

1857
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND
CHAPTER
of
Royal Arch Masons
of
ALABAMA



A.D. 1857 / A.I. 2387

This volume digitized by



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC NATIONAL MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

MASONIC DIGITAL ARCHIVES PROJECT

•

A.D.2017, A.L.6017

PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE GRAND CHAPTER
OF ALABAMA
AT THE
ANNUAL CONVOCATION
HELD IN THE
CITY OF MONTGOMERY
COMMENCING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER. 8TH, 1857.



MONTGOMERY:
BARRETT & WIMBISH, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS,
1858.



PROCEEDINGS.

The M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter, of the State of Alabama, convened on Tuesday, the 8th day of December, 1857, R. A. M., 2387.

PRESENT.

M. E. DAVID CLOPTON, Grand High Priest.
E. S. A. M. WOOD, D. G. H. Priest.
E. H. P. WATSON, Grand King.
E. R. D. HUCKABEE, Grand Scribe.
E. REV. MOSES PADGETT, Grand Chaplain.
E. JAS. M. BRUNDIDGE, Grand Lecturer.
E. E. M. HASTINGS, Grand Treasurer.
E. DANIEL SAYRE, Grand Secretary.
E. H. S. SHELTON, G. C. Host.
E. THOS. McDUGALL, Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

W. P. CHILTON, Grand High Priest.
J. McCALEB WILEY, D. G. H. Priest.
JOHN R. CLARK, D. G. H. Priest.
J. M. BRUNDIDGE, Grand King.
WILLIAM H. NORRIS, Grand King.
S. F. HALE, Grand King.
M. W. DAVIS, Grand Scribe.
T. F. FLOURNOY, Grand Scribe.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

No.	Chapters.	Names of Officers.	Grade.
4	Monroe,	N. A. Agee,*	H. P.
		L. Slaughter,	K.
5	Eunomia,	Samuel Coltart,	H. P.
		E. F. Betts,*	K.

No.	Chapter.	Names of Officers.	Grade.
6	Cyrus,	S. A. M. Wood,*	H. P.
9	Clinton,	Ch. H. Jones,*	H. P.
10	Tuscumbia,	L. B. Thornton,*	K.
11	Phoenix,	R. D. Huckabee,*	H. P.
12	Marion,	Geo. D. Johnston,	H. P.
17	Wetumpka	A. J. Terrell,*	H. P.
18	Jamestown,	William Little,*	H. P.
19	Mt. Moriah,	Dempsey Harrison,	H. P.
		W. Meriwether,	S.
21	Mobile,	James A. Miller,*	H. P.
		T. T. Tyree,	S.
22	Montgomery,	H. P. Watson,	H. P.
		E. M. Hastings,	K.
		Thomas Welsh,*	S.
24	Eufaula,	James Cunningham,*	H. P.
25	Courtland,		
26	Union,	James L. Price,	H. P.
		Robert Christy,*	K.
27	Dayton,		
28	St. Johns,	William Waddill,*	H. P.
		J. B. Harrison,	K.
30	James Penn,	J. R. Clark,	H. P.
31	Per. Friend'p	J. W. Hardy,	K.
32	Fulton,	William H. Norris,	H. P.
		E. B. Holloway,	K.
33	Autauga,		
34	Hermon,	Thomas Ramsey,*	H. P.
		M. J. Bean,*	K.
		J. F. Foreman,	S.
35	J. L. Daniel,	W. M. Turner,*	H. P.
36	Pickensville,	H. S. Shelton,	H. P.

No.	Chapters.	Names of Officers.	Grade.
37	Concord,	Jefferson Falkner, M. C. Blanchard, B. Mitchell,	H. P. K. S.
40	Camden,	C. W. Hare,* G. S. Handley,	H. P. S.
41	Washington,	B. J. Harrison,	H. P.
43	Tuskegee,	David Clopton,	H. P.
44	Choctaw,	E. T. Ridgeway,	S.
48	McKinley,	M. B. Lesseur,	H. P.
49	Hope,	E. R. Shipman,	H. P.
52	Allenton,	B. S. Rives,*	H. P.
53	Uchee,	M. W. Davis,	H. P.
54	Tyrian,	A. N. Worthy, J. D. Murphree,* J. B. Simmons,*	H. P. K. S.
55	Suggsville,	James Odom,* Henry Whitaker,	H. P. K.
56	Zerubbabel,	J. J. Havis,	K.
58	Hartwell,	J. W. Lenoir,* John P. Fulks,* J. B. Duke,	H. P. K. S.
60	Hiram,	S. D. Moorer,	H. P.
61	Signet,	T. F. Flournoy, Willis Tyner,	H. P. K.
62	Rockford	I. W. Suttle, J. S. Gilder,*	K. S.
63	Midway,	Moses Padgett,	H. P.
64	Central,	A. W. Hawley, J. H. Willoughby,*	H. P. K.
65	Russell	T. Boyd Foster,	K.

*Proxies.

The M. E. Grand R. A. Chapter was opened in ample form.

