

1826
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND
CHAPTER
of
Royal Arch Masons
of
ALABAMA



A.D. 1826 / A.I. 2356

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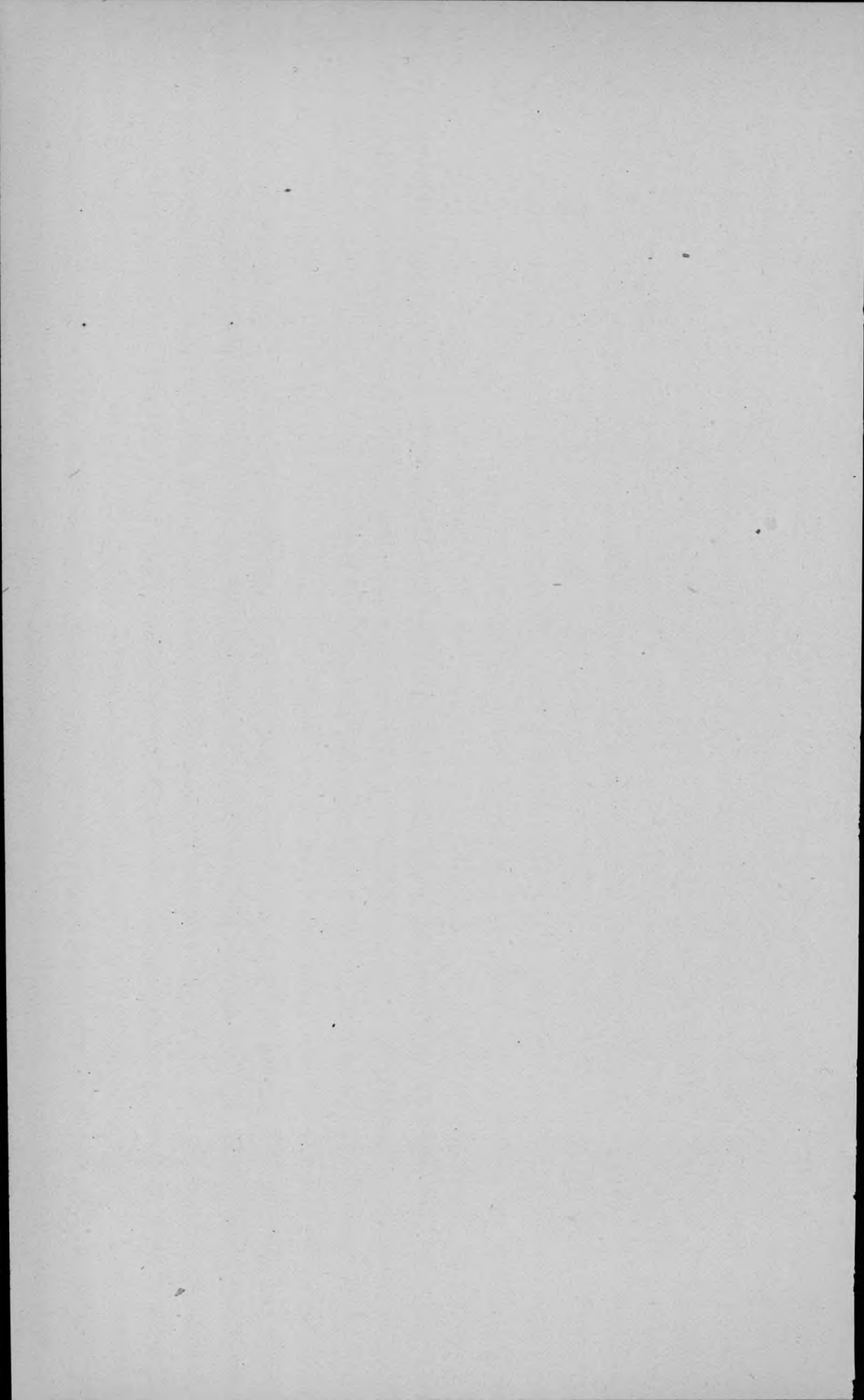
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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
THIRD ANNUAL CONVOCATION
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF THE
STATE OF ALABAMA
HELD IN THE CITY OF MOBILE, JANUARY, 1826.

MOBILE
PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE MOBILE COMMERCIAL REGISTER.
1826.



*Proceedings of the Third Annual Convocation of
the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of
Alabama, Held in the City of Mobile,
January, 1826.*

MOBILE MASONIC HALL, Monday, 2d January, 1826)
A. L. 5826, R. A. M. 2356.)

Pursuant to the first section of the 2nd Article of the Constitution of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama, the following Companions convened at the Masonic Hall, in the City of Mobile, on Monday, the 2nd day of January, 1826, viz:

Most Ex. Comp. JOHN ELLIOTT, D. G. H. P.

" H. P. BENHAM, H. P. Mobile Chap. No. 3.

" H. V. CHAMBERLAIN, K. Mobile Chap. No. 3

" T. SANFORD, P. H. P. Mobile Chap. No. 3.

" WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

There being but one Chapter represented, an adjournment took place until Wednesday morning, 11 o'clock, the 4th inst., when the same Companions, and Most Excellent Companion, A. M'Bryde, Scribe of Washington Chapter, No. 7, Montgomery, and proxy of Eunomia Chapter, No. 5, Huntsville, being present, it was determined to open a Grand Chapter.

Whereupon Most Ex. Comp. John Elliott, D. G. H. P. took the chair, and appointed: Ex. Comp. H. V. Chamberlain, K. Mobile Chapter, No. 3, G. K., p. t.; Ex. Comp. A. M'Bryde, P. H. P. Washington Chapter, No. 7, G. S., p. t.; Ex. Comp. H. P.

Benham, H. P. Mobile Chapter, No. 3, G. M., p. t.;
Ex. Comp. Thaddeus Sanford, P. H. P. Mobile
Chapter, No. 3, G. T., p. t.

The following Companions were permitted, by resolution, to take a seat in the Grand Chapter during the session, viz: Chester Root, William M'Culler, J. Wiswall and Seaborne Travis.

A Grand Royal Arch Chapter was then opened in due and ancient form.

The proceedings adopted at the two preceding convocations held at Tuscaloosa in June, and at Mobile, in January, 1825, were then read by the Grand Secretary.

On motion, it was resolved to appoint the following committees, to consist of three members, viz: on Credentials and Returns—On Accounts—On Communications—On By-Laws. When the D. G. H. P. made the following appointments:

ON CREDENTIALS AND RETURNS:—	{	Comp. A. M'Bryde,
		" H. P. Benham,
ON ACCOUNTS:—	{	" H. V. Chamberlain,
		" H. V. Chamberlain,
	{	" A. M'Bryde,
		" Wm. D. Stone.
ON COMMUNICATIONS:—	{	" A. M'Bryde,
		" H. V. Chamberlain,
	{	" H. P. Benham.
ON BY-LAWS:—	{	" A. M'Bryde,
		" Wm. D. Stone,
	{	" H. V. Chamberlain.

The Grand Chapter then adjourned until Friday evening, at early candle-light.

WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

MOBILE MASONIC HALL, Friday Evening, }
6th Jan. 1826,—R. A. M. 2356 }

The Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment; present all the members as on Wednesday.

