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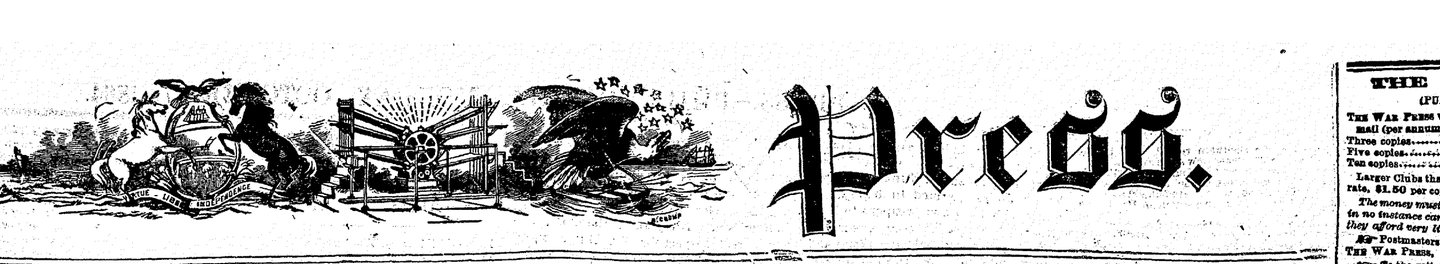

VOL. 8.—NO. 67. PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1864. FOUR CENTS.

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The Press.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1864.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

Address of the National Union Executive Committee to the People of the United States.

ASTOR HOUSE, NEW YORK, Oct. 14, 1864.

FELLOW-CITIZENS: The elections of Tuesday last give splendid auguries of the result of the Presidential contest, now so near at hand. The great Central States of the Union have pronounced, in unmistakable tones, their condemnation of the principles, the purposes, and the candidates of the Chicago Convention. Although the great issue was presented only indirectly for their action, they have branded as *false* the declaration of that assemblage that the war for the restoration of the Union has proved a "failure"—and have stigmatized, as unpatriotic and cowardly, its demand, made in the midst of our most splendid triumphs, for a "cessation of hostilities," and a compromise with the men who are assailing, in armed rebellion, the nation's life.

In Pennsylvania, the old Keystone State, although there was no State ticket to arouse enthusiasm or stimulate exertion, the Union men have elected *sixteen* out of the *twenty-four* members of Congress, secured a large majority in both branches of the Legislature, and carried the State by a popular majority of not less than fifteen thousand.

In Ohio, without any special effort, the Union men have elected *sixteen* members of Congress out of nineteen; the Chicago candidate for the Vice Presidency, George H. Pendleton, has been overwhelmed in his own district; all the prominent leaders of the Chicago movement who dared to present themselves for public judgment have been condemned by decisive verdicts; the Legislature has a large Union majority in both branches, and in the State at large the Union cause has a popular majority of not less than eighty thousand.

In Indiana, where the Copperheads made the most desperate and determined struggle, they have met the most signal defeat and overthrow. Their organization was perfect, their means abundant, and their efforts marked by the utmost vigor and determination. But they have been utterly routed by the most decided majority the State has given for many years. Although she had more than 40,000 soldiers in the field from whom the Opposition party withheld the right to vote, the Union men in that gallant State have gained *three* members of Congress, sent Schuyler Colfax back, in spite of the most desperate efforts to defeat him, to the seat he has so long adorned, chosen a Union Legislature, re-elected the gallant and patriotic Gov. Morton by fifteen thousand majority, and overwhelmed, with the lasting stigma of popular condemnation, the conspirators who had dared, in aid of the rebellion, to organize upon her soil a movement of armed resistance to the constitutional authority of the United States.

Fellow-citizens, these results may well fill your hearts with confidence that in November the popular voice will denounce and the rebellion be put down by "FORCE OF ARMS," and that there be no cessation of hostilities until the integrity of the Union is restored and the supremacy of the Constitution re-established over every foot of the national domain. They leave no room for doubt as to the settled sentiment and purpose of the American people. The Union victories of September in Vermont and Maine indicated unmistakably the feelings of New England. New York has never failed to sympathize in political sentiment with Pennsylvania. Illinois always votes with Ohio, and the overwhelming majority in Indiana renders certain the verdict of the mighty West.

