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ECHOES FROM THE ANTE ROOM.

Sunday Celebration of the Knights of Pythias Anniversary.

COUNCIL BLUFFS FRATERNITIES.

Princes of the Orient—The New Patriarches Militant Band—General Gossip among the Mystic Orders.

K. of P.

The echoes in the armory of Omaha division No. 12, uniform rank, that usually busy themselves with repetition of the sounds of sharply uttered selections from Upton's tactics, the marching of feet and clanking of sabers, did yoman service in reproducing displacements having opposite and much more pleasant origin, the observance of the anniversary of the division. The cranial and nooks fairly shook in anything but silent enjoyment of the response made by Colonel Sir George H. Cramer to the toast "Omaha Division No. 12," that of the Very Reverend Sir William Whitmarsh, acting chaplain of the Nebraska brigade, to "Our Anniversary," a most felicitous and grateful handling of the subject that made many new friends for the speaker; that of Colonel Sir J. J. Moneil to "The Uniform Rank," that of Colonel Sir Harry Merriam, Black Eagle division, to "The Puthian Press," and that of Major Sir James Donnelly, Omaha regiment, to "The Ladies." The complaint of the shingles against the roof, of a severe shingle entered during the ceremony of the last gentleman, is only to be reconciled with sanity on reflecting a moment and remembering that the faces of the Christians who are building and beyond audience of his well considered and happy remarks. The conclusion of this speech signalled the removal of obstructions dancing which ushered a dainty and generous supper. The remainder of the ball was then given attention to the smooth passage through the evening of the various features was satisfactory approval of the able direction of Captain Sir John Hayward and the Christiano religion and the spirit of the division.

In the followers of the example of Damon and Pythias is deeply rooted gratefulness for the ready acquiescence of the Right Reverend Bishop Worthington and Dean Gardner in last Sunday's use of the cathedral and their presence on the occasion, as well as to the Right Reverend Sir William Whitmarsh for his great assistance. The spirit manifested by these three dignitaries in forwarding the object of the Sir Knights, and Knights, say a number of Pythians, has done much to draw out the Christiano religion and the spirit of the Knights of Pythias.

Bishop Worthington and Dean Gardner were delighted at the appearance made by the Sir Knights in Trinity, and their thorough knowledge of Episcopalian forms of worship. Nearly two hundred swords left their scabbards for a "procession" on the reading of the creed, to be sheathed by its "Amen," and this knightly devotion, together with the military entrance to and departure from the church, was rendered with an audible command. The pleasure of the reverend gentlemen, as well as Rev. Chaplain Whitmarsh, in the presence of the Sir Knights, is shared by all Knights whose presence at the services added weight to the testimonial of the religious sentiment of the church. A notable accessory of the services was the excellent singing of the full sanctioned choir. One enthusiastic Knight told the fact that the faces of the bishop and dean were wreathed in smiles of satisfaction as they followed the choir from the chancel.

From the time of his arrival in the city to that of departing for his Norfolk home Dean Whitmarsh was busy. He was met at the station by Dr. C. M. Dinsmore, who deposited him at the home of his first entertainer. After the services at the cathedral, Mr. Dinsmore's hospitality was extended. D.

Whitmarsh assisted Rev. Mr. Williams at St. Barnabas Sunday, and was the guest of that gentleman for the last of his stay in Omaha. The business of the Episcopal convocation of last week also received attention.

General Sir James R. Carnahan is revising his uniform regulations of Upton's tactics, so as to include the mounted divisions now organizing, and eliminating errors which crept into the present compilation. This means the Upton's cavalry movements will be added to the infantry regulations already existing. The value of the well drilled, organization of the United States government, and its utility in the event of war will be apparent in view of the statement made by a prominent Sir Knight that the sabre proficiency of the rank could be transferred to the musket in three days.

Brother E. E. French, grand keeper of records and seal, received an order for and forwarded the supplies of the new lodge which was instituted at Neigh the past week. The Pythian Spur will resume publication in the basement of the United States National bank building, on Twelfth street, next week. The wife of Editor Harry Merriam and his sickness stopped the last two issues of the paper. The Rev. learns that Knights of Pythias and fraternal men generally are glad to know that Mr. Merriam's valuable journal is with them.

There will be a Knights of Pythias lodge at Schuyler.

