. He proposed leaving the matter solely to the slave holding states, he held that Congress had no power over it. He favored the recognition of Texan independence, and the annexation of that republic to the United States. In the French indemnity affair, he supported Jackson's for payment, or war. Buchanan supported President Van Buren's administration, in the independent treasury scheme, the preemption of public lands, and opposed the bill to prevent the interference of federal officers in elections. Under President Tyler he sustained the veto power, and opposed the ratification of the Ashburton treaty, which was adopted, this settled the northeast boundary



between Maine and New Brunswick which was negotiated between the United States and Great Britain; Daniel Web-[ster]

[caption to photo] The Birthplace of James Buchanan at Stony Batter, Penna.

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[caption to photo] "Wheatland." The Manor Home of James Buchanan Here He Died

[Web]ster and Lord Ashburton acting as commissioners. When the question of the annexation of Texas came before the Senate, Buchanan was the only member of the Senate Committee of Foreign Affairs to report in favor of annexation. When James K. Polk became president he appointed Buchanan Secretary of State. The country was in war with Mexico, here he was busy in preventing the interference of other nations. He also had to deal with the north-western boundary question. Both United States and England claimed the territory between the Pacific coast and the Rocky Mountains up to the Russian boundary, this was satisfactorily settled. Though in private life, he approved of the compromise of measures of 1850, President Franklin Pierce sent him as minister to Great Britain; here he endeavored to settle a series of Central American affairs. These duties brought his presence at the Ostend conference the object of which was to bring about the sale of Cuba to the United States, but nothing more resulted than talk.

MR. BUCHANAN returned to the United States in April, 1856, and in June was nominated for president by the Democrat party. The Democratic National Convention assembled at Cincinnati, Ohio, June 2, 1856, and on the 6th Mr. Buchanan was nominated on the seventeenth ballot and was declared to be the unanimous choice of the convention. On Friday, June 13th, Mr. Buchanan was officially informed of his nomination; a distinguished delegation headed by General John E. Ward, of Georgia, came to "Wheatland," the Buchanan home at Lancaster, Pa.) where they were cordially welcomed by Mr. Buchanan. General Ward, after a few appropriate remarks, presented Mr. Buchanan with the following letter:

"Lancaster, June 13, 1856.

"Hon James Buchanan,"

Sir:

"The National Convention of the Democratic party, which assembled at Cincinnati on the first Monday in June, unanimously nominated you as a candidate for the office of President of the United States

"We have been directed by the convention to convey to you this intelligence, and to request you in their name, to accept the nomination for the exalted trust which the Chief Magistracy of the Union imposes

"The convention, founding their action upon the time-honored principles of the Democratic party, have announce their views in relation to the chief questions which engage the public mind; and while adhering to the truths of the past, have manifested the policy of the present in a series of resolutions, to which we invoke your attention



"The convention feel assured, in tendering to you this signal proof of the respect and esteem of your countrymen, that they truly reflect the opinion which the people of the United States entertain of your eminent character and distinguished public services They cherish a profound conviction that your elevation to the first office in the republic will give a moral guarantee to the country, that the true principles of the Constitution will be asserted and maintained; that the public tranquility will be established; that the tumults of faction will be stilled; that our domestic industry will flourish; that our foreign affairs will be conducted with such wisdom and firmness as to assure the prosperity of the people at home, while the interest and honor of our country are wisely but inflexibly maintained in our intercourse with other nations; and, especially, that your public ex-[perience]

(Continued on Page 11)

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[photo caption]

Statute of President James Buchanan at Washington, D. C.

JAMES BUCHANAN OUR BACHELOR PRESIDENT

(Continued from Page 7)

[ex]perience and the confidence of your countrymen, will enable you to give effect to Democratic principles, so as to render indissoluble the strong bonds of mutual interest and national glory which unite our confederacy and secure the prosperity of our people[.]

"While we offer to the country our sincere congratulations upon the fortunate auspices of the future, we tender to you, personally, the assurances of the respect and esteem of "Your fellow-citizens," John E. Ward, W. A. Richardson, Harry Hibbard, W. B. Lawrence, A. G. Brown, John L. Manning, John Forsyth, W. Preston, J. Randolph Tucker and Horatio Seymour."

Mr. Buchanan replied in a happy manner, after which the company, consisting of about fifteen persons, sat down to a dinner. Mr. Buchanan made his reply, in writing, to the notification committee, and was dated June 16, 1856. It was a lengthy document, adhering to the adopted party convention platform pledging his support.

The Democracy of Lancaster County, Pa., held a big mass meeting on June 14, 1856, in Penn Square, Lancaster, and ratified the nomination of their distinguished citizen, for the presidency. John Cabell Breckinridge, of Kentucky, was Buchanan's running mate for the vice presidency. Buchanan and Breckinridge were elected at the November election and were inaugurated March 4, 1857[.] As president, Mr Buchanan made every effort to smother and to put out of sight the agitation concerning slavery, not only in new states but everywhere[.] He temporarily pacified the Mormon troubles[.] He vetoed the Homestead bill. After the election in 1860, he was more than ever anxious to suppress slavery discussion, and he pointedly accused the North in his last message to Congress as to the blame for the impending disorder, because of that discussion, which had "produced its malign influence on the slaves, and inspired them with a vague idea of freedom." James Buchanan's career in the White House has long been looked upon as dissatisfactory by many. He was, however, a cautious man and many of his moves, which seemed slow and sluggish, appeared as such because of his desire to take every precaution before



reaching a decision. Sometime before his death, he said, "Posterity will do me justice, I have always felt and still do feel, that I discharged every public duty imposed upon me conscientiously. I have no regret, no regret for any public act of my life and history will vindicate my memory from every unjust aspersion." Slowly, it seems, this statement is coming true and writers are beginning to search for the history of Buchanan's times with great avidity.

James Buchanan's home, "Wheatland," beautiful Wheatland, pleasant for situation. Its appointments within and without reflected the fine culture and polished manners of its master—but never master to rule, but ever a host to entertain. "Wheatland" was a home, made so by the gracious simplicity and courtly character of him whom resided therein—James Buchanan—Lancaster's favorite son and Pennsylvania's outstanding citizen.

During President Buchanan's term many important matters affecting our country and the world were brought to a successful head and advancement. The Mormon trouble in the region of Great Salt Lake was energetically and firmly handled by President Buchanan. The sudden financial panic of 1857–59. The banks of the larger cities suspended specie payments, but the latter part of '57 and in '58 these were resumed. The business failures in the United States ran in the hundreds millions of dollars—which was an enormous sum for that day. A very important event took place in 1858—the invention of the electric telegraph. The same year saw successful laying of the first ocean cable. In August, 1858, Queen Victoria cabled, to President Buchanan, the now famous message, "What hath God wrought." In May, '58, Minnesota was admitted into the Union as a state. And Oregon was admitted in February, '59. In the autumn of '59 the dispute between the United States and Great Britain as to the ownership of the large island of San Juan, was amicably settled, by the President's wise choice of sending General Scott to the scene of the controversy. Here again President Buchanan displayed his sagacious statesmanship by appointing Robert J. Walker, Governor of the territory of Kansas, a man of great eminence and ability; for here the struggle of the question of slavery went on with increased bitterness. But through the wise counsel of Governor Walker this trouble was settled. Kansas was admitted into the Union as a state in January, '61, and as a free state. During Buchanan's administration, the great American writer Washington Irving died, and the insurrection and execution of John Brown took place. Brown was a man of many good qualities; but his rash attempt upon the southern people was most unfortunate. They regarded it as an unanswerable evidence of the intention of the people of the North to make war upon them under the cover of the Union. Regarding this view of the case

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[photo caption] The dedication of the James Buchanan Memorial Park at Lancaster, Pa.

as true, they came to listen with more favor to the arguments of the extreme class which openly favored a dissolution of the Union, and which asserted the only safety of the South lay in pursuing such a course. After the election of Abraham Lincoln in November, 1860, some of the southern states began to secede. South Carolina was the first, in December, 1860, followed in January, '61, by Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas in February. The forts, arsenals, and other property of the United States within the limits of these states were seized by the authorities of these states, with the exception of Forts Moultrie, Sumter and Pickens. President Buchanan's position was unquestionably embarrassing, but, he wavered; with all of his ability and training in state-craft, but he made no use of the means at his command. And how that veteran commander of the army, General Scott—urged him to act with vigor. The



President was sorely perplexed, and seemed chiefly anxious to postpone all definite action until the inauguration of his successor. He was in favor of conceding everything but separate independence to the South, failing to perceive that the leaders of the secession movement would accept nothing but separation; and by his timidity lost the advantages which the government would have gained by a bold, firm course. Matters were in an unhappy and excited condition when the administration of James Buchanan closed. He retired to his home "Wheatland," Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where he died June 1, 1868. Two days before his death he gave instructions to one of his executors as to his burial, asking that a simple stone be placed on his grave. The funeral services was one of the largest ever held in the vicinity of Lancaster.

He lies peacefully sleeping in the beautiful Woodward Hill Cemetery, Lancaster, Pa. Here the tumults of strife and pleasure will not awake him! Here the cares and responsibilities of state will not furrow his brow! Here the malignancy and hates of political campaigns will not disturb him! Here the tramp of commerce will not cause him to arise!
And as Beethoven sang in his great "Funeral Hymn,"

"Thou are gone to the grave, but we will not deplore thee."

CASE OF DRED SCOTT

Two days after President Buchanan's inauguration, Chief Justice Taney gave the decision of the United States Supreme Court in a case of great importance, known as the "Dred Scott Case." Scott was a negro slave and the son of slave parents. His master had taken him (1834) from the slave state of Missouri to the free state of Illinois, where he stayed two years. He then took him to what is now Minnesota, a part of the country in which Congress prohibited slavery,—The Missouri Compromise 1820—and finally carried him back to Missouri. There Scott was sold to a new master; but the negro demanded his liberty, on the ground that since he had for a considerable time lived on free soil he had therefore become a free man. The Sureme Court decided that a negro, whether bond or free, who was a descendant of slave ancestors, was not an American citizen; therefore he could not sue for his liberty in the United States Courts. The result was that many people determined that the law should not be carried out. This, of course, angered the South, and greatly increased the bad feeling between the two sections.

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[photo captions]

Above—Funeral of James Buchanan at "Wheatland"

Below—James Buchanan Memorial at Washington. D. C.

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St. John's Herald, April 1, 1935

JAMES BUCHANAN

1791 1868

[photo caption, top]

Woodward Hill Cemetery, Lancaster, Pa., Buchanan Plot

[photo caption, middle of page]

Buchanan Grave



In preparing the article we acknowledge and appreciate the help of—
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Lancaster (Pa.) Intelligencer—issue of October 24, 1927.

The Lancaster (Pa.) Historical Society—Paper Read 1932, Vol. XXXVI, No. 2.

The International Encyclopedia — 1888—Vol. III, pp. 138–139.

Four Centuries of Progress—ending with 1892—by Henry Davenport Northrup.

[THE ENTIRE PUBLICATION FOLLOWS]

[Cover page]

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St. John's Herald, April 1, 1935

Ancient and Illustrious Order of Knights of Malta — A Protestant Order
The Staunch Defender of Civil and Religious Liberty It Will Not Oppress Any Man or Body of
Men on Account of Their Religious or Political Belief. Our Numerous Secret Mysteries Should
Invite Us to the Various Sacred Ministeries of Christian Knighthood.



LancasterHistory

Declaration of Principles

The Order of Knights of Malta is a body of men banded together under most binding forms to comfort one another in the practice of the Christian religion; to offer mutual assistance in time of need; to promote Protestant unity and to defend the Protestant faith against all foes whatsoever. The Order is not a fraternity of recent birth, but is the legitimate descendant of the illustrious, religious and military Order of the Middle Ages, heir to its greatness, and fully endowed with all its ancient rites and ceremonies. Cradled in the Holy Land amid the scenes of our Saviour's life and passion, it arrived at the dignity of manhood during the period of the Reformation, when, rejoicing in man's state, it zealously embraced the pure doctrines of the Reformers, and under the leadership of Sir James Sandilands, the first Protestant Grand Commander, assisted John Knox in his holy work in Scotland. Since that time the Order has been the faithful ally of the Protestant Church. The Order of Malta is the staunch defender of civil and religious liberty. Whilst opposing all forms of error and superstition, it nevertheless teaches and exercises the fullest toleration and charity toward all men, being incapable, from the nature of its constitution or of the religion in whose interest it has been perpetuated, of oppressing any man or body of men on account of their religion, or political belief. The Order of Malta is neither a national or political nor sectarian association. Instituted in the Holy Land, A. D. 1048, at a period when none of the states of Europe had attained their modern proportions and power, and before the Continent of America had been heard of, it is the property of no nation, the possessor of no national traditions. Having no connection whatever with politics in any form, nor with any particular church organization, it demands, as the sole qualification for membership, purity of morals, zeal for the Protestant cause, faith in the Holy Scriptures as the infallible rule of faith and life, belief in the Holy Trinity as expressed in the Apostles' Creed, and reliance upon Christ as the only mediator. Its ramifications extend over the four quarters of the globe, and in every quarter is the society governed by the same grand and Christian principles, and under the same ancient and knightly constitution. In short, it is a universal Protestant fraternity—the true evangelical alliance for the propagation of the faith.

In association with the religious principles and aspirations of the fraternity is a chivalric spirit, which is the concomitant of the knightly character of the institution. The Order of Malta being one of the few military orders of the Middle Ages which have survived the revolution in society, it possesses the spirit as well as the forms of Christian knighthood, and is thus decidedly elevating and eminently Christian. This ancient and honorable fraternity calls, therefore, upon all Protestants, by whatever name known, who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and in truth, to enlist under its banner and to take their part in the religious regeneration of the world. With Protestantism aroused and faith kindled our religion would sweep the nations to the utter destruction of every form of error and superstition. May the Lord hasten the day and grant the speedy coming of His Kingdom. This illustrious Order possesses features somewhat different from most others.

First—The Order is ancient.

Second—It is fraternal. The obligations of the Order bind to secrecy and mutual protection. Third—It is military.

Fourth—It is a religious Order.

Fifth—It is beneficial or non-beneficial as Subordinate Commanderies may determine.



Sixth—It is the only legal body of Knights of Malta working on the Continent of America.