BUT TAKE CARE THAT THE VERY SPLENDOR OF THESE VICTORIES DOES NOT BETRAY YOU INTO FATAL INACTIVITY! Let them stimulate you to more energetic exertion—not lull you into a false security! These contests are only the preliminary skirmishes of the grand engagement. The battle is but just begun; it will not be closed until the last vote drops into the ballot-box at sunset on the 8th of November next. Our opponents now will not abandon the contest; they will only fight with the greater desperation on account of the check they have sustained.

Besides this, it is not enough that we secure a victory. The Union cause deserves and demands at our hands an overwhelming triumph. We owe it to the flag we serve; to the memory of the noble hearts who have died in its defence; to the forces who are even now rallying, in blood and fire, to the rescue of its starry folds, to put such a brand of popular condemnation upon its foes as shall leave them neither heart nor strength to assail it from this time forward forever!

Signs, moreover, are not wanting that the allies of the rebellion, represented at Chicago, are prepared, if the contest be close, to resist the verdict of the people now, as it was resisted four years ago by armed rebellion. Threats of such a purpose have been freely uttered. Secret organizations, looking to such a movement, have been perfected. Arms and ammunition have been secretly accumulated in the Western States. And the Chicago Convention itself refused to adjourn *sine die* after its legitimate business had been transacted, but, on motion of Wickliffe of Kentucky, an open ally of the rebellion, and in imitation of the Jacobin clubs of Revolutionary France, resolved itself into a *permanent body* for the avowed purpose of taking such steps as emergencies might require between now and the 4th of March next. To what do these preparations look if not to a condition of hostility on the soil of the Union, movement in the Southern States; to fresh attempts to arouse rebellion against the will of the people, if that will should be pronounced against them?

For these reasons, fellow-citizens, and for every reason connected with the welfare, the honor, the salvation of our beloved country, it is of the utmost importance that you should give in November an overwhelming majority for the Union cause. WITH PROPER EXERTION YOU CAN CARRY EVERY LOYAL STATE IN THE UNION FOR THE UNION CANDIDATES. Let that be the aim of your efforts! Be content with nothing less. Remember that the contest is not one for party ascendancy. You are not fighting for a party victory.

The stake for which you are contending is nothing less than the existence and the life of your country. Remember that failure now is failure forever; that a triumph of the cessation and surrender policy of the Chicago Convention leads inevitably to a recognition of the Rebel Confederacy, with slavery as its corner-stone—to the disruption of this glorious Union, and the overthrow of democratic and republican principles all over the world. Give not such a triumph to the foes of freedom abroad and the enemies of equal rights at home. Let not England and France thus glory in the destruction of this imperial Republic. Let the world understand that the American people still cling to the principles of their fathers—that they will still maintain against all hostility the integrity of their Union, the authority of their Constitution, and the honor and supremacy of their glorious flag.

We call upon Union Committees, Loyal Leagues, and all other organizations formed for the purpose of vindicating and maintaining the Union cause, to redouble their efforts. Let them perfect their organization, instantly, everywhere. Let them send to this committee for such documents as will enlighten the people in their respective localities upon the great issues involved in the canvass—they will be furnished gratuitously, on the sole condition that they are faithfully used. Let speakers in every town and every district address the judgment and the patriotic sentiment of the people, and rally them to the support and the defence of our principles and candidates. Let full and prompt provision be made, in advance, for bringing voters to the polls, for preventing frauds, and for securing, in this sharp crisis of the country's fate, the vote of every citizen who has an interest in the preservation of the nation's life.

Let special care be taken to secure, for every soldier and every sailor, who is fighting in the field or on the sea in defence of the country and its flag, the exercise of his right to vote. If any man's right of suffrage is sacred it is his. See to it that he is not deprived of it by negligence, or cheated in its exercise by fraud. Send agents to the army to secure it for him. Where the action of hostile Legislatures has refused him the right to vote in the field, procure for him a furlough, if military necessity will allow, that he may vote at home.

