

1845

PROCEEDINGS
of the

GRAND CHAPTER

of
Royal Arch Masons
of

ALABAMA



A.D. 1845 / A.I. 2375

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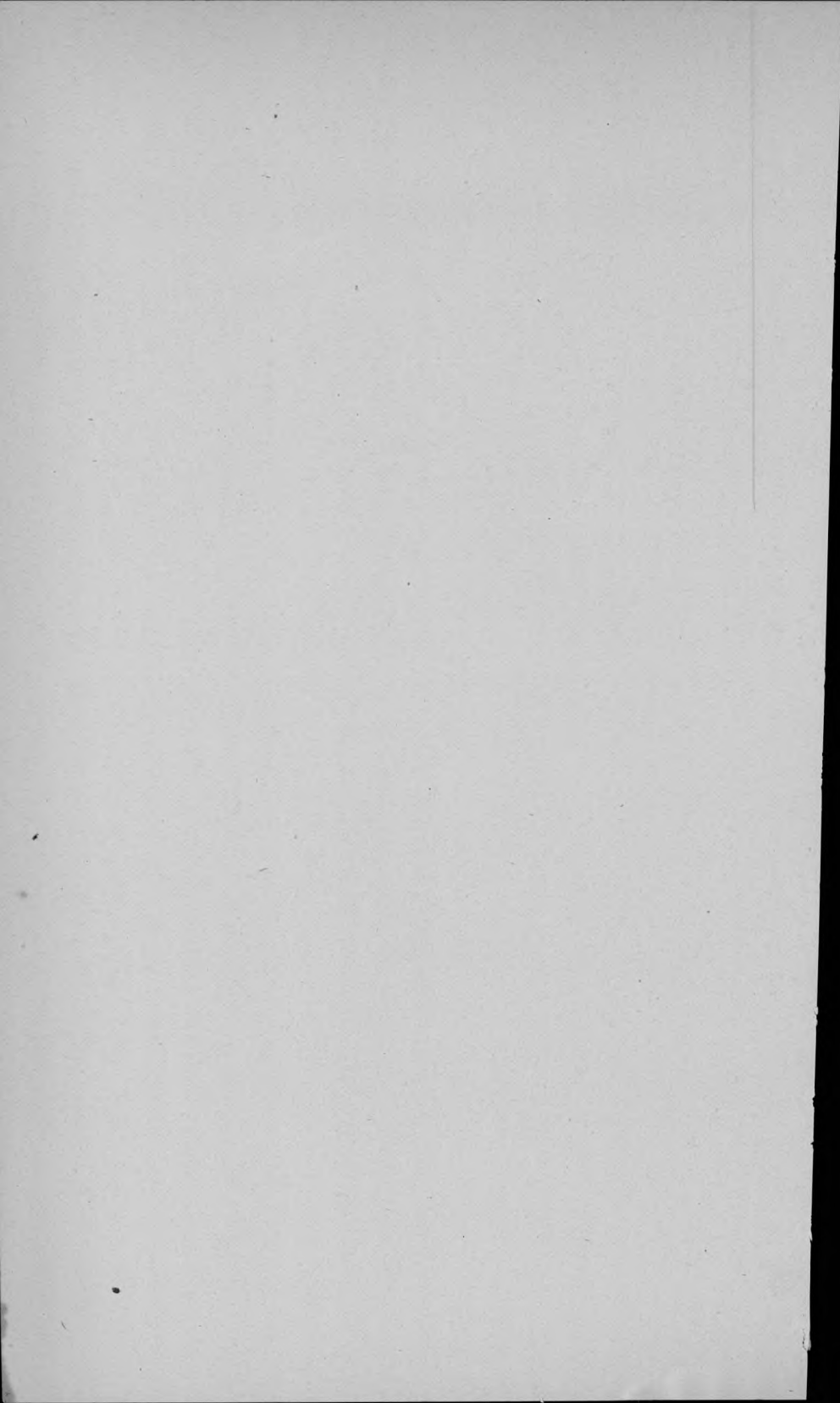
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER
OF THE
STATE OF ALABAMA

CONVENED IN THE CITY OF TUSCALOOSA,

DECEMBER 2, 5845—1845.

TUSCALOOSA.
JOHN M'CORMICK, PRINTER.

1846.



PROCEEDINGS.

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the State of Alabama, was held at the Masonic Hall, in the City of Tuscaloosa, on Tuesday the 2d day of December, 1845, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

PRESENT:

The M. E. JAMES PENN, G. High Priest.

E. FELIX G. NORMAN, D. G. High Priest (pro tem.)

E. STEPHEN F. HALE, G. King (pro tem.)

E. JAMES McCALEB WILEY, G. Scribe (pro tem.)

E. REV. WM. LEIGH, G. Chaplain (pro tem.)

E. WM. A. LELAND, G. Treasurer, pro tem.

E. AMAND P. PFISTER, G. Secretary.

E. STERLING A. M. WOOD,	} G. Marshals.
E. M. B. POSEY,	
JOSEPH W. PIERCE, G. Sentinel.	

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. E. Nimrod E. Benson, G. H. P.; Edward Herndon, P. D. G. H. P.; Wm. A. Ferrill, P. G. K.; Felix G. Norman, P. G. S.

Visitors—Comps. Bebee, Lyon, O'Neal, and Williams.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Tuscaloosa, No. 1—Amand P. Pfister, H. P.; Wm. A. Leland, K.; D. M. Boyd,* S.

Eunomia, No. 5—James Penn,* K.; John C. Thompson,* S.

Cyrus, No. 6—S. A. M. Wood,* H. P.; Baylor B. Barker,* S.

Clinton, No. 9—James M. Brundidge,* H. P.; Cargill J. Massenburgh,* K.; Egbert J. Jones,* S.

Tuscumbia, No. 10—Felix G. Norman, H. P.

*Proxies.

- Phoenix*, No. 11—John Fife,* H. P.; John McCormick,* K.
Marion, No. 12—Wm. Hendrix,* H. P.
Gainesville, No. 13—E. R. Fawcett, S.
Wetumpka, No. 17—W. C. Penick, S.
Mt. Moriah, No. 19—S. F. Hale, H. P.; M. B. Posey, K.
Livingston, No. 20—Wm. S. Patton,* K.; Daniel L. Ayres,* S.
Montgomery, No. 22—N. E. Benson, H. P.; Edward M. Hastings,* K.; Lewis W. Pond,* S.
Talladega, No. 23—Louis E. Parsons,* H. P.; Thaddeus C. Scales,* K.
Eufaula, No. 24—J. McCaleb Wiley, H. P.
Demopolis, U. D. 27—Sid Smith,* H. P.; Rev. T. S. Abernathy,* K.; Morris Fishel,* S.
St. Johns, No. 28—Rev. James Young, H. P.; William H. Norris,* K.

The Companions present were called to order by the M. E. Grand High Priest, and after solemn prayer by the Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Chapter was opened in due and ancient form.

The following Committees were appointed by the M. E. Grand High Priest:

On Accounts—Comps. Hastings, Hendrix, Wood, Fawcett, and Patton.

On Chartered Chapters—Comps. Norman, Hale, Posey, Scales, and Sid. Smith.

On Dispensations—Comps. Parsons, Posey, Barker, Massenburg, and McCormick.

On By-Laws—Comps. Thompson, Barker, Leland, Jones, and Brundidge.