Thus, as may easily be seen it offers inducements which no other Order, ancient or modern, pretends to (for the young men of this Continent especially), combining as it does so many good qualities. Being a military Order, the drill is a prominent feature, though it is not compulsory on members to enter the drill company or to procure the uniform.

This Order has no affiliation in any way with any other Order. It is the lineal descendant of the Scottish branch of the Sixth Language of the Ancient High and Exalted Order of Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, afterward of Palestine, Rhodes and Malta.

THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES— REVISED BY ALFRED L. SNYDER, P. C.

The Ancient and Illustrious Order Knights of Malta is a lineal descendant of the Scottish Branch of the sixth language, and is a strict Protestant Order. It has an authentic history that traces its beginnings in the organization of the Knights Hospitallers at Jerusalem in 1048, during the crusades. Afterwards changed to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. This afterwards was changed to Palestine. The Order was banished from Palestine and found refuge on the Island of Rhodes, and Rhodes was added to their name. After settling on the Island of Malta the name was changed to the Knights of Malta. At the beginning of the Reformation the Order cast their lot in with the work of Luther and became The Ancient and Illustrious Order Knights of Malta.

To qualify to become a member in the Ancient and Illustrious Order Knights of Malta, the suppliant must believe in the one true Jehovah God. And that Jesus Christ is His Son—Divine, Very God, Very Man. He must be a true Protestant. He must have a true respect for the opinions and beliefs of all people of whatever nationality, name, language, religion or of no religion. He must not assist in any way or manner in the promotion of error and superstition. He must be a four-fold tolerant Protestant man. The Ancient and Illustrious Order Knights of Malta has its military side surviving from the Middle Ages, but its members are not required to participate in its drill or to wear its uniform. Its members are urged to work for the cause of peace and for the abolition of war. The Ancient and Illustrious Order Knights of Malta is not an anti-organization, it teaches and exercises the fullest toleration and charity toward all men. The Ancient and Illustrious Order Knights of Malta is not a national, nor political, nor sectarian organization. It has no connection whatever with politics in any form, nor with any particular church organization. It does not belong to any state or government. It is a universal Protestant fraternity. The Ancient and Illustrious Order Knights of Malta possesses features somewhat different from other Orders: It is Ancient. As its beginnings indisputably start with the organization of the Knights Hospitallers in 1048. The obligations of the Order bind to secrecy and to the mutual protection of its members. It stands for high ideals in character, morals and citizenship. Though optional military, it stands for peace and the obliteration of war. It stands for freedom of conscience, freedom of worship, freedom of press, freedom of speech, freedom of peaceable assembly. And for the full rights of democracy. It stands for the promotion of Protestantism in every high idealistic tolerant way. Intolerance is frowned upon by its membership and has no place in the polity and life of the Order. It stands for the full home-rule of the Subordinate Commandery. It is the only legal body of the Ancient and Illustrious Order Knights of Malta working on the Continent of America.



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Ich Dien

From The Bible

"For, lo, the winter is past, the rain (snow) is over and gone;
The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the
turtle is heard in our land;" . . . and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell ... the little
foxes spoil the vines"

—Song of Solomon II; 11, 12, 13, 15

"Woe unto him that buildeth his house by unrighteousness, and his Chambers by wrong; that
useth his neighbor's service without wages, and giveth him not for his work."

—Jer. 22: 13.

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ST. JOHN'S HERALD

EDITORIALS



Psalm Fifteen

“LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in thy holy hill? "He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. "He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbor, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbor. "In whose eyes a vile person is condemned; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt and changeth not. "He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh award against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved."

James Buchanan

JAMES BUCHANAN was an accomplished statesman and of a wide and ripe experience. He was a keen and able lawyer. Born and grew up in Pennsylvania and had served his State in Congress as representative and a senator, had been minister to Russia under President Jackson; been a member of the cabinet of President Polk as secretary of state. During the four years previous to his election to the Presidency he had resided abroad as the minister of the United States to Great Britain, and in that capacity had greatly added to his reputation as a statesman. He was sixty-five years of age when he was inaugurated President of the United States the fourth of March, 1857. He was a bachelor—the only bachelor president our country has had, and the only president from the state of Pennsylvania. Perhaps Buchanan is the only President whose entire life had been devoted to the service, in office, of his country, either by election or appointment. And, further, perhaps no man has ever occupied the White House, whom was so well trained in statesmanship and better fitted to ably administer the office of President than James Buchanan. And with him, perhaps, has ended the especially trained for this high office. Today Pennsylvania is proud to honor her distinguished and able son—James Buchanan. And the United States is beginning to correctly evaluate his services as President; this last he predicted just before his death.

Our Malta Home

“Ho! reapers of life's harvest.
Why stand with rusted blades
Until the night draws around thee,
And day begins to fade?

"Why stand ye idle, waiting
For reapers more to come?
The golden morn is passing,
Why sit ye idle, dumb?"

This was President James A. Garfield's favorite hymn and was sung at his funeral. We muse, wonder, if there might be a thought, that we as Knights of Malta, can catch from the poet's "life's reapers" described above, that would spur us on—Commanderies and Companions—to greater work for our Malta Home. To the Superintendent and Board of Governors it looks as though "the night draws around," will we with "rusted blades"—money withheld—see the "day begins to fade." Why are we "idle waiting"—do we expect other "reapers"—persons-besides ourselves—will come with "the golden morn"-money-while we "sit, idle, dumb." If our Malta Home is to be financed and supported, we of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania must heed the call "Ho!" and support it without stint. "Why sit ye idle, dumb."



A Soliloquy

YOU know, I've been thinking—and that's remarkable, too—that one of the reasons the Order of Malta does not progress more rapidly, so very very few Commanderies, in the Grand Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, ever have a member as an officer or committeeman in the Grand Commandery, for such reason the members become discouraged and say "What's the use, we never get any recognition, practically the same old crowd gets all the honors." And it does look so. You know, wouldn't it be just simply fine, that beginning, at Lancaster this coming May, we would just check the Commanderies carefully and see those that have never been represented and those that have not been represented for years, are given appointments, but only one from one Commandry, and keep this up year after year. It would be a sincere companionable fraternal act, every Knight would feel better, it will eradicate every thought of politics. Every Commandery would be awake and at work, its companions would feel they were of some importance to the Order. This idea should apply to the board of governors of the Malta Home, too. It would increase visitations between Commanderies, members would become acquainted with one another. And things would become better. What say, boys, how about trying it?

Degree Ceremonial

IN Juvenal, X., Dryden says: "He moves in dull ceremonial track, With Jove's embroidered coat upon his back." And Macaulay, in his History of England Ch. X, describes: "And the conference was held with all the antique ceremonial." Now which? Or both? Those of us living within a discrete radius of Wilkes-Barre and were wise enough to take advantage of the opportunity to attend the Degree Ceremonial of the Susquehanna-Lackawanna Degree Association on Washington's birthday, met with many happy surprises, and,

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St. John's Herald, April 1, 1935

perhaps, were astonished that the sixth, eighth and ninth degrees lent themselves so much to dramatic exposition. They found, too, that much that is tragical lay hidden in these rituals. Everybody knows, everybody expects to see, the most exquisite pathos, soul-depth tragedy and the most stirring drama when the twelfth is placed in action upon the floor, but not so with the so-called "intermediary." Thus, Degree Ceremonials give us something not to be had ordinarily. Then too, these ceremonials bring together a very large number of Companions and they become acquainted with each other, and we find the caliber of the men that make up the roster of the Ancient and Illustrious Order Knights of Malta. And some of us find in these shoulder to shoulder rubbings, hand-clasps and words exchanged in banter or serious, we are not so much the "IT" in the Order as we thought ourselves, and our "EGO" is filed down a bit. Now, and it will not lend itself to contradiction, if all Commanderies located in a reasonable distance to each other would organize Degree Associations and have annual ceremonies it would build up our Order. For, after all, as Dryden says: "We are but children of a larger growth." And are dazzled by the spectacular.



Is There A Crisis

ONE thing, I should say, is certain, the men, upon whom devolves the responsibility of making the laws of our Order have the power of plunging us in a crisis out of the depths of which it will take years to extricate ourselves—some say we are already in such a crisis—this editorial has to do with the question of fees and other laws governing the local Commandery. One of the important essential reasons why our organization is kept back is because of this question of "fees." Many Protestant men, whom should be united with us cannot, these days, spare the amount of pay to join. We seem to lose sight of the fact that it is not initiation and degree fees that enrich our treasuries, it is the dues upon which our financial structure is built. Very little law should be enacted by our Supreme and Grand Commanderies to govern our Subordinate Commanderies. Subordinate Commanderies should be given wide leeway in making their own laws for self-government, as they find their local conditions; and the local Commandery should make as few laws as possible, as "too much law" is as about as dangerous as "no law." The main argument presented against the "no fees" question is, "quantity" will adulterate "quality." Are not members elected? Are not applications investigated? Are not degree advancement voted upon? There is not near as much danger in getting the "undesirable" into the Order without paying the admission fee, than his getting in if he is willing to pay a hundred dollars admission, for, with most humans, whether Knights of Malta or not, "money counts." The signs of the times, press. government and many other things, point, emphatically, that if there was ever a need and a time that the Declaration of Principles and Degree Obligations of the Knights of Malta should have a wide circulation and adoption that time is NOW, and our law-makers should do everything possible to make this possible. We are loyal American citizens and our influence should be felt.

Reason Lacking

USING the words of Senator Barbour, of New Jersey, "The tendency to form conclusions on the basis of impulses rather than upon reasoning." This will be noted, particularly, by the thoughtful whom will be in attendance at the sessions of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania at Lancaster next month. where there will be aplenty of matters, important and unimportant, up for discussion and action. Here we are interested in one very important matter that will have to come before the Grand Body for decision. that is seating representatives from such Commanderies that have not paid their per capita tax; and whether such Commanderies should have this tax rescinded or not. Here there will be plenty of talk more from "impulse" than from "reasoning." And it may be the "impulsers" will carry the day, while the many that have given this subject careful thought and reasoning and has come to the conclusion that there is only one reason why any Commandery has not paid its per capita tax, is, because it has not the money. And, as he has reasoned, it is of more vital importance to the Order, and to the Grand Commandery, that a representative—whom may be paying his own expenses—from such a Commandery be seated, and that such a Commandery be exonerated from paying its per capita tax, when it has no money to pay with, than it is to deny such representation and exoneration. By the former, a Companion and a Commandery, is held in the Order, and when their finances permit, both will be a generous supporter of the Order, which includes the Malta Home. After careful thought and in the light of intelligent reasoning the Grand Body cannot afford but to act most magnanimously toward all Commanderies that have not paid their per capita tax—because they cannot afford to do so.



Many Letters Much Advice

THE Supreme Commander evidently takes it for granted that the adoption of the "State of the Order" committee report by the Supreme Commandery at Atlantic City last October, was a mandate, that he, as the head of the Order on this Continent, is to carry out. In his address, after assuming the gavel of authority of this body, at this same conclave, he laid especial emphasis on the "Civic Duties" of Companions through their commanderies. Since then he has sent out a veritable deluge of circular letters citing by name the civic, church and social things Commanderies might do, can do and should do. The kind of committees that should be appointed, and "my me" they are numerous. Yet, in all of the many things he has called by name that Commanderies should do in church and state, he has never mentioned temperance work in the destruction of the liquor traffic—one of America's and the World's insidious diabolical destructive perditions foes. Nor has he set forth in understandable language our work as a Protestant Order. The Supreme Commander in his enthusiastic love of the Order of Malta and in his enthusiasm for the advancement of the same, in sending out a flood of proclamations and letters of advice to Commanderies, seems to have lost sight of the fact that membership in a Commandery is not a vocation, but an avocation. Practically all officers and companions in them have to work for a living. While a Commandery of Knights of Malta is very important, but it is not the "all important." We are of the opinion that most men connect themselves with an Order to get a respite from the "daily grind" and when that Order is made the "grind" he flees from it. If a Commandery attempted even to read all that those fat envelopes contain, which are post-marked "Lancaster, Pa.," there would not be anything else done that evening and the convocation would extend into the "wee' sma" hours of the morning. We surmise that most Records call attention to the letters and hang them on the bulletin board. We admire the Supreme Commander for his energy he is giving to the work and of the serious manner in which he takes his office. He advised the editor when he took office that he would wear no man's shoes, and that he'd be himself. Well, he is.

Harry V. Kirker

IN the battle of Bull Run the Confederates were driven from the field. They were rallied, however, by General T. S. Jackson. As General Bee rallied his men, he shouted "There stands Jackson like a stonewall."

If there is a man in the Order of Malta today that is entitled to the epithet, the sobriquet, the title, the honor of the prefix "SIR" before his name, that man is Sir Harry V. Kirker, the Grand Commander of Pennsylvania. When in his presence we are reminded of the above heading. He represents solidity, as a stonewall. He exudes character—dependable, like a stonewall. He denotes safety, as a stonewall—the Grand Commandery is safe in his leadership. He gives evidenc of having been tried, as a stonewall. You feel that he has had experience, as a stonewall. He has reputation, as a stonewall. You feel if you run bluntly against him you will be hurt, as against a stonewall. You feel woe be to that Companion or Commandery upon whom he falls, like a stonewall. He is a man of sagacious business training, is Grand Commander Kirker. He is a man of a fine Christian experience, is Grand Commander Kirker. A man that is a kind, helpful and gracious neighbor, is

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James Buchanan
Our Bachelor President
By ALFRED L. SNYDER, P. C.

IF THE PRESIDENCY should go to a man trained in state-craft surely James Buchanan, the fifteenth elected president of the United States came to his own. In 1814 he was elected to the House of the Pennsylvania's state legislature. In 1820 he was elected to Congress and re-elected four terms, serving there five terms. President Andrew Jackson sent him as Minister to Russia. In 1833 he was elected to the United States Senate. President James K. Polk made him his Secretary of State. In 1853, President Franklin Pierce sent him as Minister to Great Britain. In 1856 the Democratic party nominated Buchanan for president and he was elected by a plurality over Fremont of 496,905. But as there were three candidates, Buchanan was a minority president, he received 1,838,169 popular votes and the other candidates 2,215,798; he received 174 electoral votes and the others 122. With Buchanan, perhaps, ended the selecting of our presidents from men that had spent many years in public life. True, Hayes, Garfield and McKinley spent many years in Congress previous to their being elected to the presidency. But James Buchanan had much experience in state and diplomatic affairs.

