

1853

PROCEEDINGS

of the

GRAND

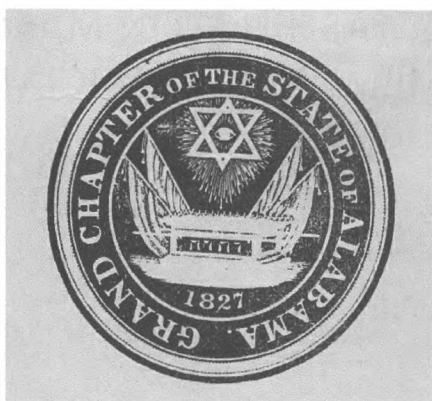
CHAPTER

of

Royal Arch Masons

of

ALABAMA



A.D. 1853 / A.I. 2383

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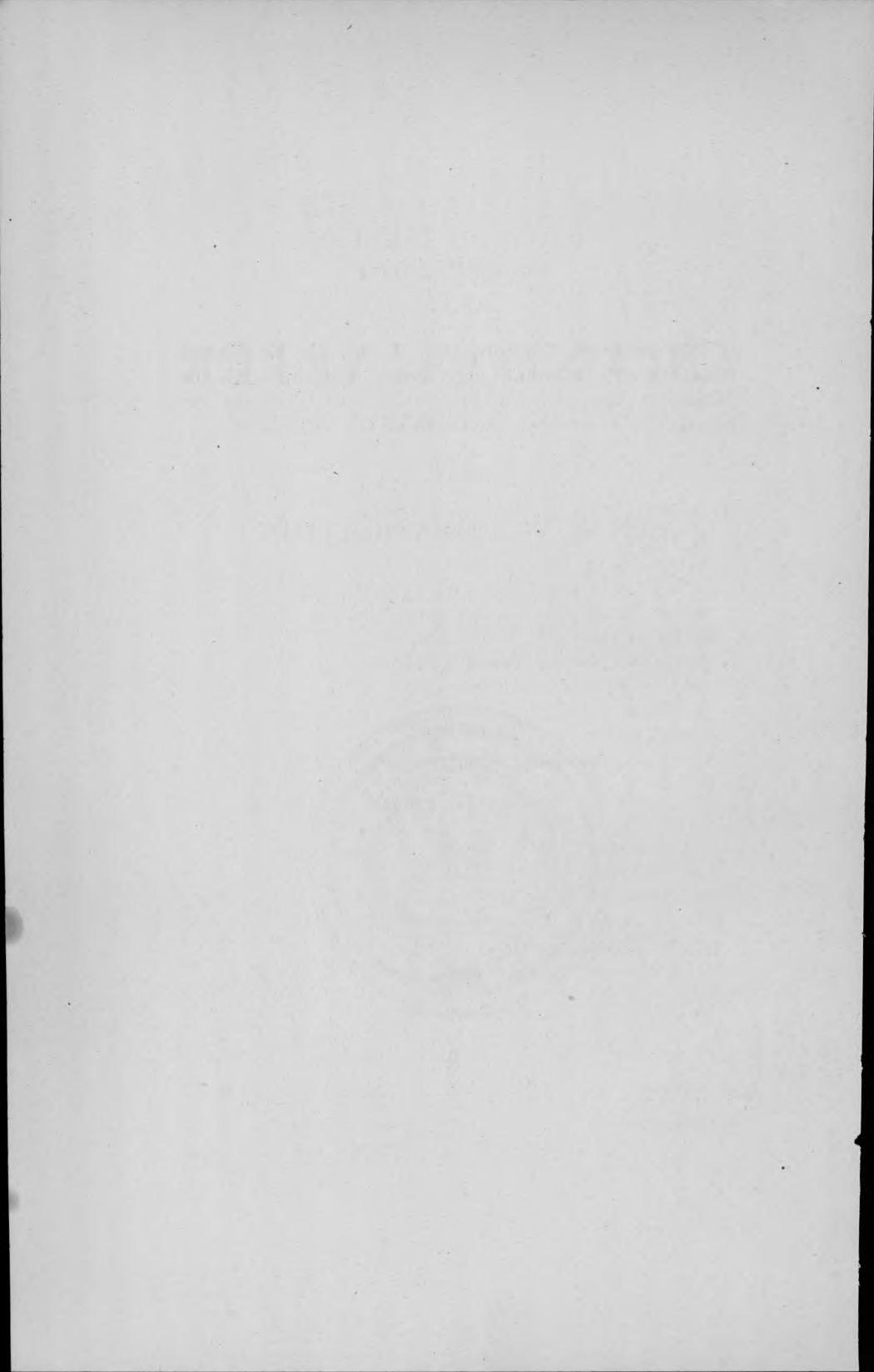
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER
OF ALABAMA

AT ITS
ANNUAL CONVOCATION

IN MONTGOMERY
DECEMBER 6, 1853



MONTGOMERY:
PRINTED AT THE "MASONIC SIGNET" OFFICE.
1854.



PROCEEDINGS.

The Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama, was begun and held at the Masonic Hall, city of Montgomery, on Tuesday the 6th day of December, A. D. 1853, R. A. M. 2383.