The M. E. Grand High Priest arose, and addressed the companions, as follows:

To the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama:

It is gratifying to me, companions, to be privileged to welcome you to this, another Annual Convocation; and to congratulate you on being permitted to assemble again, within these consecrated walls, after having completed the labors, passed through the dangers, and met the responsibilities of another year. Although disease has spread its poisonous mantle over many sections of our beloved State; although death has gone through many parts followed by fearful havoc; although this day and place are suggestive of memories made sad by the absence of some who were wont to meet with us in former times, whom we shall see no more; yet the present hour and the promise of more days are given to us. The heart rejoices over the coming together of so many well known ones, who have not wearied in their day; and hope is invigorated, and resolution is strengthened, by the appearance of others, who, though strangers in name, are of our own Masonic kindred, and have come up to assist us in the great and glorious work in which we are engaged.

That God whom Masonry acknowledges, and before whom we are all taught to bow with reverence, has been *our God*. It is, therefore, meet and proper, that our first communings around *this altar*, should partake of gratitude to the source whence all blessings and comforts flow. Here, then, with our eyes turned to the first great Light in Masonry—the Bible—and our hearts supported by its doctrines, encouraged by its promises, and cheered by its hopes, let us consecrate our offering of praise and thanksgiving to Him who directs the stars, governs the seasons, and shapes the ends of earth. And then we shall be prepared to pledge anew our Masonic faith, and renew our efforts in promoting the prosperity of our Universal Brotherhood.

That man who never realizes value received, except as measured by his own base standard, or weighed in his own uneven scales, or only in some selfish end or purpose gained, when the treasury bags grow heavier, or fame blows a louder blast, is unable to appreciate the motives which bring us together; or to comprehend the solid, but unobtrusive benefits, to be derived from this commingling of feeling, of sentiment, and opinion. Like other men, we have to engage in the contacts and conflicts of life we have to encounter its trials and resist its temptations. Buffeted by its waves, driven before the winds, lashed by tempests, happy are we if our little vessel, freighted with whatsoever of happiness we have been permitted to collect, goes not down beneath the billows of life's stormy ocean! Often, when we have extended the hand of human fellowship, expecting it to be grasped by one, warm with the very life-blood of humanity, and pulsating with generous impulses, icy coldness has chilled every benevolent sensation. Often, when we have leaned for support upon that which we supposed to be a staff of confidence, it has proven a broken reed that pierced us. Man's contact and association with man, have too often tended to weaken faith in human virtue, dampen the affections, extinguish sympathy, and beget a soul-destroying misanthropy. Without considering, in this respect, our legislative action and its influence, what Mason does not receive a high and ennobling good, from the practical exemplification afforded by our annual convocations, of the great truth—"how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity?" *This* is the circle in which beats the great heart of humanity. We come to an annual kindling of brotherly love, to know that there are those who are brothers indeed; to learn that all hearts are not false; all friendship is not a mere empty profession, inviting but to deceive; that all earth is not a wilderness.

Charity is the key-stone of our Royal Arch. Not that charity of Pharisaic manner, which maketh loud its professions when the gales are prosperous and affluence pours in, insomuch that every day-laborer finds an abundant support

in the sufficient employment afforded by surrounding enterprise and prosperity. But that which lives, and burns, and glows amid the darkness and gloom of a wide-spread adversity, that tries its character as the brave man is proven by the presence of danger, and the good man by the test of temptation. This remark has been suggested by the rigidity of the present times, and the consequences with which our people are threatened; in view of which it becomes us to meditate much and often upon the nature and extent of our duties, ties, and obligations; and recount, ever and anon, the humanizing precepts of relief and philanthropy which "instructive tongues" have imparted, and "faithful breasts" do treasure. Since we last convened, our country, in common with the civilized world, has been visited by great monetary disaster. Its ruinous and blasting effects, it is true, have not, thus far, been felt as much here as elsewhere. But whilst we may indulge a hope, that the resources of the people of Alabama will be found adequate to counteract, in a great measure, the evils of this prostration in business, we cannot expect otherwise than that many must suffer total ruin. The cry of distress, or the wail of suffering may be heard, perchance, at our own doors, or, perhaps, from afar. It may be the voice of a brother, or the lament of a houseless widow and breadless orphan. It may come amid the bustle of day-business, or borne in the stillness of the night upon the cold winter wind; but come when and where it may, to such the Mason's ear should never be deaf.

With feelings of inexpressible sorrow, I communicate to you the painful information that our E. Grand Secretary, Amand P. Pfister, is no more. He departed this life, in this city, on the 28th day of January last, after a protracted illness. Among you, who knew him so well, it is unnecessary for me to eulogise his virtues, or illustrate his character. For many successive years he filled the office of Grand Secretary, in this Grand Chapter, with entire satisfaction. His fame was abroad in all our Chapters. Social and official intercourse had endeared him to the Fraternity, exemplifying those noble traits and

points of character, which attract heart to heart and bind soul to soul.

When I say he was a Mason, "well formed, true, and trusty," I have said that he was the good citizen, the kind neighbor, the steadfast friend, the just man, and the sympathising brother; for whoever by his life and conduct adorns the Masonic character, adorns all his public and private relations. Companion Pfister labored in his profession; co-operated in every enterprise that promised good to the craft; and improved the opportunities of advancing its interests. Masonry was with him, a living, active, real institution; not consisting merely of forms and ceremonies, but underlying all these great moral truths, precepts, and cardinal virtues; a symbolized ethics, to instruct, regulate and embellish life. His friendship afforded satisfaction and delight; relief, truth, and brotherly love, distinguished his conduct. He was known as one "to whom the burthened heart might pour out its sorrows; to whom distress might prefer its suit; whose hand was guided by justice, and whose heart was expanded by benevolence;" one "who acquitted himself with honor and reputation." Prompt in the discharge of every duty, affable in his association with his companions, obliging in his disposition, generous in his impulses, and full of heart sympathy; in his death humanity has lost a friend; Masonry a master-builder; our temple a polished ashlar, and this Grand Chapter a most efficient officer. We trust, however, that our loss is his gain, and that he "has obtained a crown of rejoicing, which shall continue when time shall be no more."