JAMES BUCHANAN was a soldier too, serving as a private in the war of 1812 with England. President Buchanan was a Pennsylvanian, being born and educated in the Keystone state. He was a precocious lad and was found, at the age of fourteen, a student in Dickinson College at Carlisle, Pa. He was said to have not been a close student, but it seems he was able to graduate with the highest honors in 1809. The following year he entered the law firm of James Hopkins in Lancaster, Pa., and began his residence in that city and Lancastrians claim him as their foremost and greatest citizen. And all Pennsylvanians will arise and give honor to his memory.

JAMES BUCHANAN was born April 22, 1791, at Stoney Batter, a wild mountain gorge, some three miles from Mercersburg, Franklin county, Pennsylvania. He was the son of an immigrant, a native of Donegal, Ireland; his mother was Elizabeth Speer, a daughter of an Adams county, Pennsylvania, farmer. Buchanan's grandfather Speer was a man of rank and ability. When the boy was seven years of age, the family moved into the town of Mercersburg, thus the lad had the advantages of as good public schools as the state maintained in that day. He was admitted to the bar in 1812. He entered politics being a member of the Federalist Party. He favored Andrew Jackson for president in 1828. Jackson awarded his fidelity by sending him as Minister Plenipotentiary to Russia. While here he concluded the first commercial treaty between the two countries, securing for the United States valuable privileges in the Black and Baltic seas. While in the Senate he was a strong supporter of President Jackson. He was a strong supporter of the claim that appointments might be made by the president alone when the Senate was not in session. When Congress proposed to exclude petitions for the abolition of slavery; Buchanan went further, he desired to prevent even the discussion of slavery by Congress. He proposed leaving the matter solely to the slave holding states, he held that Congress had no power over it. He favored the recognition of Texan independence, and the annexation of that republic to the United States. In the French indemnity affair, he supported Jackson's for payment, or war. Buchanan supported President Van Buren's administration, in the independent treasury scheme, the preemption of public lands, and opposed the bill to prevent the interference of federal officers in elections. Under President Tyler he sustained the veto power, and opposed the ratification of the Ashburton treaty, which was adopted, this settled the northeast boundary



between Maine and New Brunswick which was negotiated between the United States and Great Britain; Daniel Web-[ster]

[caption to photo] The Birthplace of James Buchanan at Stony Batter, Penna.

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[caption to photo] "Wheatland." The Manor Home of James Buchanan Here He Died

[Web]ster and Lord Ashburton acting as commissioners. When the question of the annexation of Texas came before the Senate, Buchanan was the only member of the Senate Committee of Foreign Affairs to report in favor of annexation. When James K. Polk became president he appointed Buchanan Secretary of State. The country was in war with Mexico, here he was busy in preventing the interference of other nations. He also had to deal with the north-western boundary question. Both United States and England claimed the territory between the Pacific coast and the Rocky Mountains up to the Russian boundary, this was satisfactorily settled. Though in private life, he approved of the compromise of measures of 1850, President Franklin Pierce sent him as minister to Great Britain; here he endeavored to settle a series of Central American affairs. These duties brought his presence at the Ostend conference the object of which was to bring about the sale of Cuba to the United States, but nothing more resulted than talk.

MR. BUCHANAN returned to the United States in April, 1856, and in June was nominated for president by the Democrat party. The Democratic National Convention assembled at Cincinnati, Ohio, June 2, 1856, and on the 6th Mr. Buchanan was nominated on the seventeenth ballot and was declared to be the unanimous choice of the convention. On Friday, June 13th, Mr. Buchanan was officially informed of his nomination; a distinguished delegation headed by General John E. Ward, of Georgia, came to "Wheatland," the Buchanan home at Lancaster, Pa.) where they were cordially welcomed by Mr. Buchanan. General Ward, after a few appropriate remarks, presented Mr. Buchanan with the following letter:

"Lancaster, June 13, 1856.

"Hon James Buchanan,"

Sir:

"The National Convention of the Democratic party, which assembled at Cincinnati on the first Monday in June, unanimously nominated you as a candidate for the office of President of the United States

"We have been directed by the convention to convey to you this intelligence, and to request you in their name, to accept the nomination for the exalted trust which the Chief Magistracy of the Union imposes

"The convention, founding their action upon the time-honored principles of the Democratic party, have announce their views in relation to the chief questions which engage the public mind; and while adhering to the truths of the past, have manifested the policy of the present in a series of resolutions, to which we invoke your attention



"The convention feel assured, in tendering to you this signal proof of the respect and esteem of your countrymen, that they truly reflect the opinion which the people of the United States entertain of your eminent character and distinguished public services They cherish a profound conviction that your elevation to the first office in the republic will give a moral guarantee to the country, that the true principles of the Constitution will be asserted and maintained; that the public tranquility will be established; that the tumults of faction will be stilled; that our domestic industry will flourish; that our foreign affairs will be conducted with such wisdom and firmness as to assure the prosperity of the people at home, while the interest and honor of our country are wisely but inflexibly maintained in our intercourse with other nations; and, especially, that your public ex-[perience]

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Some Historical Data

Relative to the meeting of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania at Lancaster, Pa., May 7, 8, 9, 1935. Three times previous this Grand Body has met here. Yes, too, the Supreme Commandery has met once here. Surely the Maltans of Lancaster delight to entertain—yet—the Order grows here.

[photo caption, left]

Grand Commandery Met at Lancaster April 4, 5, 6 1893

THERE was but one Commandery here in those days—and it was the Meridian Sun, No. 99, and it is still going strong. Sir Silas A. Lentz was the presiding Grand Commander and Sir Wilson J. Rugh was installed such near the close of the conclave.

Some of the things Mayor Clark said in his address of welcome: "Sir Knights:

"It gives me pleasure, on behalf of the municipality, and of the people of our city, to welcome you to the city of Lancaster I have had occasion before to say that no prejudice exists in this community against secret orders, having for their object the advancement of their members and the welfare of mankind. To such associations, whose objects embrace hospitality, charity, fraternity benevolence and religion, our good city has always bidden generous welcome. Their aggregate membership here almost equals the adult male population The mission of the Knights of Malta today is even higher and holier than that of their progenitors who fought in the open plans before Jerusalem or behind the strong-holds of Malta Island. The genius of our modern Christian civilization is peace, charity, benevolence and philanthropy. To advance these is your aim. To promote them is your lofty purpose. . . ." Grand Commander Lentz said this, in closing his report:

"We are a Christian, charitable and a hospitable institution; working and praying for the elevation of Christian Knighthood, for the fostering of a common cause, for the consummation of Christ's glorious kingdom; bearing with each other in meekness tempered with mercy; working for each other in love and chastity; living and hoping for each other earth's best and brightest gifts." The Grand Commandery then had 26 commanderies with a membership of 7,076 with assets of \$67,005.91. We find, way back there—the beginnings of the Grand Commandery, 13 Commanderies failed to send in reports, 223 companions suspended and 8 expelled. The wise



man said, "There is no new thing under the sun, The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be."

There were four commanderies here in those days—Midian Sun, No. 99, White Cross, No. 159, Rising Star, No. 260, and Martin Luther No. 317, and three are still going strong. Sir Harry R. Stover, a Lancasterian, was the presiding Grand Commander and Sir Jasper T. Sem-bower was installed such near the close of the conclave. As in 1893, the mayor made the address of welcome; his honor this time was J. P. McCaskey. In 1893 Silas A. Lentz was Grand Commander and in 1909 a memorial service was held for him, and Sir Edwin W. Samuel, P. S. C., delivered the eulogy. In 1909, the Grand Commandery had 168 commanderies, 22,213 members assets valued at \$457,498.15, 1,402 suspensions and 37 expulsions.

Upon motion, Sir Robert B. Keller, No. 186, a committee was appointed to place a floral offering up-on the grave of Past Grand Commander Frederick Arnold in Woodward Hill Cemetery, this committee was Sirs Robert B. Keller, W. G. Aukamp, John Liebensburger, James L. Jackson and Frank L. Fatzinger. The members of this committee, with the exception of Robert B. Keller, are now dead,

“There is no death,
What seems so is transition,
Is but a suburb of that land Elysian,
Whose portals we call death.”

(The Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania will meet, for the fourth time, in the city of Lancaster, May 14, 15 and 16, 1935, and it will be the greatest session held by this body, in its constructive and advance legislation for the order in this jurisdiction. Be there.) There were four commanderies here in those days, but Rising Star, No. 260, was not found on the roster, but Parvain Commandery, No. 600, was instituted May 1, 1922, it is presumed that No. 260 casted her lot in with No. 600. These four commanderies had a combined membership of 2,253 and assets totaling \$84,082.49. And as in 1909, a Lancasterian, Elias J. Sterner, was Grand Commander and presided and Sir Harvey E. Smith was installed Grand Commander at the close of the conclave. As in 1893 and 1909 Lancaster's mayor welcome the

(Continued· on page 14)

[photo captions, right]

Grand Commandery Met at Lancaster May, 11, 12, 13, 1909

Grand Commandery Met at Lancaster in the Malta Temple, May 10, 11, 12, 1922

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History of St. John's Commandery No. 186, A. and I. O. K. of Malta

By SIR ALFRED LEIDA SNYDER, Past Commander

(Continued from page 16, January 1, 1935 issue of St. John's Herald)

Stroudsburg, Pa. JANUARY 8, 1935, A. 0. 887, six officers and two trustees absent. Vol. XXX, No. 1, January 1, 1935-350 copies, 24 pages each—issue of St. John's Herald, was published and mailed at an expense of \$95.95. A copy of the records of the 51st annual convocation of the Supreme Grand Commandery held at Atlantic City, N. J., October 16 and 17, 1934, was



received. The following communications were received from Supreme Commander Sir William A. Gretzinger, Proclamations No. 1, dated October 18, 1934, and No. 2 dated December 1, 1934. Letters, dated November 26, 1934, November 28, 1934, December 15, 1934, and two dated January 1, 1935. An appeal for funds for the Malta Home was received from Superintendent P. C., C. E. Batcheller. An invitation was received from the Susquehanna Valley Degree Association to attend the fourth annual ceremonial at Wilkes-Barre, Ja., February 22, 1935. Three members were reinstated to membership. Visitations, on Thursday night, December 13, 1934—Companions Howard E. Northrup, Harry Lynn, P. C.'s Charles Sampson, Elias M. Paxton, Joseph Daubert, Ralph E. Howell and Alfred L. Snyder visited St. Alban Commandery No. 46 at Allentown, Pa. On Friday night, December 21, 1934—Harry Lynn, P. C.'s Joseph Daubert, Elias M. Paxton, and Alfred L. Snyder visited Shiloh Commandery, No. 104, and Bangor, Pa., and on Friday night, January 4, 1935, Harry Lynn, P. C.'s Charles Sampson, Ralph E. Howell, Alfred L. Snyder and Elias M. Paxton visited Damascus Commandery No. 50 at Bethlehem, Pa. Receipts were \$80.25, disbursements \$188.95.

JANUARY 22, 1935, five officers and two trustees absent. Two Past Commanders were reinstated as non-beneficial members. An invitation to attend the 44th anniversary of the institution of St. Peter's Commandery No. 80 at Tatamy, Pa., Thursday night, February 21, 1935, was received. On Friday night, January 11, 1935, Companions Harry Lynn, P. C.'s Elias M. Paxton, Ralph E. Howell, Charles Sampson and Alfred L. Snyder paid a visit to Star of the North Commandery No. 92, at Slatington, Pa. The Commandery decided to observe "Past Commanders" night February 26, 1935. The Supreme Commander and nearby Commanderies to be invited to this convocation. Receipts were \$35.25; disbursements \$37.20.

FEBRUARY 12, 1935, four officers and one trustee absent. Officers for ensuing year were nominated. Letters of condolence were sent to P. C., Harry J. Freeland on the death of his father, and to P. C., Charles G. C. Schoenerberger and Companion Edmond O. Lambert on the death of a brother of each. An application for membership was received. Proclamation No. 3, dated Philadelphia, Pa., February 1, 1935, signed by Sir William A. Gretzinger, Supreme Commander. The annual notice was received from the Grand Recorder. The January, 1935, Special Edition of the Malta News from Hanover, Pa., was received. Also the Malta Bulletin of No. 80, Tatamy, Pa., for February, 1935, was received. Receipts were \$44.50, disbursements \$57. It being Lincoln's Birthday, Past Commanders Elias M. Paxton and Alfred L. Snyder delivered addresses upon the Emancipator.

FEBRUARY 26, 1935—PAST COMMANDERS NIGHT. All officers and trustese present except the First and Second Guards. The following Past Commanders occupied the Chairs and Posts, Sir Knight Commander Sir Paul L. Edinger, Generalissimo Sir Albert H. Mitchell, Captain General Sir Sherman S. Teeter, Prelate Sir Elias M. Paxton, Recorder Sir Alfred L. Snyder, Assistant Recorder Sir Ralph E. Howell, Treasurer Sir Arthur W. Bowlby, Senior Warden Sir Charles G. C. Schoenerberger, Junior Warden Sir Charles Sampson, Sword Bearer Sir Edward G. Marsh, Standard Bearer Sir Herman F. Spitzner, Warder Sir August Engelhardt, Sentinel Sir Joseph Daubert, First Guard Sir Harry Adams, Second Guard Sir August E. Miller, Trustees Sir Sherman S. Teeter, Sir Ira A. LaBar, and Sir August Engelhardt. The Sir Knight Commander made the following appointments, Scrutineers to canvas the vote for Grand Commandery officers, Past Commanders Ira A. LaBar and Robert F. Kistler; for the election of Commandery officers, Past Commanders Frank L. Stackhouse and Bert B. Palmer; to audit the Commandery accounts, Past Commanders Albert H. Mitchell, Fred B. Dreher and Chester A. Dreher. Chester



B. Kortright, Jr., age 20, was elected to membership. Nineteen delinquents were ordered carried. Forty-four Past Commanders voted for Grand officers. Seven communications received from the Supreme Commander, and nine other communications received. Companion Andrew G. Keiser had the Red Cross and Sepulchre degree conferred upon him by John Knox Commandery, No. 12, and Wilkes-Barre, Pa., February 22, 1935. The following Commandery officers were elected for the ensuing term: Sir Knight Commander Sir Harry Lynn, Generalissimo Sir Sherman S. Teeter, Captain General Sir August Englehardt, Prelate Sir Paul L. Edinger, Recorder Sir Alfred L. Snyder for his 34th term, Assistant Recorder Sir Ralph E. Howell, Treasurer
(Continued on page 15)

[photo caption, left]

Sir Theodore D. Dreher 23rd member of St. John's Commandery, No. 186, A. & I. O. K. of M., to receive the honors of Past Commander by serving three consecutive terms as Senior Warden. Date of Past Commander's Credentials March 12, 1935, A. O. 887.