On Foreign Correspondence—Comps. Wiley, Norman, Hale, and Posey.

On Work—Comps. Ferrill, Benson, Herndon, Leigh, and Abernathy.

*Proxies.

On Delinquent Chapters—Comps. Leland, Wood, Thompson, Fife, and Patton.

Comp. Norman submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted:

1. That the report of Chartered Chapters be referred to the committee on Chartered Chapters.
2. That the books and papers of Chapters under dispensation, be referred to the committee on Dispensations.
3. That the By-Laws of subordinate Chapters be referred to the committee on By-Laws.
4. That the proceedings and correspondence of other Grand Chapters be referred to the committee on Foreign Correspondence.

A petition was presented from Companion Leigh, and sundry other Companions, residents at or near the town of Leighton, praying for the restoration of the charter and reinstatement of Leighton Chapter, No. 14, which was referred to the Committee on Delinquent Chapters.

The Grand Secretary's report was read and referred to the Committee on Accounts.

REPORT.

The Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, has the honor of reporting the state of the finances of this Grand Chapter, as follows: At the date of the last convocation, the available funds amounted to four hundred and forty-six dollars and twenty-four cents, (\$446.24), as per report of the committee on Finance. Since that time, three hundred and ninety-three dollars (\$393) have been received for annual contributions, 1844—two hundred and seventy (\$270) for dispensations—and forty-five dollars and twenty-five cents (\$45.25), unexpended balance from contingent fund—making a total of eleven hundred and fifty-four dollars and forty-nine cents—

(\$1,154.49). Two hundred dollars have been appropriated by this Grand Chapter—leaving an unexpended balance of nine hundred and fifty-four dollars and forty-nine cents—(\$954.49).

Three dispensations have issued for the establishment of subordinate Chapters, viz: Union, No. 26, at Uniontown; Demopolis, No. 27, at Demopolis; and St. Johns, No. 28, at Selma.

The Grand Secretary has nothing further to report, but submits the above statement, with the accompanying papers, for the inspection of this Grand Chapter. All of which is respectfully submitted.

AMAND P. PFISTER, Grand Secretary.

EXHIBIT A.

Amount of Cash received from Subordinate Chapters at the Annual Convocation, 1844.

From Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1	\$ 14 00
From Monroe Chapter, No. 4	32 00
From Eunomia Chapter, No. 5	31 00
From Cyrus Chapter, No. 6	29 00
From Clinton Chapter, No. 9	18 00
From Tuscumbia Chapter, No. 10	18 00
From Phoenix Chapter, No. 11	19 00
From Marion Chapter, No. 12	23 00
From Gainesville Chapter, No. 13	18 00
From Wetumpka Chapter, No. 17	14 00
From Jameston, '43 and '44, No. 18	47 00
From Mt. Moriah Chapter, No. 19	21 00
From Livingston Chapter, No. 20	9 00
From Mobile Chapter, No. 21	32 00
From Montgomery Chapter, No. 22	29 00
From Talladega Chapter, No. 23	22 00
From Eufaula Chapter, No. 24	17 00
Total	\$393 00

EXHIBIT B.

Dr. Contingent Fund, in Account with the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

1844.

Dec. 9. To cash..... \$100 00

PER CONTRA—CR.

Dec. 9. By cash paid Grand Sentinel.....	\$15 00
By cash paid Printing Proceedings.....	20 00
By cash paid Exchange on jewels.....	10 00
By cash paid Postage and stationery....	7 00
By cash paid Subscription to Magazine and binding	2 75
By cash paid Balance to general fund..	45 25
	\$100 00

Dr. Amand P. Pfister, Grand Secretary, in Account with the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

1844.

Dec. 3. To balance on hand, as per report 1844.....	\$ 96 79
Cash received subordinate Chapters,	
Ex. A.	393 00
Bank State Alabama.....	349 45
Dispensations of Union, Demopolis and St. John Chapters.....	270 00
Balance from contingent fund.....	45 25
	\$1,154 49

PER CONTRA.

By appropriation to Grand Secretary.....	\$100 00
By appropriation to contingent fund.....	100 00
	200 00
Balance on hand.....	\$954 49

Comp. Garrett reported that though elected Grand Treasurer of this Grand Chapter, at its last convocation, circumstances beyond his control had prevented his acceptance of the office; that he had not qualified himself for the same, and therefore, had received none of the funds of the Grand Chapter.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. GARRETT,
P. Grand Treasurer.

The following resolution offered by Comp. Benson, was read and laid on the table:

Resolved, That the sum of dollars be appropriated out of the funds of this Grand Chapter, towards fitting up the Masonic Hall.

The proposed amendment to the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, to-wit: That the fees of the degrees in the subordinate Chapters be reduced to thirty-five dollars—to-wit: For Mark M., \$5; P. M., \$5; M. E. M., \$5; and R. A. M., \$20; was voted on and rejected.

On motion of Comp. Leigh, it was

Resolved, That the M. E.. Grand H. Priest draw his warrant for the sum of ninety dollars; it being the amount paid by Courtland Chapter for a Charter, upon the said Chapter surrendering the same.

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

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 3, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Chapter convened pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

M. E. JAMES PENN, Grand High Priest.

E. FELIX G. NORMAN, Dep. G. High Priest, pro tem.

E. WILLIAM LITTLE, Grand King, pro tem.

E. STEPHEN F. HALE, Grand Scribe, pro tem.

E. REV. WM. LEIGH, Grand Chaplain, pro tem.

E. EDWARD HERNDON, Grand Treasurer.

E. AMAND P. PFISTER, Grand Secretary.

E. STERLING A. M. WOOD, }
E. M. B. POSEY, } Grand Marshals.

JOSEPH W. PIERCE, Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. E. Nimrod E. Benson, G. H. P.; Edward Herndon, Dep. G. H. P.; Felix G. Norman, G. S.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Numbers 1, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, and

Monroe Chapter, No. 4—John G. Wallace K.

Jameston, No. 18—Wm. Little, H. P.; Seth Little (p.), K.; Henry G. Little, S.

Union, U. D. No. 26—James White (p.), H. P.; Richard Clarke, K.

On motion of Comp. Grand Secretary, the reports of Monroe, Mobile, and Jameston Chapters, were referred to the committee on Chartered Chapters, and the proceedings and papers of Union Chapter, No. 26, U. D. to the committees on Chapters under dispensation.

Comp. Wiley, from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, submitted the following report, which was read and concurred in:

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Your committee have examined the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of R. A. Masons of the United States, and the Grand Chapters of the States of Connecticut, Maryland, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, South Carolina and Texas, at their last convocations, which were handed them by the Grand Secretary, in all of which your committee find nothing requiring the special action of this Grand Chapter, but much interesting matter. Your committee would, however, beg leave to express their great gratification at the prosperous condition of Royal Arch Chapter Masonry in all the States with which this Grand Chapter is in correspondence, as evidenced by an examination of the proceedings thereof; and from these and other sources, which are to be relied upon, your committee have the satisfaction to learn, that the present prospects for the success, influence, and usefulness of our beloved order, has at no time been excelled or indeed equalled—that the dark mist which ignorance, stupidity, avarice, and unhallowed ambition had for a time cast around this, the fairest structure of human ingenuity, is now rapidly passing away, and its beautiful columns are again presented to gladden the heart and revive the drooping energies of the philanthropist; and that our beloved institution is marching with a firm and steady step, to that lofty eminence of moral grandeur to which it is so eminently entitled; and for the purpose of sooner bringing about this wished for consummation, your committee beg leave respectfully to urge that the Grand Secretary take particular care to send to all the Grand Chapters in the United States, copies of the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, requesting them to reciprocate.