PRESENT.

M. E. W. P. CHILTON, Grand High Priest.
E. JAMES L. PRICE, Deputy G. H. Priest.
E. JOHN R. CLARK, Grand King.
E. THOS. J. CLARK, Grand Scribe.
E. REV. J. H. WILLOUGHBY, Grand Chaplain.
E. DAVID HARTWELL, Grand Lecturer.
E. E. M. HASTINGS, Grand Treasurer.
E. A. P. PFISTER, Grand Secretary.
E. DANIEL SAYRE, } Grand Marshals.
E. SYD. SMITH, }
E. THOS. McDOUGALL, Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

N. E. BENSON, G. H. P.
J. McCALEB WILEY, Dep. G. H. P.
SYD. SMITH, G. K.
S. A. M. WOOD, G. K.
WM. A. FERRELL, G. K.
DAVID HARTWELL, Grand Lecturer.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

No.	Chapter.	Names of Officers.	Grade.
4	Monroe,	Wm. P. Leslie,	King.
5	Eunomia,	G. W. Laughinghouse,* R. O. Pickett,*	H. P. King.

No.	Chapter.	Names of Officers.	Grade.
6	Cyrus,	S. A. M. Wood,* V. M. Benham,*	H. P. King.
11	Phoenix,	Robert B. Huckabee,*	H. P.
15	Hayneville,	William Barry,	H. P.
17	Wetumpka,	Amand P. Pfister,* L. P. Butler,	H. P. Scribe.
18	Jameston,	John H. Stephens,	H. P.
19	Mount Moriah,	A. P. Barry,*	H. P.
20	Livingston,	W. H. Green,*	H. P.
21	Mobile	J. P. Barnes,* Ed. Harrison,* A. McKinstry,*	H. P. King. Scribe.
22	Montgomery	Thomas Harrison, Thomas Welsh, Samuel E. Norton,*	H. P. King. Scribe.
23	Talladega,	John M. Moore, J. T. Bradford, Barnes Moore,*	H. P. King. Scribe.
24	Eufaula,	J. H. Danforth, Z. J. Daniel,*	H. P. Scribe.
26	Union,	Richard Clarke,*	King.
27	Dayton,	Syd. Smith,* James D. Webb,*	H. P. King.
28	St. Johns,	John M. Strong,	Scribe.
29	Eureka,	David Hartwell, John H. Caffey, James K. Whitman,	H. P. King. Scribe.
30	James Penn,	John R. Clark,	H. P.
31	Perfect Friendship,	W. S. Knox,* O. P. King,	H. P. King.

No.	Chapter.	Names of Officers.	Grade.
32	Fulton,	Richard U. Bryan,* William Bell,	King. Scribe.
33	Autauga,	E. Stoudenmire, Wm. P. DeJarnette, A. C. Taylor,	H. P. King. Scribe.
34	Hermon,	T. L. McGowan,*	H. P.
35	James L. Daniel,	W. M. Turner,* E. D. Guery,*	H. P. King.
36	Pickensville,	H. S. Shelton,	H. P.
37	Concord,	E. J. Bacon,	H. P.
39	Turnbull,	W. J. O. Bannon,*	H. P.
40	Camden,	J. D. Catlin,* William Kane,	H. P. King.
41	Washington,	Samuel Pettibone,	H. P.
42	Macon,	P. H. Drake,	King.
43	Tuskegee,	William P. Chilton, Daniel Sayre,*	H. P. King.
44	Choctaw,	E. T. Ridgeway,	King.
45	Dadeville,	P. M. Shephard, M. C. Lane,*	H. P. Scribe.
46	Jerusalem,	Wm. A. Ferrell, George H. Sheldon,*	H. P. King.
48	McKinley,	F. C. Lowry,*	H. P.
49	Hope,	Thomas J. Clark,*	H. P.
51	Franklin,	Henry F. Stearns,	H. P.
52	Allenton,	J. L. Benson,*	H. P.
53	Uchee,	M. W. Davis, W. J. Harris,*	H. P. King.
54	Tyrian,	J. McCaleb Wiley, Martin M. Nall,	H. P. Scribe.

No.	Chapter.	Names of Officers.	Grade.
56	Zerubbabel,	William E. Allen,	H. P.
57	Lebanon,	J. H. Willoughby, S. K. McSpadden,	H. P. Scribe.
59	Bladon Springs,	E. D. Connor,*	H. P.
60	Hiram,	M. G. Haygood,* M. H. Berry,*	H. P. King.
61	Signet,	Thomas F. Flournoy,	H. P.

* Proxies.

The M. E. Grand Priest called the companions present to order, and after prayer by the Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Chapter was declared open in due and ancient form.

The M. E. Grand High Priest rose and addressed the Grand Chapter.

A communication from Companion W. H. Norris, Grand King, stating his inability from sickness to attend the Convocation was read.

On motion of Comp. Price, it was

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand High Priest appoint the following Committees:

On Accounts, On Chartered Chapters, on Foreign Correspondence, on Dispensations, on Education.

The following Committees were announced:

On Accounts.—Wood, Barry, Danforth, King, Huckabee.

Chartered Chapters.—Wiley, Ferrell, Stephens, DeJarnette and Thomas Harrison.