FELLOW-CITIZENS: But one month more remains for effort. If that month be properly employed the vote of every loyal State can be secured for the representatives and candidates of the Union cause. There is not one among them all that, upon any just and fair canvass, will deliberately pronounce the war in which so many of our sons and brothers have laid down their lives a "FAILURE," or echo the demand of the Chicago Convention for a cessation of hostilities just on the eve of victory, and for a disgraceful surrender to an exhausted and beaten foe.

On behalf of the National Union Executive Committee.

HENRY J. RAYMOND, Chairman.
F. D. SPERRY, Secretary.

PERSONAL.

—Henry Clay Dean, of Iowa, who is going to vote for McClellan, in a speech made at Chicago, stigmatized the President as "a felon, usurper, traitor, and tyrant;" an "incompetent and imbecile wretch;" and the soldiers he denounced as the "slaves of the despot" and the "banditti of the robber chief."

—Gen. Heintzleman said, at a Union meeting in Wheeling, on the 5th: "I can see but two issues in this contest—an honorable peace, accomplished by a vigorous war, or an armistice, a convention of States, and a final dissolution of the Union and eternal war."

—Edward Everett, having been invited by Gov. Andrew and others to make an address of a political nature, has accepted, and will speak in Boston on the afternoon of the 19th inst.

—Ex-Senator Browning, of Illinois, who has been extensively claimed as a supporter of McClellan, has written a letter denouncing the Chicago platform and the whole Copperhead party. He comes out squarely and fairly for Lincoln and Johnson.

—Governor Andrew, of Massachusetts, and Governor Brough, of Ohio, are both to take part in the political canvass in the State of New York.

—The Rev. W. H. Boole is speaking at Union meetings in New York. His brother is the Copperhead City Inspector.

—Gen. Albert L. Lee, who has been nominated for Congress by one wing of the Union party of Kansas, is now doing duty as a cavalry commander in the Department of the Gulf.

THE WESTERN CONSPIRACY.

OFFICIAL EXPOSITION BY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL HOLT.

LATE TRIALS OF THE CONSPIRATORS IN MISSOURI AND ILLINOIS.

History of the Secret Orders of the Golden Circle, American Knights, and the Sons of Liberty.

THE PAW-PAWS, FLAT-FEET, AND BUTTERNUTS OF THE WEST.

Vallandigham Prime Commander of the Army of Judases.

THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK DAILY NEWS A RINGLEADER.

How Deserters from the United States Army were Encouraged and Protected; and how the Draft was Violently Resisted.

The Great Northern Spy Service, and Recruiting and Supply Agency for the Rebels.

THE DOCTRINE AND RITUAL OF OATH-BOUND PERFIDY, TREASON, AND ASSASSINATION.

Temples and Lodges of the Order Throughout the West and North.

Covert Villainy Armed, Equipped, Organized and Commanded.

PROPOSED REVOLUTION FOR A NORTH-WESTERN CONFEDERACY.

An Overwhelming Mass of Testimony from Members of the Order, Soldiers, and Government Detectives.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
BUREAU OF MILITARY JUSTICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 8, 1864.

Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

SIR: Having been instructed by you to prepare a detailed report upon the mass of testimony furnished me from different sources in regard to the *secret associations* and *conspiracies against the Government* formed, principally in the Western States, by traitors and disloyal persons, I have now the honor to submit as follows:

During more than a year past it has been generally known to our military authorities that a secret, treasonable organization, affiliated with the Southern rebellion, and chiefly military in its character, has been rapidly extending itself throughout the West. A variety of agencies, which will be specified herein, have been employed, and successfully, to ascertain its nature and extent, as well as its aims and its results; and, as this investigation has led to the arrest, in several States, of a number of its prominent members as dangerous enemies to their country, it has been deemed proper to set forth in full the acts and purposes of this organization, and thus to make known to the community at large its intensely treasonable and revolutionary spirit.