J. McCALEB WILEY, Chairman.

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 respective names:

- M. E. FELIX G. NORMAN, of Tuscumbia, Grand High Priest.
- E. J. McCALEB WILEY, Eufaula, Dep. Grand High Priest.
- E. STEPHEN F. HALE, Eutaw, Grand King.
- E. WILLIAM HENDRIX, Marion, Grand Scribe.
- E. REV. JAMES YOUNG, Summerfield, Grand Chaplain.
- E. EDWARD HERNDON, Gainesville, Grand Treasurer.
- E. AMAND P. PFISTER, Tuscaloosa, Grand Secretary.
- E. STERLING A. M. WOOD, Florence, }
- E. WM. S. PATTON, Livingston, } Grand Marshals.
- JOSEPH W. PIERCE, Marion, Grand Sentinel.

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

THURSDAY, Dec. 4, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Chapter convened pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

- M. E. JAMES PENN, G. High Priest.
- E. FELIX G. NORMAN, D. G. H. Priest (pro tem.)
- E. NIMROD E. BENSON, G. King (pro tem.)
- E. REV. E. V. LEVERT, G. Scribe.
- E. REV. WM. LEIGH, G. Chaplain (pro tem.)
- E. EDWARD HERNDON, G. Treasurer (pro tem.)
- E. AMAND P. PFISTER, G. Secretary.
- E. STERLING A. M. WOOD, }
- E. JAS M. BRUNDIDGE, } G. Marshals.
- JOS. W. PIERCE, G. Sentinel.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Numbers 1, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27 and 28.

Comp. Moses F. Hoit, H. P. of Livingston Chapter, No. 20, appeared and took his seat.

Comp. Norman submitted the following report:

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS.

Your committee upon a strict and careful examination, find the reports of the following Chapters to be correct, and in conformity with the constitution of this Grand Chapter, viz: Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1; Monroe No. 4; Eunomia, No. 5; Cyrus, No. 6; Clinton, No. 9; Tuscumbia, No. 10; Phoenix, No. 11; Marion, No. 12; Gainesville, No. 13; Wetumpka, No. 17; Jameston, No. 18; Mount Moriah, No. 19; Livingston, No. 20; Montgomery, No. 22; Talladega, No. 23; and Eufaula, No. 24.

They find that Clinton, No. 9, paid dues for two members who had dimitted at a period anterior to the date of the returns to this Grand Chapter; they therefore recommend that said dues be returned.

They find also, that Talladega Chapter, No. 23, reports three ministers of the gospel, and dues are paid for them, which last is only contingently required by this Grand Chapter.

Your committee are gratified to state, that the reports of all the subordinate Chapters are made in a neat and careful manner—strict regard having been paid, with very slight variation on the part of some few of them, to the forms prescribed by the constitution.

FELIX G. NORMAN, Chairman.

The above report was concurred in.

Comp. Sid. Smith presented a memorial from sundry Companions, members of Demopolis Chapter, No. 27, praying the removal of the location of

said Chapter from Demopolis to Dayton; and that the name of said Chapter be changed to that of Dayton. Which was referred to the committee on Chapters under Dispensation.

The following report from the committee on By-Laws, was read and approved of:

Your committee have examined carefully the By-Laws of Montgomery, Mt. Moriah, Cyrus and Clinton Chapters, (being all which have come to hand), and find them correct, and according to the constitution of this Grand Chapter.

JOHN C. THOMPSON, Chairman.

Comp. Wood, from the committee on Delinquent Chapters, presented the following:

REPORT.

Your committee have had under consideration, the memorial of Comps. Leigh and others, from the vicinity of Leighton, praying that the Charter of Leighton Chapter, which was forfeited in the year 1842, be resuscitated, according to the regulations and rules of this Grand Chapter; beg to report favorably upon said memorial, and that the prayer of the same may be granted.

Be it resolved, 1st. That Leighton Chapter No. 14, be resuscitated, and allowed to resume its labors when it shall have complied with the requisitions of the 13th sec. 4th art. of the constitution of this Grand Chapter, requiring the payment of all dues from subordinate chapters which have forfeited their charters.

Resolved, 2nd. That as it is impossible for your committee to ascertain the exact amount of dues for the years during which said Chapter held its Charter—that upon the payment of the sum of twenty dollars, the said Chapter shall be considered as having discharged all the dues to this Grand Chapter, and entitled to take its place among the regular Chartered Chapters.

WM. A. LELAND, Chairman.

The above report and resolutions were adopted.

On motion of Comp. Hoit, it was

Resolved, That the first amendment of the constitution of this Grand Chapter, which was adopted at the last annual convocation, as reported on the 4th page of the proceedings at that Convocation, be referred to the committee on Work, with instructions to report at the present Convocation, whether the same is not in whole, or in part, contrary to the constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and therefore void and of no effect.*

The following resolution, offered by Comp. Wiley was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to append to the proceedings of this Grand Convocation, a copy of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

Comp. Parsons submitted the following report, which was read and concurred in:

ON CHAPTERS UNDER DISPENSATION.

Your committee find the records of St. John's Chapter, No. 28, defective in many important particulars, so much so, as to indicate a mode of work greatly at variance with the long established usages of the order. It is hoped, however, that the records merely, and not the work of this Chapter, are erroneous. It appears from the records, that its first meeting was held on the 14th October, A. D. 1845, and that By-Laws

AMENDMENT ALLUDED TO.

*That any subordinate Chapter may confer the degrees on Ministers of the Gospel without charging any fee for the same; and that this Grand Chapter will not require from any subordinate Chapter, 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.

have not been prepared, there not being sufficient time. Your committee are informed, by the High Priest of said Chapter that further time is desired to do so—this, it is recommended to grant, and also, that they be instructed to send up to the next annual Grand Chapter a full record of all their proceedings since their reception of the Dispensation, granted them by this body, and that a continuance of their Dispensation be granted them until that time.

Your Committee have examined the records of Demopolis Chapter, No. 28, and find them for the most part regular. There are several inaccuracies which should be corrected. It appears, the Dispensation for the Chapter was granted by the Grand Chapter, and that on the 5th August, 1845, there was a "Tyler" instead of a "Sentinel." Your committee find the report to be regular which the Chapter has sent up, and the By-Laws, adopted by this Chapter, do not conflict with the Constitution of this Grand Chapter. It is recommended, that a Charter be granted them, and that they be permitted to change its location and name, as prayed for in the memorial referred to this committee. The Records, By-Laws and Report of Union Chapter, No. 26, appear to be correct in every particular, and your committee recommend that said Chapter receive a Charter.

LEWIS E. PARSONS, Chairman.