Foreign Correspondence.—Clopton, Hastings, Shelton, Strong and Bacon.

Dispensations.—Turner, Stearns, Allen, Connor, Guerry.

Education.—McKinstry, Greene, Pettibone, Davis and Willoughby.

The Reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, were submitted and referred to the Committee on Accounts.

E. M. HASTINGS, Grand Treasurer, in account with M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama for 1853.

1852.	DR.	
Dec. 7.	To balance cash on hand last report-----	\$533 30
Dec. 18.	Cash from Grand Secretary-----	738 75
1853.		
Nov. 12.	Cash from Grand Secretary-----	110 50
		\$1,382 55

	CR.	
1852.		
Dec. 18.	By appropriation to G. Secretary,	1--\$ 250 00
Dec. 18.	By appropriation to Contingent Fund,	2-- 721 05
Dec. 20.	By appropriation to Grand Sentinel,	3-- 20 00
1853.		
Apr. 23.	By appropriation to Furnishing Commit.	4-- 281 00
Dec. 6.	By balance carried down,	110 50
		\$1,382 55

1853.	
Dec. 6.	To balance on hand, brought down-----\$110 50

E. M. HASTINGS, Grand Treasurer.

Montgomery, Dec. 6th, 1853.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The Grand Secretary has the honor of reporting that since the last annual Convocation he has paid into the Grand Treasury the sum of seven hundred and thirty-eight 75-100 dollars, being for amounts as follows:

Balance of Contingent Fund, 1852-----	\$138 25
Cash received for Annual Contributions, 1852-----	600 50

\$738 75

Being the amount reported by Committee on Accounts
in my hands at last Communication.

He has since paid to the Grand Treasurer the sum of
one hundred and ten 50-100 dollars, which has been
received as follows:

Back contributions Camden Chapter, No. 40----	\$17 50	
Back contributions Bladon Springs No. 59-----	3 00	
Dispensation Rockford Chapter No. 62-----	90 00	110 50

Making the full amount -----\$849 25

The amount received from the Grand Treasurer for the Con-
tingent Fund of the year 1853, was \$721.05. After deducting
all the expenses occurring during the year, there remains a
balance of \$429.05.

Many of the Chapters, delinquent at the last Convocation,
remain so, viz:

Marion -----No. 12	Courtland -----No. 25
Gainesville -----No. 13	Decatur -----No. 38
Leighton -----No. 14	Newbern -----No. 47

All of which is fraternally submitted,

AMAND P. PFISTER, Grand Secretary.

Montgomery, Dec. 6th, 1853.

*AMAND P. PFISTER, in account with the Grand Chapter of
Alabama.*

DR.

To balance from Contingent Fund-----	\$138 25
To cash for annual contributions, 1852-----	600 50

\$738 75

1853.

To back contributions from

Camden Chapter, No. 40-----	\$17 50
Bladon Springs Chapter, No. 59-----	3 00
Dispensation Rockford Chapter, No. 62--	90 00
-----	110 50

CR.

1852.

Dec. 18. By cash paid G. Treasurer-----\$738 75

1853.

Nov. 12. By cash paid G. Treasurer----- 110 50
 ----- \$849 25

AMAND P. PFISTER, Grand Secretary.

Montgomery, Dec. 6th, 1853.

*CONTINGENT FUND in account with Grand Chapter of
Alabama.*

1852.

Dec. 6. To amount received on account of Contin-
 gent Fund appropriated, there not being
 funds enough in Grand Treasurer's hands
 to pay \$850.00-----\$ 721 05

1853.

CR.

May 3. By amount paid printing Proceed-
 ings -----No. 1--\$ 40 00
 By amt. paid G. Sentinel----- 2-- 15 00
 By amt. paid C. Paravicini—mak-
 ing book case ----- 3-- 55 00
 By amt. appropriated to pay expen-
 ses Delegate to G. G. Chapter, 4-- 150 00
 By stationery, postage ----- 5-- 32 00
 By balance on hand----- 429 05
 ----- \$721 05

To amt. balance in hand-----\$429 05

Montgomery, Dec. 6th, 1853.

The following Resolution offered by Comp. Danforth, was adopted, that the Resolution passed at the last Convocation, viz:

That it is deemed inexpedient by this Grand Chapter, to grant Dispensations for any new Chapter, within twenty miles of any other Chapter, etc., be, and is hereby suspended, as far as it applies to the petition from Midway, Alabama, for a Dispensation.

Moved, and carried.

That the election of Officers for this Grand Chapter take place on to-morrow, 2 o'clock, and that after the election of Officers, the exemplification of the work.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow, 2 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, 2 o'clock,
December 7, 1853.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor and proceeded to business, M. E. William P. Chilton, Grand High Priest, in the Chair, the several Grand Officers in their stations.

Minutes were read and approved.

The election of Grand Officers was proceeded with, and resulted as follows:

- M. E. WM. P. CHILTON, of Tuskegee, G. H. Priest.
- E. JAMES L. PRICE, of Uniontown, Dep. G. H. P.
- E. THOS. J. CLARK, of Hope, Grand King.
- E. M. W. DAVIS, of Uchee, Grand Scribe.
- E. E. M. HASTINGS, of Montgomery, G. Treasurer.
- E. A. P. PFISTER, of Montgomery, G. Secretary.