The committee on Credentials and Returns made the following report; which was concurred in by the Grand Chapter.

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER, MOBILE, January 5, A. L. 5826.

The committee to whom was referred the Credentials and Returns of the several R. A. Chapters under this jurisdiction, beg leave to report, that Eunomia Chapter, No. 5, is duly represented by Comp. A. M'Bryde, their authorized proxy. That they have examined the returns of said Eunomia Chapter, No. 5, and find them according to the Book of Constitutions, regular and masonic. The exhibit of dues to the Grand Chapter, from Eunomia Chapter, amounting to seventy-four dollars and fifty cents.—And further, that they have examined the returns of Washington Chapter, No. 7, held at Montgomery, and find them in like manner regular and correct—the exhibit of dues to the Grand Chapter, from Washington Chapter, amounting to eleven dollars.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

A. M'BRYDE,	} Committee.
H. V. CHAMBERLAIN,	
H. P. BENHAM,	

An account of Mr. J. W. Townsend, for printing, amounting to forty dollars, together with other unsettled accounts of this Grand Chapter, were received and referred to the committee on accounts.

On motion,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed for the purpose of addressing the General Grand Chapter of the United States, on

the existing differences between the Monroe and Cahawba Chapters, and this Grand Chapter.

When Most Ex. Comp. the D. G. H. P., John Elliott, Ex. Comp. H. V. Chamberlain, Ex. Comp. H. P. Benham Ex. Comp. A. M'Bryde, and Ex. Comp. Wm. D. Stone, were appointed said committee.

On motion,

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter do now adjourn until tomorrow evening, at early candle-light.

WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

MOBILE MASONIC HALL, Saturday Evening, }
7th, January 1826, R. A. M. 2356. }

The Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment, present all the members as on yesterday evening.

The Grand Chapter being called to labour, on motion,

Resolved, That Companions Silas Dinsmore, Joseph King, and Usal Ogden, be admitted as visiting members, during the present session.

The committee to whom was referred the Credentials and Returns of Mobile Chapter, No. 3, made the following report, which was concurred in by the Grand Chapter, viz:

The committee of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama, to whom was referred the returns of the several Chapters under this jurisdiction, beg leave to report:

That they have received and examined the returns of the R. A. Chapter, No. 3, held in the city of Mobile, and find the

same regular and masonic—And further, that there appears to be due to the Grand Chapter aforesaid, from said Chapter, No. 3, the sum of thirty dollars and twenty-nine cents—And also, that they have received and examined the returns of Cyrus Chapter, No. 6, held at Florence, in the county of Lauderdale, made up to 16th June last, and find the same out of form, but correct in other respects—and further, that there appears to be due to the Grand Chapter aforesaid, from said Chapter, No. 6, the sum of thirty-four dollars, up to that time.

All of which is most respectfully submitted,

A. M'BRYDE,	} Committee.
H. V. CHAMBERLAIN,	
H. P. BENHAM,	

The committee on Communications and Returns to this Grand Chapter, made the following report, which was concurred in by the Grand Chapter, viz:

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA,

MOBILE, January, 1826.

The committee on Communications and Returns, to this Grand Chapter, beg leave to report, that they have duly considered the resolution and memorial of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Kentucky, having for its object "the dissolution of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States," for reasons therein set forth, and are of opinion that the general principles recognized and set forth in said communication are in accordance with our views of the objects of the institution, and highly creditable to the source from whence they emanated; but we are of opinion that the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter ought not to be dissolved for the following reasons, viz:

1st. That all well regulated societies must have a supreme head, to whom they can appeal in case of difference, and we consider the said General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, well constituted for this purpose.

2nd. That the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, has, and of right ought to have, the power to

establish a uniform system of government, and work, throughout the different State Grand Chapters, whereby no embarrassment will occur to a visiting companion in a strange land.

For these and *other* reasons which might be urged, your committee are of opinion, that the said General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, ought not to be dissolved.

Respectfully submitted,

A. M'BRYDE,

H. V. CHAMBERLAIN,

H. P. BENHAM,

Committee.

On motion of Comp. M'Bryde, proxy of Eunomia Chapter, No. 5, of Huntsville, the following resolution was offered:

That the dues from said Chapter, in consequence of its having expended its funds, in the erection of a Masonic Hall in the town of Huntsville, be remitted.

The question being put by the D. G. H. P., it was decided in the negative by the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Secretary reported, that he had attended to the several duties assigned him by the Grand Chapter, at the last annual convocation at Mobile, viz:

Having the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, held at Tuscaloosa, in June, and at Mobile, in January, 1825, printed and forwarded to the several Grand Officers and subordinate Chapters throughout this State, as well as the several State Grand Chapters; as also certain resolutions adopted at the 2nd annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, held at Mobile, in January last, relative to the differences existing between the Cahaba and Monroe Chapters, and this Grand Chapter, and its subordinate Chapters, which said resolutions and proceedings he forwarded to the said Cahaba and Monroe Chapters, from which Chapters no reply or communications have been received.

On motion,

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter do now adjourn until Monday evening next, at early candle-light.

WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

MOBILE MASONIC HALL, Monday Evening, }
9th January, 1826, R. A. M. 2356. }

The Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment.

There not being members sufficient to open, the adjournment was continued until to-morrow evening at three o'clock, P. M.

WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

MOBILE MASONIC HALL, Tuesday, }
10th Jan. 1826, R. A. M. 2356. }

The Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment—present the officers and members as on Saturday last.

The Grand Chapter was called from adjournment to labor.

On motion,

Resolved, That Companions A. Pfister and Housman, be admitted as visiting members during the present session.

On motion of Most Ex. Comp. A. M'Bryde, proxy of Eunomia Chapter, No. 5, held at Huntsville, the following resolution was introduced:

"That the 2nd Article, 1st Section of the Constitution for the government of the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama, which provides that the Grand Chapter shall be holden on the first Monday of January, annually, at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Mobile, and third Monday in June, at Tuscaloosa, for the purpose of transacting business, be so altered and amended, as to read, that the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama, shall sit annually at the seat of Government, that the first session thereof, after the adoption of this amendment, shall be holden at the town of Tuscaloosa, on the first Monday of December, 1827, and on the first Monday in December in each and every year thereafter.

Which said resolution, pursuant to the IV Article, Sec. 14, of the said Constitution, was ordered to be spread on the minutes of this Grand Chapter, and to lie over for its consideration until the next annual session of the Grand Chapter at Mobile.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary, be allowed twenty dollars for his services during the preceding year.

On motion,

Resolved, That Companion T. Sanford, be added to the committee, appointed to address the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, upon existing differences between the Monroe and Cahaba Chapters, and this Grand Chapter.

On motion,

Resolved, That the defaulting Chapters are required to forward their dues to the Grand Secretary, on or before the first Monday of June next, and that the Grand Secretary be required to address them on that subject.

On motion of Companion M'Bryde, proxy of Eunomia Chapter, No. 5, Huntsville, the following resolution was offered:

That no subordinate Chapter, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, shall be authorized to exalt any brother to the sublime degree of a Royal Arch Mason, who has not attained the age of twenty-five years.

The question being put by the D. G. H. P. it was decided in the negative by the Grand Chapter.