[photo caption, right]

Sir Paul L. Edinger, Past Commander. The 78th Sir Knight Commander of St. John's Commandery, No. 186, A. & I. O. K. of M. Date of Past Commander's Credentials September 11, 1934, A. O. 886. 70 different Companions have served in this office.

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St. John's Herald, April 1, 1935

The Supreme Commander's Itinerary

Malta's Head in America on long and profitable trip. Received with acclamation everywhere.

SUPREME Grand Commander Sir William A. Gretzinger, accompanied by Mrs. Gretzinger, left Philadelphia, Pa., January 6, 1935, on a general trip of visitation covering a wide territory, striking strategic points for a survey of conditions of the Order. To gain first hand information, to receive inspiration for greater achievements, to council where council is needed, to direct, to exchange views with state and Commandery leaders. His first stop was at the office of the Deputy Supreme Recorder at Lancaster, Pa., with whom he went in conference relative to the Order of Malta. Sterner put the Supreme head in good humor by taking him and Mrs. Gretzinger a long and interesting auto ride.

The Supreme Commander's arrival at Buffalo, N. Y., January 7th, took on the color of a triumphal entrance, being met at the train by a delegation of twenty-five Sir Knights headed by P. G. C., John J. H. Meier, who presented Mrs. Gretzinger with a handsome bouquet. The Supreme Commander spent several days at Buffalo, attending the 25th anniversary of Galilee Sisterhood No. 15 D. of M. A banquet was served. Here he was presented with a fine gift. After the banquet a big public booster meeting was held. The Supreme Commander made the following address:

"My Dear Friends and Members of the Knights and Dames of Malta:

I heartily appreciate this honor of speaking to you on this occasion. The Knights of Malta stand for many high and noble principles. To be associated with this Order is a privilege to be highly



appreciated. I accept the honor accorded to me on this occasion as a call to Service for humanity. I am filled with gratitude for the privilege of this hour.

I shall speak to you as a fellow member of this organization, which is in complete harmony with the teachings of Jesus Christ and His Word.

Knights and Dames of Malta are engaged in worth while achievements. This Order has never cast a shadow upon a home, never wounded a human heart, nor wronged a human soul. It is never deaf to the cry of the needy, never blind to the wants of the deserving. Like the Temple of Truth standing four-square to every wind that blows, its every act and principle is in harmony with the highest plains of human thought, aspiration, and life.

We have visions of accomplishments, and vision has ever been the Guiding Angel of mankind.

The Knights Hospitalers of St. John, afterward called Knights of Rhodes, and now known as Knights of Malta, were originally established in A. D. 1048, or earlier, in Jerusalem. Several authors agree in the statement that property was conveyed to the Order as early as A. D. 1025. The ancient records of the Order were seized by Napoleon, stored in one of his vessels, and shortly after burned with the vessel off the coast of Egypt. There is, therefore, no record in existence for verifying the date of earliest organization. At first the Order was only charitable and religious, and its sole object was the maintenance and care of a hospital in Jerusalem, where pilgrims to the Holy Sepulchre were received and cared for.

In A. D. 1118, Raymond du Puy was elected Grand Master and because of the awful treatment of Christian pilgrims by Turks and infidels, he successfully petitioned the Patriarch of Jerusalem to constitute the Hospitalers, a military as well as a charitable and religious order.

This Fraternity covers a vast territory, embracing nearly every state. The spread of membership is increasing, and our interest is large. The ocean on either side is our boundary. Wherever you may chance to go, you will meet with many who wear upon the lapels of their coats, the insigna of this society.

These men carry in their hearts treasured principles and secrets of this institution. We have been a long time in reaching our present greatness. Our growth has been steady and healthy. We have every cause to be satisfied and grateful, as we cast our looks backward over the past year, and the years immediately preceding.

What is the outlook for the future? Absolutely bright and full of hope. Our accomplishments hitherto will help us meet and solve the questions that lie before us. There is every reason for our continued success. We know how to work; we have trained leaders in charge of national affairs. Our state officers are on the job, anxious and willing to plan, and to work out large problems of advancement in cooperation with our national officers. Then, too, the responsible officers, know well how to conduct their business, how to secure new members and how to practice the examples of true fraternity in their dealings and treatment of their members.

The principles for which the Maltas' stand and its degrees and objects are peculiarly related to citizenship. Indeed, its chief purpose is to teach its initiates the principles upon which our government is founded and to reassure them to future generations to the remotest posterity.

It recognizes and teaches the fundamentals of virtue as understood by the common consent of mankind, as being necessary for the welfare of the human race. Our Order takes its principles as taught in the Holy Bible, believing that it is the best revelation that God has given to mankind for



the guidance of the race and for the individual conduct of each man. It recognizes that all men are reasoning animals being endowed by the Creator with the ability to observe, compare and deduce, which processes constitute the processes of reason. It recognizes that no man is infallible but that all are subject to error; and therefore when opinions are compared on a basis of fairness and a sincere desire to reach the truth, that truth is likely to be best understood by having all the facts and conclusions of each man or woman. It teaches the Bible as a book of authority, and that each man should take it as his guide and use his best judgment and act upon it after full and fair comparisons of the views of others surrounded in the same circumstances and conditions. It believes that religion is best promoted by individual free opinion and action in reference to his duties to God.

The government is an institution intended to regulate the relation that men bear to each other in their worldly or terrestrial contacts, and in such a sphere the church should not operate except to teach principles of morality and virtue and reverence which tend to make them respect the right and condemn the wrong.

Virtue is the first great principle taught in the degrees of the Order. This is, of course, the first great essential of citizenship. Virtue so used in its most broad and comprehensive sense includes all the great truths making upright conduct. Our government is founded upon the consent of the governed and its safety depends upon the virtue and intelligence of the great mass of people who participate in its activities.

No government can be carried on successfully for the good of the whole people unless the majority of the people who take part in it are both intelligent and virtuous. The influence of greed and selfishness are very strong in all men and in all organizations. It requires a high degree of virtue to yield advantages that might be attained at the expense of others and especially the great majority of mankind. But if government be indeed instituted for the good of the whole people, and if equality is the watchword of liberty, then each citizen must not only be willing, but must also strive and contend for the rights of others. This is a very high test of just government, but is the only basis upon which equality and liberty can be maintained. You can not enjoy your rights in safety unless the rights of other men are also secure. To make them secure requires thought, intelligence and action.

(Continued on page 15)

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[photo caption]

Statue of President James Buchanan at Washington, D. C.

JAMES BUCHANAN OUR BACHELOR PRESIDENT

(Continued from Page 7)

[ex]perience and the confidence of your countrymen, will enable you to give effect to Democratic principles, so as to render indissoluble the strong bonds of mutual interest and national glory which unite our confederacy and secure the prosperity of our people[.]



"While we offer to the country our sincere congratulations upon the fortunate auspices of the future, we tender to you, personally, the assurances of the respect and esteem of "Your fellow-citizens," John E. Ward, W. A. Richardson, Harry Hibbard, W. B. Lawrence, A. G. Brown, John L. Manning, John Forsyth, W. Preston, J. Randolph Tucker and Horatio Seymour."

Mr. Buchanan replied in a happy manner, after which the company, consisting of about fifteen persons, sat down to a dinner. Mr. Buchanan made his reply, in writing, to the notification committee, and was dated June 16, 1856. It was a lengthy document, adhering to the adopted party convention platform pledging his support.

The Democracy of Lancaster County, Pa., held a big mass meeting on June 14, 1856, in Penn Square, Lancaster, and ratified the nomination of their distinguished citizen, for the presidency. John Cabell Breckinridge, of Kentucky, was Buchanan's running mate for the vice presidency. Buchanan and Breckinridge were elected at the November election and were inaugurated March 4, 1857[.] As president, Mr Buchanan made every effort to smother and to put out of sight the agitation concerning slavery, not only in new states but everywhere[.] He temporarily pacified the Mormon troubles[.] He vetoed the Homestead bill. After the election in 1860, he was more than ever anxious to suppress slavery discussion, and he pointedly accused the North in his last message to Congress as to the blame for the impending disorder, because of that discussion, which had "produced its malign influence on the slaves, and inspired them with a vague idea of freedom." James Buchanan's career in the White House has long been looked upon as dissatisfactory by many. He was, however, a cautious man and many of his moves, which seemed slow and sluggish, appeared as such because of his desire to take every precaution before reaching a decision. Sometime before his death, he said, "Posterity will do me justice, I have always felt and still do feel, that I discharged every public duty imposed upon me conscientiously. I have no regret, no regret for any public act of my life and history will vindicate my memory from every unjust aspersion." Slowly, it seems, this statement is coming true and writers are beginning to search for the history of Buchanan's times with great avidity.

James Buchanan's home, "Wheatland," beautiful Wheatland, pleasant for situation. Its appointments within and without reflected the fine culture and polished manners of its master—but never master to rule, but ever a host to entertain. "Wheatland" was a home, made so by the gracious simplicity and courtly character of him whom resided therein—James Buchanan—Lancaster's favorite son and Pennsylvania's outstanding citizen.

During President Buchanan's term many important matters affecting our country and the world were brought to a successful head and advancement. The Mormon trouble in the region of Great Salt Lake was energetically and firmly handled by President Buchanan. The sudden financial panic of 1857–59. The banks of the larger cities suspended specie payments, but the latter part of '57 and in '58 these were resumed. The business failures in the United States ran in the hundreds millions of dollars—which was an enormous sum for that day. A very important event took place in 1858—the invention of the electric telegraph. The same year saw successful laying of the first ocean cable. In August, 1858, Queen Victoria cabled, to President Buchanan, the now famous message, "What hath God wrought." In May, '58, Minnesota was admitted into the Union as a state. And Oregon was admitted in February, '59. In the autumn of '59 the dispute between the United States and Great Britain as to the ownership of the large island of San Juan, was amicably settled, by the President's wise choice of sending General Scott to the scene of the controversy. Here again President Buchanan displayed his sagacious statesmanship by appointing Robert J. Walker, Governor of the territory of Kansas, a man of great eminence and ability; for here the



struggle of the question of slavery went on with increased bitterness. But through the wise counsel of Governor Walker this trouble was settled. Kansas was admitted into the Union as a state in January, '61, and as a free state. During Buchanan's administration, the great American writer Washington Irving died, and the insurrection and execution of John Brown took place. Brown was a man of many good qualities; but his rash attempt upon the southern people was most unfortunate. They regarded it as an unanswerable evidence of the intention of the people of the North to make war upon them under the cover of the Union. Regarding this view of the case

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[photo caption] The dedication of the James Buchanan Memorial Park at Lancaster, Pa.

as true, they came to listen with more favor to the arguments of the extreme class which openly favored a dissolution of the Union, and which asserted the only safety of the South lay in pursuing such a course. After the election of Abraham Lincoln in November, 1860, some of the southern states began to secede. South Carolina was the first, in December, 1860, followed in January, '61, by Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas in February. The forts, arsenals, and other property of the United States within the limits of these states were seized by the authorities of these states, with the exception of Forts Moultrie, Sumter and Pickens. President Buchanan's position was unquestionably embarrassing, but, he wavered; with all of his ability and training in state-craft, but he made no use of the means at his command. And how that veteran commander of the army, General Scott—urged him to act with vigor. The President was sorely perplexed, and seemed chiefly anxious to postpone all definite action until the inauguration of his successor. He was in favor of conceding everything but separate independence to the South, failing to perceive that the leaders of the secession movement would accept nothing but separation; and by his timidity lost the advantages which the government would have gained by a bold, firm course. Matters were in an unhappy and excited condition when the administration of James Buchanan closed. He retired to his home "Wheatland," Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where he died June 1, 1868. Two days before his death he gave instructions to one of his executors as to his burial, asking that a simple stone be placed on his grave. The funeral services was one of the largest ever held in the vicinity of Lancaster.

He lies peacefully sleeping in the beautiful Woodward Hill Cemetery, Lancaster, Pa. Here the tumults of strife and pleasure will not awake him! Here the cares and responsibilities of state will not furrow his brow! Here the malignancy and hates of political campaigns will not disturb him! Here the tramp of commerce will not cause him to arise!

And as Beethoven sang in his great "Funeral Hymn,"

"Thou are gone to the grave, but we will not deplore thee."

CASE OF DRED SCOTT

Two days after President Buchanan's inauguration, Chief Justice Taney gave the decision of the United States Supreme Court in a case of great importance, known as the "Dred Scott Case." Scott was a negro slave and the son of slave parents. His master had taken him (1834) from the slave state of Missouri to the free state of Illinois, where he stayed two years. He then took him to what is now Minnesota, a part of the country in which Congress prohibited slavery,—The Missouri Compromise 1820—and finally carried him back to Missouri. There Scott was sold to a new master; but the negro demanded his liberty, on the ground that since he had for a



considerable time lived on free soil he had therefore become a free man. The Sureme Court decided that a negro, whether bond or free, who was a descendant of slave ancestors, was not an American citizen; therefore he could not sue for his liberty in the United States Courts. The result was that many people determined that the law should not be carried out. This, of course, angered the South, and greatly increased the bad feeling between the two sections.

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[photo captions]

Above—Funeral of James Buchanan at “Wheatland”

Below—James Buchanan Memorial at Washington. D. C.

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14 St. John’s Herald, April 1, 1935

JAMES BUCHANAN

1791 1868

[photo caption, top]

Woodward Hill Cemetery, Lancaster, Pa., Buchanan Plot

[photo caption, middle of page]

Buchanan Grave

In preparing the article we acknowledge and appreciate the help of—
Grand Recorder Sir Elias J. Sterner, P. S. C., Lancaster, Pa.

Lancaster (Pa.) Intelligencer—issue of October 24, 1927.