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

FRIDAY, DEC. 5, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Chapter convened pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

M. E. JAMES PENN, Grand High Priest.

E. FELIX G. NORMAN, Dep. G. High Priest, pro tem.

E. NIMROD E. BENSON, Grand K., pro tem.

E. WILLIAM LITTLE, Grand Scribe, pro tem.

E. REV. WM. LEIGH, Grand Chaplain, pro tem.
E. EDWARD HERNDON, Grand Treasurer.
E. AMAND P. PFISTER, Grand Secretary.
E. STERLING A. M. WOOD, } Grand Marshals.
E. JAS M. BRUNDIDGE, }
JOSEPH W. PIERCE, Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. E. Nimrod E. Benson, G. H. P.; Edward Herndon, Dep.
G. H. P.; Wm. A. Ferrill, G. K.; Felix G. Norman, G. S.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Numbers 1, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22,
23, 24, 26, 27, 28.

On motion of Comp. Hendrix, the resolution to appropriate the sum of _____ dollars, for fitting up the Masonic Hall, was taken up from the table, the blank filled with one hundred and thirty-three dollars and thirty-three cents, and passed.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

By Companion Wiley:

Resolved, That the 13th Section of the 4th Article of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, be so amended as to change the words "One Dollar" to "Fifty Cents."

On-motion of Comp. Wood, it was

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to pay back two dollars to St. Johns Chapter, the same having been paid as dues for two Ministers of the Gospel.

Companion Sid. Smith, submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed on the part of the Grand Chapter, to make suitable arrangements for the public installation of its officers elect, on tomorrow at 11 o'clock, and that Companion David G. Ligon be requested to deliver an address on that occasion.

Resolved further, That said committee confer with the M. W. Grand Lodge, and request that it will meet with its Grand Officers at about the same time and place.

The M. E. Grand H. P. was pleased to appoint on said committee, Companions Sid. Smith, Wiley, Penick, Pfister, Hoyt, Wood and Leland.

On motion of Comp. Hoyt, it was

Resolved, That hereafter, it shall be the duty of the M. E. Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, to deliver at each annual convocation thereof a full course of lectures upon all the degrees of the Chapter, and to fully exemplify the work therein, or cause the same to be done.

Companion Ferrill, presented the following report, which was concurred in:

The committee to whom was referred the amendment of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, as reported on the 4th page of the published proceedings of 1844, authorizing subordinate Chapters to confer degrees on Ministers of the Gospel, without charging the fees, believe the same to be in violation of the 12th Section of the 3d Article of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and therefore null and void.

WM. A. FERRILL, Chairman.

Companion Hastings, submitted the following report:

ON ACCOUNTS.

The committee to whom was referred the accounts and vouchers of the Grand Secretary, beg leave to report, that

after a careful examination of the same, they find, that since the last annual Convocation there has been received by him the sum of eleven hundred and fifty-four dollars and forty-nine cents, and that he has expended during the same period the sum of two hundred dollars, leaving in his hands nine hundred and fifty-four dollars and forty-nine cents, unexpended.

E. M. HASTINGS, Chairman.

The following report was presented and adopted :

ON WORK.

The Committee on Work, to whom was referred that subject, beg leave to recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Work as exemplified by Companion Penn in the Royal Arch Degree, is the proper mode to be observed by the Subordinate Chapters.

WM. A. FERRILL, Chairman.

The M. E. Grand H. P. Companion James Penn, having retired, the M. E. Companion Felix G. Norman took the chair and presided as G. H. P.

The following, offered by Companion Wood, was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be returned to our M. E. Grand High Priest, James Penn, for the faithful, able, and dignified manner in which he has discharged the duties of Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter for the last two years.

And whereas, it has been made known to this Grand Chapter, that he is shortly to remove, from the limits of the same:

Be it further resolved, That we deeply regret the necessity of parting with our much esteemed and worthy Grand High Priest, and do hereby recommend him to the attention and consideration of the Masonic fraternity wherever in Providence his lot may be cast.

Resolved, That as a further evidence of the regard and esteem of this Grand Chapter for their Companion James Penn, that he be presented with a High Priest's Jewel of solid gold, and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to make out for him a diploma.

Resolved, That Companions Norman, Wiley, Sid. Smith, and Pfister be a committee to wait on Companion Penn, and inform him of the passage of the above resolutions; and also, that they procure and present the said jewel.

Comp. Rev. Wm. Leigh, obtained leave of absence for the residue of this Convocation.

The Grand Chapter then adjourned until tomorrow morning, 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING, Dec. 6, 10 o'clock.

The officers elect, and members of this Grand Chapter, united with the Grand Lodge of the State of Alabama—a procession was formed under the direction of the Grand Marshals, Companions Wood and Patton, and marched to the Methodist Episcopal Church, when the Throne of Grace was addressed by Companion Rev. T. S. Abernathy, and an eloquent and able oration was delivered by Companion David G. Ligon, after which the ceremonies of installation were performed by M. E. James Penn, P. G. H. P. of the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama, in solemn and ancient form.

The procession then returned to the Masonic Hall.

The Grand Chapter resumed its labors.

PRESENT:

- M. E. FELIX G. NORMAN, G. H. P.
E. J. McCALEB WILEY, Dep. G. H. P.
E. STEPHEN F. HALE, G. K.
E. WM. HENDRIX, G. S.
E. REV. T. S. ABERNATHY, G. Chaplain, pro. tem.
E. EDWARD HERNDON, G. Treasurer.
E. AMAND P. PFISTER, Grand Secretary.
E. STERLING A. M. WOOD, } G. Marshals.
E. WM. S. PATTON, }
JOSEPH W. PIERCE, G. Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

- M. E. James Penn, N. E. Benson, Edward Herndon, G. H. P.;
E. Wm. A. Ferrill, G. K.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

Numbers 1, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23,
24, 26 and 27.

The following resolutions, offered by Companion Sid. Smith, were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be tendered to Companion David G. Ligon, for the able and eloquent address delivered by him before the fraternity on the occasion of the installation of the Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

Resolved, That thanks of the Grand Chapter be returned to the stewards and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the use of the Church.

On motion of Companion Wiley, it was

Resolved, That the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Dollars be appropriated to our Past Grand High Priest, James Penn, for his services in giving the lectures on the Chapter degrees.

On motion of Companion Hendrix, it was

Resolved, That an appropriation of One Hundred and Fifty Dollars, be, and is hereby made to the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter for his services.

Resolved, 2d, That the Grand Secretary retain in his hands the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Dollars as a contingent fund for the year 1846.

Resolved, 3d, That the M. E. G. H. Priest be authorized to drawn on the Grand Treasurer for all appropriations made at the present Convocation of this Grand Chapter.

On motion of Companion Price Williams, it was

Resolved, That all unfinished business be postponed until the next annual convocation.

The Grand Chapter then closed until the next annual convocation, after solemn prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

FELIX G. NORMAN, Grand High Priest.

Attest:

AMAND P. PFISTER, Grand Secretary.

*List of Subordinate Chapters under the Jurisdiction of the
Grand Chapter of Alabama.*

TUSCALOOSA, No. 1, Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County—Amand P. Pfister, H. P.; C. R. Harrison, Sec'y.; 19 members. Convocation first Monday of every month.

MONROE, No. 4, Claiborne, Monroe County—James R. Colburn, H. P.; C. H. Foster, Sec'y.; 29 members.

EUNOMIA, No. 5, Huntsville, Madison Co.—D. B. Turner, H. P.; Harrison T. Carr, Sec'y.; 26 members.

CYRUS, No. 6, Florence, Lauderdale Co.—Joseph Bigger, H. P.; William B. Wood, Sec'y.; 37 members.

CLINTON, No. 9, Athens, Limestone Co.—Rev. F. G. Ferguson, H. P.; R. Austin, Jr., Sec'y.; 31 members.