The committee on accounts made the following report, viz:

MOBILE MASONIC HALL, January, 1826, A. L. 5826.

The committee on accounts to whom was referred the several unsettled accounts of this Grand Chapter, beg leave to report:

That they have examined the account of Mr. J. W. Townsend, for printing, amounting to forty dollars, and find it correct; that they have examined the account of Comp. Charles Steele, for guarding this Grand Chapter, amounting to twenty-one dollars, and find it correct; that they have examined the account of Comp. A. M'Bryde, representative of Washington Chapter, No. 7, Montgomery, for traveling expenses, and attendance upon this Grand Chapter the present meeting, amounting to thirty-four dollars, and find it correct; that they have examined the accounts of Comp. John H. Vincent, late Grand Treasurer, and find that he has paid over to Comp. Henry A. Snow, of Tuscaloosa, Grand Treasurer, the sum of ninety-one dollars, which was the balance in his hands due to this Grand Chapter; that they have examined the accounts of Comp. Jno. B. Hogan, late Grand Secretary, and find them correct, and that there is a balance due from him to this Grand Chapter, amounting to forty-seven dollars, seventy-five cents; and that they have examined the account current of Comp. William D. Stone, Grand Secretary, and find it correct, and that there is a balance in his hands, amounting to sixteen dollars, due to this Grand Chapter.

A. M'BRYDE,	{ Committee.
WM. D. STONE,	
H. V. CHAMBERLAIN,	

Which report was concurred in, and the several amounts due from this Grand Chapter ordered to be paid.

On motion,

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter do now go into an election for Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

Whereupon the following Companions were declared duly elected, viz:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| M. E. C. NIMROD. E. BENSON, | of Montgomery, | G. H. P. |
| " | JOHN ELLIOTT, | of Mobile, D. G. H. P. |
| " | HARRY I. THORNTON, | of Huntsville, G. K. |
| " | THADDEUS SANFORD, | of Mobile, G. Scribe. |
| " | A. M'BRYDE, | of Montgomery, G. Treasurer. |
| " | WM. D. STONE, | of Mobile, Grand Secretary. |
| " | SAMUEL H. GARROW, | of Mobile, { |
| " | B. B. FONTAINE, | of Tuscaloosa, { G. Marshals. |
| " | CHAS. STEELE, | of Mobile, G. Tyler. |

On motion,

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter do now go into the installation of the Grand Officers, elect, for the ensuing year—

Whereupon the Most Ex. John Elliott, D. G. H. P. of the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama, installed by proxy—the Most Ex. Nimrod E. Benson, G. H. P. of said Grand Chapter; Most Ex. H. P. Benham, H. P. Mobile Chapter, No. 3, then installed the Most Ex. John Elliott, Dep. Grand High Priest, of said Grand Chapter.—The D. G. H. P. Most Ex. John Elliott, then installed by proxy, Comp. Harry I. Thornton, of Huntsville, Grand King—by proxy, Most Ex. Comp. T. Sanford, of Mobile, Grand Scribe—Ex. Comp. A. M'Bryde, of Montgomery, Grand Treasurer—Ex. Comp. Wm. D. Stone, of Mobile, as Grand Secretary—by proxy

Companions Samuel H. Garrow, of Mobile, and B. B. Fontaine, of Tuscaloosa, Grand Marshals—Companion Chas. Steele, as Grand Tyler.

On motion,

Resolved, That the foregoing proceedings of this Grand Chapter, be printed, under the direction of the D. G. H. P. and Grand Secretary.

Nothing further appearing before the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama, the foregoing proceedings were read and approved. This said Grand Chapter was then closed, with the usual solemnities.

WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

The following is a list of Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

TUSCALOOSA CHAPTER, No. 1—No return received.

MOBILE CHAPTER, No. 3.

Meets in Mobile on the first Monday in each Month.

M. E. Henry P. Benham, H. P. E. Henry V. Chamberlain, K.
E. Thad. Sanford, Scribe.

EUNOMIA CHAPTER, No. 5.

Meets in Huntsville on the first Saturday in each Month.

M. E. Harry I. Thornton, High Priest. E. Jno. Martin, King.
E. William Feeney, Scribe.

CYRUS CHAPTER, No. 6.

Held at Florence, in the county of Lauderdale on the third
Thursday of each Month.

M. E. J. H. Weakley, H. Priest. E. Alex. H. Hood, King.
E. Thomas West, Scribe.

WASHINGTON CHAPTER, No. 7.

Held at Montgomery on the first Saturday of each Month.

M. E. Nimrod E. Benson, H. Priest. E. C. Billingslea, King.
E. A. M'Bryde, Scribe.

The following Chapters paid up their contributions for the preceding year:

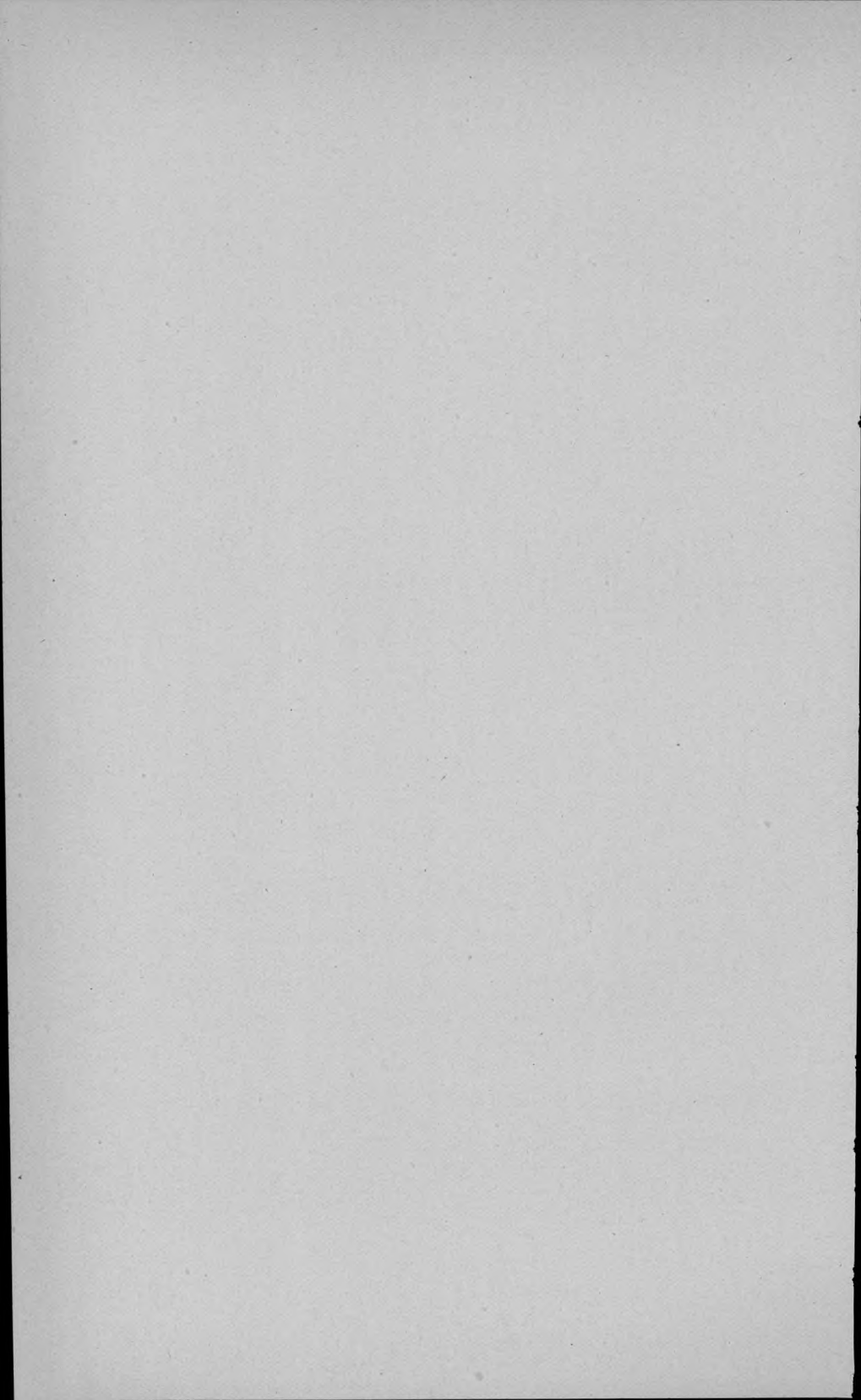
Mobile Chapter, No. 3-----	\$30 20
Washington Chapter, No. 7-----	11 00
	\$41 20