Omaha Division No. 8, Uniform Rank, Knights of Pythias, has had a revival, and is now drilling regularly on the first and third Fridays of each month, in Nebraska No. 1 hall, generally at the residence of Editor Harry Merriam and his sickness stopped the last two issues of the paper. The Rev. learns that Knights of Pythias and fraternal men generally are glad to know that Mr. Merriam's valuable journal is with them.

The regular meeting of Virginia lodge No. 95, K. of P., was held at Goodrich hall, Saunders street, Wednesday evening, February 27. The following pages, N. R. Davall and A. B. Houser, were admitted to the rank of Knights of Pythias. A notable accessory of the services was the excellent singing of the full sanctioned choir. One enthusiastic Knight told the fact that the faces of the bishop and dean were wreathed in smiles of satisfaction as they followed the choir from the chancel.

A meeting was held at the Castle hall of Pythias hall, Council Bluffs, Thursday afternoon, for the purpose of organizing a branch of the Pythias sisterhood in this city. The wives, sisters and daughters of members in good standing are eligible for membership. There were fourteen ladies present. The matter was discussed at some length, and an adjournment taken until next Friday afternoon. There is no branch of the sisterhood west of Indianapolis at present, and the expense of organizing one here is necessarily considerable, but it will probably go through all right. Mrs. Eugene Mottaz is the chairman, and has charge of the matter.

A. O. U. W. Controversy in Iowa. An Iowa Workman says: The public, as a public, is not, nor has been concerned in the controversy going on for the past six years in Iowa between the "Loyal" or supreme branch of the A. O. U. W. and the suspended branch of the order in that state. But, as thousands of your readers in this and other states are interested in whatever pertains to the interests of the order, a brief history of the causes which led to the unfortunate difficulty may prove of interest to them at least.

This, like all other fraternal orders, has a supreme, grand and subordinate lodges, the latter are under the immediate control of the grand lodges, and the grand lodges under control of the supreme. In the organization of subordinate and the instituting of grand lodges this right and prerogative of the supreme lodge is specifically reserved, and no

law enacted for the government of grand and subordinate lodges can become operative until approved by the supreme lodge or of its regularly constituted committee on laws.

Grand lodge beneficiary jurisdictions are formed in states, or an aggregation of states, having 2,000 or more members, and when so formed collect and disburse their own beneficiary funds, subject however to the laws and rules of the supreme lodge. The latter also controls subordinate lodges and collects and disburse their beneficiary fund when it is not convenient to attach them to a grand lodge beneficiary. These obligations of a grand lodge beneficiary are assumed, and its fund collected and disbursed by the supreme lodge whenever the membership becomes reduced to less than 2,000. Under and by virtue of the authority vested in the supreme lodge, Iowa became a separate beneficiary jurisdiction April 1, 1876, and her influence in shaping subsequent legislation in the interests of the order has been most marked. On account of the declination of the order in Tennessee in 1873 by yellow fever that grand jurisdiction became reduced to less than 2,000. The supreme lodge promptly assumed her outstanding obligations and proceeded to devise ways and means to meet them, that for reasons which we need not stop here to recount, she found her resources far too small to enable her to meet the obligations as promptly as was desired. The supreme master workman desiring the advice and counsel of the representative members of the order, in so far as necessary, issued a call to the grand master workman and grand recorders of each state to meet the supreme lodge officers in a convention at Chicago November 15, 1878. At this meeting there were 31 representatives from 12 states, Iowa having 5 in the persons of Barry, supreme recorder, Messrs. Rose and Fowke of the supreme finance committee, Fowke, grand master, and Whitaker, grand recorder. The address of the supreme master workman was referred to the committee on distribution. Fowke of Iowa, was one of the committee. That part of the address referring to the extraordinary death of the secretary of the order, was referred to the committee on laws, and the committee was deemed to be of such vital importance to the order at large that an advisory committee of five was appointed, to which were referred the report of the committee on laws, the committee reported through its chairman, Fowke, recommending that an address be formulated setting forth to the end of the order the urgent needs of the supreme lodge for funds with which to pay the losses in Tennessee. This report was adopted and a special committee of five, consisting of Fowke, of Iowa, as chairman, to prepare the address. The report of this committee was presented, and on the recommendation of the committee, was adopted, and on motion of the meeting was read, and on motion of Fowke, approved. The address was sent to every subordinate lodge of the order then in existence. Mr. Fowke labored zealously to have the order in Iowa pay its proportion, the exact amount of which is not now at hand but suffice it to say that Iowa lacked \$9,000 of paying the amount allotted to her which amount the supreme lodge paid and kept her promise to the brethren in the stricken south. Iowa continued to be ably represented in the supreme lodge until 1880, when a permanent "relief" law was adopted, and a discussion, from when in any separate beneficiary jurisdiction whether grand or supreme, the number of assessments, on account of the losses, should exceed a certain maximum, then in that event, such jurisdiction was entitled to "relief" by special assessment of the entire membership for an amount sufficient to pay to exceed \$3 per member in any one year) to pay the claims due and unpaid.