It is proper that this Grand Chapter should express condolence with his disconsolate widow, our afflicted sister; and also spread upon its minutes an expression of our feelings and regard and a sense of our bereavement.

A vacancy having been occasioned by his death, I appointed Companion Daniel Sayre, Grand Secretary.

It becomes my duty to inform you, that soon after the close of your last convocation, your Grand Lecturer appointed Companion Willoughby, his Deputy; and by virtue of that appoint-

ment many of the subordinate Chapters have been visited and lectured by him, during the past Masonic year. It is proper that I should observe, that I do not communicate this fact for the purpose of animadverting upon the conduct of either of those companions; for I have no doubt, that they both acted in good faith, and that the appointment was made by the one, and received by the other, under what was conceived to be due and legal authority; and I believe that in many places. Companion Willoughby's visits have been productive of good. But believing that every act whereby a Grand officer transcends his authority, may effect injury by becoming a precedent, and that the only line of safety is close by the Constitution and the ancient landmarks, I desire this Grand Chapter to express an opinion concerning the powers of the Grand Lecturer in this respect, in order that the subordinate Chapters may understand the relation which such an appointee sustains to them. An experienced and eminent companion having addressed me, requesting an official opinion upon the appointment of Companion Willoughby, I replied, in substance, that the Grand Lecturer had no authority to make such an appointment; therefore, Companion Willoughby sustained no official relation, whatever, to the Grand Chapter; and that whilst the subordinate Chapters could and might receive him, and hear his lectures, as they would any other companion of skill and knowledge, yet they were not bound to pursue them, any further than they were known to correspond with the mode of work adopted by this Grand Chapter. My reasons for this opinion were, that the Grand Lecturer is an officer *created by the Constitution*, and possesses no powers except such as are expressly delegated, or necessary to the execution of these. Finding no warrant in that instrument for the appointment of a Deputy Grand Lecturer, and having no recollection of any resolution of the Grand Chapter authorizing it, I maintain that he cannot delegate his powers to another, or perform his duties by a substitute. I consider the matter of sufficient importance to receive your consideration.

I have not been furnished with the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter; but having derived some information of them from other sources, I discover some things that ought to be brought to your attention.

It is known to all reading Masons, that for several years past, many of the Grand Chapters have insisted upon striking the Past Master's degree from the list of Chapter degrees; whilst others have pressed its claims as a regular degree, and contended that it cannot be stricken out without removing an ancient landmark. This question is now directly presented to the General Grand Chapter, by a proposed amendment to the Constitution, which lies over for consideration and action at the next triennial meeting in September, 1859. Correct action upon this amendment involves an investigation into the origin, object and proper classification of this degree, subjects too important to be determined hastily, or with the means now at my command, and requiring a discussion too extensive for the limits of this address. Hence, I am compelled to leave them to be considered by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, or such special committee as you may order. Some decision should be reached, at least by the next Annual Convocation.

In the mean time, the General Grand Chapter has adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the General Grand Chapter do recommend to the Grand and Subordinate Chapters under its jurisdiction, to abridge the ceremonies now conferred in the Past Master's Degree, within the narrowest limits, only retaining the inducting of the candidate into the Oriental chair, and the communicating the means of recognition."

Whilst I consider that this resolution restricts the degree within too narrow limits, I am satisfied that in conferring it excesses are often committed, which tend to impair the force and impressiveness of its instructions. I submit it to you, therefore, to adopt such action in reference to the degree and the recommendation contained in the resolution above quoted, as your wisdom may dictate.

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, at the last convocation, discussed the ineffectual attempt of the General Grand Chapter, to attain uniformity of work. It is much to be regretted that in this matter, which has been regarded by some the primary design of its organization, its action should have been so inefficient. I forbear to make any comments upon the consequences of such a course, except to remark that it furnishes its opponents with an additional argument against its further existence.

By a resolution of the General Grand Chapter, the responsibility has been imposed upon this Grand Chapter, to search out the true work, and communicate it to the subordinate Chapters. In my opinion, this Grand Chapter adopted the correct work at its last convocation, as reported by the Past Grand High Priest; but many of the subordinate Chapters under your jurisdiction are lamentably deficient in this regard. Confusion prevails. I feel assured that they desire information; and in view of the necessity and importance of having both correct work and uniformity of work, without which we cannot expect Royal Arch Masonry to expand to its fullest capacity, I suggest to you the propriety of a deliberate and thorough consideration of this subject, to know whether your former action is sufficient to accomplish the desired object.