N. B. All communications intended for the Grand Chapter of Alabama, addressed to William D. Stone, Mobile, Alabama.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
THIRD ANNUAL CONVOCATION
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF THE
STATE OF ALABAMA,

BEGAN AND HELD AT THE MASONIC HALL, IN THE
TOWN OF TUSCALOOSA, ON THE 19TH DAY
OF JUNE, A. D. 1826—A. L. 5826.

MOBILE:
PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE MOBILE COMMERCIAL REGISTER.
1826.



PROCEEDINGS, &c.

At a Grand Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama, began and held at the Masonic Hall, in the town of Tuscaloosa, on the 19th day of June, A. D. 1826, A. L. 5826.

PRESENT:

- M. E. NIMROD E. BENSON, Grand High Priest.
DUGALD M'FARLANE, P. G. H. & G. K., p. t.
JOHN B. HOGAN, P. G. Sec'y & G. S., p. t.
WM. D. STONE, G. Sec'y. & Representative of Mobile Chapter No. 3, and of M. Ex. John Elliott, D. G. H. P.
Ex. Comp. HENRY STRAUSE, Representative of Cyrus Chapter, No. 6, G. Treasurer, p. t.
HENRY A. SNOW, P. G. Treasurer.
EDW. W. THOMPSON, Representative of Washington Chapter, No. 7, Montgomery, & of M. E. A. M'Bryde, Grand Treasurer.
Z. B. SNOW, Sec'y of Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1.
J. B. PASS, of Franklin Chapter, No. 5, Eatonton, Ga.
G. W. CRAIN, of Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1.
SMITH WILLIAMS, Grand Tyler, p. t.

The Grand Secretary having examined the several credentials presented by the above named delegates, reported that they were each and every one entitled to a seat in the Grand Chapter, and there being a sufficient number of Chapters represented, it was determined to open a Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

Whereupon the Most Ex. Dugald M'Farlane, P. G. H. P. took the chair, and opened the Grand Chapter in due and ancient form.

The proceedings of the previous meeting, held at Mobile, on the first Monday of January, A. D. 1826, was then read by the Grand Secretary.

On motion,

Resolved, That Most Ex. Nimrod E. Benson, G. H. P. be installed in person.

Whereupon the Most Ex. Dugald M'Farlane, P. G. H. P. duly installed Most Ex. N. E. Benson, G. H. P. with the usual solemnities.

On motion, it was resolved to appoint the following committees, viz :

ON CREDENTIALS AND RETURNS:—Wm. D. Stone, B. B. Fontaine, D. M'Farlane.

ON ACCOUNTS:—E. W. Thompson, H. A. Snow, Henry Strause

ON COMMUNICATIONS:—John B. Hogan, Geo. W. Crain, Wm. D. Stone.

ON BY-LAWS:—Henry Strause, E. W. Thompson, G. W. Crain

The Grand Secretary reported that he had received a communication from Monroe Chapter, with a remonstrance from said Chapter to the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, which was read, and on motion referred to a select committee, consisting of Companions J. B. Hogan, Wm. D. Stone, and D. M'Farlane.

On motion,

Resolved, That the presiding officer, the most Ex. Nimrod E. Benson, be added to said committee.

On motion,

Resolved, That the following companions be admitted as visiting members during the present session: Vis. Comp. G. W. Crain, Z. B. Snow, J. B. Pass, Wm. P. Gould and Henry A. Snow.

The meeting then adjourned until to-morrow evening, at early candle-light.

WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

MASONIC HALL, TUSCALOOSA, }
Tuesday Evening, June 20, 1826. }

The Grand Chapter met agreeable to adjournment.

PRESENT:

M. E. N. E. BENSON, G. H. P.

D. M'FARLANE, P. G. H. P. & G. K., p. t.

SETH BARTON, H. P. Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1,
G. S. p. t.

WM. D. STONE, G. Secretary.

Ex. Comp. E. W. THOMPSON, G. Treasurer, p. t.

B. B. FONTAINE, G. M. }
Ex. Comp. STRAUSE, } Delegates Cyrus Chapter.
S. S. WILLIAMSON, G. T., p. t.

VISITING COMPANIONS.

G. W. Crain, J. B. Pass, and others.

The committee on By-Laws made the following report:—

TUSCALOOSA MASONIC HALL, June 1826, A. L. 5826.

The committee on By-Laws, to whom the same was referred beg leave to report, that they have had the same under con-

sideration and find nothing to require their attention or any alterations necessary to be made.

Which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY STRAUSE,	}	Committee.
E. W. THOMPSON,		
G. W. CRAIN,		

The committee on credentials and returns made the following report:—

TUSCALOOSA MASONIC HALL, Tuesday Evening.

June 20, 1826—A. L. 5826.

The committee to whom was referred the credentials and returns of the several subordinate Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, beg leave to report that they have received and examined the credentials and returns of Tuscaloosa Chapter No. 1, and find them according to the Book of Constitutions, regular and Masonic. The exhibit of dues from said Chapter to this Grand Chapter from 14th of June, 1824, to 12th June, 1826, amounting to forty-two dollars.

That they had received and examined the credentials and returns of Cyrus Chapter, No. 6, held at the town of Florence, and find them according to the Book of Constitutions, regular and Masonic. Your Committee is satisfied that Ex. Comp. Henry Strause is the regular delegate of said Chapter, and the amount of dues from it to this Grand Chapter to be seventy-two dollars.

That they have received and examined the credentials of Mobile Chapter, No. 3, and your committee is satisfied that Most Ex. Comp. Wm. D. Stone is the regular delegate and representative of said Chapter, and also the regular delegate and representative of Most Ex. Comp. John Elliott, of Mobile, D. G. H. P.