The subject will be presented under the following heads:

I. Its origin, history, names, &c.
II. Its organization and officers.
III. Its extent and numbers.
IV. Its armed force.
V. Its ritual, oaths, and interior forms.
VI. Its written principles.
VII. Its secret signs, passwords and operations.
VIII. The witnesses and their testimony.

I.—*ITS ORGIN, HISTORY, NAMES, ETC.*

This secret association first developed itself in the West in the year 1862, about the period of the first conscription of troops, which it aimed to obstruct and resist. Originally known in certain localities as the "Mutual Protection Society," the "Circle of Honor," or the "Circle" or "Knights of the Mighty Host," but more widely as the "Knights of the Golden Circle," it was officially reported, early in the rebellion, being little other than an extension among the disloyal and disaffected at the North of the association of the latter name, which had existed for many years at the South, and from which it derived all the chief features of its organization.

During the summer and fall of 1863 the Order, both at the North and South, underwent some modifications, as well as a change of name. In consequence of a partial exposure, which had been made of the signs and secret forms of the "Knights of the Golden Circle," Sterling Price had instituted as its successor in Missouri a secret political association, which he called the "Corps de Belgique" or "Southern League;" his principal coadjutor being Charles L. Hunt, of St. Louis, then Belgian Consul at that city, but whose *exequatur* was subsequently revoked by the President on account of his disloyal practices. The special object of the Corps de Belgique appears to have been to unite the rebel sympathizers of Missouri, with a view to their taking up arms and joining the Rebel Army, whenever the invasion of that State, and its their recruiting for his army in the interim.

Meanwhile, also, there had been instituted at the North, in the autumn of 1863, by prominent disloyal persons, prominent among whom were Vallandigham and P. C. Wright, of New York, a secret order, intended to be general throughout the country, and working out the same purposes, and adopting the more positive results than its predecessor, and which was termed, and has since been widely known as the O. A. K., or "*Order of American Knights.*"

The rituals in use in Illinois and Indiana, Provost Marshal General of the Department of Missouri, in his official report upon the progress of the order, that it was founded by Vallandigham during his banishment, and upon consultation at Richmond with Davis and other prominent traitors. It is, indeed, the boast of the order in Indiana and elsewhere, that its "ritual" came direct from Davis himself; and Mary Ann Pitman, formerly attached to the command of the rebel Price, and a most intelligent witness, whose testimony will be hereafter referred to, states positively that Davis is a member of the order.

Upon the institution of the principal organization, it is represented that the "Corps de Belgique" was modified by Price, and became a Southern section of the O. A. K., and that the new name was generally adopted for the order, both in the North and South.

The secret signs and character of the order having become known to our military authorities, further modifications in the ritual and forms were introduced, and its name was finally changed to that of the O. S. L., or "*Order of the Sons of Liberty*," or the "Knights of the Order of the Sons of Liberty." These latter changes are so recent that they have been first instituted, and the new ritual compiled, in the State of Indiana in May last, but the new name was at once generally adopted throughout the West, though in some places it is still known by the better known as the "Order of American Knights."

Meanwhile, also, the order has received certain local designations. In parts of Illinois it has been called at times the "Peace Organization;" in Kentucky the "Star Organization," and in Missouri as the "American Organization;" these, however, being apparently names used outside of the lodges of the order. Its members have also been popularly designated as "Butternuts" by the country people of Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio, and its separate lodges have also frequently received titles intended for the public ear; that in Chicago, for instance, being termed by its members the "Democratic Invincible Club," that in Louisville the "Democratic Reading Room," &c.

It is to be added that in the State of New York, and other parts of the North, the secret political association, known as the "*McClellan Minute Guard*," would seem to be a branch of the O. A. K., having substantially the same objects, to be accomplished, however, by means expressly suited to the localities in which it is established. For, as the Chief Secretary of this association, Dr. R. P. Stevens, stated in June last to reliable witnesses, whose testimony has been furnished, "those who represent the McClellan interest are compelled to preach a vigorous prosecution of the war, in order to secure the popular sentiment and allure voters."