E. REV. J. W. WILLOUGHBY, of Gaylesville, G. Chaplain.

E. T. HARRISON, of Montgomery, G. Lecturer.

E. E. D. CONNOR, of Bladon Springs, G. C. Host.

E. T. McDougall, of Montgomery, G. Sentinel.

The M. E. Grand High Priest made the following appointments :

DANIEL SAYRE, of Tuskegee,	{ Masters }	R. A. Captain.
J. M. MOORE, of Talladega,		3d Veil.
A. P. BARRY, of Clinton,		2d Veil.
W. H. GREENE, of Livingston,		1st Veil.

On motion the regular order of business was suspended and the exemplification of work postponed to to-morrow 3 1-2 o'clock, P. M.

A Report was submitted by Comp. Pfister, Delegate to the Triennial Convocation of the G. G. Chapter of the U. States, held at Lexington, Kentucky, which was received and ordered to be spread upon the Minutes.

The undersigned respectfully begs leave to report that, as the proxy of M. E. James L. Price, Deputy Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, he attended the Triennial Session of the M. E. General G. Chapter of R. A. Masons for the U. S., in the city of Lexington, Kentucky.

By reference to the printed Proceedings of that M. E. Grand Body, a copy of which he has the honor of herewith presenting, this Grand Chapter may at once become acquainted with its acts. But he may be permitted to draw the attention of the M. E. Grand Chapter to some of the Proceedings in which it is most interested.

In regard to the degrees of Royal and Select Master, the following resolution was adopted :

"That this G. G. Chapter will hereafter entertain no question or matter growing out of the government or working of those degrees while in their present position."

On the question whether any of the Chapter degrees may be conferred on persons maimed, or otherwise imperfect in body, the G. G. Chapter says that it is incompetent for Royal Arch Chapters to confer the respective degrees of masonry upon candidates whose physical defects are such as to prevent them from conforming literally to all the requirements of these degrees.

The G. G. Constitution was amended in several particulars.—Those affecting State Grand Chapters are as follows:

"To strike out Grand Marshal, and in their stead insert G. G. Captain of the Host and General G. R. A. Captain."

As this Grand Chapter, by its Constitution, recognises the officers Grand Marshals, would it not be proper to conform to this amendment as required by 1st section Article 2d of G. G. Constitution?

"It shall not be deemed regular for any Chapter to confer the degrees of the Chapter upon any person whose fixed place of abode is within any State, in which there is a Chapter regularly established, except by the consent of the Chapter nearest the place of residence of said applicant."

This section added to the G. G. Chapter, is of much importance to this Grand Chapter, inasmuch as heretofore our Subordinate Chapters located on the Eastern and South-Eastern borders of the State have suffered much from Brothers living in their respective jurisdictions, crossing the line into the State of Georgia, and receiving the degrees. The engrafting of this section to the G. G. Constitution, will, it is hoped, forever put an end to the invasion of our jurisdiction.

The Committee on Work varied in their opinions respecting the mode of work exemplified, as will be seen more fully by the printed Proceedings.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

AMAND P. PFISTER.

Comp. Wood, Chairman of the Committee on Accounts reported, which Report was concurred in:

To the M. E. Grand High Priest, King, Scribe, and Companions of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama:

Your Committee on Accounts, to whom was referred the reports and vouchers of the Excellent Grand Secretary and Excellent Grand Treasurer, beg leave to report that they have examined the same and find them correct.

The Committee submit the following statement of the Finances of this Grand Chapter:

Cash balance on hand,-----	\$110,50
Balance Contingent Fund not expended, (p'd into G.	
Treas'y) -----	429,05
Contributions from Subordinate Chapters, " "	587,00
Total amount cash on hand-----	\$1,126,55

Your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions as a provision for expenses of publication and ordinary expenses:

Resolved, That the sum of six hundred dollars be, and is hereby appropriated as a Contingent Fund.

They also recommend that so much of the Grand Secretary's report as refers to delinquent Chapters, be referred to the Committee on Chartered Chapters.

Respectfully submitted.

S. A. M. Wood, Chairman.

*Amount of contributions received at the present Convocation of
the M. E. Grand Chapter of Ala., 1853, from Subordi-
nate Chapters.*