And that they have received and examined the credentials of Washington Chapter, No. 7, Montgomery, and your committee is satisfied that Comp. Edward W. Thompson is the regular delegate and representative of said Chapter, and also the

regular delegate and representative of Most Ex. Comp. A. M'Bryde, Grand Treasurer of this Grand Chapter.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

WM. D. STONE,	}	Committee.
D. M'FARLANE,		
B. B. FONTAINE,		

Which report was concurred in by the Grand Chapter.

On motion,

Resolved, That Comp. Seth Barton be added to the select committee on the communication and remonstrance to the General Grand Chapter of the United States from the Monroe Chapter.

On motion,

Resolved, That fifty copies of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter be printed under the direction of the Grand Secretary, and that each Chapter be furnished with three copies, and each Grand Officer with one.

The Grand Chapter then adjourned until to-morrow evening, at early candle-light.

WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

MASONIC HALL, TUSCALOOSA, }
Wednesday Evening, June 21, 1826. }

The Grand Chapter met agreeable to adjournment.

PRESENT:

M. E. NIMROD E. BENSON, G. H. P.

D. M'FARLANE, P. G. H. P., G. K., p. t.

JOHN B. HOGAN, G. Scribe, p. t.

E. W. THOMPSON, Grand Treasurer, p. t.

WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

B. B. FONTAINE, Grand Marshal.

REV. WM. M. CURTIS, Grand Chaplain, p. t.

Ex. Comps. SETH BARTON,

HENRY STRAUSE,

J. MURPHY,

GEO. W. CRAIN.

The Grand Chapter was called from adjournment to labor, and an impressive prayer delivered by the Rev. Mr. Curtis, G. C., p. t.

The committee on credentials and returns report:

That they have received and examined the credentials of Eunomia Chapter, No. 5, Huntsville, and is satisfied that Ex. Comp. B. B. Fontaine is the regular delegate and representative of said Chapter.

Which report was unanimously concurred in.

On motion of Comp. B. B. Fontaine, proxy of Eunomia Chapter, No. 5, Huntsville, the following resolution was introduced:

"That the 4th article and 3rd section of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama, which provides that for the Degree of Mark Master, whether in Chapter or Lodge, not less than twenty dollars to be paid into the treas-

ury thereof, be so altered that the degree of Mark Master may be conferred for ten, and that of Royal Arch for twenty dollars."

Which said resolution, pursuant to the 4th article and 14th section of the said constitution was ordered to be spread upon the minutes of this Grand Chapter, and lie over for its consideration until the next annual session of the Grand Chapter, at Mobile.

On motion,

Resolved, That our Rev. Companion, Wm. M. Curtis, be requested to attend our meetings during the present session of this Grand Chapter, and officiate as Grand Chaplain, p. t.

On motion,

Resolved, That all Royal Arch Masons now in this town, who are of regular standing, be permitted to take seats in this Grand Chapter during the present session.

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Comp. Seth Barton :

WHEREAS a difference of opinion has existed as to the mode of conferring the degree of Past Master in some of the subordinate Chapters, and whereas this Grand Chapter deems it advisable, in order to establish an uniformity and correctness of working to express its opinion upon the subject.

Be it therefore Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, the degree of Past Master can only be conferred in a regular Lodge or Convocation of Past Masters, duly assembled and empowered to work in that degree; and that this Grand Chapter will hereafter consider the conferring said degree in any other manner as unmasonic, against ancient usage, and therefore irregular.

Which preamble and resolution was concurred in by the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter was then adjourned until to-morrow evening, 4 o'clock P. M.

WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

TUSCALOOSA MASONIC HALL, Thursday Evening, }
June 22, 1826. }

The Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment.

There not being sufficient number of members present, the adjournment was continued until to-morrow evening, at early candle-light.

WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

TUSCALOOSA MASONIC HALL, Friday Evening, }
June 23, 1826. }

The Grand Chapter met agreeable to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. E. NIMROD E. BENSON, G. H. P.

D. M'FARLANE, P. G. H. P., G. K., p. t.

JOHN B. HOGAN, G. S., p. t.

WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

E. W. THOMSON, G. Treasurer, p. t.

B. B. FONTAINE, G. Marshal.

Ex. Comp. S. S. WILLIAMSON, G. T., p. t.

S. L. PERRY,

SETH BARTON,

——— DRISH.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Most Ex. Comp. T. Sandford, Grand Scribe of this Grand Chapter be appointed delegate to repre-

sent this Grand Chapter in the General Grand Chapter of the United States, at the septennial meeting, to be holden at the City of New York, on the first Thursday in September next; and that the Grand Secretary notify him of his appointment.

The committee on accounts made the following report, viz:

TUSCALOOSA MASONIC HALL,

June 23, 1826—A. L. 5826.

The committee on accounts, to whom the same was referred, beg leave to report as follows:

That they have received and examined the following accounts, and find them correct, viz: An account of Most Ex. Nimrod E. Benson, Grand High Priest, for traveling expenses and attendance on this Grand Chapter during the present meeting, amounting to twenty-two dollars.

An account of Companion Edward W. Thompson, proxy of Washington Chapter No. 7, Montgomery, for traveling expenses and attendance as aforesaid, amounting to twenty-two dollars.

An account of Comp. Wm. D. Stone, Grand Secretary, for traveling expenses and attendance as aforesaid, amounting to thirty-two dollars.

An account of Comp. Henry Strause, proxy of Cyrus Chapter, No. 6, Florence, for traveling expenses and attendance as aforesaid, amounting to twenty-two dollars, and an account of Comp. Smith S. Williamson, as Grand Tyler, p. t., for services, &c., as aforesaid, for sixteen dollars, 6 14 cents.

All of which is most respectfully submitted,

E. W. THOMPSON,	{	Committee.
HENRY STRAUSE,		

Which report was unanimously concurred in, and the several amounts ordered to be paid.

The committee to whom was referred the communication and remonstrance of Monroe Chapter to the General Grand Chapter of the United States,

upon the subject of differences existing between said Monroe Chapter and this Grand Chapter, beg leave to make the following report:

The special committee, to whom was referred the remonstrance of Monroe Chapter, addressed to the General Grand Chapter of the United States and forwarded to the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter, in pursuance of a resolution of Monroe Chapter, have had the same under consideration and respectfully submit the following

REPORT:

That on the 1st of January, 1822, there existed in the State of Alabama two Chapters, constituted by a warrant of Constitution from the General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. These were Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1, and Alabama Chapter, No. 2. By the same authority, Mobile Chapter was constituted on the 22d of March, 1822, and Monroe Chapter (at Claiborne, Ala.) was organized some time in the winter of 1822 and 1823. A short time previous to the expiration of *the year* after the establishment of Mobile Chapter, to-wit: in February, 1822, resolutions were adopted (without any previous official concert with each other) by Tuscaloosa and Alabama Chapters, for the purpose of concerting measures preliminary to the formation of a State Grand Chapter for the State of Alabama, and Mobile Chapter shortly after adopted similar resolutions. Each of the said Chapters forwarded copies of their respective resolutions to each other, and also to Monroe Chapter. All concurred in the general design, though there was a diversity of opinion as to the time and place of organizing the Grand Chapter. Each of the three eldest Chapters proposed the towns in which their Chapters were respectively holden as the points of meeting. Finally, Alabama Chapter, animated as we believe by a proper spirit of accommodation, proposed to Mobile Chapter, "*that should a different time and place suit the convenience of Mobile Chapter, they requested the Mobile Chapter to name it.*" Accord-

ingly, on the 10th of April, 1823, Mobile Chapter adopted resolutions, proposing Mobile as the place, and the 4th Monday of that month as the time of meeting, and forwarded copies of those resolutions to the other Chapters. On the 22d of April, Tuscaloosa Chapter passed resolutions concurring in the resolutions of Mobile Chapter, except as to the time of meeting, which Tuscaloosa Chapter altered to the 3rd Monday of the ensuing May, and forwarded notice of the same to the other Chapters.