In immediate connection with this, and as having a most influential bearing upon the prosperity of the Institution, it might be considered proper that I should caution you with regard to guarding well the entrance to our tabernacles. But I hope that this is wholly unnecessary, and hence dismiss it with one remark. The too hasty manner in which the degrees are frequently conferred, is a crying evil. No person whose mind is burthened with two or three degrees in one evening can comprehend them, or sufficiently understand to appreciate them. More than one degree, during the same night ought rarely, if ever, be conferred; and, candidates, before they are permitted to advance, should be required to become reasonably proficient in those degrees which they have already received. Neither do I confine this remark to the Chapter degrees alone.

I fully concur in the opinion, which I have seen somewhere expressed, that before candidates are received into the Chapter degrees, they ought to understand the symbolic degrees. We boast of Freemasonry as a science, worthy of thorough study and investigation, and compensatory in the good returned. It is a progressive science, ascending step by step. The higher degrees cannot be fully understood without an acquaintance with those preceding them, for one elucidates and explains the others. When the interest which a Mason feels in the Institution is dependent upon its ceremonies merely, and the novelty of these wears away, his interest necessarily abates, hence the zeal of so many so quickly dies. If they were taught to look beyond the shadow to the substance; beyond the sign to the thing signified; beyond the symbol to the truth taught and principle inculcated; and to study these in their constantly developing beauty and harmony, interest would be excited afresh at every advance, and Masonry would be studied as a moral science, whilst it was also admired and loved as a brotherhood of universal benevolence.

I desired and intended to offer a few suggestions upon some other subjects, but the limits of this address have already been extended farther than was anticipated. In conclusion, it is my privilege to report to you, that nothing has occurred within my knowledge, to disturb the harmony that prevails throughout your jurisdiction. May no successor of mine have cause ever to report otherwise. "Peace be within the walls, and prosperity within the palaces" of Royal Arch Masonry.

One who has stood upon some lofty summit, above the mists and the clouds, with bright heavens overhead, and the unobscured sun in the firmament, and looked down upon the storm below, raging around the mountain sides, has witnessed a faint emblem of Masonry. Whilst we maintain our strength, which is harmony, we can assemble within these walls, and hear, without alarm, the tempest-king disturbing the elements of the world. And, although the windows of our house may sometimes be shaken, and its timbers moved, yet we know that its foundations are secure, deeply laid in the wants of

humanity. Convened in a such place, as companions, "bound by an indissoluble chain of sincere affection," let us not engage in our labors with lukewarmness, indifference, or neglect. Banishing discord and confusion, let us endeavor to illustrate, by our conduct, feelings, and motives, the character of true Royal Arch Masons—combining *friendship, union, fervency, and purity.* And let us thus spend these hours together, that when our labors shall be finished, and we pass from this room to separate for our respective homes, the last expressed wish of each heart for Royal Arch Masonry, will be "for my brethren and companions' sake, peace be with thee."

DAVID CLOPTON.

On motion of Companion James L. Price, the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, was referred to the appropriate committee, when raised.

The following communication from Companion A. S. Pfister, with the accompanying report of the account of the late Grand Secretary, Amand P. Pfister, was presented by Companion Thomas Welsh, and referred to the Committee on Accounts:

Montgomery, Dec. 7, 1857,

To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Alabama:

I deem it proper, and respectfully beg leave to communicate to you the circumstances which brought me in connection with some of the transactions of the Grand Chapter in relation to the duties of the late Grand Secretary, prior and to the time of the appointment of the present incumbent of that office.

In respect to the Proceedings of your last annual session, I need only say that the peculiar circumstances which attended their publication rendered them inaccurate.

I was instructed by the late Grand Secretary, to transmit copies of the Proceedings to the subordinate Chapters, and to the Sister Grand Chapters, at as early a period after their publication as was possible. That duty I have performed.

I beg leave to present the accompanying Reports, showing the amounts of moneys due the Grand Chapter, from the hands of the late Grand Secretary, the amounts of which are the result of a careful investigation of the books and accounts left in my possession, and which date from the report of the Committee on Finance, made at the last Grand Convocation.

In presenting these Reports, it is my desire that they be submitted to investigation—as your wisdom may dictate—that the record of their accuracy may serve as a testimony of the satisfaction of the Grand Chapter, and also to the other parties interested.

I remain, fraternally,

AMANDTUSE S. PFISTER.

AMAND P. PFISTER, late Grand Secretary, in account with the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama.

Dr.

1856.

Dec. To amount in the hands of the Secretary, as reported by the Committee on Finance, for 1856, viz:

Balance of Contingent Fund of 1856-----	\$ 613 00
Contribution of Subordinate Chapters, 1856--	435 00

1857.

Dec. To amt. of Back Dues since last report of 1856

1,184 00

CONTRA CR.

1856.

Dec. By Thos. McDougall's G. S., bill services, 1856-\$ 9 00

1857.

By appropriation for Secretary's salary-----	250 00
By printing Proceedings -----	60 00
By postage account, Thos. Welsh-----	14 82
By Chas. Moore, for Masonic Magazine-----	5 00
By cash paid L. Fellows, for presentation Jewel	100 00

By bill for stationery-----	21 25
By appropriation, Thos. McDougall, G. Sentinel	20 00
By balance paid Grand Treasurer-----	703 93

 1,184 00

BACK DUES.

No. 11, Phoenix -----	\$ 6 50	No. 41, Washington ---	\$11 00
27, Dayton -----	16 00	42, Moscow -----	12 50
28, St. John's -----	13 00	59, Bladon Springs--	10 50
29, Eureka -----	7 50	60, Hiram -----	12 00
34, Hermon -----	17 50	64, Central -----	15 00
37, Concord -----	14 50		
			\$136 00

The Grand Secretary made his report, and it was referred to the Committee on Accounts:

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Grand Secretary's Office, Dec. 8, 1857.

