

1844

PROCEEDINGS
of the

GRAND CHAPTER

of
Royal Arch Masons
of

ALABAMA



A.D. 1844 / A.I. 2374

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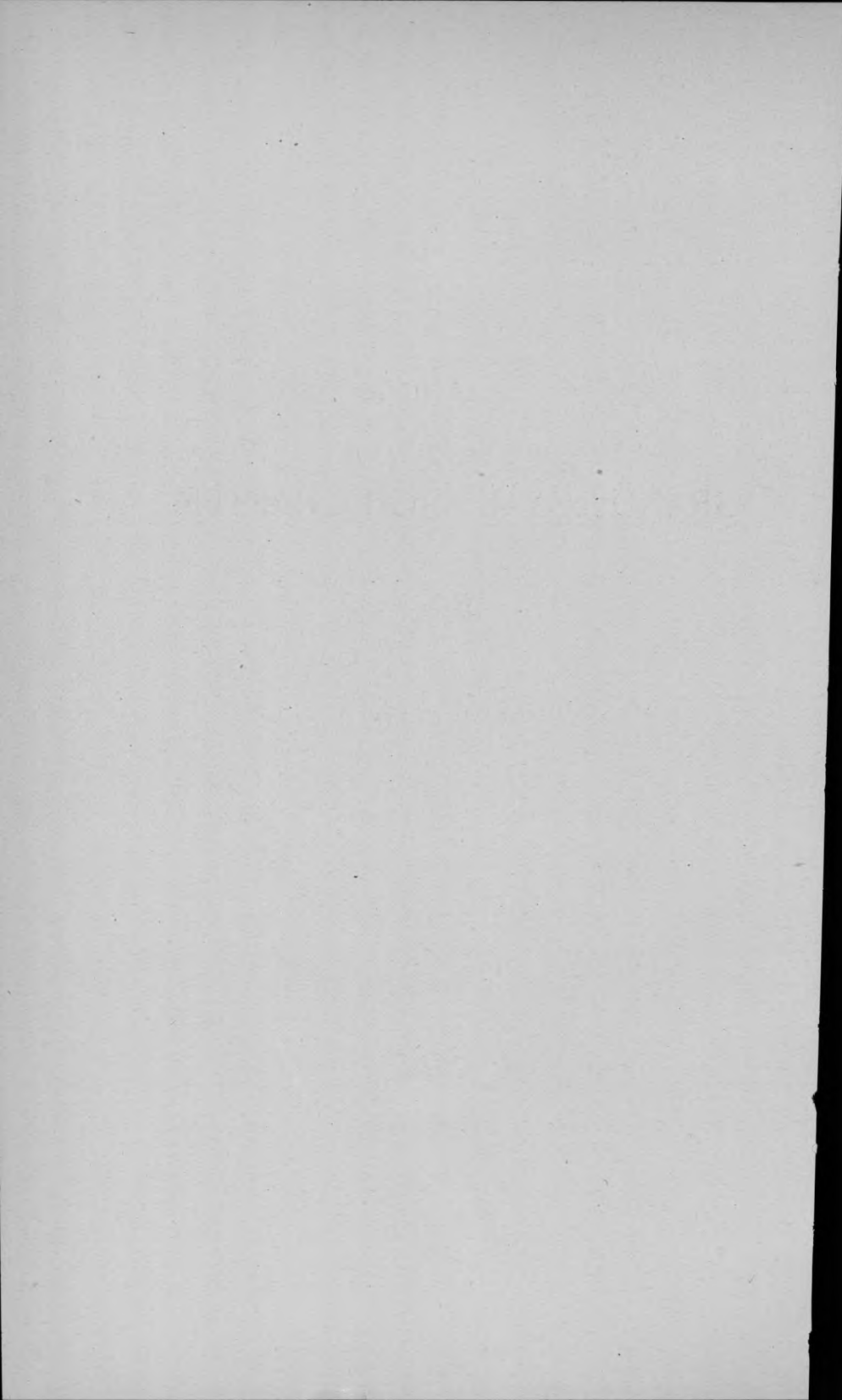
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC
NATIONAL MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF
ALABAMA
AT ITS
GRAND ANNUAL CONVOCATION
IN THE
CITY OF TUSCALOOSA.
COMMENCING DECEMBER 3, A. L. 5844.

TUSCALOOSA.
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1844.