II.—*ITS ORGANIZATION AND OFFICERS.*

From printed copies, heretofore seized by the Government, of the constitutions of the Supreme Council, Grand Council, and County Parent Temples, respectively, of the Order of Sons of Liberty, in connection with abundant testimony, we learn the organization of the order, in its latest form, is ascertained to be as follows:

1. The government of the order throughout the United States is vested in a supreme council, of which the officers are a supreme commander, secretary of state, and treasurer. These officers are elected for one year, at the annual meeting of the supreme council, which is made up of the grand commanders of the several States, *ex officio*, and two delegates elected from each State in which the order is established.

2. The jurisdiction of the order in a State is vested in a Grand Council, the officers of which are a Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, and a certain number of Major Generals, of one for each Military District. These officers also are elected annually by "representatives" from the County Temples, each Temple being entitled to two representatives, and one additional for each thousand members. This body representative is also invested with certain legislative functions.

3. The Parent Temple is the organization of the order for a county, each Temple being formally instituted by authority of the Supreme Council, or of the Grand Council or Grand Commander of the State. By the same authority, or by that of the officers of the Parent Temple, branch or subordinate temples may be established for townships in the county.

But the strength and significance of this organization lie in its *military* character. The secret constitution of the Supreme Council provides that the Supreme Commander "*shall be commander-in-chief of all military forces belonging to the order in the various States when called into actual service*;" and further, that the Grand Commanders "*shall be commanders-in-chief of the military forces of their respective States.*" Subordinate to the Grand Commander in the State are the "*Major Generals*," each of whom commands his separate district and army. In Indiana the Major Generals are twelve in number. In Illinois, where the organization of the Order is considered most perfect, the members in each Congressional District compose a "*brigade*," which is commanded by a "*Brigadier General*." The members of each county constitute a "*regiment*," with a "*colonel*" in command, and those of each township form a "*company*." In Indiana a similar system prevails in Indiana, where also each company is divided into "*squads*," each with its chief—an arrangement intended to facilitate the *guerilla* mode of warfare in case of a general outbreak or local disorder.

The "McClellan Minute Guard," as appears from a circular issued by the Chief Secretary in New York in March last, is organized upon a military basis similar to that of the order proper. It is composed of companies, one for each election district, ten of which constitute a "brigade," with a "brigadier general" at its head. The whole is placed under the authority of a "commander-in-chief." A strict obedience on the part of members to the orders of their superiors is enjoined.

The first "Supreme Commander" of the order was P. C. Wright, of New York, editor of the New York *News*, who was in May last placed in arrest and confined in Fort Lafayette. His successor in office was Vallandigham, who was elected at the annual meeting of the Supreme Council in February last. Robert Holloway, of Illinois, is represented to have acted as "Lieutenant General, or Deputy Supreme Commander, during the absence of Vallandigham from the country. The Secretary of State chosen at the last election was Dr. Massey, of Ohio.

In Missouri, the principal officers were Charles L. Hunt, grand commander, Charles E. Dunn, deputy grand commander, and Green B. Smith, grand secretary. Since the arrest of these three persons (all of whom have made confessions, which will be presently alluded to), James A. Barrett has, as it is understood, officiated as grand commander. He is stated to occupy also the position of chief of staff to the Supreme Commander.

The Grand Commander in Indiana, H. H. Dodd, has just been tried at Indianapolis by a military commission for "conspiracy against the Government," "violation of the laws of war," and other charges. The Deputy Grand Commander in that State is Horace Heffren, and the Grand Secretary, W. M. Harrison. The Major Generals are W. A. Bowles, John C. Walker, L. P. Milligan, and Andrew Humphreys. Among the other leading members of the order in that State are Dr. Athon, State Secretary, and Joseph Ristine, State Auditor.