No. 1, Tuscaloosa	----\$ 9 00	No. 4, Monroe	-----\$11 00
5, Eunomia	----- 11 50	6, Cyrus	----- 15 00
9, Clinton	----- 11 00	11, Phoenix	----- 8 00
15, Hayneville	---- 21 00	17, Wetumpka	----- 8 00
18, Jamestown	---- 9 50	19, Mt. Moriah	----- 8 50
20, Livingston	----- 6 00	21, Mobile	----- 19 50
22, Montgomery	--- 25 00	24, Eufaula	----- 17 50
26, Union	----- 19 00	27, Dayton	----- 14 00
28, St. Johns	----- 20 50	29, Eureka	----- 11 00
30, Jas. Penn	----- 12 50	31, P't Friendship	--- 15 00
32, Fulton	----- 10 00	33, Autauga	----- 13 00
34, Hermon	----- 15 00	35, J. L. Daniel	---- 12 00
36, Pickensville	---- 15 50	37, Concord	----- 12 50
39, Turnbull	----- 8 00	40, Camden	----- 22 50
41, Washington	---- 15 00	42, Macon	----- 11 50
43, Tuskegee	----- 15 50	45, Dadeville	----- 9 00
46, Jerusalem	----- 6 00	48, McKinley	----- 13 00
49, Hope	----- 15 00	50, Sumterville	---- 9 00
51, Franklin	----- 15 50	52, Allenton	----- 15 50
53, Uchee	----- 10 00	56, Zerubbabel	----- 19 00
57, Lebanon	----- 11 50	58, Hartwell	----- 15 50
59, Bladon Springs	4 50	60, Hiram	----- 12 00
61, Signet	----- 8 50		

			\$587 00

On motion of Comp. Syd. Smith :

Resolved, That the Committee on Education, instructed to report, at the last G. Communication, "the number and locality of the Masonic Schools in this State, to what extent they can be properly called Masonic—how much money they have received from the Grand Chapter, and on what terms; also, the condition and prospects of such schools,"—be granted until the next annual Communication to report.

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

That the sum of three hundred dollars be donated by this Grand Chapter to the Subordinate Chapter at Mobile, to be by them appropriated to the relief of indigent widows and orphans of Companions, left on their hands by the late dreadful epidemic.

The Grand Secretary reported the following delinquent Chapters:

Tuscaloosa	No. 1	no representation.
Tuscumbia	No. 10	no representation.
Clinton	No. 9	no representation.
Sumterville	No. 50	no representation.
Choctaw	No. 44	no report.
Suggsville	No. 55	no report or representation.
Tyrian	No. 54	no report.
Marion	No. 12	no report for two years.
Gainesville	No. 13	no report for two years.
Leighton	No. 14	no report for three years.
Courtland	No. 25	no report for two years.
Decatur	No. 38	no report for two years.
Newbern	No. 47	no report for two years.

On motion of Comp. Syd. Smith :

Resolved, That the Chapters delinquent only at this Convocation have ninety days to forward their reports and dues.

A resolution in relation to delinquent Chapters for two years, was postponed until to-morrow afternoon, 3 o'clock.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until 2 1-2 o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, 2 1-2 o'clock, December 9, 1853.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor, and proceeded to business—E. James L. Price, Dep. G. H. P., in the Chair. The several Grand Officers in their stations.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

On motion of Comp. Terrell:

Resolved, That the Charter of Newbern Chapter, No. 47, located at Newbern, Green County, be declared forfeited.

Resolved, That the following Chapters, Marion No. 12, Gainesville No. 13, Leighton No. 14, Courtland No. 25, and Decatur No. 38, have ninety days to make report and pay their arrearages, and on failure thereof, the Grand Secretary be instructed to demand their Charters.

The Grand Chapter took a recess in order to enable Montgomery Chapter, No. 22, to convene and exemplify the mode of work in the R. A. Degree.

The Grand Chapter resumed its labors and was called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow afternoon 3 o'clock.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, 3 o'clock; Dec. 9th, 1853.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor, and proceeded to business—E. James L. Price, Dep. G. H. P., in the Chair, the several Grand Officers in their stations.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and adopted.

Comp. Swan, from the Standing Committee on furnishing Grand Lodge Room, reported the following, which was concurred in:

To the Grand Chapter of Alabama: The Committee appointed by the masonic grand bodies to furnish and decorate the Hall, and who were continued at the last annual Grand Convocation to complete the same by purchasing an oil-cloth for floor and officers chairs, beg leave to report, that they have attended to the duty assigned them, and herewith submit an account with the vouchers showing a balance due the committee of sixty-three 26-00 dollars; and all of which is respectfully submitted.

S. SWAN, Chairman.

And on motion of Comp. Clark,

Resolved, That the sum of forty-two 28-100 dollars be appropriated to pay the balance due by the said Committee.

The Committee on Education, through their Chairman, made the following report:

Your Committee beg leave to report, that nothing has been referred to them or brought to the notice of the committee.

A. MCKINSTRY, Chairman.

On motion of Comp. Price,

Resolved, That expulsion or suspension from a Lodge of M. M., operates as expulsion or suspension from all the privileges of Royal Arch Masonry.

The Grand Chapter proceeded to install the officers, M. E. Past G. H. P., N. E. Benson, officiating.

Resolved, That 1,000 copies of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, arranged to conform with that of the General Grand Chapter, U. S., be published, together with that of the G. G. C., and that the Grand Secretary furnish the Subordinate Lodges with copies of the same.

On motion Comp. Barnes,

Resolved, That the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars be appropriated by this Grand Body to our worthy Grand Secretary for his services during the past masonic year.

Resolved, That the sum of twenty dollars be appropriated to our worthy Companion Grand Sentinel, for his services during the present Grand Convocation.

Comp. Turner, from the Committee on Dispositions, reported the following:

That they have had no business submitted to them, consequently they have nothing to report.