PROCEEDINGS

At a Grand Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama, held at the Grand Masonic Hall, in the city of Tuscaloosa, on Tuesday the 3d day of December, A. D. 1844, A. L. 5844, Y. D. 2374.

PRESENT.

The M. E. JAMES PENN, G. H. P. (pro tem.)
E. GERARD W. CREAGH, Dep. G. H. P.
E. EGBERT J. JONES, G. K. (pro tem.)
E. REV. E. V. LEVERT, G. S.
E. REV. T. H. CAPERS, G. Chaplain (pro tem.)
E. D. M. BOYD, G. Treasurer (pro tem.)
E. AMAND P. PFISTER, G. Secretary.
E. ELLISON SMITH, G. C. H. (pro tem.)
E. WILLIAM B. WOOD, G. P. S.
E. D. B. TURNER, G. R. A. C.
E. M. B. POSEY,
E. WADE H. WATSON, } G. M. { $\begin{matrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{matrix}$ } Veils.
E. J. G. WALLACE, }
E. JOSEPH W. PIERCE, G. Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

The M. E. EDWARD HERNDON, Past. Dep. G. H. P.
E. FELIX G. NORMAN, Past G. S.
E. REV. THOS. CHILTON, G. Chaplain.

VISITING COMPANIONS.

Price Williams and Preston G. Nash, Livingston Chapter.
G. Nosworthy, Jameston Chapter.

R. H. Hudson and Samuel H. Taylor, Marion Chapter.
C. S. McConnico, Phoenix Chapter.
S. S. Perry and T. H. Capers, Mobile Chapter.
R. G. Earle, Talladega Chapter.
A. S. Harris, Tuscaloosa Chapter.
C. C. Howard, and W. P. DeJarnett, Montgomery Chapter.
R. Warner, Salina Chapter, N. Y.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1.—A. P. Pfister, H. P., D. M. Boyd, K., and Wm. Garrett, S.
Monroe Chapter, No. 4.—G. W. Creagh, (p.) H. P., and J. G. Wallace, K.
Eunomia Chapter, No. 5.—James Penn, H. P., and D. B. Turner, (p.) K.
Cyrus Chapter, No. 6.—W. B. Wood, (p.) K., E. A. O'Neal, (p.) S.
Clinton Chapter, No. 9.—E. J. Jones, (p.) H. P., John A. Malone, (p.) K.
Tuscumbia Chapter, No. 10.—F. G. Norman, H. P.
Phoenix Chapter, No. 11.—Chas. Whelan, H. P., Wm. Kerr, K., and J. McCormick, S.
Marion Chapter, No. 12.—Wade H. Watson, (p) H. P.
Gainesville Chapter, No. 13.—William Gorman, H. P.
Wetumpka Chapter, No. 17.—W. C. Penick, (p.) H. P.
Jameston Chapter, No. 18.—W. V. Hare, (p.) H. P., D. Tamborin, S.
Mt. Moriah Chapter, No. 19.—M. B. Posey, H. P., S. F. Hale, (p.) K; and W. F. Pierce, S.
Mobile Chapter, No. 21.—Ellison Smith, (p.) H. P.
Montgomery Chapter, No. 22.—F. S. Jackson, (p.) H. P.
Talladega Chapter, No. 23.—D. A. Griffin, (p) K.

A sufficient number of Chapters being represented, the Grand Chapter was opened according to ancient form in the 7th degree of Masonry when the

Throne of Grace was addressed by the Rev. G. C. Thomas H. Capers.

The unfinished business remaining from the last annual convocation was then taken up, and the proposed amendments to the constitution, towit:

1st. That any subordinate Chapter may confer the degrees on Ministers of the Gospel without charging any fees for the same; and that this Grand Chapter will not require from any subordinate Chapters dues from any member of said Chapter who is a Minister of the Gospel, unless such Chapter charges dues to said Minister of the Gospel."

11 11 11

The same was unanimously adopted.

2d. That the fee of the Chapter degrees be reduced to thirty dollars, viz: for the Mark M., \$5; P. M., \$5; M. E. M., \$5; and R. A., \$15.

The same was rejected.

3d. That the 5th section of the 4th article of the constitution be so amended as to insert at the end the following words, to-wit: And, provided, further, that no one shall receive any of the degrees in, or be admitted a member of any subordinate Chapter, without the unanimous consent of the members present."

Which was adopted.