On the 19th day of May, (being the 3rd Monday), 1823, the following delegates assembled in the Masonic Hall, at the City of Mobile, viz: Dugald McFarlane, H. P. of Tuscaloosa Chapter, and Wm. Armstrong and John H. Vincent, delegates from said Chapter, and John Elliott, H. P. of Mobile Chapter, and John B. Hogan and H. V. Chamberlain, delegates from Mobile Chapter. No delegates appeared either from Alabama or Monroe Chapters. The meeting was organized and adjourned until next day, for the purpose of giving further time for the delegates from those Chapters to arrive. On the 20th of May, the said delegates again assembled, and no delegate appearing from either Alabama or Monroe Chapters, the meeting being wholly unapprized whether the failure proceeded from accident or otherwise, Alabama Chapter having recorded and published its assent to the formation of a State Grand Chapter and never having withdrawn it, so far as the delegates from the other Chapters were informed, and having also consented that Mobile Chapter should name the time and place; which was done and notice given said Chapters and the others of the same; the said delegates believed themselves empowered to adopt, and did adopt accordingly, resolutions expressive, 1st, of their competency to form a Grand Chapter for the State of Alabama, and 2nd, of their determination that the High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the said four Chapters should be members of said Chapter, *"provided that Alabama and Monroe Chapters should give their assent to the proceedings of said delegates within a reasonable time."* A committee was accordingly appointed to draft a Constitution. On the 21st of May, the committee reported a Constitution, which, with some amendments, was adopted.

On the 22d of May, the same delegates assembled, and proceeded to elect the State Grand Officers, and the following Companions were duly elected, viz: Dugald McFarlane, H. P. of Tuscaloosa Chapter, G. H. P., John Elliott, H. P. of Mobile Chapter, D. G. H. P., Horatio G. Perry, of Alabama Chapter, G. K., Wm. B. Patton, H. P. of Monroe Chapter, G. S., John B. Hogan, of Mobile, Chapter, Grand Secretary, John H. Vincent, of Tuscaloosa Chapter, G. Treasurer, Wm. Armstrong, of Tuscaloosa Chapter, and H. V. Chamberlain, of Mobile Chapter, Grand Marshals. On the 3d of June, *nine or more* regular Companions Royal Arch Masons assembled in said Masonic Hall, where the Grand Chapter was opened in ancient form, and the Grand Officers duly installed. Since which time the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama has been and continues under efficient organization. Its proceedings have been approved of by the General Grand High Priest; it has been in regular, systematic operation; it has granted dispensations and warrants of constitution to several subordinate Chapters within this jurisdiction; exercises a controlling superintendence over all the subordinate Chapters of this State (*Alabama and Monroe Chapters only excepted*), who, on their parts, recognize its jurisdiction and submit to its authority; and all of which subordinate Chapters have become and continue constituent members of the Grand Chapter. These facts, appear to the committee to be all in any wise material to a thorough understanding of the incidents growing out of the establishment of this Grand Chapter, and of the causes which have so unhappily disturbed the harmony which should always exist between the Grand and subordinate Chapters.

As the remonstrance referred to the committee contains, it is presumed, a full statement of the grievances complained of, and as it asserts that their objections to the establishment of this Grand Chapter have never been aswered or attempted to be answered, the committee have deemed it advisable to examine somewhat in detail those objections contained in the remonstrance, which have not been already sufficiently answered by the above summary of facts. Without exactly adopting the

words, or professing a precise enumeration of the objections in the remonstrance, we think we may safely maintain, that those which remain to be answered resolve themselves into one or the other of the following propositions: 1st, That the delegates assembled were incompetent to the organization of this Grand Chapter. 2dly, That the Constitution of this Grand Chapter was a conditional one, and the condition failing it was thereby annulled. And 3dly, That this Grand Chapter improperly interdicted masonic intercourse between the members of its subordinate Chapters and Lodges, and the members of the Alabama and Monroe Chapters.

Let us consider, then, in the first place, the imputed incompetency of the delegates. The remonstrance maintains the affirmative of this proposition on two grounds; the one is that two Chapters cannot form a Grand Chapter, when there are four Chapters in the State, and the other is, that six masons cannot form a Chapter. The authority for the formation of State Grand Chapters is derived from the 11th section of the second article of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and is in these words: "Whenever there shall have been three or more Royal Arch Chapters instituted in any State, by virtue of authority derived from this Constitution, a Grand Chapter may be formed in such State (with the approbation of one or more of the General Grand Officers) by the High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the said Chapters, who shall be authorized to elect the Grand Officers. Provided always, that no new State Grand Chapter shall be formed until after the expiration of one year from the establishment of the Junior Chapter in said State." It is manifestly clear, that at the time of the formation of this Grand Chapter there were only three Chapters in the State to whom the privileges of this provision extended, because there were only three which had been established more than *one year* previous, viz: Tuscaloosa, Alabama and Mobile Chapters. If any one of the three Chapters had been dissolved, the formation of a State Grand Chapter, previous to the constitutional maturity of Monroe Chapter, would have been expressly prohibited, by the provisions of said

section. Undoubtedly then, the existence of Monroe Chapter at that time, and while subjected to the disability of a probationary infancy, could contribute nothing to the privilege or authority of forming this Grand Chapter. Whether it existed or did not exist, while its rights and immunities were inchoate and imperfect (quoad the formation of this Grand Chapter) could have had no bearing on the question, either of expediency or power. It had *no right* to be represented; and so far as *it* was concerned, it had no right to complain of, or power to redress, the imputed irregularity of forming this Grand Chapter without or even against its approbation. The committee are hence led to believe that Monroe Chapter, *which originated this remonstrance*, so far from having just grounds of complaint, is really indebted to the unprecedented courtesy of the other Chapters for an invitation to participate in deliberations from which it was undoubtedly excluded by constitutional restraints and disabilities. Indeed it appears to the committee that if there has been any irregularity deserving of notice in the proceedings of the other Chapters and their delegates, it was that of inviting Monroe Chapter to be represented at the meeting, and of electing and installing in office the H. P. of that Chapter as one of the grand officers. If the reasoning which has been employed upon this part of the subject be sound, and there were virtually at the time but three Chapters in the State authorized to participate in the formation of the Grand Chapter, we might safely resort to the remonstrance itself to establish the conclusion to which we are arriving. The terms of its proposition is, not that two Chapters cannot form a Grand Chapter, but that they cannot do it, where there are four Chapters in the State. It implies that (in the opinion of the authors of the remonstrance) two Chapters *can form* a Grand Chapter, in cases where there are *only three Chapters in the State*. For since more than four Chapters being in the State would diminish the propriety and authority of two acting for all, so two only or less than two existing in the State, are emphatically disqualified from forming a Grand Chapter, by force of the 11th section; and unless the remonstrance intended to admit that