W. M. TURNER, Chairman.

On motion, the further time of one year was given the Committee on preparing Text Book.

On motion of Comp. Sayre, *

Resolved, That the Chairman on Foreign Correspondence, on account of sickness, be excused from reporting at this Convocation, and that the Committee be discharged.

Comp. Wiley, from the Committee on Returns of Chartered Chapters, reported the following, which was concurred in:

The Committee on Chartered Chapters beg leave to make the following report:

Tuscaloosa Chapter, No. 1. No dues put down, and the dimitted companions registered among the members.

Monroe, No. 4. Correct.

Chilton, No. 9. M. D. Turly reported as High Priest, but returns signed by Seth Malone, who is reported as a member.

Eunomia, No. 5. Names of dimitted members registered with the members.

Cyrus, No. 6. Same error.

Phœnix, No. 11. Same error, and R. A. M. dated 2385, instead of 2383.

Jamestown, No. 16. Correct.

Mount Moriah, No. 19. R. A. M. dated 2388, instead of 2383.

Livingston, No. 20. Correct.

Mobile, No. 21. R. A. M. dated erroneously.

Montgomery, No. 22. No masonic grade given after the officers, and no dues paid for a Minister of the Gospel as required by the Constitution.

Eufaula, No. 24. No dues paid for a Minister of the Gospel as required by the Constitution, nor does it appear that this chapter charges for advancing a Minister of the Gospel as required by the Constitution.

Union, No. 26. Dues only extended for H. P. Masters of the Veils reversed.

Dayton, No. 27. No dues for Minister of the Gospel.

St. Johns, No. 28. Gives all the exaltations and affiliations from the year 1845, as also the chapter from which the companions came, when all that is required by the Constitution is that they should show their actings and doing for the last year.

Eureka, No. 28. Perfect Friendship, No. 31, Autauga, No. 33, James L. Daniel, No. 35, Pickensville, No. 36, Camden, No. 40, Washington, No. 41, Macon, No. 42, Jerusalem, No. 46, Wetumpka, No. 17, Allenton, No. 62, Uchee, No. 53, Lebanon, No. 57, Hartwell, No. 58, Bladon Springs, No. 59, and Signet, No. 61. All correct.

James Penn, No. 30. Date of R. A. M. given as 2750.

Fulton, No. 32. Masters of the Veils reversed.

Concord, No. 37. Names of dimitted with the members.

Turnbull, No. 39. No Masonic grade given after H. P. Date of R. A. M. given 2753.

Tuskegee, No. 43. Number of members stated at 31, and one moved off.

Dadeville, No. 45. Veils reversed. Names of dimitted with the members, showing 20 when there are but 19. No dues for Minister, and date of R. A. M. is given as 2388.

Hayneville, No. 15. Dead and dimitted entered with the members. No dues for their Ministers of the Gospel.

McKinley, No. 48. Gives the date of making members since its foundation.

Hope, No. 49. One member reported twice, and dues paid for him twice.

Sumterville, No. 50. Dead and dimitted entered with the regular members, and the date of R. A. M. given at 2388.

Franklin, No. 51. Dimitted with the members, and R. A. M. dated 2372.

Zerubbabel, No. 56. R. A. M. dated 2375.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. McCaleb Wiley, Chairman.

On motion of Comp. Wiley,

Resolved, That the note of Comp's Dixon and Moore be extended for one year at 7 per cent. per annum.

Resolved, That 50 cents be remitted to Hope Chapter, No. 49, for that amount over paid.

Resolved, That 600 copies of the proceedings of this Grand Convocation be published.

On motion of Comp. Barry,

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter does not approve of Subordinate Chapters exalting less than three petitioners for the R. A. Degree at the same time.

The minutes were read and approved, and the Grand Chapter was closed.

W. P. CHILTON, G. H. P.

AMAND P. PFISTER, Grand Secretary.

DEATHS.

- No. 4. Monroe Chapter ----John W. Lindsey.
R. H. Puryear.
W. W. McCall.
5. Eunomia -----John W. Jones.
10. Tuscumbia -----G. W. Long.
12. Marion -----J. R. Goree.
15. Hayneville -----A. G. Key.
21. Mobile -----George P. Ewell.
James J. Sykes.
31. Perfect Friendship ---James Day.
43. Tuskegee -----J. M. Tankard.
55. Sugsville -----W. R. Hamilton.
57. Lebanon -----W. B. Watt.
59. Bladon Springs-----M. Moore.

EXPELLED.

- No. 4. Monroe Chapter ----James B. Colburn.
S. D. Kennedy.
58. Hartwell -----Cornelius Woodall.

SUSPENDED.

- No. 21. Mobile Chapter -----John C. Hodges.
John Hurtel.
Firmin Hurtel.
30. James Penn -----A. Cantrell.
31. Perfect Friendship ---Geo. L. Trott.

REGISTER OF CHAPTERS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA.