A communication was read by the Grand Secretary from M. E. Comp. David Moore, G. H. P. of this Grand Chapter, stating his inability from ill health of being present at this convocation; and tendering the resignation of his office as G. H. P. of this Grand Chapter; which was received and ordered to be laid on the table.

The following committees were appointed:

ON ACCOUNTS—Comps. E. Smith, Wood, Posey, Penick, and Jones.

CHARTERED CHAPTERS—Comps. Norman, Kerr, Whelan, Malone, Branch, Turner and O'Neal.

DISPENSATIONS—Comps. Pierce, Watson, Tamborin, Wallace, Malone, McCormick and Hare.

BY-LAWS—Comps. Jones, Griffin, Jackson, Wood and Posey.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE—Comps. Levert, Chilton, Turner, Norman, Jones, and Pierce.

WORK—Comps. Whelan, Posey, Herndon, Pfister, Wallace, Smith, Malone, and Watson.

Comp. Grand Secretary then made his annual report, which was referred to the committee on accounts, and is as follows:

The Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama reports—That the amount of money received by him since the last annual convocation is two hundred and seventy dollars. Out of this he has paid to the Grand Treasurer ninety dollars for expenditures, above the contingent fund appropriated in 1843, eighty-three dollars and twenty-one cents; leaving a balance in his hands of ninety-six dollars and seventy cents, added to three hundred and forty-nine dollars and forty-five cents in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, makes four hundred and forty-six dollars and twenty-four cents, available funds.

The Grand Secretary did, at as early a period as possible, take measures to procure the required Regalia for the Grand Chapter; they have been purchased, but owing to unforeseen delays, he regrets to state that they will not reach here in time for this convocation; the cost of the article has exceeded the amount appropriated, thirty-two dollars and seventy-one cents, the whole amount being two hundred and thirty-two dollars and seventy-one cents; and he would beg leave to tender, in

the name of this Grand Chapter, to Comp. James Herring, of the city of New York, many thanks for his fraternal assistance in the procuration of the same.

Two volumes of the Free Masons' Monthly Magazine have been obtained, by order and for the use of this Grand Chapter.

The delinquent Chapters at the last Convocation, viz: Mobile, Gainesville, Livingston and Eufaula have reported and paid their back dues.

A Dispensation has issued from the Grand Secretary's office for the establishment of a Chapter at Courtland.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

AMAND P. PFISTER, Grand Secretary.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ACCOUNT.

A. P. Pfister in account with Grand Chapter of Alabama.
1843.

Dec. 7. To contingent fund-----	\$200 00
Dues, Mobile Chapter, No. 21, 1843-----	\$33 00
Dues, Livingston Chapter, No. 20, 1843--	19 00
Dues, Gainesville Chapter, No. 13, 1843	20 00
Dis. to Courtland Chap., No. 25, 1843--	90 00

	162 00
Received of Comp. Herndon-----	90 00
Dues of Eufaula Chapter, No. 24-----	18 00

	\$470 05

PER CONTRA CR.

Dec. 15—By cash paid G. Sentinel, fees-----	\$15 00
By cash paid G. Treasurer-----	90 00
By cash paid Printing proceedings-----	20 00

	\$125 00

Dec. 27—By cash paid 2 years Free Masons' Magazine -----	\$ 4 00
By cash paid Binding-----	1 50
By cash paid postage and stationery--	10 00
	15 50
By cash paid Regalia for G. Chapter, and premium on the same-----	232 71
	\$373 21
Balance on hand -----	96 79
	\$470 00

E. and O. E.

AMAND P. PFISTER, Grand Secretary.

Tuscaloosa, Dec. 3d, 1844.

Comp. Garrett, Grand Treasurer, made the following report, which was referred to the committee on accounts:

REPORT.

The Grand Treasurer of the M. E. Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama, reports that the amount of money remaining in the Treasury as per last annual report, was three hundred and thirteen dollars and forty-five cents.

That since the last annual convocation of this Grand Chapter, he has received from Comp. Grand Secretary, cash amounting to the sum of three hundred and thirty-six dollars.

That he has paid out upon the orders of the M. E. Grand H. P., as per vouchers herewith submitted, the sum of three hundred dollars, leaving on hand in the Treasury the sum of three hundred and forty-nine dollars and forty-five cents, which is on deposit in the Bank of the State of Alabama.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. GARRETT, Grand Treasurer.