In the enactment of this law, Iowa, as usual, was prominent and influential. She had four representatives with Fowke as chairman of the committee to distribute the address of the supreme master workman, which committee recommended that that part of the address which contained reference to the enactment of a permanent relief law be referred to the committee on laws, of which Fowke, of Iowa, was chairman. This committee recommended a plan, which was adopted, and became, in a constitutional sense, the law of the order. Fowke favored the submission of the law to the several grand lodges, and that it should not become binding until two-thirds of the grand lodges had approved it. This proposition was defeated. In the following year, at Detroit, Mr. Fowke was again representing Iowa in the supreme lodge, but he made no

move looking to the repeal or modification of the law. In April, 1881, the first call under the law was made, entitled "Relief Call No. 1," and amounted to 10 cents per member. The then grand master workman of Iowa, J. D. Nicholls, neglected or refused to issue this call, and on the 10th of September, 1882, was suspended by the supreme master workman. On the 13th of October Nicholls issued a circular setting forth the relief laws, and said: "On April 21, 1881, the supreme lodge issued what they entitled 'Relief Call No. 1,' assessing the sum of \$1 on each member of the order in Iowa, which call, in fact, was for only 10 cents. This sum the grand officers, of which Nicholls was the head, refused to pay, when the entire order in Iowa, consisting of 300 lodges, with a membership of about three hundred and twenty were suspended from all the rights and privileges of the order. The cause of the trouble, the Loyal branch of the order by direction of and by the assistance of the supreme lodge officers recognized the Grand Lodge in Iowa in 1882, since which time the suspended order has not been recognized by that body and has the right of membership in the order. The direction of the Supreme Lodge suit was instituted against the Supreme Grand Lodge, and after six years of litigation and expense, the supreme lodge, by a decision secured a decision from the state supreme court declaring that they were an essential insurance company, pure and simple, and as such were the "legal" grand lodge. Their relations to the supreme lodge, however, remain just the same as before the decision. As an order they are not known or recognized outside of their own petty jurisdiction, while on the contrary the members of the "Loyal" branch are known and recognized from Maine to California, and from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, and in addition their certificates are guaranteed by the solemn pledges of more than 200,000 men who regard a fraternal obligation voluntarily taken as binding, and of as much force as any statutory oath. The suspended order are now engaged in the questionable effort of endeavoring to establish their right to rank assertions, distorted statements, and in one instance the absolute denial of a fact that is a matter of record. I allude to the paragraph in the "Loyal" branch number of the "Iowa Workman," their only organ which denies that they refused to pay the 10-cent assessment in 1881, in February, 1882, at a session of their grand lodge, the following resolutions among others were adopted by a vote of 287 yeas to 15 nays: "That the action of the grand Master Workman Nicholls and the executive committee of the grand lodge of Iowa in refusing to impose the 10-cent assessment on the members of every committee to whom the matter was referred, and yet he was the first, or among the first, to rebel, and exercised no little influence in inducing the same course to be taken by the other lodges."

The law has been of immeasurable benefit to the order, and the nine calls made to this date amount, all told, to \$3.17 per member, or an average of \$3.94 cents per year for each member. What a mountain to make of such a mole hill! The Loyal branch in Iowa in six years has increased from 320 stalwarts in 1882 to 8,500 in 1889, and their confidence in the future prosperity and grandeur of the order is as firm as the everlasting hills.

Much sympathy is expressed for Brother Charles O. Romer, master workman of Omaha No. 15, whose wife died last week of injuries received in a collision between her carriage and another vehicle. His lodge and K. of P. Park, of which he is past cancellor, took appropriate action in the premises.

Kassidean Knights, A. E. B. A fraternal worker, who takes much interest in the body that in all matters of concern to weak mortals counsels unity, tolerance and charity, informed The Bee that Brief notice was given of their coming, but their presence had been brief it was really a renaissance of traditions and tenets of greater antiquity than Masonry. "And," said he, "the Omaha priory is seeking to subordinate the sick, accident and benefit laws of the association to the fraternal spirit, yet insisting upon physically sound recruits in the knowledge that mental attainments will more surely follow, and not neglecting the allotment of the ill of the flesh to which its members in common with other humanity are subject."