two Chapters are empowered to form a Grand Chapter, where there are only three Chapters in the State, we confess it is beyond our discernment to detect the object or meaning of the qualification, which accompanies the proposition. If it be meant that two Chapters cannot form a Grand Chapter, under the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, under no circumstances, why not say so? Why say more, if more is not meant? We may then re-affirm that virtually there were but three Chapters at the time of the formation of this Grand Chapter; and we cordially unite in the opinion implied in the remonstrance, that two Chapters can form a Grand Chapter where there are only three Chapters in the State; or what, in the opinion of the committee, amounts to the same thing, where there are only three which have arrived at constitutional maturity. However, that we may not be charged with resting our conclusions upon the unguarded concessions of others, let us examine the 11th section further, to ascertain if there be any thing there which conflicts with our conclusions. It will hardly be asserted that there are any positive requirements in this section, by which *all* the High Priests, Kings and Scribes *must be present* at the formation of a Grand Chapter, or that, if they are, that they must be *unanimous*, in order to give a validity to what is done. Let us suppose that this section had required that there should be ten or more Chapters in a State, in order to form a Grand Chapter, and that there had been eleven Chapters in this State previous to the formation of the State Grand Chapter, and that in pursuance of notice and resolutions of concurrence, ten Chapters should convene, and that the eleventh should either decline from indifference, fail from accident, or refuse from obstinacy; would it be in the power of one to defeat the laudable designs of the rest? This may be called an extreme case—we admit it. But so is the one under consideration. They are in principle the same; and the principle in both is, that a minority can control. We should think it a safe rule in all cases, that where authority was conferred on several persons, and no explicit direction given as to the mode of its exercise, that a majority of those

persons, and not less, should constitute a quorum, to give effect to the authority which was deputed to all. In the formation of this Grand Chapter, the delegates convened constituted not barely a quorum, but a majority of two thirds of all empowered to assemble. If it required that *all* should meet, why not require farther that *all* should agree? That what should not be unanimously adopted should not be adopted at all? For if some may stay away, to defeat an object, why may not others for the same purpose? But what seems to be contended for in the remonstrance is that all must be represented; though when all are convened a majority must govern. Which amounts to this, that if the Alabama Chapter had been represented, whatever course it might have thought proper to have pursued, it would have legalized the proceedings of the other Chapters. Let us suppose, for a moment, that if that Chapter had been present it would have opposed the formation of the Grand Chapter altogether—if the other two Chapters were united in its favor, the efforts of that Chapter would have been utterly ineffectual. And yet the argument is that that Chapter has effected by staying away, what all its opposition could not have accomplished had it been there!—It could not have prevented the formation of the Grand Chapter if it had been present, in the active resistance of all its provisions; but it has effected the same object by doing nothing—by staying at home! The only ground for such an argument must be the technical inference that what is done by a majority is the act of the whole. If then actual opposition when present can be construed into implied consent, we do not see the propriety with which absence alone can be construed into opposition, against the official declarations of the Chapter itself in favor of the objects for which the delegates assembled. If unanimity in convening, and unanimity in opinion and action should be a precedent condition to the formation of a Grand Chapter, then that would be required which was never required before, and which it is believed would form an obstacle to the institution of Grand Chapters which could never be surmounted.—Again: It will be remembered

that all the Chapters approved of and assented to the formation of a Grand Chapter, and that the approbation of each was known to all—that all had notice of the time and place, (*which was expressly agreed on by a majority of the Chapters empowered to act.*) Everything that had previously transpired conducted to the opinion that Alabama Chapter was disappointed in assembling, against its wishes, and that if the delegates assembled should form a proper constitution for the government of said Grand Chapter, the Alabama Chapter would cheerfully acquiesce in what had been done. As no doubt existed in the minds of the delegates upon this subject, and as the remonstrance has admitted that if the Alabama and Monroe Chapters had *subsequently* approved they would thereby have perfected what they have considered an imperfect constitution;—we would submit it to the candor of impartial craftsmen, if it were not somewhat uncandid and unkind in the authors of the remonstrance, even in the fervor of controversial zeal, to charge the delegates with misrepresentation, because they had prejudged and anticipated the magnanimous and even unsolicited co-operation of others, by reciting in the preamble to the Constitution, a general union and concurrence of design, which was so sanguinely and confidently expected. As a subsequent assent was fully calculated on, would it not have appeared selfish in the delegates to have published, as their act only, what was the act of others also; and as we gather from the remonstrance, that its authors are sufficiently tenacious of etiquette and forms, would not this very omission have probably constituted an insuperable objection to their concurrence?

The other proposition is, that six masons cannot form a Chapter. We have very little to say in reply to this objection; it seems to have originated in a misconception of the facts as they really existed. It was not necessary, nor was there any authority, to have formed a Chapter before the delegates were empowered to act. This could not have been done, though all the Chapters had been represented. There was no Chapter to form. The Constitution had to be adopted anterior to the opening and organization of the Chapter. This was the mode adop-

ted by the delegates who formed and organized the General Grand Chapter itself. We deny that the Grand Chapter was either opened or closed with a number *less than nine*.—The Grand Chapter was never opened till the 3rd of June, 1823, and there were nine regular companions present. It is true that all were not members; nor was it necessary that they should be. There is nothing in existing enactment or ancient usage that required it.

Let us proceed to examine the second proposition. That the Constitution of this Grand Chapter was a conditional one; and the condition failing, the constitution was thereby annulled. Here we are again at issue upon the fact. We respectfully deny, *toto coelo*, that the constitution was predicated upon any condition whatever. A resolution was adopted by the delegates anterior to the adoption of the constitution, asserting "that the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama, shall consist of the High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the following Chapters, viz: Tuscaloosa, No. 1, Cahawba, No. 2 (meaning Alabama, No. 2) Mobile, No. 3, and Claiborne, No. 4, (meaning Monroe, No. 4), provided that Cahawba and Claiborne (meaning Alabama and Monroe Chapters) give their assent to these proceedings within a reasonable time. Now this is barely a "resolution" adopted before the constitution, which was not incorporated into it, or formed a part of it. It would hardly be denied that if the constitution had expressly excluded the participation in membership of Alabama and Monroe Chapters, that the constitution would have been paramount and the resolution ineffectual. The constitution itself nullifies the resolution, for it provides that the Grand Chapter shall consist of *others* besides those enumerated in the resolution, to-wit: such Chapters as may be originated by the Grand Chapter itself. But even if the resolution had been incorporated in the constitution, or could now be considered as having the force of a constitutional provision, we should earnestly insist that the condition related not to the validity of the constitution, but to the membership of those Chapters. What is the provision? Why, that the Grand Chapter shall consist of the three first officers of all the Chapters in

this State, "provided that Cahawba and Claiborne give their consent to these proceedings within a reasonable time." And suppose they should not give their assent within a reasonable time—what follows? That the Grand Chapter is dissolved? The constitution annulled? By no means. But that the Grand Chapter shall consist of other members than the High Priests, Kings and Scribes of all those Chapters, that is, that the High Priests, Kings and Scribes of Alabama and Monroe Chapters, or either, refusing assent should be excluded from membership. The existence of the constitution was not made to depend on the course which Alabama and Monroe Chapters might think proper to pursue, but only their right to membership. That this was the intention of the delegates is further manifested from the occurrences which have since arisen.—They failed to give their assent and they have ceased to be members of the Grand Chapter.