It affords me much pleasure to report that, so far as Royal Arch Masonry has come under my observation, during the last Masonic year, it appears to be in a healthy condition, although I have no new Chapters to report.

Since the last Annual Convocation, the M. E. Amand P. Pfister, for many years the beloved and efficient Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter, has deceased. He expired at his residence in this place, on the 28th of January last, after a long illness. Of his worth as a man, as a Mason, as a citizen, as a Christian, and as a noble-hearted philanthropist, I need not speak—wherever the name of Amand P. Pfister is known, it is known as the synonym of all that is kind, and gentle, and charitable, and humane.

My appointment as Grand Secretary, bears date on the 19th of February last.

Since the last Grand Convocation, I have received returns from Lebanon Chapter, No. 57, and also the dues, amounting to \$9.50.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

DAN'L SAYRE, Grand Secretary.

DANIEL SAYRE, Grand Secretary, in account with the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama.

March 10, 1857. Cash received from Lebanon Chapter

No. 57 ----- \$9 50

DANIEL SAYRE, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Treasurer made his report, and it was referred to the Committee on Accounts:

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

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

1856.

DR.

Dec. 2. To balance on hand this day-----\$ 107 77

1857.

Dec. 8. To cash from A. P. Pfister, late Grand Secretary, by the hands of A. S. Pfister----- 703 93

\$808 70

1856.

CR.

Dec. 6. By paid appropriation to Grand Sentinel,
(voucher 1) ----- \$ 20 00

1857.

Nov. 19. By paid appropriation to Grand Treasurer,
(voucher 2) ----- 50 00

Dec. 8. By balance on hand----- 738 70

\$808 70

E. M. HASTINGS, Grand Treasurer.

Montgomery, Dec. 8, 1857.

The Grand High Priest appointed the following
COMMITTEES.

On Accounts—James A. Miller, J. B. Harrison, James A. Whitaker.

On Chartered Chapters, No. 1—William H. Norris, M. W. Davis, Willis Tyner, John R. Clark.

On Chartered Chapters, No. 2—W. M. Turner, Samuel Coltart, William Little, Dempsey Harrison, C. W. Hare.

On Petitions and Memorials—Lewis B. Thornton, James Cunningham, M. C. Blanchard, Isaac W. Suttle, Henry Whitaker.

Companion S. A. M. Wood, from the Committee appointed to procure a Jewel for Companion William A. Ferrell, P. G. H. P. of this Grand Chapter, made the following report, and it was received and concurred in:

The committee appointed to procure a suitable jewel, to be presented to P. G. H. P. William A. Ferrell, as a token of the high estimation in which he is held by this Grand Chapter, beg leave to report that they have procured a jewel, and as Companion Ferrell is not present, they recommend that it be sent to the Chapter to which he belongs, by its Scribe now here, for presentation.

S. A. M. Wood, Chairman.

A petition from Midway Chapter, No. 63, praying for its removal from Midway to Clayton, and a change of name, was received and referred to the Committee on Petitions and Memorials.

The E. Deputy Grand High Priest appointed the following committee on the Address of the M. E. Grand High Priest:

Companions James L. Price, William P. Chilton, Lewis B. Thornton.

A communication was received from the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada, and referred to a special committee, consisting of Companions William P. Chilton, John R. Clark, and S. A. M. Wood.

And then the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, December 9, 1857.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor, at 3 o'clock, P. M., the M. E. David Clopton, Grand High Priest, presiding; the other officers at their stations.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Companions then proceeded to the election of Grand officers, for the ensuing Masonic year, and the result was as follows:

- M. E. DAVID CLOPTON, of Tuskegee, G. H. P.
- M. E. S. A. M. WOOD, of Florence, D. G. H. P.
- R. E. H. P. WATSON, of Montgomery, G. K.
- R. E. R. D. HUCKABEE, of Greensboro, G. S.
- R. E. E. M. HASTINGS, of Montgomery, G. Treasurer.
- R. E. DANIEL SAYRE, of Montgomery, Grand Secretary.
- R. E. and REV. MOSES PADGETT, of Midway, G. Chaplain.
- E. L. B. THORNTON, of Tuscumbia, { G. Marshals.
- E. GEO. D. JOHNSTON, of Marion, {
- E. THOMAS McDOUGALL, of Montgomery, G. Sentinel.

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

E. J. BAUSMAN DUKE, of Cahaba, Grand C. H.
 E. , Grand P. S.
 E. , G. R. A. C.
 E. S. D. MOORER, Bragg's Store, G. M. 3rd V.
 E. E. F. BETTS, Madison Station, G. M. 2d V.
 E. J. J. HAVIS, Oak Bowery, G. M. 1st V.

The Grand Secretary reported the following Chapters as delinquent:

No. 1, Tuscaloosa,	No. 45, Dadeville, for 1856-7.
14, Leighton, for 1856-7.	46, Jerusalem.
15, Hayneville, for 1856-7.	48, McKinley, for 1856.
18, Jamestown, for 1856.	50, Sumterville.
29, Eureka.	54, Tyrian, for 1856.
40, Camden, for 1856-7.	57, Lebanon.
42, Auburn.	