The Lancaster (Pa.) Historical Society—Paper Read 1932, Vol. XXXVI, No. 2.

The International Encyclopedia — 1888—Vol. III, pp. 138–139.

Four Centuries of Progress—ending with 1892—by Henry Davenport Northrup.

SOME HISTORICAL DATA

(Continued from Page 8)

Grand Body in a well chosen address. His Honor Frank C. Musser said:

"Not only as the Executive Head of the city government, but as well in my individual capacity as a citizen, I am happy to have the privilege of extending the welcome of this good old town to you gentlemen who make up the grand fraternal intensely patriotic Order of the Knights of Malta, a most cordial greeting In Lancaster, I promise you will find hospitality and good fellowship, than which none had ever been more sincere, in any city in which you hold your annual Get Together."

In 1922 the Grand Commandery had 255 Commanderies, 54,646 members, assets valued at \$1,286,898.14, 3,039 suspensions and 43 expulsions.



[photo caption, left]
Malta Temple, Lancaster, Pa.

[photo caption, right]
Grand Commander Sir Harry V. Kirker will preside at the 1935 Session at Lancaster, Pa.

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St. John's Herald, April 1, 1935

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SUPREME COMMANDER'S ITINERARY
(Continued from page 10)

When this thought is exercised and in an intelligent manner followed by patriotic action the liberties of all are equally secure. Our government was the first in history which was organized upon the basis of the people and their consent and that governments exist solely for their good. If it is to be maintained on that theory the mass of the people must not only be able to participate but must actually do so, and do so in an informed way. They must not only be able to judge men, but also must be able to judge measures and policies of government. This must extend not only to domestic or local questions, but also to national and international questions and relations.

To have this required intelligence the future citizen must be given an adequate education in youth, but he must also pursue his studies and investigations and thought through all the years of maturity. The foundation should be laid in the public school. The objects of the school should not only be to instruct in the facts of life, but to train the student how to utilize and compare these facts and draw proper deductions therefrom. The main object of the school is to make thinkers out of its boys and girls and to impress upon them in the days of their youth, all the valuable lessons of experience. The facts are important but they are too many and too complicated to be fully learned in the days of our youth. We will not be able to learn and understand all of them if we strive all the days of our lives. But we may learn by patient effort the leading facts and especially those that surround us and exist in our own neighborhood and locality. We may have the controlling facts brought to us in books and papers and magazines. As a great national fraternity, we are interested in and striving to bring about peace among all the peoples of the earth. Our own beloved country, through its president, is taking the lead for universal peace, and we are strongly behind him. We believe in, and practice, the lessons of peace through fraternalism, which breathes of the equality of citizenship—the true basis of peace. We oppose and abominate war, fostered and promoted by selfish ambitions of rulers and potentates, of which there are so many striking examples, even within the range of the memory of the present generation. We shall never so far forget our patriotism that we shall court peace without honor, or to subject the interests of America to the dictation of any foreign power, in the name of peace. What we are pleading for, and will pursue—
(Continued on page 3, Malta Bulletin)

HISTORY OF ST. JOHN'S COMMANDERY, NO. 186, A. & I. O. KNIGHTS OF MALTA
(Continued from page 9)

Sir Arthur W. Bowlby for his 22nd term, Senior Warden Sir Harry B. Howell, Trustee, 18



months, Sir Elias M. Paxton, Representative to the Grand Commandery sessions Sir Elias M. Paxton. The following visitors were present: Sir Peter M. Dearing, of Black Knight Commandery No. 109, Easton, Pa., and D. G. C. of Group No. 50. Sirs William Watkins, Sr., William Watkins, Jr., William D. Davidson, John Haughton, Alex Gardner, and H. D. Richards, of Good Hope Commandery No. 448 Lansford, Pa. D. G. C. of Group No. 51, Sir Paul T. Shive, of St. Peter's Commandery, No. 80, of Tatamy, Pa., received 44 votes to the request that he be reappointed Deputy Grand Commander of Group No. 51. The Malta Temple Association paid \$400 to the Commandery. Receipts were \$536.15, disbursements \$465.54. Sir Roy M. Houser, cashier of the First-Stroudsburg National Bank, delivered an address upon "Social Conditions and Economical Changes;" ex-District Attorney P. C., Ira A. LaBar delivered an address upon "George Washington;" P. C., Joe Rayson recited a poem. D. G. C. Peter M. Dearing, Group No. 50, P. C. William Watkins, Sr., of No. 448, P. C.'s Elias M. Paxton and Frank L. Stackhouse, Executive Vice-President of the First-Stroudsburg National Bank, made short addresses. At the close of the convocation caterer George Biggs served refreshments.

The following visitations were made to other Commanderies by members of No. 186, between February 12 and 26, 1935—On the 15th, Harry Lynn, P. C.'s Charles Sampson, Ralph E. Howell, Elias M. Paxton and Alfred L. Snyder went to Bath, Pa., to visit St. Timothy Commandery No. 60, but arrived too late due to the foggy weather. On the 18th, Harry Lynn, P. C., Ira A. LaBar, Ralph E. Howell, Alfred L. Snyder and Elias M. Paxton visited Good Hope Commandery No. 448 at Lansford, Pa. On 21st, Harry Lynn, P. C.'s Ralph E. Howell and Charles Sampson attended the 44th anniversary of St. Peter's Commandery No. 80, at Tatamy, Pa. On the same night Past Commanders Joe Rayson, Elias M. Paxton and Alfred L. Snyder attended "Past Commanders" night of Shiloh Commandery No. 104, at Bangor, Pa., and each participated on the program. On the 22nd, Andrew G. Keiser, Harry Lynn, P. C.'s Albert H. Mitchell, Alfred L. Snyder and Elias M. Paxton were in attendance at the fourth annual degree ceremonial of the Susquehanna-Lackawanna Degree Association, at Wilkes-Barre, Pa. P. C. Alfred L. Snyder made an address at the banquet.

MARCH 12, 1935, the first meeting in the new term. All retiring officers present except the Sword Bearer, Second Guard and one Trustee. All new officers present except one trustee. Letter of condolence sent to Companion I. Walter Edinger on the death of his father, Deputy Grand Commander of Group No. 51, Sir Paul T. Shive, of St. Peter's Commandery No. 80, of Tatamy, Pa., was present and the following ten Companions, from No. 80: Sirs Clarence F. Itterly, P. C., Sir Wilson H. Werner, P. C., Sir Lloyd A. Shimer, P. C., Sir Charles Wunderly, P. C., Sir Albert F. Heller, P. C., Sir Robert D. Troxell, P. C., Sir Harold P. Engler, Sir Albert M. Bulloch, Sir Melvin L. Buloff and Sir Vernon Sloyer accompanied him here. The Deputy, assisted by Past Commanders Itterly as Captain General, and Werner as Prelate installed the following officers for this term: Sir Knight Commander Sir Harry Lynn, Generalissimo Sir Sherman S. Teeter, P. C., Captain General Sir August Englehardt, P. C., Prelate Sir Paul L. Sdinger, P. C., Recorder Sir Alfred L. Snyder, P. C., for his 34th term, Assistant Recorder Sir Ralph E. Howell, P. C., Treasurer Arthur W. Bowlby, P. C., for his 22nd term, Senior Warden Sir Harry B. Howell, P. C., Junior Warden Sir Theodore D. Dreher, P. C., Sword Bearer Sir Robert F. Kistler, P. C., Standard Bearer Sir Herman F. Spitzner, P. C., Warder Sir Joseph Daubert, P. C., Sentinel Sir Andrew G. Keiser, 1st Guard Sir Elias M. Paxton, P. C., 2nd Guard Sir Charles Sampson, P. C. Upon request of the Supreme Commander the Sir Knight Commander appointed P. C. Elias M. Paxton, chairman of the Membership Committee, and P. C., Charles Sampson, chairman of the Degree Committee. The Commandery selected, in addition to the three Trustees, Sir Knight



Commander and Recorder, to be stockholders of the Malta Temple Association April, 1935-
 April, 1936, Sirs Luther S. Hoffman and P. C.'s Frank B. Michaels, L. Broad Palmer, Frank L.
 Stackhouse, Arthur W. Bowlby, Joseph Daubert and Sherman S. Teeter. With the three Trustees,
 Sir Knight Commander and Recorder, P. C.'s Frank B. Michaels, L. Broad Palmer and Luther S.
 Hoffman were named Directors of the said Association for the same year. Four communications
 were received from the Supreme Commander, and nine other communications received. Receipts
 were \$22.60, disbursements \$8. The following letter was read:

FRANCIS E. WALTER 21st Dist. Pennsylvania

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
 WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. Alfred L. Snyder, Stroudsburg, Pa.

March 8, 1935

Dear Mr. Snyder: I acknowledge the receipt of your letter in which you request that I obtain an
 appropriation for the purpose of erecting a suitable tombstone in honor of J. Summerfield
 Staples, who served in the Civil War in lieu of President Lincoln. I will take up the matter with
 the proper authorities and as soon as I have definite information I will advise you.

With the assurance of my desire to co-operate, I am,

Sincerely yours,

FRANCIS E. WALTER

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St. John's Herald, April 1, 1935

The auditing committee, P. C.'s Frederick B. Dreher, Chester A. Dreher and Albert H. Mitchell
 rendered the following report, which was accepted:

AUDITORS' STATEMENT We, your committee, appointed to audit the accounts of St. John's
 Commandery No. 186, A. & I. O. K. of M., respectfully report that we have done so and find
 them correct as follows: Term ending February 26, 1935, A. O. 887.

Account of ALFRED L. SNYDER, P. C., Recorder

DR.

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| To money received: Dues ----- | \$498.90 |
| Applications ----- | 2.00 |
| Degrees ----- | 1.90 |
| Reinstatements ----- | 9.00 |
| Malta Temple Association ----- | 400.00 |
| St. John's Herald: | |
| Subscriptions ----- | \$37.00 |
| Advertising ----- | 79.74 |
| Total ----- | \$1,028.54 |

CR.

By Amount Paid Arthur W. Bowlby, P. C.,

Treasurer ----- \$1,028.54



Accounts of ARTHUR W. BOWLBY, P. C., Treasurer

DR.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Cash on hand August 28, 1934----- | \$138.06 |
| Amount received from Alfred L. Snyder, Recorder ----- | <u>1,028.54</u> |
| | \$1,166.60 |

CR.

Cash Paid:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Nine Companions' Sick Benefits----- | \$331.00 |
| One Companion's Funeral Benefits----- | 50.00 |
| Per capita tax----- | 100.64 |
| Rent, Malta Temple ----- | 250.00 |
| Postage and stationery ----- | 21.91 |
| Refund dues ----- | 30.00 |
| Recorder's six months' salary ----- | 18.50 |
| Treasurer's six months' salary ----- | 3.50 |
| Two P. C. jewels ----- | 12.00 |
| One dozen orders for passwords ----- | .60 |
| One desk lamp ----- | 2.00 |
| Red Cross donation ----- | 3.00 |
| Memorial services ----- | 13.95 |
| Past Commanders Night ----- | 13.30 |
| Supreme Commandery Attendance ----- | 10.00 |
| Paraphernalia ----- | 25.49 |
| Federal tax on checks ----- | .58 |
| Furnishings ----- | .40 |
| St. John's Herald— | |
| Printing ----- | \$147.50 |
| Cuts ----- | 12.31 |
| Wrapping ----- | 2.00 |
| Postage ----- | 2.08 |
| Editing ----- | 20.00 |
| | <u>183.89</u> |
| Total ----- | \$1,070.76 |
| Cash on hand ----- | <u>95.84</u> |
| | \$1,166.60 |

RESOURCES

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Malta Temple Association ----- | \$64,000.00 |
| Furnishings ----- | 850.00 |
| Paraphernalia ----- | 175.00 |
| St. John's Herald cuts----- | 100.00 |
| Cash on hand----- | <u>95.84</u> |
| Total ----- | \$65,220.84 |

LIABILITIES

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Malta Temple Association ----- | \$20,000.00 |
| Surplus ----- | <u>45,220.84</u> |



(To be continued)

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 5)

Grand Commander Kirker. A man that the Companions, the Commanderies of the grand jurisdiction of Pennsylvania felt secure in following. A man that in his every thought, word and action gave evidence of his confidence in the Commanderies to properly manage their own affairs, and this confidence was not betrayed. His administration was most successful, and he brings it to a close with the honor, esteem and love of every Companion of the jurisdiction. All Hail, Sir Harry V. Kirker the forty-second Grand Commander of Pennsylvania.

The Easter Service

THE observance of the Easter Festival emphatically, belongs to the church and not to a lodge. If a Commandery wishes to put on the floor a gorgeous appareled ritualistic Easter service—for show, for acting to get new members, it would better quit. A Commandery is not a church, the Order was not founded by a church, and we say in our Declaration of Principles that it has "no connection with any church organization." Then why usurp one of the church's most joyous festivals—"Easter." We would wish that every last Companion in the Ancient and Illustrious Order Knights of Malta were a sincere Christian and would join with his church in the joyous observance of Easter. But, we do draw the line in having our high officers urge to the Commanderies to hold an elaborate Easter service. This belongs to the church.

On the Rain

DID you ever stop to think what a real leveling of caste, a wholesome moral tonic a hard-dashing rain storm is? The peasant in plain garb, the tramp in rags, the millionaire in broadcloth, when over-taken by the fury of this element protected by umbrella or raincoat or unprotected, each have a cheery word for the other. The prosperous or the unprosperous protected from the storm by the sheltering doorway or some other shelter, fling out some good-feeling jibes to the unfortunate whom is forced by circumstance is denied any protection from the storm. And how all of us give out our words of sympathy to the little child or dumb animal that are caught out in a hard rain storm. People whom have never spoken to one another before, will speak if they meet out of doors in a hard dash of rain.

Lost in Membership

I WONDER, whether there is any connection in our very heavy losses in our membership with the one dollar per member assessment levied for the Malta Home. The resolution to levy this assessment was passed at the Grand Commandery convocation, held at Berwick in 1918. Our losses began in 1921 and they total for suspensions and withdrawals the astonishing number of 44,609. And the total loss from all causes is 55,637. And we feel quite safe in stating our loss for year ending with March 1, 1935, will be at least 2,000. The founding and the building of the Malta Home was unwise. Our Order was not strong enough either numerically or financially to launch out in such a gigantic undertaking irrespective of our obligations and of its being imperatively needed. The inception of the Home idea sprung from the minds of those of our members, whom many thought, could not mistake in any thing they might advocate for the good of our order. So, these suggested, talked and worked to found the Malta Home. And the others—sheep-like, followed-and, yes, and, nearly fifty thousand stopped paying dues and assessments.