*William Garrett, Grand Treasurer, in account with the Grand
Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama.*

1843.

DR.

Dec. 11—To balance in the treasury at the last annual report -----	\$ 313 45
Paid into the treasury by G. Secretary-----	246 00
Dec. 27—Paid into the treasury by G. Secretary-----	90 00
	\$649 45

CR.

Dec. 25.—Paid check of M. E. G. H. P. for ap- propriation to G. Secretary-----	\$ 100 00
Paid do. in favor of G. Secretary for contingent fund -----	200 00
	300 00
	\$349 45

W. GARRETT, G. Treasurer.

The following resolutions were offered and concurred in:

1. That all reports of subordinate Chapters and credentials of Proxies be referred to the committee on Chartered Chapters.
2. That all papers in relation to Chapters under Dispensation, be referred to the committee on Dispensations.
3. That the By-Laws of subordinate Chapters sent up be referred to the committee on By-Laws.
4. That the proceedings of the Grand Chapters in correspondence with this Grand Chapter be referred to the committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The Grand Chapter then adjourned until tomorrow, at two o'clock, P. M.

DECEMBER 4, 1844.

The Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E. JAMES PENN, G. H. P. (pro tem.)
 E. G. W. CREAGH, D. G. H. P.
 E. E. JONES, G. K. (pro tem.)
 E. REV. E. V. LEVERET, G. S.
 E. REV. THOMAS CHILTON, G. Chaplain (pro tem.)
 E. W. C. PENICK, G. Treasurer (pro tem.)
 E. AMAND P. PFISTER, G. Secretary.
 E. ELLISON SMITH, G. C. H.
 E. F. G. NORMAN, G. P. S. (pro tem.)
 E. F. S. JACKSON, G. R. A. C.
 E M. B. POSEY, }
 E. W. A. WATSON, } G. M. { $\begin{matrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{matrix}$ } Veils.
 E. J. G. WALLACE, }
 JOSEPH W. PIERCE, G. Sentinel.

VISITING COMPANIONS.

Comps. Jones, McConnico, Megginson, Kennon, Perry, and Coleman.

The following Chapters were reported delinquent, viz: Eufaula, No. 24, Courtland, No. 25, and Livingston, No. 20. The last mentioned Chapter has made report and paid dues, but is unrepresented at this convocation.

The Grand Chapter proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year; whereupon, the ballots being taken, the following Companions were found to be duly elected to the offices affixed to their names respectively:

M. E. JAMES PENN, of Huntsville, G. H. Priest.
 E. GERARD W. CREAGH, Sugsville, Dep. G. H. Priest.

E. CHARLES WHELAN, Greensboro, G. King.
E. REV. E. V. LEVERT, Greensboro, G. Scribe.
E. AMAND P. PFISTER, Tuscaloosa, G. Secretary.
E. WILLIAM GARRETT, Tuscaloosa, G. Treasurer.
E. REV. THOMAS CHILTON, Marion, G. Chaplain.
E. ELLISON SMITH, Mobile, } G Marshals.
E. M. B. POSEY, Eutaw, }
JOSEPH W. PIERCE, G. Sentinel.

Comp. Smith from the Committee on Accounts, made the following report, which was received and concurred in :

The committee to whom was referred the accounts, vouchers, etc. of the Grand Treasurer and Secretary, have had the matters and things relating thereto under consideration, and beg leave to report—

The accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Secretary as rendered, have been found by your committee to be substantially correct; showing a balance of cash in the hands of the Grand Secretary of \$96.79, and a balance in the Treasury, deposited in the State Bank, as stated in his report, of \$349.45, making the entire unexpended balance at the disposal of this Grand Chapter of \$446.24.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ELLISON SMITH, Chairman.

Comp. Pierce from the committee on Chapters under Dispensation, reported the following, which was received and concurred in :

That they have ascertained from the Grand Secretary, that there is but one Chapter, to-wit, the Courtland Chapter. No. 25, from which there are no returns and have been furnished, with no reasons why the same has not been done, they cannot therefore recommend a continuation of said Dispensation.

Your Committee have been informed that the said Chapter has never been organized in consequence of the failure to get

the officers installed in a legal and proper manner, upon this fact being made known to the Grand Chapter they recommend that the Grand Treasurer be directed to pay back to the petitioners, the sum paid for the dispensation.

