

1828
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND
CHAPTER
of
Royal Arch Masons
of
ALABAMA



A.D. 1828 / A.I. 2358

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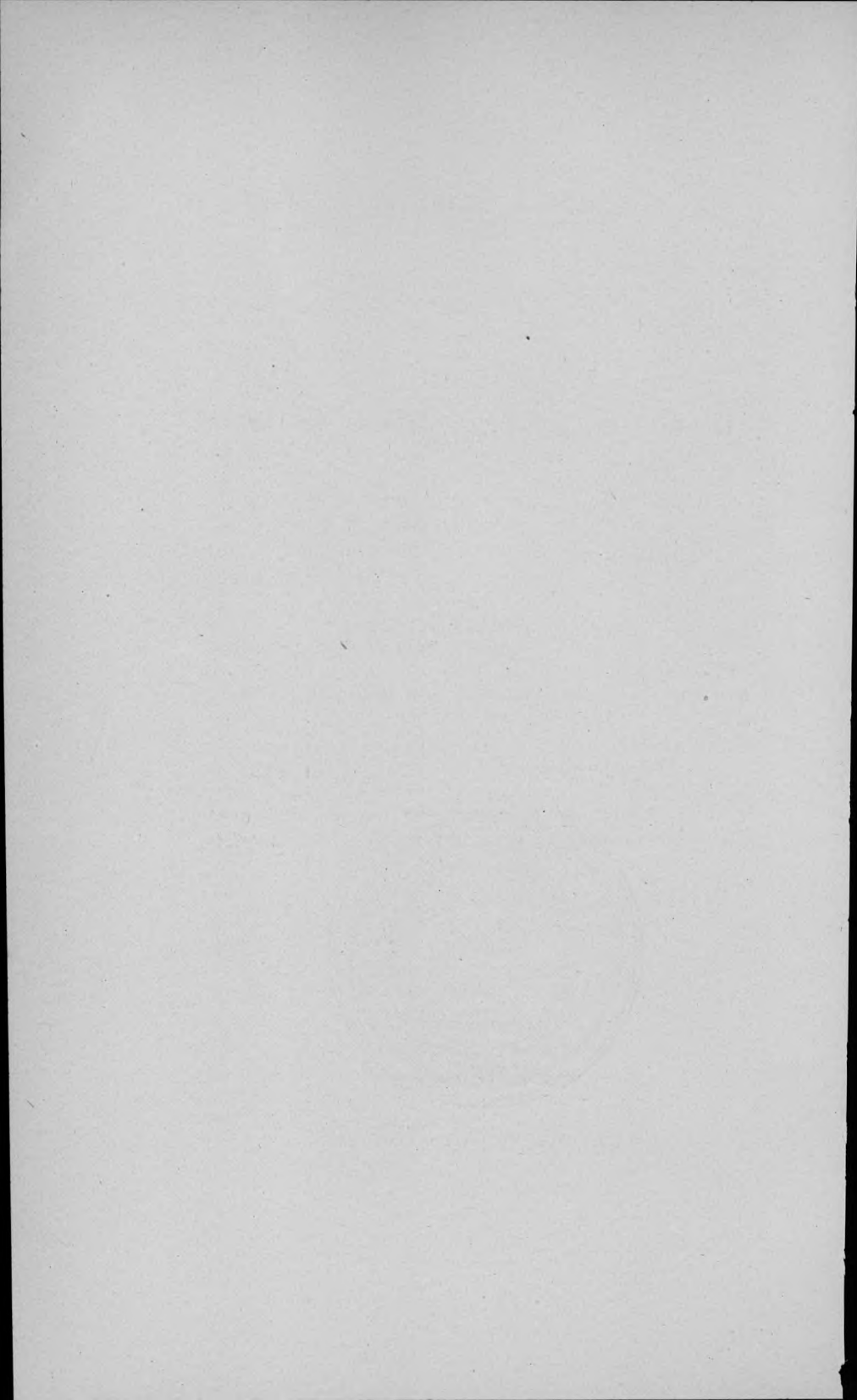
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A.D.2017, A.L.6017

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF THE
STATE OF ALABAMA,
AT ITS ANNUAL CONVOCATIONS, IN 1828, 1829, 1830 AND 1837.
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PROCEEDINGS 1828.