The third proposition is, that this Grand Chapter improperly interdicted masonic intercourse between the members of its subordinate Chapters and Lodges and the members of the Alabama and Monroe Chapters. By recurring to the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, we shall ascertain the authority which belongs to the State Grand Chapters. The 4th section of the 3d article provides "that the several State Grand Chapters (subject to the provisions of this constitution) shall have the sole government and superintendence of the several Royal Arch Chapters and Lodges of Most Excellent Past and Mark Master Masons within their respective jurisdictions," etc. It is conceived that the jurisdiction of a State Grand Chapter extends to all regular constituted Chapters within the limits of the State in which it is holden, and consequently that the right of government and superintendence over said Chapters accrues to the Grand Chapter, as soon as the same has been regularly organized. It is impracticable however for this authority to be exercised over Chapters which publicly disclaim and denounce the jurisdiction and refuse submission to its government and direction. Connected with this right of government and superintendence is the right to dues for the

support and maintenance of the Grand Chapter, which are accruing to and vested in the Grand Chapter, by virtue of both the Constitutions of the General Grand Chapter and of the State Chapter. The constitution of the former in the 8th section of the 2d article provides that "the Grand Chapters shall have power to require from the several Chapters and Lodges under their respective jurisdictions, such reasonable proportion of sums received by them for the exaltation and advancement of candidates, and such certain annual sums from their prospective members as by their ordinances or regulations shall hereafter be appointed; all of which said sums or dues shall be made good and paid annually by the said Chapters and Lodges respectively, into the Grand Treasury of the Grand Chapter under which they hold their authority, on or before the 1st day of the respective annual meetings of the said Grand Chapters." And by the 6th section of the 2nd article of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter those dues are specifically ascertained, and farther provides that those Chapters neglecting or refusing to pay their dues until the next regular session of the Grand Chapter, shall be punished by forfeiture of their warrant and expulsion, until they comply, &c. Now, no part of these dues have ever been paid, nor have either the Alabama or Monroe Chapters, in a single instance, submitted to the authority of this Grand Chapter, and Monroe Chapter on the last page of this very remonstrance, has rashly and intemperately asserted, as if to close the door of reconciliation forever, that they "shall never consent to acknowledge any head but' the General Grand Chapter, though confessedly belonging to this jurisdiction. It is manifest, from the facts which have been stated, that masonic intercourse could not subsist where one side was asserting and the other denying jurisdiction, and accordingly this Grand Chapter conceiving the course of these Chapters as violating the principles of its constitution, and as a palpable departure from their obligations and their duties, suspended all intercourse with them. The right to inflict punishment by the Grand Chapter upon the subordinate Chapters as surely exists as the right does in the subordinate Chapters to punish its own

members. In the case before us, however, the interdiction of intercourse was expressly enjoined on the happening of contumacy, which actually occurred. The 2nd and 3rd article, of the constitution among other things, provided this punishment, for refusal to acknowledge its authority within *one year*, &c. This constitution, too, with this very provision, has been submitted to and received the inspection and approval of the General Grand High Priest; and the interdiction of intercourse of which the remonstrance complains, is but the enforcement of this very provision of the constitution, against those who have refused to acknowledge its authority and subscribe to its government.

The committee cannot close this report without expressing their deep regret that Monroe Chapter should not have manifested greater forbearance in adopting measures, which have doubtless seemed proper to them. That Chapter ought to have remembered, that if it derives the authority of doing what it has done from ancient usage, that ancient usage cannot on their part be safely appealed to, to justify the asperity which pervades the remonstrance. Nothing tends more powerfully to widen existing breaches and aggravate existing hostilities, than the substituting for mild and dignified argument inflammatory appeals to public opinion. However the course which has been pursued was calculated to arouse in the bosoms of the committee all their excitement, and to have justified pointed and unnecessary animadversion on their part, they have endeavored to refrain as much as possible from pursuing an example which might have placed existing differences out of the reach of friendly accommodation and have kindled resentments that might have been unextinguishable. Whatever may be the result of this unpleasant controversy, and however this committee may claim for this Grand Chapter throughout the prevalence of good feelings, and exemption from imputed faults; when they consider with what engaging solemnities all our masonic duties enjoin on us the necessity of harmony and union; we sincerely trust that our Almighty Architect will inspire us all with a proper spirit of accommodation, that the very re-

membrance of these dissensions may be buried in oblivion, and that the fires of friendship may be lighted up in our bosoms and glow with unextinguishable fervour forever.

Which report was unanimously concurred in by this Grand Chapter, and the Grand Secretary requested to forward a copy thereof to Most Ex. Companion Thaddeus Sanford, delegate and representative of this Grand Chapter, to be laid before the General Grand Chapter of the United States, at their septennial meeting, to be holden at New York, on the first Thursday of September next; and also one copy to Monroe Chapter.

On motion of Comp. Henry Strause, representative of Cyrus Chapter, No. 6, Florence,

Resolved, That the application of said Chapter for a remission of its dues for the year ending June, 1825, in consequence of its having expended its funds in the erection of a Masonic Hall in the town of Florence, be acceded to by this Grand Chapter.

On motion,

Resolved, That the proceedings of this Grand Chapter be printed, under the direction of the Grand Secretary.

The following resolution was introduced:—

Resolved, "That the third section of the 4th article of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter be so altered as to strike out all between the words *jurisdiction and paying*, and the following to be inserted in lieu thereof, "*but in any event the candidate shall not be balloted for within twelve hours after his petition shall have been received by the Chapter.*"

Which said resolution, pursuant to the 4th article and 14th section of the said constitution, was ordered to be spread upon the minutes of the Grand

Chapter, and lie over for its consideration until the next annual meeting at Mobile.

The Grand Chapter was then adjourned until tomorrow morning, at 8 o'clock, A. M.

WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

TUSCALOOSA MASONIC HALL, }
Saturday Evening, June 24, 1826. }

The Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

M. E. NIMROD E. BENSON, G. H. P.

D. M'FARLANE, G. K., p. t.

SETH BARTON, G. S., p. t.

WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

E. W. THOMPSON, G. Treasurer.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Comps. Wiser, Snow, Kennon, Piace, Perry.

The Grand Secretary acknowledges the following sums of money, received during the present meeting.

From Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1-----	\$42 00
" Cyrus Chapter, No. 6-----	38 00
" Comp. J. B. Hogan, late G. Sec'y-----	47 75
Total amount-----	\$127 75

Nothing further appearing before this Grand Chapter, it was closed with the usual solemnities.

WM. D. STONE, Grand Secretary.

MEMORANDA.

At the Convocation of the General Grand Chapter in 1826, it being pronounced illegal, the Grand Chapter disbanded, but was reorganized in June 1827, under the authority of the General Grand Chapter.

Grand Secretary.