The Grand Commander in Illinois is —— Judd, of Lewistown; and B. B. Piper, of Springfield, who is entitled "Grand Missionary" of the State, and designated also as a member of Vallandigham's staff, is one of the most active members, having been busily engaged throughout the summer in establishing temples and initiating members.

In Kentucky, Judge Bullitt, of the Court of Appeals, is grand commander, and, with Dr. U. F. Kalfus and W. R. Thomas, jailor in Louisville, two other of the most prominent members, has been arrested and confined by the military authorities. In New York, Dr. R. P. Stevens, the chief secretary of the McClellan Minute Guard, is the most active ostensible representative of the secret order.

The greater part of the chief and subordinate officers of the order and its branches, as well as the principal members thereof, are known to the Government, and, where not already arrested, may regard themselves as under a constant military surveillance. So complete has been the exposure of this secret league that, however frequently the conspirators may change its name, forms, passwords, and signals, its true purposes and operations can no longer be concealed from the military authorities.

It is to be remarked that the Supreme Council of the Order, which annually meets on February 22d, convened this year at New York city, and a special meeting was then appointed to be held at Chicago, on July 1, or just prior to the day then fixed for the convention of the Democratic party. This convention having been postponed to August 29, the special meeting of the Supreme Council was also postponed to August 27, at the same place, and was duly convened accordingly. It will be remembered that a leading member of the convention, in the course of a speech made before that body, alluded approvingly to the session of the Sons of Liberty at Chicago at the same time, as that of an organization in harmony with the sentiment and projects of the convention.

It may be observed, in conclusion, that one not fully acquainted with the true character and intention of the order might well suppose that, in designating its officers by high military titles, and in imitating in its organization that established in our armies, it was designed merely to render itself more popular and attractive with the masses, and to invest its chief with a certain sham dignity; but when it is understood that the conspirators think within itself a large army of well-armed men, constantly drilled and exercised as soldiers, and that this army is held ready at any time for such forcible resistance to the military authority, and such active co-operation with the public enemy as it may be called upon to engage in by its commanders, it will be perceived that the titles of the latter are not assumed for the purpose of deception, but that they are the chiefs of an actual and formidable force of conspirators against the life of the Government, and that their military system is, as it has been remarked by Colonel Sanderson, "the grand lever used by the rebel Government for its army operations."

III.—ITS EXTENT AND NUMBERS.

The "Temples" or "Lodges" of the order are numerously scattered through the States of Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Missouri, and Kentucky. They are also officially reported as established, to a less extent, in Michigan and the other Western States, as well as in New York, and also in Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, and Tennessee. Dodd, the Grand Commander of Indiana, in an address to the members of that State in February last, claims that at the next annual meeting of the Supreme Council (in February, 1865,) every State in the Union will be represented, and adds, "this is the first and only true national organization the Democratic and Conservative men of the country have ever attempted." A provision made in the Constitution of the Council for a representation from the *Territories* shows, indeed, that the widest extension of the order is contemplated.

In the States first mentioned the order is most strongly centred at the following places, where are situated its principal "temples:" In Indiana, at Indianapolis and Vincennes; in Illinois, at Chicago, Springfield, and Quincy (a large proportion of the lodges in and about the latter place having been founded by the notorious guerilla chief, Jackman); in Ohio, at Cincinnati, Dayton, and Athens county (which is proudly termed by members "the South Carolina of the North"); in Missouri, at St. Louis; in Kentucky, at Louisville; and in Michigan, at Detroit (whence communications were freely had by the leaders of the order with Vallandingham during his banishment, either by letters addressed to him through two prominent citizens and members of the order, or by personal interview at Windsor, C. W.) It is to be added that the regular places of meeting, as well as the principal rendezvous and haunts of the members in these and other important places, are generally well known to the Government.