We need not try to hide behind the mole-hills, movies, autos, radios and depression, as being the cause—they may have been the cause of some of the loss, but weren't those "flush" years from 1921 to 1930? It won't hurt us a bit to do a little thinking, and it may save us from stalking in some other "venture" before we are equal to it. Well, we have the Malta Home and we are proud of it. It is the best and the most "homey" home of all such institutions. And we will amply support it if it cuts to the bone to do so. We are Knights of Malta and we will "be strong" and quit ourselves "like men," for we have "loads to lift," let us "faint not, fight on" and "be strong" for "tomorrow comes the song."

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St. John's Herald, April 1, 1935

NOTICE

Wm. H. Fox, P.C. Chrm. Adam C. Kendig, P.C., Treas.
401 E. King Street 802 Race Street
John C. Ulmer, D. G. C., Secretary
147 Old Dorwart Street

GENERAL COMMITTEE

43rd Annual Convocation, of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania

ANCIENT AND ILLUSTRIOUS ORDER

KNIGHTS OF MALTA

Malta Temple, 235 East King Street

LANCASTER, PA.

March 11, 1935.

To all subordinate Commanderies of the Knights of Malta under the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania.

Greetings:

Are you going to parade at the Annual Convention in Lancaster on May 15th?

That is the date of the parade, the time is 7:00 P. M. prevailing time, that is, either Standard or Daylight, as our local time may be set. The Ladies, affiliated with Malta, are asked to parade.

Prizes will be awarded for:

Largest Uniform Delegation

Largest Delegation from a Commandery.

Delegation traveling greatest distance (at least 25 men in line)

We wish to make this parade a success, and in order to do so, would like you to co-operate with us by furnishing any and all information you have as to your participation in the parade; that is, how many people, if in uniform or not, bringing band and any special information that will aid us in making everything convenient for you.

Fraternally yours in Christian Knighthood,

N.D. Mohn, P. C. Chairman

Wm. Fox, P. C.

Milo Binkley, P. C.

THE PARADE COMMITTEE.



BRUCE COMMANDERY NO 214

A RED letter night. Installation of officers is an event in any Commandery of the Knights of Malta. Sir M. E. Hertzog, the Deputy Grand Commandery of Group No. 46 and his staff that were at Catasauqua, Pa., on Monday night, March 18, 1935, and installed the officers of Bruce Commandery, No. 214, were encouraged with the enthusiasm exhibited by this Commandery. The meeting on this night was stimulated by the presence of six Malta enthusiasts from St. John's Commandery, No. 186, Stroudsburg, Pa. This party was headed by their Sir Knight Commander Harry Lynn, who in a splendid talk told what his Commandery is doing and intends to do, among the interesting features will be the addition of at least fifty new members. P. C., Ralph E. Howell, of No. 186, spoke upon the "kick" to be derived from Commandery visitations. P. C., Charles Sampson, of No. 186's party, urged all companions to subscribe for and read St. John's Herald. Then P. C. Joseph Daubert, also of No. 186, made a few remarks on the beauty of fraternalism. The editor of St. John's Herald, Alfred L. Snyder, who is serving his 34th term as Recorder of No. 186, delivered a lengthy address upon "A New Era in Malta." By the way, "Bill" Engler is entering his 34th term as Recorder of No. 214. There was a bunch of Sir Knights there from St. James' Commandery, No. 68, Allentown, Pa., headed by District Deputy M. E. Hertzog and these Knights made some interesting and pertinent remarks, as did many of the members of No. 214. We venture to wager, that the spirit of Sir Robert Bruce, that great Scottish Chieftain, remarked on a side, of this meeting, "my namesake at Catasauqua is not dead—no, sir." At the close, refreshments were served. Nosing around the walls of the Council Chamber, the writer came across the Warrant issued to 214, and low-and-behold, written thereon in bold script was "James A. Farley, Grand Generalissimo." Now this is so.

VOTES FOR COMMANDERY OFFICERS

141 Commanderies Reporting Out of 242 in Pennsylvania Jurisdiction

Grand Commander, Sir A. E. Burnaford, No. 12, 1739; Grand Generalissimo, Sir Burt G. French, No. 660, 1728; Grand Captain General, Sir Elmer H. Jacobs, No. 354, 349; Sir Harry H. Negley, No. 435, 184; Sir Elias M. Paxton, No. 186, 422; Sir E. J. Price, No. 556, 79; Sir F. W. Gebensleben, No. 380, 604; Sir Samuel M. Nelson, No. 365, 106; Grand Prelate, Sir Rev. Thomas McKee, No. 399, 1718; Grand Recorder, Sir Elias J. Sterner, No. 159, 1208; Sir N. H. Hall, No. 450, 379; Sir Leroy S. Marshall, No. 423, 157; Grand Treasurer, Sir Millard A. Kuder, No. 102, 1726; Grand Senior Warden, Sir Frank B. Palm, No. 217, 1704; Grand Trustee, Sir C. W. Kearns No. 280, 1198; Sir O. H. Houck, No. 5, 358; Sir H. A. Monay, No. 152, 183.

What's Wrong With Malta?

An address delivered by Past Commander Sir Joshua Williams at the conferring of the Malta Degree by John Knox Commandery, No. 12, at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., January 13, 1928. THE Knights of Malta are a body of men, therefore are no different than other men, they are just men, and as men are subject to various weaknesses and short-comings the same as other men and we will excel only as we strive to combat and overcome those weaknesses and shortcomings that beset and conquer other men, we are just men, but men who have accepted lofty principles that we have promised our God and each other to adhere to, and lest we forget it is becoming that we frequently remind each other of our duties.

We find our teachings in the Bible, this is not strange for most all organizations are founded and take their teachings from the Bible and we can only excell as we live closer to those teachings than other organizations do. and after close associations with the Knights of Malta for twenty-



five years, I can say I believe we do excell. not as individuals but as an organization of individuals.

Then what are our duties? To strive to make men better and if after looking at the scenes and hearing the lessons you have no desire to be a better man, we have failed, we are not supposed to compel men to walk as we do, but by our example induce them to strive to improve. example is a stronger power than force, for a man convinced against his will will be of the same opinion still. They compelled Columbus to say the earth was flat but he said in a whisper, "it does revolve."

The best way to get rid of something bad is to crowd it out with something good. Something bad in Malta? Yes, the same as all mankind the world over, selfishness, sometimes named, I forget, I can't afford, I have enough to do to take care of myself.

No, we are not burglars, but it is the desire. to get something for self that prompts a man to break into another's house. No, we are not political crooks, but it is the same desire to get something for self that prompts a man to barter his honor for gain.

I might say, we are a body of honest men, well, what of that. It has been proven that ninety percent of the American people are honest, and that goes for the whole world. Likewise. it has been proven that only ten percent of the American people are honorable. and that goes for the whole world. Unpaid bills are not honorable as a rule but there are some honorable men in debt. So as Knights of Malta we should see to it that all our dealings are honorable, that is, show to other men that we play every game square. The greatest compliment a son can pay his father is to say, "Father always does the square thing." If it could be said of every man. he always does the square thing, oceans of tears would turn to acres of smiles. We would need no socialism for the equalization of wealth, and we could do as Peter the Great once threatened to do, hang his lawyers. Some people are not honorable in trying to get to heaven. Like the old lady that heard that the world was coming to an end and she was sure of heaven, so she went to the housetop so that she could get there first. You cannot absorb the teaching of Malta and banish the thoughts of heaven. Some men never think of heaven. Others strive all their lives in their one way to reach heaven, and part of the way is trying to keep

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those of a different belief out. They are the people who talk about foreign immigration after they have landed. Christmas Evans, an old Welsh preacher, very much revered by his people, said, "I expect three surprise when I reach heaven, I will look around and many of the people I expected to see will not be there. Second, I will be surprised to find some people there that I did not expect to see, and third, I will be surprised that I got there myself." Why wait for the death angle to take us to heaven, why not make all the way to heaven. I have a friend that lives that life and because he does I am his friend. For three years he has wanted to put a front porch on his house and it would improve the looks of it, but he goes without the porch in order that he may give to some one who has children to warm, feed and doctor.

Novice, I greet thee, go feed the hungry. Are there any hungry, yes. Hundreds of thousands are solicited every year for welfare work. Much of it for foolishness and pure enjoyment, but plenty of it goes to feed the hungry. I have heard men say its their own fault they are shift-less and many other excuses they give to their own guilt. Were you ever hungry? No, I don't mean that



good appetite after a ten dollar's day work, but hungry, a knawing, and nothing to relieve it. Were you ever pale, weak, languid, feverish? If you are one percent observing you know there are hungry ones. We have not pictured to you how people became hungry, but we did say to you, Novice, go feed the hungry.

Novice, visit and relieve the sick. No, not a headache, the result of over eating, but some ailment that put you out of the running. Stopped the earnings that was just enough to support the family. You know that the wife who bore your children is wearing a smile that is only a mask, and in the crisis hours, what anguish is suffered by the thought that perhaps for your family poverty is just around the corner, and when thankful for recovery you are haunted by the months ahead before you can get your head above water. Do you know of such a one? Then stop in your rush for heaven to say a cheering word, and find that instead of losing a step you have been advanced two. So Novice Malta charges you to visit and relieve the sick.

Novice, I greet thee, go harbor the harborless. Give the widow and orphan where to lay their head. Some men are beyond understanding. I have met men who would not utter an oath for worlds, yet they would make every red-blooded man around them swear like a pirate. How God ever made them I don't know unless he made them right and the Devil got a hold on them. I was one of a group of men who were talking about a recent death, and one man said, I don't know how that woman is going to take care of that family, when another said. well, I understand she got a hundreds dollars from the lodge. God help his shriveled generosity. Tight of mind. tight of heart and tight of pocket. I sat in a state convention when they were forming rules for admission to the Home. They wanted a man to stand a good physical examination, not have any relatives, not have any property, not able to perform any manner of work, and this thought came to me, the only fellow who can get in there is one who has lost all his relatives, lost all his property by fire, lost both arms and legs in a wreck, been shell-shocked, had to sleep on park benches at night and get his breakfast in a soup house in the morning. We did not picture to you causes—we did picture to you results and conditions. Ships do not sail to harbors they sail from port to port, but when overtaken by storm, they seek a harbor. Novice. The storms of life's seas have swamped the frail craft of the widows and orphans, go harbor the harborless, give the widow and orphan where to lay their head.

If we would be better men, if we would make all the way to heaven—forget self for others. Stop building as though we were to live forever. Practice love, truth and honesty—those things that never die.

"Walk with him and talk with him
Just as two friends may,
Tell him your doubts, just ask his advice
And he will show you the way."
"The world is a mirror of king and slave
It's just what we are and do.
So give to the world the best that you have
And the best will return to you."

CLEVELAND, OHIO
Dedicatory Song

Dedicated to Sovereign Protector Lady Appel at the annual Past Commanders Association banquet on Jan. 19th, 1935. (Tune: "SMILES")



There are girls who make us happy,
And who help us to be true blue.
There are girls who steal away the tear drops
As the sunbeams kiss away the dew.
Such a girl we hail with greatest pleasure,
As she represents the "Dames" tonight.
Let us rise and pay her due homage
Clap our hands with all our might.

Dedicated to Sir Knight Grand Commander Schneider.
(Tune: "IN THE GOOD OLD SUMMER TIME.")

In our good old Buckeye State,
In our good old Buckeye State,
We have a Grand Commander who is mighty hard to beat,
We all are very proud of you and that's a very good sign
You'll make a Supreme Commander in some near October time.

Dedicated to Sir Knight Supreme Commander W. A. Gretzinger.
(Tune: "I WANT A GAL.")

We want more men, just like the man, we're honoring tonight,
He's got a task he's equal to, for he's not scared to fight,
If we Knights will only fall in line,
Keeping step with him rain or shine,
We'll get somewhere, a higher sphere,
With our Supreme Commander.

MALTA SALES TALK

SOME time ago a companion from Baldwin Commandery, No. 108, Steelton, Pa., asked, What is a good sales talk to get new members.

In the first place you must be sold in the principles of Malta yourself and practice its teachings which are so beautifully explained and dramatized to us in the 12 degrees, as we go through each of these degrees, especially in the Red Cross, when we are reminded of the 33 steps of our Saviour Jesus Christ denoting 33 years on this earth, if we follow in His footsteps and his teachings, should have any trouble to get new members, or must we have special prepared sales talk? We must see and live those things which Christ has taught us. A friend to the friendless, a father to the fatherless, a Christian, and all for others and nothing for self.

It has been my privilege and pleasure to visit many commanderies, and everywhere I found men who are a credit to the order and who seem, without exception, to have its welfare and progress very close at heart. From my observations, I feel that Malta will succeed, as our membership is made up of men of the highest calibre, men with whom it is a privilege to associate. These men have a greater amount of inspiration and enthusiasm that I have witnessed in the organization for many years, and I feel after careful study of the past six months work, they will continue to build our order for many years to come and place Malta at the high peak she so justly deserves.



Many things must be considered for the continuance of our forward movement. First, we must have faith in ourselves, faith in our fellow men, faith in God, for without him we cannot succeed—faith with Him we can conquer insurmountable obstacles to attain success.

Second, we must have harmony, and if we have faith we can always have harmony. Third, harmony and cooperation, we can succeed in educating the people on the continent of America as to what the order of Malta means to them, and to their community. To accomplish this point, it will be our part, to work and sacrifice from all members. Why should we not sacrifice for others as the Knights of old? Think of Jesus. He sacrificed his all for us. Let us remember that one of us can't loiter or rest if we expect the principles of our organization to be carried out and made a reality. Take unto you this motto, "I serve," and fulfill it in actions.

Let us use this slogan for 1935, "By the power of God that works in me I am Happy, Successful, Healthy and Free," M. E. HERTZOG, D. G. C. Group No. 46.