TUSCALOOSA, July 7th, A. D. 1828.

Agreeably to a provision of the Constitution of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, of the State of Alabama, the representatives of Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1; Mobile Chapter, No. 3; Eunomia Chapter, No. 5, and Cyrus Chapter, No. 6, met at the Masonic Hall, in the Town of Tuscaloosa, on Monday evening, July 7th, A. D. 1828, A. L. 5828, R. A. M. 2358.

When, on motion, the meeting was adjourned until Friday evening next.

FRIDAY EVENING, July 10th, A. D. 1828.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter, of the State of Alabama, was convoked pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

His Excellency, JOHN MURPHY, G. H. P.

JOHN ELLIOTT, D. G. H. P., and G. K., p. t.

AARON READY, G. S., p. t.

HENRY A. SNOW, G. Treas.

JOHN G. AIKIN, G. Sec.

HENRY STRAUSE, G. Capt. Host.

JOHN K. PIERCE, G. Prin. Sojourner.

WEST GOODRICH, G. R. A. Capt.

JAMES CAIN, G. Sentinel.

Also, Companion, JOSEPH BENNETT.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter was opened in ample form.

On motion of the Deputy Grand High Priest, the following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS it has been represented to this Grand Chapter by Mo. Ex. Companion, John Elliott, H. P. of Mobile Chapter, No. 3, that in consequence of the fire which occurred in the city of Mobile, in the month of October last, and which destroyed a part of the furniture of the said Chapter, and the Masonic Hall in which said Chapter was held, the companions of said Chapter have been unable to convene regularly, as required by our Constitution; and whereas, for the reasons before given, the said Chapter has failed to elect its officers at the regular meeting previous to St. John the Baptist's, to-wit: the 24th June, A. L. 5828, therefore be it

Resolved, That the proceedings of the said Chapter for the reasons above stated, be sanctioned by this Grand Chapter, and that the companions of Mobile Chapter, No. 3, be authorized to proceed to the election of its officers, at any time before the second Monday of December next; that in the interim the present officers of said Chapter shall be continued in office, and that the Most E. H. P. of said Chapter be considered as the regular representative of said Chapter to this Grand Chapter.

Companion Aaron Ready reported himself and Companions John G. Aikin and John K. Pierce, the superior officers and representatives of Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1.

Companion Henry Strause, reported himself the Scribe of Cyrus Chapter, No. 6, and exhibited his credentials constituting him proxy for the High Priest and King of said Chapter.

The Grand Secretary read a communication from Alabama Chapter, No. 2, objecting to some

parts of the constitution of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, but accepting its provisions generally, and acknowledging themselves subordinate to its jurisdiction, which was referred to a select committee, composed of Companions Elliott, Ready and Strause, representatives of Mobile, Tuscaloosa and Cyrus Chapters.

On motion of Companion Strause, the following standing committees were appointed, to-wit:

ON CREDENTIALS AND RETURNS.—Companions Elliott, Ready and Strause.

ON COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE.—Comps. Aikin, Snow and Pierce.

ON ACCOUNTS.—Comps. Snow, Aikin and Elliott.

ON BY-LAWS.—Comps. Thornton, Ready and Strause.

The committee on credentials and returns to whom had been referred the credentials of Companion Strause, appointing him the proxy of the High Priest and King of Cyrus Chapter, No. 6, reported that the same were regular and in due form—in which the Grand Chapter concurred.

On motion of Companion Elliott, it was

Resolved, That the seal of the former Grand Chapter, with the alterations in the date thereof, made by the Grand Secretary, be adopted in future as the seal of this Grand Chapter.

Companion Strause presented the return of Cyrus Chapter, No. 6, which was referred to the committee on credentials and returns.

Companion Ready presented the return of Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1—which was referred to the same committee.

Companion Strause presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, which was concurred in:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to procure for this Grand Chapter a desk, for the use of the same, the cost of which not to exceed twenty dollars; and that he be empowered to draw on the Grand Treasurer for the amount.