The actual *numbers* of the order have, it is believed, never been officially reported, and cannot, therefore, be accurately ascertained. Various estimates have been made by leading members, some of which are no doubt considerably exaggerated. It has been asserted by delegates to the Supreme Council of February last, that the number was there represented to be from 800,000 to 1,000,000; but Vallandigham, in his speech last summer at Dayton, Ohio, placed it at 500,000, which is probably much nearer the true total. The number of its members in the several States has been differently estimated in the reports and statements of its officers. Thus, the force of the order in Indiana is stated to be from 75,000 to 125,000; in Illinois, from 100,000 to 140,000; in Ohio, from 80,000 to 100,000; in Kentucky, from 40,000 to 70,000; in Missouri, from 20,000 to 40,000; and in Michigan and New York, about 20,000 each. Its representation in the other States above mentioned does not materially appear from the testimony; but, allowing for every exaggeration in the figures reported, they may be deemed to present a totally hostile force within the States, to be regarded by the order as its true force in the States designated.

It is to be noted that the order, or its counterpart, is probably much more widely spread at the South even than at the North, and that a large proportion of the officers of the rebel army are represented by most reliable witnesses to be members. In Kentucky and Missouri the order is stated to be quite as numerous in its members, not only officers of that army, but also a considerable number of guerillas, a class who might be supposed to appreciate most readily its aims and purposes. It is believed by many that these latter fiendish ruffians were initiated into the first degree of the order in Kentucky.

IV.—ITS ARMED FORCE.

A review of the testimony in regard to the *armed* force of the order will materially aid in determining its real strength and numbers.

Although the order has, from the outset, partaken of the military character, it was not till the summer or fall of 1863 that it began to be generally organized as an armed body. Since that date its officers and leaders have been busily engaged in placing it upon a military basis, and in preparing it for a revolutionary movement. A general system of drilling has been instituted and secretly carried out. Members have been instructed to be constantly provided with weapons, and in some localities it has been absolutely required that each member should keep at his residence, at all times, certain arms and a specified quantity of ammunition.

In March last, the entire armed force of the order, capable of being mobilized for effective service, was represented to be 340,000 men. The details, however, upon which this statement was based are imperfectly set forth in the testimony, and it is not known how far this number may be exaggerated. It is abundantly shown, however, that the order, by means of a tax levied upon its members, has accumulated considerable funds for the purchase of arms and ammunition, and that these have been procured in large quantities for its use. The witness Clayton, on the trial of Dodd, estimated that *two-thirds* of the order are furnished with arms.

Green B. Smith, grand commander of the order in Missouri, states in his confession of July last: "I know that arms, mostly revolvers, and ammunition have been purchased by members in St. Louis to send to members in the country where they could not be had;" and he subsequently adds that he himself alone clandestinely purchased and forwarded, between April 15th and 10th last, about 200 revolvers, with 100 percussion caps and other ammunition. A muster roll of one of the country lodges of that State is exhibited, in which, opposite the name of each member, are noted certain numbers, under the heads of "Rifles," "Shotguns," "St. Louis Union," "Auzeiger," "Miscellaneous Periodicals," "Books," "Speeches," and "Reports" titles which, when interpreted, severally signify *single barrelled guns, double barrelled guns, revolvers, private ammunition, private lead, company powder, company lead*; the roll thus actually setting forth the amount of arms and ammunition in the possession of the lodge at the date thereof.

In the States of Ohio and Illinois the order is claimed by its members to be unusually well-armed, with revolvers, carbines, &c.; but it is in regard to arming of the order in Indiana that the principal statistics have been presented, and these may serve to illustrate the system which has probably been pursued in most of the States. One intelligent witness, who has been a member of the order, estimates that in March last there were in possession of the order in that State [illegible] 50,000 muskets and 60,000 revolvers, besides other private arms. Another member testifies that at a single lodge meeting of two hundred and fifty-two persons, which he attended early in the present year, the sum of $4,000 was subscribed for arms. Other members present statements in regard to the number of arms in their respective counties, and all agree in representing that these have been constantly forwarded from Indianapolis into the interior. Beck & Brothers is designated as the firm in that city to which most of the arms were consigned. These were shipped to various points in the East; some packages, however, were sent from Cincinnati, and some from Kentucky, and the boxes were generally marked "pink-axes," "hardware," "nails," "household goods," &c.