Companion Shelton offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to revise the Constitution, and report at the next Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

And the M. E. appointed the following Committee:

Companions H. S. Shelton, J. W. Lenoir, and H. P. Watson.

Companion William H. Norris, offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That all Chapters delinquent at this Convocation, have 90 days to send up returns and dues.

On motion of Companion S. F. Hale, it was ordered that the Grand officers be installed to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

And then the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

THURSDAY MORNING, Dec. 10, 1857.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 8 o'clock, the M. E. David Clopton, Grand High Priest, presiding; the other officers at their stations.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Grand Chapter then proceeded to the installation of the Grand officers, the M. E. William P. Chilton, P. G. H. P., officiating.

And then the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY EVENING, December 10, 1857.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor, at 3 o'clock, the M. E. Grand High Priest presiding; the other officers at their stations.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Grand High Priest appointed the following

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

S. A. M. WOOD, Florence.

JOHN R. CLARK, Jacksonville.

S. F. HALE, Eutaw.

JAMES A. MILLER, Mobile.

GEORGE D. JOHNSTON, Marion.

Companion W. M. Turner, made the following report, from the Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 2, and it was received and concurred in:

The Committee, No. 2, on Chartered Chapters, to whom was referred reports from subordinates, have examined the same, and beg leave to make the following report:

The following Reports are generally correct, though in some of them we find some slight errors, such as numbering P. M. as members, recording the names of dimitted and dead in the same column with actual members, &c.:

No. 37, Concord,	No. 54, Tyrian,
40, Camden,	56, Zerubbabel,
41, Washington,	60, Hiram,
43, Tuskegee,	61, Signet,
52, Allenton,	62, Rockford,

Russeli, No. 65; Central 64; Clinton, No. 9—no dues, and no seal.

Bladon Springs, No. 59—Over-pays dues, one dollar and fifty cents, charging for three dimitted members.

James L. Daniel, No. 35—Reports for two years; some unimportant errors.

Midway, No. 63—Has no seal; otherwise correct.

Choctaw, No. 44—Over-pays dues fifty cents; names of dimitted and dead in the same column with the members; and officers improperly arranged.

Uchee, No. 53; Suggsville, No. 55; Hartwell, No. 58—These Chapters have exalted a less number than three, at one and the same time.

All of which is respectfully and Fraternally submitted.

WINGUIT M. TURNER, Chairman.

Companion W. M. Turner made the following report from the Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 2, and it was received and concurred in:

The Committee, No. 2, on Chartered Chapters, to whom was referred the Petition of sundry companions at Farriorville, in Pike county, praying for a Dispensation to establish a new Chapter at said place, have had the same under consideration. They find the Petition signed by fifteen companions, and recommended by the nearest Chapter to them. They therefore recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granters.

WINGUIT M. TURNER, Chairman.

Companion William H. Norris, from the Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 1, made the following report, and it was received and concurred in:

The Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 1, beg leave to report that they have examined the following returns, and find them correct, to-wit:

No. 5, Eunomia Chapter,	No. 24, Eufaula Chapter,
6, Cyrus Chapter,	25, Courtland Chapter,
10, Tusculmbia Chapter,	28, St. John's Chapter,
11, Phoenix Chapter,	30, James Penn Chapter,
12, Marion Chapter,	31, Per. Friends'p Chapter,
17, Wetumpka Chapter,	32, Fulton Chapter,
18, Jamestown Chapter,	33, Autauga Chapter,
19, Mt. Moriah Chapter.	34, Hermon Chapter,
21, Mobile Chapter,	48, McKinley Chapter,
22, Montgomery Chapter,	49, Hope Chapter.

Monroe, No. 4—Does not show any date of Presiding, Accepting, or Exalting. Correct in other respects.

Union, No. 26—The grade of officers misplaced, and the names of dimitted and suspended are placed with the names of the members.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM H. NORRIS, Chairman.

Companion Lewis B. Thornton offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to procure a suitable Jewel, to be presented to the M. E. William P. Chilton, P. G. H. P., as a token of the esteem and regard of this Grand Chapter for him, as its Past Grand Presiding Officer.

And the M. E. Grand High Priest appointed the following committee: Companions E. M. Hastings, Daniel Sayre, and Thos. Welsh.

Companion James L. Price, from the Special Committee on the Grand High Priest's Address, made the following report, and it was received and concurred in, and the resolutions adopted:

Your Committee, to whom was referred the eloquent and able address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, after its careful and thorough examination, find that it alludes to many subjects of great interest to us, as Royal Arch Masons, but regret their inability, from want of time and the necessary information, to treat them much more satisfactory than is done in the address itself. We heartily endorse the eulogy upon the character of our deceased Grand Secretary, and the recommendation of the Most Excellent, that this Grand Chapter adopt some suitable mode for the expression of our regard for his memory, our affliction at the bereavement, and condolence with, his widow; but are unable to suggest any other mode than the passage of a suitable resolution, and the presentation, by this Grand Chapter, to the widow, of some suitable testimonial.

Your Committee also fully endorse the views of the address, in reference to the appointment by the Grand Lecturer, of a Deputy Grand Lecturer; but believing that, after this expression of opinion, no such appointment will again be made, do not deem it necessary to advise any further action on the part of this Grand body.