TUSCUMBIA, No. 10, Tuscumbia, Franklin Co.—F. G. Norman, H. P.; Wm. Rollston, Sec'y.; 17 members.

PHOENIX, No. 11, Greensboro, Greene Co.—Rev. T. H. Capers, H. P.; J. C. Meredith, Sec'y.; 23 members.

MARION, No. 12, Marion, Perry Co.—John R. Goree, H. P.; W. R. Brown, Sec'y.; 32 members.

GAINESVILLE, No. 13, Gainesville, Sumter Co.—John W. Leigh, H. P.; Mont. Carleton, Sec'y.; 18 members.

LEIGHTON, No. 14, Leighton, Lawrence Co.—Rev. Wm. Leigh, H. P.; Philip King, Sec'y.; 10 members.

WETUMPKA, No. 17, Wetumpka, Autauga Co.—A. A. McWhorter, H. P.; Wm. B. Cooper, Sec'y.; 20 members.

JAMESTON, No. 18, Warsaw, Sumter Co.—Wm. Little, H. P.; W. O. Hare, Sec'y.; 28 members.

MOUNT MORIAH, No. 19, Eutaw, Greene Co.—Stephen F. Hale, H. P.; Isaac Oliver, Sec'y.; 18 members.

LIVINGSTON, No. 20, Livingston, Sumter Co.—Moses F. Hoit, H. P.; Preston G. Nash, Sec'y.; 13 members.

MOBILE, No. 21, Mobile, Mobile Co.—Edmund H. Whitfield, H. P.; Edwin Rust, Sec'y.; 30 members.

MONTGOMERY, No. 22, Montgomery, Montgomery Co.—N. E. Benson, H. P.; Edmund M. Hastings, Sec'y.; 36 members.

TALLADEGA, No. 23, Talladega, Talladega Co.—G. W. Stone, H. P.; A. G. Story, Sec'y.; 29 members.

EUFULA, No. 24, Eufaula, Barbour Co.—J. McCaleb Wiley, H. P.; C. W. Snow, Sec'y.; 38 members.

UNION, No. 26, Uniontown, Perry Co.—Thomas P. Falconer, H. P.; A. P. Walke, Sec'y.; 26 members.

DAYTON, No. 27, Dayton, Marengo Co.—J. C. Dubose, H. P.; C. Stith, Sec'y.; 15 members.

ST. JOHNS, No. 28, Selma, Dallas Co.—Rev. J. Young, H. P.; Wm. Waddell, Jr., Sec'y.; 20 members.

OBITUARY.

M. E. David Moore, P. G. H. P. Grand Chapter of Alabama, died at Huntsville, Sept. 23, 1845.

John B. Hogan, P. G. Secretary, died at Mobile, 1845.

David Sanders, of Monroe Chapter, No. 4, Nov. 18, 1845.

William R. Wood, of Cyrus Chapter, No. 6, Dec. 13, 1844.

S. W. Probasco, of Cyrus Chapter, No. 6, Oct. 18, 1845.

Rev. Joshua Boucher, of Clinton Chapter, No. 9, Aug. 23, 1845.

Joseph P. Allen, of Livingston Chapter, No. 20, March, 1844.

Jos. P. Thompson, of Mobile Chapter, No. 21, July 26, 1845.

A ROLL OF GRAND OFFICERS.

Of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, from its organization, 1823, to December 2, 1845, with their names, residence, and when in office.

GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.

Dugald McFarlane, now in Texas, 1823.

Israel Pickens, of Greene County, 1824-25, deceased.

Nimrod E. Benson, Montgomery, 1826.

John Murphy, of Monroe, 1827-28, deceased.

Thomas B. Creagh, Clarke, 1829-30, deceased.

John C. Hicks, Lawrence, 1837-8-9, removed.

A. B. Dawson, Coosa, 1840, removed.

David Moore, Madison, 1841-2-3, deceased.

James Penn, Madison, 1844.

DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.

John Elliott, Mobile, 1823 to 1829, deceased.

James Penn, Madison, 1829.

G. W. Esselman, Lowndes, 1837.

J. L. F. Cottrell, Lowndes, 1838.

A. B. Dawson, Coosa, 1839, removed.

Edward Herndon, Sumter, 1840 to 1843.

G. W. Creagh, Clarke, 1843-4.

GRAND KINGS.

Horatio G. Perry, Dallas, 1823, deceased.
Anderson Hutchison, Franklin, 1824-5, removed.
Harry I. Thornton, Greene, 1826 to 1829.
James H. Saxon, ———, 1829.
Isham Woodward, ———, 1837.
A. B. Dawson, Coosa, 1838, removed.
William A. Ferrill, Greene, 1839.
David Moore, Madison, 1840, deceased.
Nat. W. Fletcher, Perry, 1841, deceased.
Felix G. Norman, Franklin, 1842.
Charles Whelan, Greene, 1843-4.

GRAND SCRIBES.

Wm. B. Patton, Mobile, 1823, deceased.
James Weakley, Lauderdale, 1824-5.
Thaddeus Sanford, Mobile, 1826.
B. B. Fontaine, Tuscaloosa, 1827.
Charles O. Foster, Monroe, 1828, deceased.
Anderson Hutchison, Franklin, 1829, removed.
Thomas B. Jones, Lawrence, 1837.
Felix G. Norman, Franklin, 1838 and 1841.
R. H. Dalton, Sumter, 1839.
John A. Whetstone, Autauga, 1840.
G. W. Creagh, Clarke, 1842.
E. V. Levert, Greene, 1843-4.

GRAND CHAPLAINS.

Rev. John B. Warren, Mobile, 1823 to '26, deceased.
Rev. Robert L. Kennon, Tuscaloosa, 1826 to '30, deceased.
Rev. J. H. Thomason, Tuscaloosa, 1838 to '42-3.
Rev. Thomas Chilton, Marion, 1842 to '44.

GRAND TREASURERS.

John H. Vincent, Mobile, 1823-4, removed.
Henry A. Snow, Tuscaloosa, 1825-7-8-9.
A. McBryde, Montgomery, 1826.

Major Cook, Tuscaloosa, 1837 to '41.
L. S. Skinner, Tuscaloosa, 1841, removed.
Wm. Garrett, Tuscaloosa, 1842 to '45.

GRAND SECRETARIES.

John B. Hogan, Mobile, 1823-4, deceased.
Wm. D. Stone, Mobile, 1825-6.
John G. Aikin, Tuscaloosa, 1827-8-9.
D. S. Ball, Tuscaloosa, 1837-8.
Amand P. Pfister, Tuscaloosa, 1839 to '45.

The next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, will be held at the City of Columbus, in the State of Ohio, on the 2d Tuesday of September, 1847, at ten o'clock A. M.

Gen. Grand Secretary, CHARLES GILMAN, Baltimore.

List of Grand Secretaries of Grand Chapters so far as Ascertained.

Maine—Arthur Shirley, Portland.
New Hampshire—Isaac Folsom, Exeter.
Massachusetts—Thomas Waterman, Boston.
Rhode Island—James Hutchinson, Pawtucket.
Connecticut—E. G. Storer, New Haven.
New York—J. O. Cole, Albany.
Pennsylvania—W. H. Adams, Philadelphia.
Maryland—Joseph Robinson, Baltimore.
North Carolina—
Virginia—John Dove, Richmond.
South Carolina—A. G. Mackey, Charleston.
Georgia—
Louisiana—F. Verrier, New Orleans.
Kentucky—Philip Swigert, Frankfort.
Tennessee—John S. Dashiell, Nashville.
Ohio—B. F. Smith, Mount Vernon.
Texas—Walter Winn, Washington.