The Bee has given the history of the eastern Masonry, and a full attendance is requested. There is, as yet, no grand lodge established in the United States and it is the earnest wish of Omaha Kassideans that the first one may be built up in this city.

The regular assembly of Saint James priory No. 5 at its hall Tuesday night will consider modes of procedure under the new charter, together with other important matters, and a full attendance is requested. A Denver Knight was among the members of Saint James priory last week and from him it was learned that in that city were two priories with a total membership of about three hundred.

I. O. O. F. Great improvements have been made in the past week in the interior appearance of Odd Fellows hall, Council Bluffs. New paper, paint and carpets have materially added to its attractiveness, and it is now one of the most attractive secret society halls in the city. The local lodges are in a flourishing condition, and their membership is rapidly increasing.

The first grand benefit ball, under the auspices of the Patriarches Militant, I. O. O. F., will be given at Goodrich hall, Saunders street, on Friday evening, March 14. The committee of arrangements consists of G. M. Morris, C. Hardy, J. W. Wolf, W. R. Schroeder and E. W. Head.

The band and orchestra consists of eighteen trained musicians, the sixth of the kind in the United States. The band will be in Omaha and will be in charge of the ball for the purpose of purchasing uniforms and it is expected that the Odd Fellows of the city will turn out in full force. The band has been organized only a few weeks but is working along most successfully. The twelve members belonging to the orchestra will demonstrate to the attendants of the ball their ability to play.

There was an enjoyable masquerade ball and supper at North Platte.

Royal Arcanum. Clarence E. Brown, advertising agent of the Union Pacific, was a timorous but successful candidate for initiation at the last meeting. His prayer to be let down easy was heard in those in power. Three other gentlemen were elected members and one application for membership was refused. This gentleman has been deputy for some time and has worn his official rank with more unconscious grace than his proud wearing of the jewel would credit him with. The boys say that he will be sure to turn it over to the assessor for inspection and listing.

Modern Woodmen. Deputy G. A. Lockens organized Camp Lockens at West Junction. The camp starts with a membership of twenty.

Several new members were added to the Omaha camp. On Thursday evening last Hazel Camp lodge, No. 11, Modern Woodmen, Council Bluffs, received its first visit by the mem-

bers of the grand lodge of the order. The visitors were J. C. Root, the head consul and F. W. Joslyn, the attorney of the order. Brief notice was given of their coming, but their presence had been brief it was really a renaissance of traditions and tenets of greater antiquity than Masonry. "And," said he, "the Omaha priory is seeking to subordinate the sick, accident and benefit laws of the association to the fraternal spirit, yet insisting upon physically sound recruits in the knowledge that mental attainments will more surely follow, and not neglecting the allotment of the ill of the flesh to which its members in common with other humanity are subject."

Masonic. Excelsior lodge No. 256, of Council Bluffs, confers Masonic degrees next Saturday evening, and gives a banquet. Regular meeting of Nebraska lodge No. 1, A. F. and A. M., Monday evening, March 5, at hall in Baker block. Take elevator on Fifteenth street. Visiting brethren welcome. By order of the W. M.

Princes of the Orient. Twelve Foresters were initiated Friday by Omaha council, and Monday in Metropolitan hall about the same number of K. P.'s will enter the council.

On the Habitation of Winter. New York World. When Summer's life is ebbing fast she lay upon her bed Of soiled ears, and yellow'd leaves, and flowers, dying, dead. Her pillow low a mossy stone beside the limp brook That mirrors from its depths the face of all who dare to look— And look she must, then, sighing, sigh'd: "My face is wan and old— The face that once was fair and warm is wrinkled, pale and cold!" And then she wept so copiously that Winter, standing near, Compassion feeling, knelt straightway, and and whispered in her ear— "Never mind, my pretty dame! Look up and smile and sing!" "For I, for very love of you, shall hibernize till Spring!"

CONNUBIALITIES. The Duke of Newcastle has just married Miss Candy. She is sweet and the duke has been in love with her for some time.

