



IDAHO KNIGHTLY NEWS

Barry E. Newell, KTCH, KCT, Editor
306 Maple St., Emmett, ID 83617
ksigmason@gmail.com

Editor's Note

If anyone would like to submit an article for the Idaho Knightly News, please email me your article using Microsoft Word. Keep it between 1 page and 1.5 pages.

Upcoming 2023 Events:

94th Annual Easter Sunrise Service...Mar 31
Grand York Rite of AlaskaMar 7-8
Grand York Rite of OregonApr 4-6
Grand York Rite of IdahoApr 18-20

The Rite of Baldwyn, Part 2

By Barry E. Newell

The 1780 Charter contains 20 articles that provide for the officers, dress, and regalia, petitioning and balloting procedures, fees and dues, and other administrative details.

Until 1791 there was no governing body over Templary in England. In January of that year, a Grand Conclave was formed that took the official name of "Grand

Conclave of the Royal, Exalted, Religious and Military Order of H.R.D.M., Grand Elected Masonic Knights Templar K.D.S.H. of St John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, etc." This formal name would be amended when the Ancient & Accepted Rite was established. The presiding officer on this body was called "Grand Master" and the Sir Knights selected Thomas Dunckerley as their first. Some sources state that Bristol was on board with the formation of a national governing body, although later actions seem to contradict this, but some state that when Dunckerley presided, he did not interfere with the ritual and operations of an individual Encampment and it wasn't until later Grand Masters that the relationship between the Baldwyn Encampment and the Grand Conclave degraded.

After the death of Dunckerley in 1795, relations between the Grand Conclave and the Camp of Baldwyn were kept. In 1809 the Charter of Constitution was established, but the Camp of Baldwyn asserted that the Grand Conclave must acknowledge the rights and privileges of Baldwyn, and should any derivation from the customs and usages occur, the Camp of Baldwyn would break away and resume their independence. In the

1820s, during the reign of Prince Augustus Frederick, the Duke of Sussex, the Grand Conclave slipped into a state of dormancy while the Baldwin Encampment was said to have prospered during the same period of time.

Attempts were made in 1819 to form a Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite in England, but it wouldn't be until the 1840s that this would be accomplished. By 1847, Robert Crucefix, Master of Ceremonies for the Grand Conclave of Knights Templar, was instrumental in establishing a Scottish Rite Supreme Council in England, and by this time an effort was being made to sever the Rose Crucis and Kadosh degrees from the Templar Encampments. With the exception of the Encampments of Bath and Baldwin, the effort was accomplished. In fact, Baldwin criticized the Grand Conclave for giving up their "birthright for a mess of pottage."

In 1856, reconciliation between the Grand Conclave and the Camp of Baldwin was tried, but failed and would not be accomplished until 1862. The Encampments of Baldwin and Antiquity (Bath) both declared their independence and that they would live by the 1780 Charter of Compact. The Baldwin Encampment would issue warrants and establish encampments, but the South Australian Preceptory is still the only other Preceptory outside of the Baldwin Encampment that is authorized to work the Baldwin rituals today.

In 1881, an agreement was reached between the Supreme Council of the Ancient & Accepted Rite of England and the Baldwin Encampment concerning the Rose Croix degree where the latter was recognized

preceding the Supreme Council and was allowed to continue its own conferrals.

The three degrees of Craft Masonry are worked by the United Grand Lodge of England. The Royal Arch degree, the II^o, worked in the Baldwin Encampment is unique in England and has rituals closer to those found in the US or in Continental Europe. The III^o, IV^o, and V^o are said to be unique to the Baldwin Rite, but their names remind me of degrees worked in the Scottish Rite and Allied Masonic Degrees. The VI^o is composed of the Knights of Malta and the Knights Templar is conferred by the Baldwin Encampment which falls under the authority of the Great Priory of England and Wales. The final degree of the Baldwin Rite is the Knight of the Rose Croix of Mount Carmel which is worked in the Bristol Chapter of Rose Croix under the authority of the Supreme Council of the Ancient & Accepted Rite of England and Wales. It is curious to note that if a candidate of the Baldwin Rite already has gone through the Templar, Malta, and Rose Croix degrees elsewhere, he is considered a full member of the Rite.

The 1780 Charter of Compact set out the original hierarchy of the Baldwin Rite, as mentioned earlier. Today, this Rite is overseen by a Grand Superintendent who is also, by virtue of his office, the Provincial Prior of Knights Templar in Bristol, Inspector General for the District of Bristol of the Ancient & Accepted Rite in Bristol