The Grand Chapter adjourned until tomorrow evening—early candle light.

SATURDAY EVENING, July 12th, A. D. 1828.

The Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

M. E. Comp. JOHN ELLIOTT, D. G. H. P., Presiding.

HARRY I. THORNTON, G. K.

AARON READY, G. S., p. t.

JOHN G. AIKIN, G. Sec'y.

HENRY STRAUSE, G. Capt. Host.

DUGALD MCFARLANE, G. P. Sojourner.

JOHN K. PIERCE, G. R. A. Capt.

JAMES CAIN, G. Sentinel.

And Companion, JOSEPH BENNETT.

Mo. Ex. Companion John Elliott, from the select committee to which was referred a communication from Alabama Chapter, No. 2, reported as follows:

The committee to whom was referred certain resolutions of "Alabama Chapter, No. 2," at Cahawba, adopted in Chapter on the 15th June, 1827, which resolutions are in the words and figures following, to-wit:

"At a called meeting of Alabama Chapter, No. 2, at Masons' Hall, in Cahawba, on the 15th June, 1827, the Most Excellent

"H. P. stated the object of the meeting to be the acceptance or rejection of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, adopted "at Mobile, on the 2nd day of June, 1827; whereupon it was "and is resolved, that the officers and members of Alabama "Chapter, No. 2, do accept the said constitution and every "article and clause thereof, except the following, to-wit:—We "strike out the word "*new*" immediately preceding the words "*State Grand Chapter*," in the first section of said Constitution, and also all that part of said section, beginning at the "word "*pursuant*," and ending with the word "*formed*." We "strike out and reject the third resolution appended to the "Constitution. It was further resolved, that Alabama Chapter, "No. 2, recognizes the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of "the State of Alabama, and that this Chapter is subordinate "thereto, and that the same be certified to the Grand Chapter "accordingly," beg leave to report, that they have with care and attention examined the said resolutions of Alabama Chapter, No. 2, and present for the consideration of this Grand Chapter the following statement of facts and accompanying resolutions, viz:

That on referring to the first section of the constitution for the government of this Grand Chapter, adopted at Mobile on the 2nd day of June, 1827, they cannot conceive that any of the matters objected to by Alabama Chapter, No. 2, are incorporated in the said Constitution, but that the same is found in the second resolution which precedes the said constitution, and which resolution was adopted by the delegates from Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1, Alabama Chapter, No. 2, Mobile Chapter, No. 3, and Monroe Chapter, No. 4, in convention assembled for the purpose of deciding on the expediency of conforming to the advice and recommendation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States to the then Grand Chapter of the State, which advised them to invite the *then* dissenting Chapters in this State, to meet in convention for the purpose of removing the difficulties which had previously intervened between said Chapter and the said dissenting Chapters; and that in their opinion the said resolutions which precedes the said Constitution cannot be viewed as a constit-

uent part thereof—they however conceive, that the third resolution appended to the Constitution, forms a part thereof. From this statement of facts, your committee cannot but express their regret that the officers and members of Alabama Chapter, No. 2, should have objected to the said resolutions which precede the said Constitution, and which they are of the opinion cannot be viewed as a part thereof; or that they should have objected to the third resolution appended to the Constitution, which may be conceived as a part thereof, but which merely contains instructions and directions to such Chapters in the State as were then regularly organized, and involves no fundamental or constitutional masonic principles; that in relation to the said adoption of said Constitution and the accompanying resolutions, as well as its subsequent ratification, they believe that the provisions of the Constitution for the government of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, have been strictly complied with; that the said Constitution and resolutions have been sanctioned by one of the Grand Officers of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, pursuant to legitimate masonic authority, delegated to him by virtue of his office, and the said Constitution under which he was chosen; and however disposed, this Grand Chapter might have been to conform to all or any of the views entertained by Alabama Chapter No. 2, if the same had been forwarded to this Grand Chapter previous to the ratification, yet at this late period, after the said Constitution and accompanying resolutions have been regularly and masonically sanctioned, they are of opinion that the said Constitution and accompanying resolutions can only be altered in the mode designated in, and provided for by the Constitution itself; and that at present, they deem it inexpedient to make any alteration therein:—They therefore propose the adoption of the following resolutions, viz:

Resolved, That the constitution and accompanying resolutions above referred to, can only be altered or changed in the mode pointed out therein; and that the officers and members of this Grand Chapter, do not consider it expedient to propose any alteration or change thereof; and be it further

Resolved, That the officers and members of Alabama Chapter No. 2, be requested to reconsider and rescind all of their resolutions before referred to, except the last which recognizes the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, and declares that said Alabama Chapter No. 2, is subordinate thereto; and that they be requested to communicate the result of their proceedings to this Grand Chapter, at or before the next regular meeting of this Grand Chapter to be held on the first Monday in July next.

JOHN ELLIOTT, H. P. Mobile Chapter, No. 3.

AARON READY, H. P. Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1.

HENRY STRAUSE, S. of Cyrus Chapter, No. 6.

In which the Grand Chapter concurred.

Companion Elliott, from the committee on accounts, to whom was referred the account of the G. Secretary, showing the receipt of one hundred and ninety-eight dollars and fifty-six cents, since the last regular convocation, reported the same to be correct, and that the Grand Secretary had exhibited satisfactory vouchers that the same had been paid over to the Grand Treasurer—in which the Grand Chapter concurred.

Companion Aikin, from the same committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Grand Treasurer, showing the expenditure of two hundred and five dollars and fifty cents on account of this Grand Chapter, reported the same to be correct, and recommended that the above sum be placed to the Grand Treasurer's credit—in which the Grand Chapter concurred.

Companion Elliott from the committee on credentials and returns, to whom was submitted the return of Cyrus Chapter, No. 6, reported:

That they found due from said Chapter by their account to this Grand Chapter, the sum of fifty-three dollars seventy-five

cents. They also in the return of said Chapter, notice several companions' names, for which, said Chapter wish to pay no dues, in consequence of their living out of the jurisdiction of said Chapter; which facts are known by one of your committee, which is respectfully submitted.

In which the Grand Chapter concurred.

Companion H. I. Thornton, G. K. moved the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, By this Grand Chapter, that those Chapters which have failed to comply with the requirements of a resolution passed at the last convocation of this Grand Chapter, in regard to the procurement of charters under the constitution of this Grand Chapter, may, upon the payment of all dues up to this time to the Grand Secretary, be entitled to a new charter, which shall issue to each Chapter complying with this resolution.

Companion Elliott, from the committee on credentials and returns, to whom was referred the return of Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1, reported:

That they had examined the same, and found to be due from said Chapter to the Grand Chapter, the sum of \$36.50, as appears from said return.

In which report the Grand Chapter concurred.

Companion Aikin, from the committee on accounts, reported:

The account of Companion Henry Strause, for attending the present convocation of the Grand Chapter, amounting to \$24.00, to be correct, and recommended that the same be allowed him by this Grand Chapter.

Which was concurred in.

Companion Thornton, from the committee on By-Laws, reported that nothing had been submit-

ted for their consideration, and therefore begged leave to be discharged—which was given.

Companion Ready, from the committee on credentials and returns to whom was referred the return of Washington Chapter No. 7, from the 24th June, 1826, up to the 24th December, 1827, reported the same to be correct, and that there was due from said Washington Chapter to this Grand Chapter, the sum of twenty-seven dollars, in which the Grand Chapter concurred.

The Grand Chapter then went into an election of officers to serve for the next ensuing twelve months when the following companions were duly elected, viz:

His Excellency JOHN MURPHY, of Monroe Chapter, No. 4, G.

H. P.

JOHN ELLIOTT, of Mobile Chapter, No. 3. D. G.

H. P.

HARRY I. THORNTON, of Eunomia Chap. No. 5,

G. K.

CHARLES O. FOSTER, of Monroe Chap. No. 4,

G. S.

JAMES PENN, of Eunomia Chapter, No. 5, G.

Visitor.

HENRY A. SNOW, of Tuscaloosa Chap. No. 1,

G. Treas.

JOHN G. AIKIN, of Tuscaloosa Chap. No. 1, G.

Sec'y.