General Carrington estimates that in February and March last nearly 30,000 guns and revolvers entered the State, and this estimate is based upon an actual inspection of invoices. The true number introduced was therefore probably considerably greater. That officer adds that on the day on which the sale of arms was stopped by his order, in Indianapolis, nearly 1,000 additional revolvers had been contracted for, and that the trade could not supply the demand. He further reports that after the introduction of arms into the Department of the North had been prohibited in General Orders of March last, a seizure was made by the Government of a large quantity of revolvers and 136,000 rounds of ammunition, which had been shipped to the firm in Indianapolis, of which H. H. Dodd, Grand Commander, was a member; that other arms about to be shipped to the same destination were seized in New York city, and that all these were claimed as the private property of John C. Walker, one of the major generals of the order in Indiana, and were represented to have been "*purchased for a few friends.*" It is to be added that at the office of Hon. D. W. Voorhees, M. C., at Terre Haute, were discovered letters which disclosed a correspondence between him and ex-Senator Wall, of New Jersey, in regard to the purchase of 20,000 Garibaldi rifles, to be forwarded to the West.

It appears, in the course of the testimony, that a considerable quantity of arms and ammunition were brought into the State of Illinois from Burlington, Iowa, and that ammunition was shipped from New Albany, Indiana, into Kentucky; it is also represented that a large Enfield rifle has been arrested on his return to Ohio, it was contemplated furnishing the order with arms from a point in Canada near Windsor, where they were stored and ready for use.

There remains further to be noticed, in this connection, the testimony of Clayton upon the trial of Dodd, to the effect that arms were to be furnished the order from Nassau, N. P., by way of Canada; that, to defray the expense of these arms or their transportation, a formal assessment was levied upon the lodges, but that the transportation into Canada was actually to be furnished by the Confederate authorities.

A statement was made by Hunt, Grand Commander of Missouri, before his arrest, to a fellow-member, that shells and all kinds of munitions of war, as well as infernal machines, were manufactured for the order at Indianapolis; and the late discovery in Cincinnati of samples of hand-grenades, conical shells, and rockets, of which one thousand were about to be manufactured, under a special contract, for the C. S. L., goes directly to verify such a statement.

These details will convey some idea of the attempts which have been made to place the order upon a war footing and prepare it for aggressive movements. But, notwithstanding all the efforts that have been put forth, and with considerable success, to arm and equip its members as fighting men, the leaders of the order have felt themselves still very deficient in their armament, and numerous schemes for increasing their armed strength have been devised. Thus, at the time of the issuing of the general order in Missouri regulating the enrolment of all citizens, it was proposed in the lodges of the O. A. K., at St. Louis, that certain members should raise companies in the militia, in their respective wards, and thus get command of as many Government arms and equipments as possible for the future use of the order. Again it was proposed that all the members should enroll themselves in the militia instead of paying commutation, in this way obtaining possession of United States arms, and having the advantage of the drill and military instruction. In the councils of the order in Kentucky, in June last, a scheme was devised for disarming all the negro troops, which it was thought could be done without much difficulty, and appropriating their arms for the purposes of the order.

The despicable treachery of these proposed plans, as evinding the aims of the conspiracy, need not be commented upon.

It is to be observed that the order in the State of Missouri has counted greatly upon support from the militia, in case of an outbreak. Its Price, as containing many members and friends of the O. A. K.; and that the "Paw-Paw Militia," a military organization of Buchanan county, as well as the militia of Platte and Clay counties, known as "Flat Foots," have been relied upon, almost to a man, to join the revolutionary movement.

V.—ITS RITUAL, OATHS, AND INTERIOR FORMS.

The ritual of the order, as well as its secret signs, passwords, &c., has been fully made known to the military authorities. In August last one hundred and twelve copies of the ritual of the O. A. K. were seized in the office of Hon. D. W. Voorhees, M. C., at Terre Haute, and a large number of rituals of the O. S. L., together with copies of the constitutions of the councils, &c., already referred to, were