

THOMAS E. WEBER

Thomas E. Weber was born October 27, 1839, at Lionville, Chester County, Pa. He was educated in the common schools of West Chester, to which place his parents had removed in his boyhood, and in 1856 was apprenticed to the trade of plumber and gas fitter. While in this occupation at that place, in April, 1861, he enlisted in the Civil War as a private in Co. A, 9th Regt., P. V., for the term of three months. In August, 1861, he again enlisted for three years in Co. A, 97th Regt., P. V., and was appointed orderly-sergeant at the organization of the company. In May, 1862, he was promoted to 2nd lieutenant. During his engagement in the battle of James Island, S. C, he was wounded on June 9, 1862. He was transferred to the U. S. Signal Corps in February, 1863, and continued in that service until September 1, 1865, when he was mustered out of service and honorably discharged. He participated in the battles of Hilton Head, Morris Island, Jacksonville and Olustee, and generally in the engagements of the " Department of the South." In 1866, he settled at Reading and engaged in the business of plumbing and gas fitting, in which he has continued from that time until now. In 1869, he assisted in reorganizing the " Reading Rifles," a military company which had taken a prominent part through the entire Civil War, and was elected first lieutenant. Several months afterward he was promoted to captain. In 1874, he was elected major of the 4th Regt., N. G. P., and in 1875, lieutenant colonel. He resigned in April, 1877.

Brother Weber was made a Mason in Lodge No. 62, on November 2, 1868, and served as Worshipful Master in 1875. He has acted as one of the Trustees of the Lodge since 1892. He became a member of Excelsior Chapter, No. 237, R. A. M., on March 20, 1872, and has officiated as Secretary since 1879. He was knighted May 10, 1872, in Reading Commandery, No. 42, K. T., and served as Eminent Commander in 1880. For many years he has satisfactorily filled the position of Drill Master, and the successful evolutions of the Commandery at various conclaves have reflected great credit upon him.

The Worshipful Master appointed Brother Weber as one of the Centennial Committee of Arrangements, and in the organization of the Committee he was selected as Secretary. In the discharge of his duties he performed a great deal of labor, and the members of the Lodge are largely indebted to him for the successful celebration of the 100th Anniversary.