WM. F. PIERCE, Chairman.

Comp. Smith offered the following preamble and resolution, which was unanimously adopted, and ordered to be forwarded to the family of the deceased Companion:

It having pleased Almighty God to remove by death our M. Excellent Companion Nathaniel W. Fletcher, Past G. K. of this Grand Chapter.

He having attained to the highest degree in Masonry and having continued a faithful and affectionate Companion,

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter deeply lament the death of our said Companion and sincerely sympathize with the afflicted family in their sad bereavement, and that the Grand Secretary cause an official copy hereof, under seal of this Grand Chapter to be transmitted to the widow of the deceased.

The Grand Chapter then adjourned until tomorrow 3 o'clock P. M.

THURSDAY, Dec. 5, 1844.

The Grand Chapter convened according to adjournment, and adjourned again, in consequence of the public installation of the officers of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama, until tomorrow, nine o'clock, A. M.

FRIDAY, Dec. 6, 1844.

The Grand Chapter convened pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E. JAMES PENN, G. H. P. (presiding.)

E. G. W. CREAGH, Dep. G. H. P.

E. F. G. NORMAN, G. K. (pro tem.)

E. J. G. WALLACE, G. S. (pro tem.)

E. WM. GARRETT, G. Treasurer.

E. AMAND P. PFISTER, G. Secretary.

E. ELLISON SMITH,

E. WM. C. PENICK, } G. Marshals.

JOSEPH W. PIERCE, G. Sentinel.

Eufaula Chapter, No. 24, Sterling G. Cato (p.) H. P.

The Committee on Chartered Chapters made the following report, which was received and concurred in :

Your Committee on Chartered Chapters beg leave to report. That they have closely examined the reports and commissions of Proxies sent up by the subordinate Chapters— and find that the reports from Jameston, Gainesville and Mt. Moriah Chapters are correct. Also the Commissions of Proxies from Tuscaloosa, Phoenix, Jameston, Mobile, Eunomia, Mt. Moriah, Clinton, Talladega, Montgomery, Wetumpka and Cyrus Chapters. The reports from Montgomery, Livingston, Clinton, Wetumpka, Marion, Monroe, Mobile and Phoenix Chapters are incorrect, having returned Ministers of the Gospel, without paying dues as required by the Constitution. The report from Tuscumbia Chapter is informal in the certificate, acceptance and Exaltation. The report from Eunomia Chapter is informal for the want of signature of the High Priest, also for returning members without paying their dues or showing any cause therefor, also for paying two dollars each for two members.

The report from Cyrus Chapter is informal in certificate.— The report from Tuscaloosa Chapter is informal in the Caption. The report from Talladega is incorrect, for returning one member twice. The commission for proxy H. P. from Marion Chapter is informal in omitting the date of the annual convocation—Your committee find with the papers submitted for examination, commissions for Representatives, and as Representatives are not recognized in the Grand Chapter—deem them unnecessary.— Your Committee beg leave to offer the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to refund to Talladega Chapter one dollar.
2. *Resolved*, That the officers present of the Chapters as reported incorrect and informal be permitted to make them complete.

FELIX G. NORMAN, Chairman.

The following report was read and concurred in:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, have had under consideration the matters to them referred, and beg leave to report.

That they have examined the proceedings of the Grand Chapters of the states of Virginia, New Hampshire, Tennessee and Kentucky, which were passed over to them, by the Grand Secretary, and are gratified to perceive that in those states, Masonry is maintaining the rank to which it is entitled, from the antiquity and purity of the principles which distinguish it. They find in all these proceedings much interesting matter but nothing which calls for action, or the expression of an opinion on the part of this Grand Chapter.

They perceive that at the last meeting of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, that body expressed an opinion on the action of the Chapter of Alabama, regarding the right claimed by the Grand Chapter of Virginia, to exercise jurisdiction over Councils of Royal and Select Masters. This Grand Chapter at their meeting in 1842, denied the existence of such right, and in this denial, their companions in Kentucky sustain them.

Your Committee regard a correspondence or interchange of Minutes with the Grand Chapters throughout the United States as highly important—and therefore recommend that the Grand Secretary take especial care to forward to all such, copies of the proceedings of this Grand Chapter—requesting that they will reciprocate.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. V. LEVERT,

THOS. CHILTON.