26

No	Chapters.	Locations.	Counties.	High Priests.	Secretaries.
1	Tuscaloosa,	Tuscaloosa,	Tuscaloosa,	Henry McGowen,	Henry Kulper,
4	Monroe,	Claiborne,	Monroe,	R. C. Torry,	C. H. Fostere,
5	Eunomia,	Huntsville,	Madison,	R. C. Brickell,	J. T. Yeatman,
6	Cyrus,	Florence,	Lauderdale,	W. T. Hawkins,	J. F. Pettus,
9	Clinton,	Athens,	Limestone,	J. R. Finley,	J. W. Sloss,
10	Tuscumbia,	Tuscumbia,	Franklin,	F. G. Norman,	B. Pybas,
11	Phoenix,	Greensboro,	Greene,	F. M. Peterson,	W. Kerr,
12	Marion,	Marion,	Perry,	Wm. Hendrix,	D. Dykous,
13	Gainesville,	Gainesville,	Sumter,	No Report.)	
14	Leighton,	Leighton,	Franklin,	No Report.)	
15	Hayneville,	Hayneville,	Lowndes,	Wm. Barry,	W. E. Wiatt,
17	Wetumpka,	Wetumpka,	Autauga,	W. A. Allen,	W. T. Hatchett,
18	Jameston,	Warsaw,	Sumter,	J. H. Stephens,	W. V. Hare,
19	Mount Morian,	Clinton,	Greene,	D. Harrison,	B. T. Higginbotham,
20	Livingston,	Livingston,	Sumter,	D. L. Ayres,	S. W. Murley,
21	Mobile,	Mobile,	Mobile,	H. S. Levert,	J. A. Miller.
22	Montgomery,	Montgomery,	Montgomery,	Thos. Harrison,	B. S. Theiss.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

[Dec.

23	Talladega,	Talladega,	Talladega,	John M. Moore,	W. H. Taylor.
24	Eufaula,	Eufaula,	Barbour,	J. H. Danforth,	C. W. Snow.
25	Courtland,	Courtland,	Lawrence,	(No Report.)	
26	Union,	Uniontown,	Perry,	J. L. Price,	J. H. Feeney.
27	Dayton,	Dayton,	Marengo,	F. M. Prince,	E. Rogers.
28	St. Johns,	Selma,	Dallas,	W. A. Taylor,	J. B. Harrison.
29	Eureka,	Lowndesboro,	Lowndes,	D. Hartwell,	N. Smith,
30	James Penn.	Jacksonville,	Benton,	J. R. Clark,	J. F. Grant.
31	P. Friendship,	Benton,	Lowndes,	John Adams,	W. S. Knox.
32	Fulton,	Fulton,	Dallas,	Wm. H. Norris,	W. M. Ridgeway.
33	Autauga,	Autaugaville,	Autauga,	E. Stoudenmire,	A. W. McNeill.
34	Hermon,	Union Springs.	Macon,	T. L. McGowen,	T. Pullum.
35	Jas. L. Daniel,	Glennville,	Barbour,	A. C. Mitchell,	W. M. Turner.
36	Pickensville,	Pickensville,	Pickens,	H. S. Shelton,	W. H. Terrill.
37	Concord,	LaFayette,	Chambers,	E. J. Bacon,	J. L. Williams.
38	Decatur,	Decatur,	Morgan,	(No Report.)	
39	Turnbull,	Turnbull,	Monroe,	W. M. Longmire,	G. E. Longmire.
40	Camden,	Camden,	Wilcox,	S. G. Cochran,	T. E. McIver.
41	Washington,	Summerfield,	Dallas,	P. R. McCrary,	C. N. Briggs.
42	Macon,	Auburn,	Macon,	J. W. W. Drake,	W. W. Evans.
43	Tuskegee,	Tuskegee,	Macon,	W. P. Chilton,	Daniel Sayre.
44	Choctaw,	Mt. Sterling,	Choctaw,	(No Report.)	
45	Dadeville,	Dadeville,	Tallapoosa,	P. M. Shepard,	C. Stone.

REGISTER OF CHAPTERS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA.

28

No.	Chapters.	Locations.	Counties.	High Priests.	Secretaries.
46	Jerusalem,	New Prospect,	Greene,	W. A. Ferrell,	J. K. Elliott.
47	Newbern,	Newbern,	Greene,	(No Report.)	
48	McKinley,	McKinley,	Marengo,	W. B. Modawell,	N. B. Lessueur.
49	Hope,	Hope,	Pickens,	Wiley Burgess,	J. Cunningham.
50	Sumterville,	Sumterville,	Sumter,	L. H. Anderson,	W. G. Myers.
51	Franklin,	Sparta,	Conecuh,	H. F. Sterns,	J. M. Henderson.
52	Allenton,	Allenton,	Wilcox,	J. G. Bythewood,	D. W. Carter.
53	Uchee,	Uchee,	Russell,	M. W. Davis,	T. M. Walton.
54	Tyrian,	Troy,	Pike,	(No Report.)	
55	Suggsville,	Suggsville,	Clarke,	James S. Dickinson.	Samuel Forwood.
56	Zerubbabel,	Oak Bowery,	Chambers,	W. E. Allen,	W. F. Slaton.
57	Lebanon,	Lebanon,	DeKalb,	J. H. Willoughby,	A. J. Ward.
58	Hartwell,	Cahawba,	Dallas,	W. M. Lapsley,	I. W. Lenoir.
59	Bladon Springs,	Bladon Springs,	Washington,	W. A. D. White,	A. H. Hutchinson,
60	Hiram,	Bragg's Store,	Lowndes,	S. D. Moorer,	J. G. Hensley.
61	Signet,	Society Hill.	Macon,	T. F. Flournoy,	R. T. Foote.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

Dec.