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Malta Bulletin

Vol. XXIV, No. 2 STROUDSBURG, PA., APRIL 1, 1935 A. O. 887

The Malta Bulletin Published Quarterly as Part of ST. JOHN'S HERALD
ALFRED L. SNYDER, P. C., Editor

"WHOSO committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul. A wound and dishonor shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away. For jealousy is the rage of man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance. He will not regard any ransom; neither will he rest content; though thou givest many gifts.

"But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell." ix, 18.

WILLIAM PENN COMMANDERY NO. 559

'T WAS a gala Christmas party for the kiddies staged by William Penn Commandery, No. 559, Pottstown, Pa., A. & I. Order Knights of Malta, this last holiday season, in the Sunday school room of the First M. E. church.

Originators of annual Christmas parties for kiddies in Pottstown, this organization held the first of these events in 1925. An interesting program delighted the nearly 400 persons, including approximately 125 children. Present were visitors from Lansdale and Reading, Pa.

A period of song was conducted under the leadership of C. H. Dorang and musical numbers were furnished by Raymond Elliott's Orchestra. Harry Bernhart, Jr., featured with a cornet solo and encore, accompanied by his sister, Florence. Recitations were given by various youngsters. The pianist was Miss Violetta Maloney and Miss Jessie Freese accompanied the orchestra.

At Santa's Half-Way House

The kiddies were told to close their eyes and on opening them it was found they were at Santa's Half Way House, a place in which he stores his toys so that it will not prove necessary for him to



return to North Pole headquarters during the rush season. The story was told by Horace Swavely. Santa was impersonated by Osborne Jeffries who was assisted by his helper, Robert Pike. Considerable time was saved that "jolly good fellow" in storing his toys in that he could make distribution before Christmas. Stars were twinkling merrily in back of his home, in front of which was the sleigh and reindeer, together with many beautiful trees. Excellent lighting effects lent color to the scene and made it very realistic.

Oliver R. Moyer arranged the lighting effects and setting which were designed and painted by Ralph Colgan. Assisting Mr. Moyer were Raymond Fout, Lloyd Knauer, Herbert Cannell, Earl Haas, George Haas, Horace Swavely and Harry K. Bush.

Gifts were distributed to everyone among which were a number of humorous presents given to Commandery members as follows: Edgar Maurer, Oliver R. Moyer, Harry K. Bush and Oliver Albright. Interlocutors were Horace Swavely and Harry K. Bush.

Santa Claus received a number of letters from children which were read. They were delivered by mail carrier, impersonated by Lloyd Knauer.

For those who were ill or could not attend the committee in charge reserved gifts which will be presented later. Words of praise were heard on the splendid event, which at one time was held in the lodge room. However, space there did not permit holding it on such a large scale.

Arrangements were in charge of the general committee comprising Harry K. Bush, chairman; Gerald Clay. Ralph Colgan, Horace Swavely, George Haas and Oliver R. Moyer.

THE DAMACENES

DAMASCUS Commandery, No. 50, at Bethlehem, Pa., was instituted September 23, 1889. in what was then known as South Bethlehem, and she is fast approaching her 50th anniversary. She is three years older than her Grand Commandery. Some of her members have reached high eminence in the Order. There is Owen R. Wilt. who served two terms as Supreme Grand Commander, Milton S. Grim, who labored arduously to place the Order of Malta on a firm footing in America. Then there was Alfred B. Keiserman who served a term as Grand Commander of Pennsylvania. On Friday night, January 4, 1934, the following members, from St. John's Commandery No. 186, Stroudsburg, Pa., visited No. 50: Generalissimo Harry Lynn, Past Commanders Charles Sampson, Ralph E. Howell, Elias M. Paxton and Alfred L. Snyder. They found a live command, and passed an enjoyable evening. At the close of the conclave refreshments were served, and dart baseball was enjoyed.

STAR OF THE NORTH

HIS honor, the mayor, presided; very few, if any Commandery, of the Ancient and Illustrious Order Knights of Malta, has had the distinction of having the mayor of its city, as Sir Knight Commander. Such an honor fell to the lot of Star of the North Commandery, No. 92, at Slatington, Pa., last term. On Friday night, January 11, 1934, five Companions, P. C.'s Elias M. Paxton, Alfred L. Snyder, Ralph E. Howell, Charles Sampson, and Generalissimo Harry Lynn, of St. John's Commandery, No. 186, Stroudsburg, Pa., three Companions headed by P. C. .. Frank Fatzinger from American Commandery No. 308 Palmerton, Pa., and a Companion from Norman Commandery No. 135, Lehighton, Pa., visited this Commandery that has given to the Order Past



Grand Commander James P. Brady. The mayor of Slatington, P. C., C. W. Yanser, was the Sir Knight Commander and presided. He stated that thirty-five years ago when a young man, he was Sir Knight Commander. The visitors here found a few aged loyal-souled men carrying on. The visitors gave them an encouraging word. This Commandery has been a bulwark to the Order in the past, and now they need true Malta loyalty.

ST. TIMOTHY NO. 60, BATH

PAST Commander Paxton brought forth his "Pontiac," and the following Companions of St. John's Commandery No. 186, Stroudsburg, Pa., climbed in: P. C.'s, Alfred L. Snyder, Elias M. Paxton, Ralph E. Howell. Charles Sampson and Generalissimo Harry Lynn daring the wet roads and fog and drove 30 miles to Bath, Pa., on Friday night, Feb. 15, 1935, to pay a visit to St. Timothy Commandery, No. 60. At Bath they arrived and proceeded to Malta Hall, which they founded securely locked and draped in darkness, and this too, the regular meeting night of this old Commandery. In course of a few minutes they found the good Recorder Thomas F. Dech, who was on the lookout for this bunch of Stroudsburgers. Com-[panion]

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[com-]panion Dech was profuse in his apologies, stating a number of their Companions had come to the hall but it was impossible to unlock the door or to open a window, and on the morrow they would try and find a locksmith to remove the trouble. Well, anyway, we paid a visit to the Recorder and had a pleasant and profitable chat with him, and we are sure that old No. 60, the pride of the late Frank L. Fatzinger, will successfully turn the corner and take her place again with prestige in the grand jurisdiction of Pennsylvania.

GOOD HOPE THEY'RE IT

TALK about hospitality, and the genuine stuff, well, well, those Companions of Good Hope Commandery No. 448, at Lansford, Pa., know how to deal it out. And they certainly dealt it well to those Companions who visited them from Stroudsburg, Pa., and Tamaqua, Pa., on Monday night, February 18, 1935. Among the visitors was Deputy Grand Commander Sir James J. Krapf, of Group No. 54. P. C., Ira A. LaBar drove the five from St. John's Commandery No. 186, to Lansford in his Peerless 8 and the Sir Knights besides himself, were P. C.'s Ralph E. Howell, Elias M. Paxton, Alfred L. Snyder and Generalissimo Harry Lynn. The group from St. Luke's Commandery No. 495, consisted of some fifteen Companions. Among them were the D. G. C. and P. C., George A. Witzel, of Tamaqua. There were many addresses made. The burden of the editor of St. John's Herald address was "Enthusiasm." At the close of the convocation all repaired to the dining room and partook of a banquet. No. 448 is a live wire in the Schuylkill Valley. May her fraternal joy never grow less.

ST. PETERS NO. 80 ENTERS THE 45TH YEAR



FEBRUARY 21, 1935 was an event in the Malta world in Eastern Pennsylvania. St. Peter's Commandery, No. 80, at Tatamy celebrated her 44th anniversary. Everything that transpired at this outstanding event was of especial interest. The White degree team from Allentown, Pa. was there and conferred the degree upon three. At the close of the convocation the Sir Knights—86 in number—repaired to St. Peter's Reformed church and enjoyed a delightful banquet, which was an informal affair and without any regular arranged program of entertainment. Besides the degree team there were 12 visitors present, six from Black Knight No. 109, Easton, Pa., among them being Deputy Grand Commander Peter M. Dearriner, of Group No. 51 and Recorder Howard D. Siegfried, P. C., and Harry Lynn, P. C.'s Charles Sampson and Ralph E. Howell, of St. John's Commandery, No. 186, Stroudsburg, Pa.

PAST COMMANDERS' NIGHT AT NO. 104

A PAST Commanders' Night that brought 'em out. And it was an enjoyable and profitable affair. Shiloh Commandery, No. 104, at Bangor, Pa., knows how to plan such an affair, "so say all of us" who were fortunate enough to be present on this occasion, Thursday night, February 21, 1935, in their commodious council chamber in Steinmetz Hall. There were four visitors present, one from Black Knight Commandery No. 109 at Easton, Pa., and P. C.'s Joe Rayson, Elias M. Paxton and Alfred L. Snyder from St. John's Commandery No. 186 at Stroudsburg, Pa. Past Commander Rayson entertained with one of his inimitable programs—as an entertainer Joe is in a class of himself, and he has a warm place in Bangorian Malta hearts. Past Commanders Paxton and Snyder made addresses, as did a number of 104's Companions. Delicious refreshments were served.

AN OUTSTANDING MALTA AFFAIR

A DEGREE ceremonial that was captivating, one that reflected great ability and conferred great honor upon some four hundred members of the Ancient and Illustrious Order Knights of Malta, who sat in at this very impressive ceremony on Friday afternoon and evening, of Washington's Birthday in the year 1935. This great and impressive event was held in the city of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and was the fourth annual ceremonial session of the Susquehanna-Lackawanna Degree Association made up of John Knox Commandery No. 12, Prince of Peace Commandery No. 69 of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 17, Le Lolde Commandery No. 77 of Williamsport, Pa., Red Cross Commandery No. 27 of Milton, Pa., True Cross Commandery No. 112 of Sunbury, Pa., Calvary Commandery No. 123 of Shamokin, Pa., and Columbus Commandery No. 285 of Scranton, Pa. Sir Frank C. Strickland is president of the Association, and Sir Alfred F. Grotz, general secretary. The local committee in charge of this year's affair was from John Knox Commandery No. 12. Grand Generalissimo Sir A. E. Burnaford Preceptor, P. C., Russell Miner, chairman, P. C.'s John C. Marshall and Brinley Jenkins, from Prince of Peace Commandery No. 69, P. C.'s Dr. Charles J. Higgs, Preceptor, Alfred F. Grotz chairman, Charles W. Scott and Frederick W. Anderson.

The afternoon session was held in the G. A. R. Memorial Hall at 146 South Main street. and three degrees were conferred—the Blue by Columbus Commandery, No. 285 from Scranton, the Apron Green by Prince of Peace Commandery No. 69 from Wilkes-Barre, the Knight of the Green by Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 17 and LeLolde Commandery No. 77 from Williamsport. The evening session was held in the Laning Building, 35 Public Square; the Red Cross Council was in charge of John Knox Commandery No. 12, and the Appendant Order of the Red Cross



and Sepulchre was conferred upon forty Priestly Past suppliants. The Grand Generalissimo of Pennsylvania, Sir A. E. Burnaford, was the Sovereign Commander, and Past Commander Lincoln L. Beisel, master of ceremonies. This great climax degree was well placed by this finely trained degree team. The ceremonial was a very great success. The degrees were efficiently conferred, and reflected to the honor of the Commanderies which did the work. The attendance was from a large radius. Among the distinguished Sir Knights present were Past Supreme Commander Dr. Nathaniel Ross, Grand Commander of Pennsylvania; Sir Harry V. Kirker, Grand Recorder of Pennsylvania; Past Supreme Commander Elias J. Sterner. There were many minor officers of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania and many Deputy Grand Commanders of the same jurisdiction present. Between the afternoon and evening sessions a banquet, attended by 350, was held in the dining room of Central Methodist Episcopal church. P. C. Alfred F. Grotz, acting as toast-master; addresses made by Mrs. Roland H. Ruger, Grand Commander Harry V. Kirker, D. G. C., Frank C. Strickland and P. C. Alfred L. Snyder, editor of St. John's Herald, the Order's chief publication. The invocation was made by the Rev. Verne Leslie Smith, pastor of the church.

BIBLE QUOTATIONS FROM BOOK OF PROVERBS

- "A FALSE balance is abomination to the Lord: but a just weight is his delight."—XI, 1.
- "He that trusteth in his riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch."—XI, 28.
- "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."—IV, 23.
- "Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil."—III, 7.
- "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people."—XIV, 34.
- "A soft answer turneth away wrath; but grievous words stir up anger."—XV, 1.
- "He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man."—XXI, 17.
- "A high look, and a proud heart, * * * is sin."—XXI, 4.

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THE SUPREME COMMANDER'S ITINERARY

(Continued from page 15 of Herald)

[per-]sue is the spirit of fraternity, which will insure all leaders to seek permanent, honorable peace.

The Order of Knights of Malta is a body of men banded together, under most binding forms, to comfort one another in the practice of the Christian religion; to offer mutual assistance in time of need; to promote Protestant Unity; to defend the Protestant faith against all foes whatsoever; to ever defend civil and religious liberty; to exercise the fullest toleration and charity toward all men; to practice benevolence, and to maintain a universal Protestant fraternity.

It is neither a national nor political nor sectarian association. It is the most Ancient Knightly Order in existence, and is the legitimate descendant of the illustrious, religious and military order of the Middle Ages; heir to its greatness, and fully endowed with all the ancient rites and ceremonies. It is Fraternal and its obligations bind to secrecy and mutual protection.



It is Military, but drilling and uniforming are optional.

It is a Religious Order, and welcomes all Protestants, by whatever name known, who love our Lord Jesus Christ, to enlist under its banner.

There is a tie that binds us man to man as surely as a force holds earth to sun and sun to stars—a force which far outweighs the force of gravity which we have come to call Fraternity.

The Fraternal organization of which we are members has proved the value of this binding force in many ways. We have learned two great lessons in our philosophy; first, to speak the truth, and second, to render benefits to each other.

The Knights of Malta are proud of their society for its past; they love it for what it is to them, and they hope much for its future. This Order is beneficial, protective and reciprocal; it is eminently moral, just and pure; it is founded upon the principles of pure benevolence; it recognizes as a principle the right of man to freedom of thought and conscience.

Its primary objects are to promote the principles of true benevolence and charity, to ameliorate the condition of humanity in every possible manner, and by wholesome precepts, fraternal counsel and social intercourse to elevate the membership.

Our doors are ever open to the worthy one who with a sole desire to advance its interests and enlarge the borders of its brotherhood.