CONSTITUTION

Of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for the United States of America, as revised and Adopted, September 1844.

ARTICLE I.

OF THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

Section 1. There shall be a General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for the United States of America, which shall be holden triennially, on the second Tuesday in September, at such place as shall from time to time be designated for that purpose, and at which time the General Grand officers shall be elected by ballot, and installed.

Sec. 2. The General Grand Chapter shall have and maintain jurisdiction over all State Grand Chapters, and over Chapters in those States, Districts, Republics, or Territories, which recognize this jurisdiction, and where there is no Grand Chapter regularly established, agreeably to the *provisions* of this Constitution; and shall have authority to suspend the proceedings of such State Grand Chapters, and such Chapters in States where there is no Grand Chapter, as may knowingly violate any of the provisions of this Constitution; to settle all difficulties which may arise, and to give such advice and instruction as may seem most conducive to their peace, and to the advancement of the great cause of benevolence and virtue.

Sec. 3. The officers of the General Grand Chapter shall consist of a General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, General Grand Scribe, General Grand Secretary, General Grand Treasurer, General Grand Chaplain, and General Grand Marshal; these, together with

the Past General Grand High Priests, Past Deputy General Grand High Priests, Past General Grand Kings, Past General Grand Scribes, the first four officers of every State Grand Chapter under this jurisdiction, or the proxies of the first four General Grand Officers, and of the first four officers of each State Grand Chapter aforesaid, shall compose the General Grand Chapter; *Provided*, that any Chapter under this jurisdiction, in any State, District, or Territory, where there is no Grand Chapter duly established, shall have a right to appear by its first three officers, or any one or two of them: which officers shall collectively have one vote.

Sec. 4. On all questions to be decided by the General Grand Chapter, each State Grand Chapter shall be entitled to four votes by its representative or representatives.

The General Grand Officers when present shall each have one vote. And no General Grand Officer shall be allowed to take a seat in the General Grand Chapter, as the representative of any State Grand Chapter—nor shall any member of the General Grand Chapter be permitted to vote as proxy, while the person giving the proxy is present;—nor shall any person be admitted into the General Grand Chapter as the representative of more than one State Grand Chapter at one and the same time.

Sec. 5. The General Grand High Priest and Deputy General Grand High Priest shall have authority to call a meeting of the General Grand Chapter, whenever they may consider it expedient or necessary; and it shall be their duty so to do, when properly requested by a majority of the State Grand Chapters, of which four months notice shall be given of the time and place of meeting.

Sec. 6. The General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, and General Grand Scribe, shall severally have power and authority to grant Dispersations, for a limited length of time, for new Royal Arch Chapters and Lodges of the appendant Orders, in any State, Country, Republic, or Territory, in which there is not a

Grand Chapter regularly established, when, in their opinion, the good of the craft may require the same; which term of time shall, in no case, extend beyond the time of the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter; but no new Chapter shall be established in any State, Country, Republic, or Territory, where there is a Chapter, within a reasonable distance, under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, without the approbation of the Chapter nearest to the place where said new Chapter is proposed to be located; and in all cases of such Dispensation, the officer who may grant the same, shall immediately notify the General Grand Secretary thereof, and make report of the same at the next triennial meeting of this General Grand Chapter, when the General Grand Chapter may grant the said Chapter a Charter.

Sec. 7. The fees for instituting a new Royal Arch Chapter with subordinate degrees, shall be ninety dollars, and no more; and no credit shall be given for Dispensations or Charters, or for conferring the degrees, in any Chapter or Lodge under this jurisdiction. And every Chapter holden by Dispensation or Charter under this jurisdiction, shall pay into the treasury of the General Grand Chapter, the sum of two dollars for each companion therein exalted, until such time as a Grand Chapter shall be regularly established in the State, Country, Republic, or Territory in which such subordinate Chapter is located. The Secretary shall be paid by the petitioners ten dollars for his services in furnishing the Charter.

The fees in the several States for conferring the several degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason, shall not be less than twenty dollars; and the fees for the advancement of a candidate to the degree of Mark Master in all Chapters and Lodges shall not be less than four dollars.

Sec. 8. It shall be the duty of the General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, and General Grand Scribe, to improve and perfect themselves in the sublime Arts, and work of Mark Masters, Past Masters, Most Excellent Masters, and Royal Arch Masons;

to make themselves Masters of the several Masonic Lectures, and ancient charges, to consult with each other, and with the Grand, and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the several State Grand Chapters aforesaid, for the purpose of adopting measures suitable and proper for diffusing a knowledge of the said Lectures and Charges. And the better to accomplish this laudable object, the aforesaid officers are hereby severally authorized and empowered to visit and preside in any Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and Lodge of Most Excellent Master, Mark, and Past Master Masons throughout the said States, and to give such instructions and directions as the good of the fraternity may require; always adhering to the ancient land-marks of the Order.

Sec. 9. No Royal Arch Mason, within the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, shall be permitted to confer any degree in masonry, not recognized as a constitutional degree; nor to establish any society of Masons not recognized as a constitutional body: and the first four officers of the General Grand Chapter, or any three of them, shall in all cases have authority to decide all constitutional questions under this section; nor shall any Royal Arch Mason be permitted to give lectures, or instruction on the several degrees of masonry, conferred by or under the authority of the General Grand Chapter, except he or they shall have been duly authorized by two of the State Grand Officers; which authority shall be given under their hands and the seal of the State Grand Chapter, attested by their Grand Secretary.

Sec. 10. In all cases of the absence of an officer from any body of Masons, instituted or holden by virtue of this Constitution, the officer next in rank shall occupy his place, unless through courtesy, or for other reasons, he should decline in favor of another companion or brother; and in case of the absence of all the officers from any regular meeting of either of the bodies aforesaid, the members present shall designate some suitable companions or brethren to fill the several stations.

Sec. 11. In every Chapter and Lodge under this jurisdiction, all questions (except the admission of members, or candidates, which shall require an unanimous ballot), shall be considered and determined in such way and manner, as such Chapters and Lodges may, all circumstances considered, find most conducive to their harmony and permanent prosperity: *Provided*, they do not in any case interfere with, or infringe on the regulations of the General Grand Chapter.

Sec. 12. The General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter shall have and keep a seal, which shall be affixed to all his communications.

Sec. 13. Should any casualty, at any time thereafter, prevent the triennial election of officers, the several officers shall retain their respective offices until successors are duly elected and qualified.

ARTICLE II.

OF STATE GRAND CHAPTERS.

Section 1. The State Grand Chapters shall severally consist of a Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Chaplain, Grand Marshal; and likewise, of the High Priests, Kings, and Scribes, for the time being, of the several Chapters over which they shall respectively preside, and of the Past Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings, and Scribes, of the said Grand Chapters: and the said Grand Chapters shall have full power and authority to elect such other officers, and to establish such rules and regulations, as they shall, from time to time, consider necessary and proper: *Provided*, such regulations do not in any way interfere with the provisions of this Constitution.