Wedding rings were used by the ancients, and put upon the third finger, because of a supposed connection of a vein in that member with the heart. The fat woman in a Boston dime museum and a New Yorker, weighing out ninety pounds, were married recently. The bride's weight is advertised as 650 pounds. At Carrollton, Kan., a woman lately embraced matrimony for the first time, though she is rapidly nearing seventy. Her husband lacks five years of being an octogenarian.

A Georgia couple, believing in the saying that a fruit cake improves with age, kept their wedding cake until last week when, with their children, they ate it. The cake was sixteen years old.

There was an interesting double wedding the other evening in Beverly, Mass. It was remarkable in that mother and daughter married father and son respectively. The father is forty-six years old, the mother thirty-three and the son and daughter are each twenty-one years old. The Rev. Roland Groat officiated, and first married the young couple, Roland T. Woodbury and Eva Louisa Crosby. At the conclusion of this ceremony Horace T. Woodbury, father of the groom, and Mrs. Crosby, mother of the young bride, were married.

PEPPERMINT DROPS. A patch on a boy's trousers is something new under the sun. The carriages in which rich journalists ride ought to be called newspaper hacks. The standing army of America is found chiefly in the street cars and on the cable roads. The philosophy of every-day life proves that many a tailor-made girl can take the conceit out of a self-made man. The members of the Indiana legislature have not succeeded in passing any act to speak of as yet except the lie. An Indiana man has invented a ball of water, and in its structure a greater part of her time, both winter and summer. Otherwise her health is very good.

aggravation to the man who is going out of your office and wants to slam the door. In these catarrhal days it is absurd to put up a sign in the hall of any building saying that no hawkers will be allowed there. The newspapers of Norwich, Conn., have had to be very careful this winter about printing bare facts and the naked truth. The United States government finds it hard to checkmate Prince Bismarck, but we have successfully taken in Bismarck, Dak.

Before the wedding day a girl generally overates the man she is to marry, but she more than makes up for her misjudgment afterward. If that big California telescope brings the moon within fifty miles of the earth just watch its reach out and pull it in.—Bell Telephone Company. When the legislatures of the two Dakotas get to enacting laws for those states they are likely to make it a penal offense for any person to own a thermometer. The American base ball experts were much impressed by the Roman Coliseum. They will find the polo grounds in New York city quite an interesting ruin upon their return. The ballet girls of New York are going to form a protective association. What this is, we do not exactly know, but imagine it is to protect themselves against the cold blasts of winter.

To avoid trouble in many matters [a man] should always make his wife an allowance. Probably she will have to keep making allowances for him, and that will sort of even matters up. Having ridden into the union successfully on an omnibus, the four new states find themselves at an interesting stage in their progress. We bid them welcome and trust they will behave themselves like good children.

RELIGIOUS. One hundred and twenty missionaries in China represent twenty-one Protestant societies.

The Hon. Roswell P. Flower, with his brother Anson it, will build, at a cost of \$25,000, a church for Trinity parish, Watertown, N. Y., this autumn.

The Province of Quebec having granted property to the value of \$100,000 to the Jesuits on an old claim, vigorous protests are being made against it as a dangerous precedent. The Chinese Sunday school, numbering 100 men, which is connected with Dr. A. J. Gordon's Warehous street Baptist church in Boston, Mass., has voted to support three native missionaries in China. The receipts of the board of home missions of the Presbyterian church up to December 31, the close of the ninth month of the fiscal year, were \$95,377.39, a falling off for the same time during the previous year of \$17,175.23.

The Rev. W. E. Johnson, of Plainville, Conn., preaches in his dry goods store Sunday evenings to men, and the sign "Smoking Allowed" hangs from the pulpit. His idea is to reach a class of men who never go to church. Miss Catherine Lee Bates, of Wellesley college, has won the first prize of \$500, and Mrs. Caroline A. Mason, of Brookport, N. Y., has won the second prize of \$500 offered by the Congressional Sunday School & Publishing society for the two MSS best suited for Sunday school books.

The net gain of new churches in the United States during the year 1888 was 6,434; the increase in the number of ministers was 4,365, while the increase in church members was 774,961. The average for each day of the year was seventeen churches, twelve ministers, and 2,120 members.

A Georgia Mermald. There is a maiden lady in a city not far from Elberton, says the Savannah News, who is so constituted that she cannot live out of water but a short while at a time. After remaining away from a bathtub for a couple of hours she commences to faint and almost suffocates, and to procure relief must at once cover her entire body in cold water. She has in her room a pool of fresh water, and in the shower a greater part of her time, both winter and summer. Otherwise her health is very good.