REV. ROBERT L. KENNON, of Tuscaloosa Chap. No. 1,

G. C.

AARON READY, Tuscaloosa Chap. No. 1, {

HENRY STRAUSE, of Cyrus Chap. No. 6, { G. Mar's.

JOHN K. PIERCE, of Tuscaloosa Chap. No. 1,

G. Steward.

JAMES CAIN, of Tuscaloosa Chap. No. 1, Grand

Sentinel.

On motion of Companion Strause, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter be allowed as a salary for his services, the sum of seventy-five dollars per annum.

Companion Aikin, from the committee on accounts, reported :

That there was due Companion James Cain, Grand Sentinel, for tying this Grand Chapter at the present convocation, the sum of nine dollars, and to Companion John K. Pierce, Grand Steward, for candles, &c., furnished this Grand Chapter, the sum of \$1 56¼.

Both of which were allowed and ordered to be paid.

The Grand Chapter adjourned until Monday evening next.

TUESDAY EVENING, July 15th, A. D. 1828.

The Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

Excellent Comp. JOHN ELLIOTT, D. G. H. P., presiding.

HARRY I. THORNTON, G. K.

CHARLES O. FOSTER, G. S.

JOHN G. AIKIN, G. Sec.

AARON READY, G. Marshal and G. Capt.

Host, p. t.

AMANDA PEISTER, G. Prin. Sojourner.

ROBT. E. B. BAYLOR, G. R. A. Capt.

JOHN K. PIERCE, G. Sentinel.

Also Companions, WILLIAM J. ADAIR,

THOMAS B. CREAGH,

ISAAC C. PERKINS.

Companion Charles O. Foster reported himself to be the High Priest, and Companion Thomas B. Creagh, to be the King of Monroe Chapter, No. 4, who were accordingly received and recognized as such by the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Secretary read a petition from sundry Royal Arch Masons, residing at or near Dale, in Wilcox county, State of Alabama, recommended by Monroe Chapter, No. 4, praying that a charter or warrant of constitution, might be granted them, empowering them to assemble and work in the higher degrees of Masonry, by the name of Clinton Chapter, No. 8, which being duly considered, it was

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners be allowed, and that the Grand Secretary issue a charter to them accordingly.

The Grand Officers elect were installed in due and ancient form by M. E. Companion, John Elliott and Charles O. Foster, Past High Priests.

The Grand Chapter adjourned until to-morrow evening, 4 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, 4 o'clock, July 16, A. D. 1828

The Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

M. E. Comp. JOHN ELLIOTT, D. G. H. P.

CHAS. O. FOSTER, G. S. and G. K., p. t.

R. E. B. BAYLOR, G. S.

JOHN G. AIKIN, G. Sec.

A. READY, G. Capt. Host.

J. K. PIERCE, G. Prin. Sojourner.

T. B. CREAGH, G. R. A. Capt.

J. CAIN, G. Sentinel.

On motion of Companion Aikin, it was

Resolved, That there be allowed to Companion James Cain, Grand Sentinel, six dollars, for tiling two days at the present Convocation, since the allowance of his account.

A petition was presented by Companion Thos. B. Creagh, in behalf of Monroe Chapter No. 4, praying that the dues from said Chapter, in consideration of the sums expended in erecting a Masonic Hall in Claiborne, be remitted, which being submitted to the companions, was unanimously agreed to.

Companion Creagh presented the account of James B. Colburn for fifty dollars, for attendance on the General Grand Chapter of the United States, as a representative of the former Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama, which after due deliberation, was disallowed.

The account of Companion Elliott, for attending Grand Chapter at the annual communication of 1827, having not been previously presented, amounting to twenty-eight dollars, was presented and admitted.

The representatives of the several Subordinate Chapters, mutually agreed to remit all dues coming to them for their attendance at the present convocation.

On motion of Companion Elliott, it was

Resolved, That all the dues of Mobile Chapter, No. 3, up to this date be remitted.

There being no further business before the Grand Chapter, the same was closed in due form until the next regular convocation.

JNO. ELLIOTT, D. G. H. P.

Attest:—JOHN G. AIKIN, Grand Secretary.