In reference to the amendment proposed by the General Grand Chapter, your Committee can only say that, in their opinion, the Past Master's Degree is no more than the installation ceremony of the Master, and ought not to belong to the Chapter degrees: the same may be said of the Mark and Most Excellent degrees, but these are subjects too complex and important to be hastily decided; and your Committee would recommend that they be especially referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, with instructions that these questions be carefully examined and reported on at the next annual Convocation of this Grand body, so that your representation to the next convocation of the General Grand Chapter may be distinctly instructed how to act in reference to them. The want of uniformity in the work, to which the address refers, is much to be regretted; but your Committee find themselves utterly unable to recommend any efficient remedy, but would suggest that the Most Excellent Grand High Priest be requested to prepare a memorial, on the subject, which shall be presented by your delegate, to the next General Grand Chapter.

Your Committee regret to be forced to the conclusion, that the subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction, are so lamentably deficient in the work, but can suggest no other remedy than to urge upon your Grand Lecturers greater attention to their duties; and, upon the officers of the subordinate Chapters greater activity and zeal.

In conclusion, your Committee would recommend the publication, with the published proceedings, of the address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and would commend it to the careful perusal and study of all Royal Arch Masons, as it contains many valuable and interesting suggestions, to which your Committee have not made special allusion.

Your Committee propose the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the late Amand P. Pfister, this Grand Chapter recognized a Mason, "well formed, true, and trusty;" and has, by his death, suffered an irreparable loss; language can but faintly portray his virtues or our sorrow.

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his widow, with assurances of the sympathy and condolence of this Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That two hundred dollars be, and is hereby appropriated by the Grand Chapter, for the purchase of some suitable testimonial, of silver, to be properly inscribed, and presented to the widow of our deceased late Grand Secretary, A. P. Pfister, and that a committee of three be appointed, by the Grand High Priest, to carry out the provisions of this resolution.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES L. PRICE, Chairman.

And the Grand High Priest appointed the following committee: James L. Price, E. M. Hastings, and James A. Miller.

Companion Jefferson Falkner offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to collect all the standing resolutions of this Grand Chapter, from its organization to the present time, that are now in force, and have them published with the proceedings.

On motion of Companion H. S. Shelton, Companions David Clopton and James L. Price were added to the Committee on the Revision of the Constitution.

And then the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, Dec. 11, 1857.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor, at 3 o'clock, P. M., the M. E. David Clopton, Grand High Priest, presiding; the other officers at their stations.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Companion B. J. Harrison offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter refund to Central Chapter, No. 64, the sum of seven 50-100 dollars, being the amount over-paid, for dues, by that Chapter, in 1856.

Companion W. P. Chilton, from the Select Committee, to whom was referred a communication from the Grand Chapter of Canada, made the following report, and it was received and concurred in:

The Select Committee, to whom was referred a communication from the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada, have had the same under consideration, and instruct me to report:

That it is with the highest degree of satisfaction, we witness a disposition, on the part of the Grand Chapter of Canada, recently established there, as manifested by the communication referred to us, to interchange friendly greeting with this Grand Chapter; and your Committee recommend the passage of the following resolutions in reference to said communication:

1. That the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama does most cheerfully recognize and fully embrace her sister, the Grand Chapter of Canada, and heartily approves the disposition manifested to produce uniformity of work in Chapter Masonry.

2. That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter, in behalf of said Grand Chapter, acknowledge the receipt of the communication from the Grand Chapter of Canada, and forward a copy of these resolutions with Fraternal Greetings from this Grand Body.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. P. CHILTON, Chairman,

Companion H. P. Watson moved that the following appropriations be made, and it was so ordered:

That the sum of Six Hundred Dollars be set apart, in the hands of the Grand Secretary, as a contingent fund for the ensuing year.

That the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars be paid to the Grand Secretary, for his services during the past year.

That the sum of Fifty Dollars be paid to the Grand Treasurer, for his services during the past year.

That the sum of Twenty Dollars be paid to the Grand Sentinel, for his services during the present Convocation.

That the sum of One Hundred Dollars be appropriated by this Grand Chapter, to aid, with such sums as may be appropriated by the Grand Lodge and the Grand Council, for renting a suitable office for the Books, Papers and Archives, of the several Grand Masonic bodies, and for the Grand Secretary, and the Committees of this Grand Chapter.

Companion James A. Miller, from the Committee on Accounts, presented the following report, and it was received and concurred in:

The Committee on Accounts beg leave to make the following report:

We have examined the account of the late Grand Secretary, Amand P. Pfister, which we find correct; also the present Grand Secretary, Daniel Sayre, which is also correct.

We also find, upon examination, the account of the Grand Treasurer correct.

We find in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, a balance of seven hundred and thirty-eight 70-100 dollars; also, in the hands of the present Grand Secretary, nine 50-100 dollars,—making, in all, the sum of seven hundred and forty-eight 20-100 dollars.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES A. MILLER, Chairman.

Companion L. B. Thornton offered the following preamble and resolutions, and they were adopted:

Whereas, The Grand Lodge of Alabama has resolved to purchase a copy of the Universal Masonic Library for each subordinate Lodge, and whereas it is proper and just that this Grand Chapter should bear a portion of said expense, in as much as the subordinate Chapters will also have the benefit of said books; therefore be it Resolved:

1st. That this Grand Chapter appropriate the sum of two thousand dollars, for the purchase of the Universal Masonic Library for the use of the subordinate Chapters under its jurisdiction.