Sec. 2. The State Grand Chapters shall severally be holden once in every year, and oftener if they may consider it expedient or necessary at such time and place as they shall respectively direct; and at their annual meetings, the constitu-

tional officers shall be elected, or appointed, in such manner as shall be provided for by their rules and regulations, and installed into their respective offices; and the Grand, or Deputy Grand High Priests, respectively, for the time being, may call special meetings, to be holden at such times and places as they may think proper.

Sec. 3. The several State Grand Chapters 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, to assign their limits, and to settle the controversies that may happen between them; and shall have power, under their respective seals and the signs manual of their respective Grand, or Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings, and Scribes, attested by their respective Grand Secretaries, to constitute new Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, within their respective jurisdictions; but their jurisdictions shall, in no case, be construed to extend beyond the limits of the State, except by consent of the General Grand Chapter.

Sec. 4. The Grand, and Deputy Grand High Priests, severally, shall have the power and authority, whenever they shall deem it expedient, during the recess of the Grand Chapter of which they are officers, to grant letters of Dispensation, under their respective hands and private seals, to a competent number of petitioners, possessing the qualifications required by the seventh section of the second article of this Constitution, empowering them to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for a certain specified term of time: *Provided*, that the said term of time shall not extend beyond the next meeting of the Grand Chapter of the State in which such Dispensation shall be granted: *And provided further*, that the same fees as are required by this Constitution for Charters, shall be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Treasurer. And in all cases of such Dispensation, the officers who may grant the same, shall make report thereof at the next stated meeting of the Grand Chapter of his jurisdiction, when the said Grand Chapter may either continue or recall the said Dispensation, or may

grant the petitioners a Charter of Constitution. And in case such Charter shall be granted, the fees first deposited shall be credited in payment for the same; but if a Charter should not be granted, nor the Dispensation continued, the said fees shall be refunded to the petitioners, excepting only such part thereof as shall have been actually expended by means of their application.

Sec. 5. No Dispensation or Charter shall be granted for instituting Lodges of Most Excellent, Past, or Mark Masters, independent of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

Sec. 6. The Grand Chapters shall have power, severally, to require from the several Chapters under their respective jurisdictions, such reasonable proportion of sums received by them for the exaltation or advancement of candidates, and such certain annual sums from their respective members, as by their ordinances or regulations shall be appointed; all which said sums or dues shall be made good and paid annually by the said Chapters, respectively, into the Treasury of the Grand Chapter under which they hold their authority, on or before the first day of the respective annual meetings of the said Grand Chapters.

Sec. 7. No Dispensation or Charter for the institution of a new Chapter of Royal Arch Masons shall be granted, except upon the petition of nine regular Royal Arch Masons; which petition shall be accompanied with a certificate from the Chapter nearest to the place where the new Chapter is intended to be opened, vouching for the moral character and masonic abilities of the petitioners, and recommending that a Dispensation or Charter be granted them.

Sec. 8. The Grand Secretaries of the State Grand Chapters shall, severally, make an annual communication to each other, and also to the Secretary of the General Grand Chapter, containing a list of Grand Officers, and all such other matters as may be deemed necessary for the mutual benefit and information of the said Grand Chapters. And the said Grand Secretaries shall also regularly transmit to the Secretary of the General Grand Chapter, a copy of all their By-Laws and regu-

lations; and also a copy of their proceedings, annually, to each of the officers of the General Grand Chapter; and the State Grand Chapters shall see that their Secretaries faithfully and punctually perform this duty.

Sec. 9. Whenever there shall have been three Chapters regularly instituted and consecrated in any State, Country, Republic, or Territory, by virtue of authority derived from this Constitution, a Grand Chapter shall be established, so soon as convenience and propriety may dictate: *Provided*, that the approbation of one of the first four officers of the General Grand Chapter be first obtained. And said G. Chapters, by their regular officers, shall assemble in some suitable place, elect their officers, and make such rules and regulations for their government as may be necessary—not inconsistent with the regulations of the General Grand Chapter.

Sec. 10. No person shall be permitted to take a seat in any State Grand Chapter, as the representative of more than one Chapter or Lodge; nor unless he is a member of a subordinate Chapter under that jurisdiction.

ARTICLE III.

OF THE SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS AND LODGES.

Section 1. Every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, throughout this jurisdiction, shall have a Dispensation, as is provided in section 6th, of the first article, or section 4th of the second article of this Constitution, or a Charter from the General Grand Chapter, or from some Grand Chapter under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter; and no Chapter shall be deemed legal without such Dispensation, or Charter; and masonic communication, both public and private, is hereby interdicted and forbidden, between any Chapter or Lodge, or any member of either of them, and any Chapter, Lodge, or assembly that may be so illegally formed, opened, or holden, without such Charter, or any or either of their members, or any person exalted or advanced in such illegal Chapter or

Lodge. But nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any Chapter or Lodge which was established before the adoption of the Grand Royal Arch Constitution, at Hartford, on the 27th day of January, A. D. 1798.

Sec. 2. Whenever a Charter is issued for instituting a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, with a power in said Charter to open and hold Lodges of Most Excellent, Past, and Mark Master Masons, the High Priest, King, and Scribe, for the time being, of such Chapter, shall be the Master and Wardens in said Lodges, according to seniority.

Sec. 3. It is incumbent on the High Priest of every Chapter, as appertaining to his office, duty and dignity, to see that the By-Laws of his Chapter, as well as the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and the regulations of the Grand Chapter, be duly observed; that all his subordinate officers perform the duties of their respective stations faithfully, and are examples of diligence and industry to their companions; that true and exact records be kept of all the proceedings of the Chapter, by the Secretary; that the Treasurer keep and render exact and just accounts of all the moneys belonging to the Chapter; that regular returns be made by the Secretary annually to the Grand Chapter, of all admission of candidates or members; and that the annual dues to the Grand Chapter be regularly and punctually paid. The Charter of his Chapter is committed to his special care and charge. He has the right and authority of calling his Chapter at pleasure, upon any emergency or occurrence which, in his judgment, may require their meeting, and he is to fill the Chair when present. It is likewise his duty, together with his King and Scribe, to attend the regular and special meetings of the Grand Chapter, either in person or by proxy.

Sec. 4. All Lodges of Mark Master Masons are bound to observe the preceding article, so far as it can be applied to the government of a Lodge.

Sec. 5. No person having been a member of a Chapter or Lodge shall be admitted a member of any other Chapter or

Lodge, under this jurisdiction, until he shall have produced a certificate from the Chapter or Lodge to which he last belonged, that he was in regular standing, and as such at his own request, is dismissed and recommended.

ARTICLE IV.

OF CONSTITUTING NEW CHAPTERS.

Section 1. When a Charter of Constitution is granted by the General Grand Chapter, or by any State Grand Chapter, for constituting a new Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, the Grand Officers, respectively, shall appoint a day and hour for constituting the same, and installing the new officers. On the day and hour appointed, the Grand, or Deputy Grand High Priest, or the presiding officer for the time being, with his officers, meet in a convenient room, near to the place where the new Chapter is to be constituted. The officers of the new Chapter are to be examined, by the Deputy Grand High Priest, or some companion appointed for that purpose; after they are approved, they are to return to the Hall, and prepare for the reception of the Grand Chapter. When notice is given, by the Grand Marshal, that they are prepared, the Grand Chapter walks in procession to the Hall, when the officers appointed for the new Chapter, resign their seats to the Grand Officers, and take their several stations on the left; the necessary cautions are then given from the chair, and the Ceremony commences by performing an Anthem or Ode adapted to the occasion. The officers and members of the new Chapter then form in front of the Grand High Priest.

