

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF GENERAL
PURPOSES.

November 14, 1862.

Your Committee have again the satisfaction of congratulating Grand Conclave upon the continued extension and flourishing condition of the Order.

Warrants have been granted since our last meeting for two new Encampments. The Union of Georgetown, Demerara, and the Celestial of Shanghai in the Empire of China.

The Grand Master has considered it advisable to appoint a new Provincial Grand Commander for our West Indian Dependencies, and the well known zeal and long services of Sir Knight, P. H. Delamere, leaves no doubt that he will merit the confidence reposed in him by the Grand Master.

There is a growing feeling, fully shared in, in the highest quarters, that the time has arrived, without in the slightest degree weakening the fraternal Bond that has for so many ages connected us with Ancient Freemasonry to restore the old traditions of our Order, but any such movement must be approached with the greatest caution and deliberation, as recommended by the Report presented by the Sub-Committee appointed at the last May Meeting.

It also appears to your Committee, that the Commanders of private Encampments have omitted to forward to the nearest Clerk of the Peace the Muster Roll of their companions, according to the provisions of the Act of 39th George 3rd. Proper Forms for this purpose will be issued by the Grand Vice Chancellor.

(Signed) J. H. LAW, Grand Chancellor.

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY
GRAND CONCLAVE, MAY 9TH, 1862.

November 14, 1862.

THE undermentioned being the Sub-Committee appointed for the purpose of revising the Book of Statutes of 1853, and to draw up or approve of a Ritual of the Knights of Malta, have to report that they have had several meetings, and have devoted much time and attention thereto :—

With respect to the revision of the Book of Statutes, your Committee have made considerable progress, but they found it impossible to decide on many most essential points, with reference to the future government of the Order.

Your Committee have received most important and valuable suggestions from Knights of high standing in the Order, founded on the best authorities, and evincing great knowledge and research, but as these suggestions, if adopted, would involve extensive changes in the nomenclature and Costumes of the Order, they require the gravest and most mature consideration, and your Committee feel, that they cannot, at present, arrive at any safe conclusions or recommendations on the subject.

With reference to the Standard Ritual of the Knights of Malta, your Committee have had submitted to them to them two Rituals, one by Sir Knight Cooke, drawn up by the late Grand Chancellor Emly, but not promulgated during his life-time; the other originally arranged by Sir Knight Shuttleworth, for the adoption of his Encampment, Mount Calvary, but they have not yet had sufficient time to decide upon their respective merits. They therefore recommend Encampments now conferring the degree, to continue working by their present Rituals; and the Committee hope to lay before the Order, in two or three months, a Standard Ritual, similar to the present one of the Order of the Temple, and therefore recommend Grand Conclave to send the Report back to the Committee with full powers to act.

(Signed)

GEORGE VERNON, Deputy Grand Master.

M. H. SHUTTLEWORTH, Grand Vice-Chancellor.

D. H. STONE, Grand Registrar.