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
**GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER
OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS**

FOR THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

*As Amended at the Triennial Meeting, begun and held in the
City of Lexington, in the State of Kentucky, on
Tuesday, September 13th, 1853, and of the
Order, 2383.*

ARTICLE I.

OF THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

Sec. 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, except the General Grand Chaplain, who shall be appointed by the General Grand High Priest at the commencement of each Convocation of the General Grand Chapter.

The General Grand Chapter, at any regular meeting, may change the time for the next succeeding meeting; and if, in the opinion of the General Grand High Priest, or in case of his death or absence, of the senior General Grand Officer, there shall be danger to life or health from sickness, or other local cause, by any meeting being held at the time appointed, he

may change the time of the particular meeting to some subsequent time. And in the event of such change being made, he shall immediately notify the General Grand Secretary thereof, who shall forthwith notify the other officers and members, in such manner as he may deem best calculated to effect the desired object.

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 Treasurer, General Grand Secretary, General Grand Chaplain, General Grand Captain of the Host, and General Grand Royal Arch Captain; these, together with 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 special meeting of the General Grand Chapter, whenever they may consider it expedient or necessary; and it shall be their duty to do so, 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 Dispensations, 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 this 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 to 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 Grand 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.

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 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 landmarks of the Order.

Sec. 9. The only degrees recognized by this General Grand Chapter, to be conferred in Chapters under its jurisdiction, are Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason. And no Royal Arch Mason who shall have regu-

larly received said degrees, shall be excluded from the rights of such, by reason of his not being in possession of any other, so called, degrees.

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 a Past High Priest.

Sec. 11. In every Chapter and Lodge under this jurisdiction all questions, (except the admission of members or candidates, which shall require a 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 the regulations of the G. G. 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 hereafter, 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.

Sec. 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 Captain of the Host; 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 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 the annual meetings, the constitutional 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 jurisdiction 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 7th 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 Secretary. And in all cases of such Dispensation, the officers who may grant the same, shall make report thereof to 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 or Constitution. And in case such Charter shall be granted, the fees first deposited shall be credited in payment of 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, over to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter under which they hold their authority, on or before the first day of the respective annual meetings of the several 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 regulations; 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 Grand 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; nor unless he is a member of a subordinate Chapter under that jurisdiction.

ARTICLE III.

OF THE SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

Sec. 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 any member of it, and any Chapter, or Assembly, that may be so illegally formed, opened, or holden, without such Charter, or any or either of their members, or any persons exalted or advanced in such illegal Chapter. But nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any Chapter 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 Priests, Kings and Scribes, 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 the admission of all 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. No person having been a member of a Chapter shall be admitted a member of any other Chapter under this jurisdiction, until he shall have produced a certificate from the Chapter to which he last belonged, that he was in regular standing, and as such, at his own request, is dismissed and recommended.

Sec. 5. That any worthy Companion, from without the jurisdiction of the United States, who may present himself as a Royal Arch Mason, and produce satisfactory evidence of his having received that degree, that each and every Chapter under the jurisdiction of this G. Grand Chapter have liberty, and they are hereby authorized, to confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master, on such Companions, (who have not heretofore received them,) to the end that they may be healed and thereby become regular Royal Arch Masons, free of charge.

Sec. 6. That the Subordinate Chapter so conferring said degrees, shall be exempt from paying any dues therefor.

Sec. 7. It shall not be deemed regular for any Chapter to confer the degrees of the Chapter upon any person whose fixed place of abode is within any other State, in which there is a Chapter regularly established, except by consent of the Chapter nearest the place of residence of said applicant.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Sec. 1. 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 ceremony.

Sec. 2. The Officers of every Chapter under this jurisdiction, before they enter upon the exercise of their respective offices, and also the members of all such Chapters, 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 G. G. Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America."

Sec. 3. This Constitution shall not be altered or amended, unless such alternation or amendment be proposed in writing, at one regular meeting of the General Grand Chapter, published among the minutes of the proceedings, and at the next regular meeting receive the approval of two-thirds of the members then present.

GRAND OFFICERS.

- M. E. WM. P. CHILTON, of Tuskegee, G. H. Priest.
- E. JAMES L. PRICE, of Uniontown, Dep. G. H. P.
- E. THOS. J. CLARKE, of Hope, Grand King.
- E. M. W. DAVIS, of Uchee, Grand Scribe.
- E. E. M. HASTINGS, of Montgomery, G. Treasurer.
- E. A. P. PFISTER, of Montgomery, G. Secretary.
- E. REV. J. W. WILLOUGHBY, of Gaylesville, G. Chaplain.
- E. T. HARRISON, of Montgomery, G. Lecturer.
- E. E. D. CONNOR, of Bladon Springs, G. C. Host.
- E. T. McDougall, of Montgomery, G. Sentinel.