The Deputy Grand High Priest then informs the Grand High Priest, that "A number of companions, duly instructed in the sublime mysteries, being desirous of promoting the honor of the Art. have applied to the Grand Chapter for a Charter to constitute a new Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; which having obtained, they are now assembled for the purpose of being constituted, and having their officers installed in due and ancient form."

The Grand High Priest then directs the Grand Secretary to read the Charter, which being done, he asks the members of the new Chapter if they still approve of the officers elect; this being signified accordingly, the Grand High Priest rises and says,

"By virtue of the high powers in me vested, I do form you, my worthy Companions, into a regular Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; from henceforth you are authorized and empowered to open and hold a Lodge of Mark Masters, Past Masters, and Most Excellent Masters, and a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; and to do and perform all such things as thereunto may appertain; conforming in all your doings to the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution, and the general regulations of the State Grand Chapter; and may the God of your Fathers be with you, guide and direct you in all your doings."

GRAND HONORS.

The Furniture, Jewels, Implements, Utensils, &c. belonging to the Chapter (having previously been placed in due form, covered in the centre), are then uncovered, and the new Chapter is dedicated, in ancient manner and form, as is well described in the Most Excellent Master's degree. The Deputy Grand High Priest then presents the first officer of the new Chapter to the Grand High Priest, saying,

"Most Excellent Grand High Priest,

"I present you my worthy Companion ——— to be installed High Priest of this new Chapter; I find him to be skillful in the Royal Art, and attentive to the moral precepts of our Forefathers, and therefore have no doubt but he will discharge the duties of his office with fidelity."

"Excellent Companion,

"I feel much satisfaction in performing my duty on the present occasion, by installing you into the office of High Priest

of this new Chapter. It is an office highly honorable to all those who diligently perform the important duties annexed to it; your reputed Masonic knowledge, however, precludes the necessity of a particular enumeration of those duties; I shall therefore only observe, that by a frequent recurrence to the Constitution, and general regulations, and a constant practice of the several sublime Lectures and Charges, you will be best able to fulfill them; and I am confident, that the companions who are chosen to preside with you, will give strength to your endeavors, and support your exertions. I shall now propose certain questions to you relative to the duties of your office, and to which I must request your unequivocal answer:

"1. Do you solemnly promise that you will redouble your endeavors, to correct the vices, purify the morals and promote the happiness of those of your Brethren, who have attained this sublime degree?

"2. That you will never suffer your Chapter to be opened unless there be present nine regular Royal Arch Masons.

"3. That you will never suffer either more or less than three Brethren be exalted in your Chapter at one and the same time.

"4. That you will not exalt any one to this degree, who has not shown a charitable and humane disposition; or who has not made a considerable proficiency in the foregoing degrees.

"5. That you will promote the general good of our order, and on all proper occasions be ready to give and receive instructions, and particularly from the General and State Grand officers.

"6. That to the utmost of your power you will preserve the solemnities of our ceremonies, and behave in open Chapter with most profound respect and reverence, as an example to your Companions.

"7. That you will not acknowledge, or have intercourse with any Chapter that does not work under a constitutional Charter or Dispensation.

"8. That you will not admit any visitor into your Chapter who has not been exalted in a Chapter legally constituted, without his being first formally healed.

"9. That you will observe and support such By-Laws as may be made by your Chapter, in conformity to the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution, and the general regulations of the Grand Chapter.

"10. That you will pay due respect and obedience to the instructions of the General and State Grand Officers, particularly relating to the several Lectures and Charges, and will resign the Chair to them, severally, when they may visit your Chapter.

"11. That you will support and observe the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution, and the General Regulations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter under whose authority you act.

"Do you submit to all these things, and do you promise to observe and practice them faithfully?"

These questions being answered in the affirmative, the companions all kneel in due form, and the Grand High Priest or Grand Chaplain, repeats the following, or some other suitable prayer:

"Most Holy and Glorious Lord God, the Great High Priest of Heaven and Earth,

"We approach Thee with reverence, and implore Thy blessing on the Companion appointed to preside over this new assembly, and now prostrate before Thee; fill his heart with Thy fear, that his tongue and actions may pronounce Thy glory. Make him steadfast in Thy service; grant him firmness of mind; animate his heart, and strengthen his endeavors; may he teach Thy judgments and Thy law; and may the incense he shall put before Thee, upon Thine altar, prove an acceptable sacrifice unto Thee. Bless him, O Lord, and bless the work of his hands. Accept us in mercy; hear Thou from Heaven Thy dwelling place, and forgive our transgressions.

"Glory be to God the Father; as it was in the beginning, &c." Response, "So mote it be."

All the Companions, except High Priests and Past High Priests, are then desired to withdraw, while the new High Priest is solemnly bound to the performance of his duties; and after the performance of other necessary ceremonies, not proper to be written, they are permitted to return.

The Grand High Priest then addresses the new High Priest as follows:

"Excellent Companion,

"In consequence of your cheerful acquiescence with the charges and regulations just recited, I now declare you duly installed and anointed High Priest of this new Chapter; not doubting your determination to support the reputation and honor of our sublime order. I now cheerfully deliver unto you the Charter under which you are to work; and I doubt not you will govern with such good order and regularity, as will convince your Companions that their partiality has not been improperly placed."

The Grand High Priest then clothes and invests the new High Priest with the various implements and insignia of the Order, with suitable charges to each of them.

The Grand High Priest then installs the several subordinate officers in turn; and points out to them the duties appertaining to their respective offices; after which he pronounces a suitable address to the new Chapter, and closes the ceremony, with the following benediction:

"The Lord be with you all; let brotherly love continue; be not forgetful to entertain strangers. Now the God of Peace, our Supreme High Priest, make you perfect to do His Will.

"Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, and good will to men. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, &c."

Sec. 2. Whenever it shall be inconvenient for the General Grand Officers, or the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests, respectively, to attend in person, to constitute a new Chapter,

and install the officers, they shall, severally, have power and authority to appoint some worthy High Priest, or Past High Priest, to perform the necessary ceremonies.

Sec. 3. The officers of every Chapter and Lodge under this jurisdiction, before they enter upon the exercise of their respective offices, and also the members of all such Chapters and Lodges, and every candidate upon his admission into the same, shall take the following obligation, viz: "I, A. B., do promise and swear, that I will support and maintain the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for the United States of America."

Sec. 4. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any regular stated meeting of the General Grand Chapter, with the approbation of two-thirds of the voters present, and not otherwise.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing is a true copy of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for the United States of America, as altered, amended and ratified, at the triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter, begun and holden at the city of New Haven, in the State of Connecticut, on the 9th day of September, A. D. 1844.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the General Grand Chapter to be hereunto affixed.

Dated at the city of Baltimore, this 26th day of September, 1845.

CHARLES GILMAN,
G. G. Secretary.

COMP. GRAND SECRETARY:

I am instructed by the Grand Chapter of Alabama to forward to you, for the use of your Grand Chapter, a copy of their proceedings, and request of you to reciprocate.

Remaining fervently, yours, &c.,

AMAND P. PFISTER, Grand Secretary.