As a prime principle, it requires, as a requisite to membership, a firm belief, evidenced by life and act, and not by declaration alone, in the existence of the Great Spirit—God, in whose hand all power is and to whom every one is accountable. The Order of Malta is to be established in every State in the Union.

Fraternalism is but one of the many expressions of the social instinct. It was in the beginning that God said: "It is not well for man to dwell alone," and when that divine decree went thundering down the corridors of time the social instinct in man was born. Since then men have grouped together motivated by love, fear or common cause. When men are actuated by fear they huddle; when reason returns they organize. But in every case, whether actuated by fear, love or common cause, they choose the things which appeal to their fancy or offer them some vehicle for expression or some service.

This is a busy, workaday world. What with the rigors of climate and the tendency to disease, with the rules of nature well defined that we must wrest from the world a frugal living, men have long since learned to discard the things which have no place in their economy and to cling to the things which can be put to use. And so I reaffirm the doctrine that whatever is, is right with some modification, and that modification is that whatever has stood the test of time has some place in the economy of mankind and man has justified its existence.

Splendid as are our traditions, splendid as is our history, if we wish to retain the confidence of mankind and retain our position as a vital force in the world, we must be ready to stand before the bar of public opinion and not only defend our right to occupy our place in the sun, but we must offer to the rising generation a reason for becoming identified with us.

It is in no spirit of boasting that we refer to the things we have accomplished, but rather with an humble spirit and with a full realization that there is much to be desired and much yet to be done before we will even approach our own ideals



Perhaps the most needful attribute which the man for the times needs to have is VISION. He must be able to SEE. There is an old Russian proverb which reads, "Some men go through the forest and see no firewood." Some men go through life and see no further than their noses. As the Prophet has said, "When there is no vision, the people perish."

We cannot see the progress of the plant underneath the ground, but the man of the times must be able to see the progress of the race. We cannot see the electrical impulses which are sending messages through the air, but the man of the times must be able to read the thoughts of men. We cannot see the structures which men first of all create in their own minds, afterwards to be transferred to brick and stone and steel, but the man of the times must be able to see the finished product of inter-racial structures and international friendships. He must have vision so that he can see the stars when the sky is clouded, and must be able to take bearings amid the raging of the storm. Many men do not see because they do not think. Cecil Rhodes, you remember, built his house in a place which commanded a view of the Table Mountain. It is said that a visitor who sat with his back to that wonderful view always made Mr. Rhodes uncomfortable, and he would at last ask the caller to turn around. Sitting there alone, and looking out over the audacious achievements of nature, he built the dreams that resulted in an empire. Vision is one of the magic words of progress. It builds colleges, cathedrals and factories; it leads nations to greatness and men—a few men—to fame.

Overcome difficulties with victories by looking forward to a brighter future. This is by no means the only depression or hill we have had to cause us to slow down and come back to normal. We had depressions in this country in 1837, 1857, 1860, 1873 and 1893; each of these depressions were followed by a marvelous development which gave the people of the United States a more secure government, a sounder financial condition, also gave rise to greater comforts. Conquer every difficulty that comes before you just as David did when he conquered the bear, the lion and Goliath. "Where there is no vision the people perish." Prov. 29:18.

What the world wants today is not a more profound philosophy or a more liberal or circumscribed theology; what the world wants today is better men, better wo-men, better boys and better girls. With the better men will come the better world and we will be drawn closer to the Giver of all good and perfect gifts. This is what our fraternity and kindred fraternities are doing, trying to make better homes, better fathers and better mothers, and by so doing we are building for a greater nation—for greater respect for the laws and for greater loyalty to our government. In simple faith and sacrifice have the foundation of our great fraternity been laid and countless thousands have been ennobled by its purifying touch and countless thousands yet unborn will rise up to call it blessed.

Our fraternity has never cast a shadow upon a home, never wounded a human heart and never wronged a human soul. It is never deaf to the cry of the needy, never blind to the want of the deserving, and its broad and noble Heart very promptly responds to the call of the erring and a cry for help from any of its kind. It is one of the mighty forces today working towards the upbuilding of the race of men.

Blessed be our Order. It stands for the brotherhood of man and for the home around which clusters the tenderest and best sentiments of the human heart. Like the spirit of liberty enlightening the world. the fountains in the desert watering a favored spot of earth and imparting fertility; like the Temple of Truth standing four-square to every wind that blows, its every act and principle in harmony with the highest planes of human thought, aspiration and life."



P. G. C. John J. H. Meier read the following poem: Dedicated to the Supreme Commander

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Ride Them; "Maltas" Ride Them
Start right in and Join with Us:
Twelve Degrees: It is not much:
A Horse to ride in each Degree:
Saddle: Spurs: its furnish WE:

When You start: Be sure your right:
In the Saddle: Set straight astride:
Out your chest: Your toes turned in:
So starts a Knight, when He begins:

The Road of Malta: Well it's Paved:
Can't go wrong: Map sets you straight:
When you complete this ride you'll say:
Hello, my Neighbor: Come ride this way:

From the East: Yes: to the West:
Maltas are riding: Just twelve abreast:
Not Ancient Armour: but modern Way:
Knighted Horsemen: This Maltas Day:

CHORUS:

Come ride along: Sing: Shout with Song:
You Knights: Of this Fraternity:
Malta now means Prosperity:
In every State: From Coast to Coast:
To every new Knight: Now this Toast:

The Supreme Commander held an important conference at Buffalo attended by Supreme Standard Bearer John J. H. Meier, Grand Commander and Grand Prelate of the State of New York. He also witnessed the dramatic rendition of the first degree by Galilee Commandery, No. 326. Five applicants from Batavia, N. Y., received the degree. On January 12th, in company with some high officials in Malta of the state of New York, had a meeting at Kenmore, at which the mayor was present, relative reorganizing the defunct Commandery there.

January 16th the Supreme Commander is found at Pittsburgh, Pa., attending a Past Commanders meeting of Allegheny County. There were a large number of distinguish Maltans present such as Supreme Captain General Schmidt, Past Grand Commanders Spahr, Lawry, Langsdale and Doerr, the latter getting out of a sick bed in order to attend. Grand Trustee Kearns, P. C., Edgar of the Grand Finance Committee and P. C., Kay Hamilton.

January 17th we find the plate glass and paint magnate Charlie Schmidt, with his big auto whisking the Supreme Commander—Charlie, did you exceed the speed limit?—to Wheeling, W.



Va., where he attended a meeting of Fort Henry Commandery, No. 598, in that city. Here the matter whether West Virginia should enter the grand jurisdiction of Pennsylvania or Ohio. The D. S. C. here is giving the matter thoughtful study.

January 19th, the Supreme Commander travels fast, now in Cleveland, Ohio, attending the Past Commanders' Association of Cayohoga County, banquet—305 present -P. G. C. of Ohio Goodson presided. The other guest being Lady Appel Sovereign Protector of the Dames of Malta.

January 24th, met this same P. C. Association at Hotel Carter, Cleveland. and discussed plans for the more enlarged work in Ohio.

January 23rd, he attended a regular convocation of Lincoln Commandery, No. 539, at Masillon, Ohio. This was a "Red Letter" occasion. P. S. C., DeWitt C. Stafford, Grand Commander of Ohio Schneider, Grand Recorder of Ohio Bendure, Grand Treasurer of Ohio Blake, P. G. C. of Ohio Walter M. Tobias, and editor Cowgul of Knight and Dame of Malta, were present.

January 25th, the Supreme Commander was in conference with the head of the Dames of Malta Lady Appel. After which he met with Lady Swanson in reference to the "Pandora Girls" being fostered by the Dames of Malta. He also conferred with P. G. C., Walter M. Tobias relative to the formation of "Cadets of Malta," a boys' organization. The day was ended by attending a luncheon of Faith Sisterhood, No. 206, Cleveland, Ohio.

January 26th, he met in conference the active workers of Broadway Commandery, No. 544, at Toledo, Ohio. January 27th, the Supreme Commander is in Detroit, Michigan, and here he held a conference with the workers of Corinthian Commandery No. 557, located at Pontiac, Mich.

February 1st, he is in Pontiac, Mich., attending and advising the active Companions of Corinthian Commandery, No. 557.

February 4th, the Supreme Commander is registered at the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, holding a conference in an effort to revive Red Cross Commandery No. 640 in that city.

February 10th, Indiana has his attention and in Gary is meeting with a few loyal sons of True Knights Commandery, No. 641.

February 13th and 14th, St. Louis. Mo., has his attention in conference with a bunch of Companions of Missouri Commandery, No. 420. He didn't let St. Louis finish up Missouri. For he went to Kansas City, Mo., to see if there was anything the matter with Rhodes Commandery, No. 630. He injected some of his Malta enthusiasm serum.

February 21st, the Supreme Commander is in full accord with Horace Greeley's advise. "Young man, go West." Now he is in the "Rocky Mountain State." and in conference with Rocky Mountain Commandery No. 442, at Pueblo, Colorado. Being here he did not neglect Mountain High Commandery No. 656 at Denver. Neither did he forget that Trinidad Commandery No. 493, for many years at Trinidad, Colo., and he will see that it again will move forward with great success.

The Pueblo Star-Journal in reporting the meeting held by 442, in its issue of February 26. 1935, said:

"Fraternity is the watchword of the age, William A. Gretzinger. supreme commander of the Knights of Malta, told members of the local order in an address Monday night, February 25, 1935, at the Congress hotel.



"The human race is drifting toward brotherhood." he said. "All the forces of history, religious, industrial, political and social, are drawing and binding men together. Reason may teach the unity of God: faith leaps to a trinity, but faith and reason both declare the fraternity of man." "Sir Gretzinger pointed out that there is a fascination in studying the origin and development of any phase of business life or in analyzing the influences which have taken our civilization along the paths which lead to that Utopian world where "each shall find his own in all men's good and all men work in noble brotherhood."

"We have yet far to go," said the speaker, "but that the present generation has seen greater progress than centuries preceding is a truism none can deny. Today the golden rule is inscribed on the hearts of men and women who live its mandate day by day and whose guidance leads ever toward a finer civilization. Men and women in every walk of life have banded themselves together in organizations whose purpose is to make easier the highway of life for those whose steps tottered uncertainly along the way, to preserve homes threatened with dissolution; to bring opportunity to little ones deprived by misfortune of entering life upon an equal basis with his fellow. Success has come because of united effort."

March 7, 1935 the Supreme Commander is in Oakland, California. consulting with Deputy Supreme Commander Charles W. Dailey and others as to the status of the Order. Parenthetically, Companion Dailey migrated from Stroudsburg, Pa. Oakland Commandery, No. 654. has had difficult times. While the Supreme Commander is on the Pacific Coast he will meet with Sequoia Commandery No. 635 at Palo Alto, California—the home of ex-President Hoover. Adriel Commandery, No. 583—now defunct—at Los Angeles, Calif. There are many other Commanderies defunct in California which the Supreme Commander did work with on his visitation trip. The Supreme Commander on this trans-continental trip was accompanied by Mrs. Gretzinger. This gracious first lady in Malta, won the hearts of all whom she met, and vied in the honors bestowed upon her distinguished husband.

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A Few Facts for St. John's No. 186

WE FELLOWS of No. 186 are not forgetting, are we? That out in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, is constructed a brick and stone building, commodious in size with every modern appointment, situated on a farm of many, many acres and is the home of many Knights of Malta, their widows and orphans; we are their brothers, and, who knows, it may be our residence too and that of our widows and orphans, too, some day. It is our Home now and we are responsible for its support. Don't we read something like this in the Bible: "He that does not provide for his own house is worse than an infidel." How about "Charity beginning at home." "I will yield my sword"—my sword, in this day, is my money; and you have declared you would yield it "in defense of destitute widows, innocent maidens and helpless orphans." Well, these are in our Malta Home. Let us draw our sword (money) from the scabbard (pocketbook) and yield it for the Home.

ASHER PAUL, a cousin of Companions Harry Q. Snyder and P. C., Alfred L. Snyder, died December 23, 1934.

ROSCOE DAUBERT, a-brother of P. C., Joseph Doubert, died December 29, 1934.



WILLIAM COOK. the father-in-law of Past Commander Charles Bond, died December 22, 1934.

CHARLES EDWARD FREELAND, the father of Past Commander Harry J. Freeland, died January 21, 1935. He was aged 76 and resided at Corning, California.

WALTER F. BREWER, brother-in-law of Companion Eli Buzzard, died on Sunday, February 3, 1935.

ERVIN LAMBERT. a brother of Companion Edmond O. Lambert, died on Tuesday, February 5, 1935. He was 69 years of age.

RUDOLPH LABADIE, one time a member of No. 186 and a Past Commander, died in Philadelphia, Pa., Friday, February 1, 1935. He was elected to membership October 26, 1909. Initiated November 16, 1909, raised to the exalted Order of the Red Cross and Sepulchre March 15, 1910. He served the Commandery four times as Assistant Recorder, three as Sentinel and one each as Second Guard, Warder, Captain General, Generalissimo. Sir Knight Commander and Prelate. His Past Commander's credentials March 3, 1914. He received the Past Commander's degree at Philadelphia, Pa., April 29, 1919. His name is the 431st on the register of the Commandery.

FREDERICK JAMES SNYDER, age 26, a nephew of Companions Harry Q. and Alfred L. Snyder, P. C., met with a terrible tragic death at about 4 o'clock Monday afternoon, January 28, 1935, in the plant where he was employed at Changewater, Warren County, New Jersey. The unfortunate young man was working on a ladder cleaning some pipes on the ceiling of the room near a shaft that was making 1100 revolutions a minute. In some unknown way his clothing caught in this exposed shaft and his body was mangled to a pulp against the ceiling before the shaft could be stopped. He was the oldest child of Frank B. Snyder.

WILSON SCHOENERBERGER, a. brother of Past Commander Charles G. C. Schoenerberger, died February, 1935.

DAVID H. EDINGER, aged 91, died the fourth of March, 1935. He was the father of Companion I. Walter Edinger and a cousin of P. C., D. Frank Edinger.

THE FOLLOWING members of No. 186, reported on the sick list for the three months ending with March 31, 1935: E. T. Avison, Edgar Serfass, Charles H. Stackhouse, John R. Watson, P. C., Clinton W. Pearsall, Austin E. Bush, Jeremiah H. Ruth, Alvin C. Troch, P. C.

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