Comp. Smith offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That in the event of the Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge of Alabama, for that purpose, succeed in purchasing the house contemplated for the future use of the said Grand Lodge.—That this Grand Chapter contribute toward the payment of said property, the sum of four hundred dollars, and that the M. E. G. H. P. of this Grand Chapter, draw on the Grand Treasurer for the same, or such other sum not to exceed four hundred dollars, so soon as it may be required by the Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge, to make said purchase.

Ordered, That the sum of one hundred dollars be appropriated to the contingent fund.

Resolved, That whereas there is no amount of compensation mentioned in the Constitution for the services of our Grand Secretary, and every year the duties are becoming more arduous, it is therefore ordered, that an appropriation of one hundred dollars be paid him out of the funds of the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter adjourned to three o'clock P. M.

3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand Chapter convened according to adjournment.

PRESENT.

M. E. JAMES PENN, G. H. P.

E. G. W. CREAGH, Dep. G. H. P.

E. F. G. NORMAN, G. K. (pro tem.)

E. W. KERR, G. S. (pro tem.)

E. WM. GARRETT, G. Treasurer.

E. A. P. PEISTER, G. Secretary.

E. ELLISON SMITH,

E. W. C. PENICK, } G. Marshals.

JOSEPH W. PIERCE, G. Sentinuel.

Ordered, That a Charter issue to Eufaula Chapter No. 24.

By Comp. Cato,—

Resolved, That the Constitution be so amended that the fees for the degrees in the subordinate Chapters be reduced to thirty-five dollars, viz: for Mark M., \$5; P. M., \$5; M. E. M., \$5, and R. A. M., \$20.

Comp. Jones, from the Committee on by-laws, reported the following, which was concurred in:

Your Committee have had the subjects before them under consideration and beg leave to report—The by-laws of Wetumpka Chapter, No. 17. Your Committee find them in general correct; they would, however, call the notice of the Grand Chapter to the first clause, 2 Sec., 3 Art., which forbids any one being made a R. A. M. who has not arrived at the age of twenty-three years.— Your Committee can see no good reason for this prohibition and recommend that said Chapter repeal said clause. Your Committee reports that no

other Chapter has brought before them their by-laws as required.

E. J. JONES, Chairman.

The Grand Chapter then proceeded to the installation of its Grand Officers, which was done in Ample form.

And the business of the Grand Chapter being concluded, the same was closed until the next convocation.

JAMES PENN, G. H. P.

Test

AMAND P. PFISTER, Grand Secretary.

LIST OF CHAPTERS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF
THE M. E. GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA.

No.	Chapters.	Location.	H. P.	Secretaries.	No. M
1	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa	A. P. Pfister----	C. R. Harrison--	14
4	Monroe ----	Claiborne --	Jas. B. Colburn--	C. H. Foster--	33
5	Eunomia----	Huntsville	James Penn ----	J. W. Scruggs--	31
6	Cyrus ----	Florence ---	J. H. Weakley--	W. B. Wood----	30
9	Clinton ----	Athens -----	T. G. Ferguson--	S. Dewooddy--	24
10	Tuscumbia	Tuscumbia	T. G. Norman----	L. B. Cooper--	18
11	Phoenix ---	Greensboro	C. Whelan-----	Wm. Kerr ----	20
12	Marion ----	Marion ----	W. Hendrix-----	W. R. Brown--	29
13	Gainesville	Gainesville	W. Gorman ----	M. Carleton --	18
17	Wetumpka	Wetumpka	A.A. WcWhorter	W. B. Cooper--	18
18	Jameston --	Jameston --	Blake Little ----	W. V. Hare----	30
19	Mt. Moriah	Eutaw ----	M. B. Posey-----	J. Oliver, Jr.--	21
20	Livingston	Livingston	R. W. Dalton----	P. G. Nash-----	10
21	Mobile ----	Mobile ----	W. W. Allen-----	Edwin Rust --	33
22	Montgomery	Montgomery	N. E. Benson----	E. M. Hastings	33
23	Talladega --	Talladega --	J. M. Moore-----	L. E. Parsons--	32
24	Eufaula ---	Eufaula ----	Henry Clarke --	T. C. McDowell	19

ADDRESSES.

M. E. JAMES PENN, G. H. P. Huntsville.

E. GERARD W. CREAGH, Dep. G. H. P., Suggsville.

AMAND P. PFISTER, G. Secretary, Tuscaloosa.