2d. That said sum be paid in three annual installments to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, by the Grand Treasurer, and upon the order of said Grand Secretary, upon the delivery of the books in the city of Montgomery.

3d. That said money is appropriated for the purpose of making a joint purchase of said books, for the joint use of those subordinate Lodges and subordinate Chapters, which meet at the same place.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

COMMITTEE FOR REVISING THE CONSTITUTION.

H. S. Shelton, of Pickensville. J. W. Lenoir, of Lowndesboro.
H. P. Watson, of Montgomery. David Clopton, of Tuskegee.
James L. Price, Uniontown.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

S. A. M. Wood, of Florence. John R. Clark, of Jacksonville.
James A. Miller, of Mobile. S. F. Hale, of Eutaw.
George D. Johnston, of Marion.

COMMITTEE TO PROCURE A JEWEL FOR P. G. H. P., WM. P. CHILTON.

E. M. Hastings, of Montgomery. Daniel Sayre, of Montgomery.
Thomas Welsh, of Montgomery.

COMMITTEE TO PROCURE MEMORIAL FOR MRS. A. P. PFISTER.

James L. Price, of Uniontown. E. M. Hastings, Montgomery.

James A. Miller, of Mobile.

And then the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter
of the State of Alabama was closed in Ample Form.

DAVID CLOPTON, G. H. P.

DANIEL SAYRE, Grand Secretary.

GRAND OFFICERS FOR 1858.

M. E. DAVID CLOPTON, of Tuskegee, G. H. P.

E. S. A. M. WOOD, of Florence, D. G. H. P.

E. H. P. WATSON, of Montgomery, G. K.

E. R. D. HUCKABEE, of Greensboro, G. S.

E. E. M. HASTINGS, of Montgomery, Grand Treasurer.

E. DANIEL SAYRE, of Montgomery, Grand Secretary.

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

Nos.	Chapters,	Locations.	Counties.	High Priests.	Secretaries.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	Tuscaloosa, Ex, Ex, Monroe, Eunomia, Cyrus, Ex, Ex, Clinton, Tuscumbia, Phoenix, Marion, Ex, Del. 2 years, ex, Wetumpka,	Claiborne, Huntsville, Florence, Athens, Tuscumbia, Greensboro, Marion, Wetumpka,	Monroe, Madison, Lauderdale, Limestone, Franklin, Greene, Perry, Coosa,	R. C. Torrey, Samuel Coltart. William B. Wood, John Turrentine, Samuel M. Green, F. M. Peterson, Geo. D. Johnston, William A. Allen,	W. C. Sowell, John Yeatman. S. A. M. Wood. Robert W. Figg. John N. Green. William Kerr. J. L. Lockwood. Wm. T. Hatchett.

187.]

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA.

187

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

188

Nos.	Chapters,	Locations.	Counties.	High Priests.	Secretaries.
18	Jamestown,	Warsaw,	Sumter,	Seth Little,	J. B. Meek.
19	Mount Moriah,	Clinton,	Greene,	Dempsey Harrison,	B. T. Higginbotham
20	Ex,				
21	Mobile,	Mobile,	Mobile,	James Wilkins,	James A. Miller.
22	Montgomery,	Montgomery,	Montgomery,	H. P. Watson,	Thomas Welsh.
23	Ex,				
24	Eufaula,	Eufaula,	Barbour,	William A. Fenn,	John Black.
25	Courtland,	Courtland,	Lawrence,	Joseph C. Baker,	J. H. Lorance.
26	Union,	Uniontown,	Perry,	James L. Price,	James G. Hudson.
27	Dayton,	Dayton,	Marengo,	Syd. Smith,	Enos Rogers.
28	Saint Johns,	Selma,	Dallas,	John M. Strong,	W. Waddill.
29	Eureka,	Lowndesboro,	Lowndes,	C. C. Howard,	A. J. Caffey.
30	James Penn,	Jacksonville,	Calhoun,	John R. Clark,	Wm. H. Forney.
31	Perfect Friends'p	Benton,	Lowndes,	Stephen Ives,	I. Lyon.
32	Fulton,	Fulton,	Dallas,	William H. Norris,	W. R. Smyly.
33	Autauga,	Autaugaville,	Autauga,	A. C. Taylor,	A. W. McNeel.
34	Hermon,	Union Springs,	Macon,	Thos. L. McGowen,	John J. Pitts.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

[Dec.

35	James L. Daniel,	Glennville,	Barbour,	A. C. Mitchell,	Winguit M. Turner.
36	Pickensville,	Pickensville,	Pickens,	H. S. Shelton,	W. H. Terrell.
37	Concord,	Lafayette,	Chambers,	Jafferson Falkner,	James S. Mitchell.
38	Ex,				
39	Ex,				
40	Camden,	Camden,	Wilcox,	S. G. Cochran,	Daniel W. Block.
41	Washington,	Summertield,	Dallas,	B. J. Harrison,	C. N. Briggs.
42	Del. 2 years.				
43	Tuskegee,	Tuskegee,	Macon,	David Clopton,	Daniel Sayre.
44	Choctaw,	Butler,	Choctaw,	W. W. Lang,	W. E. Warren.
45	Del. 2 years,				
46	Jerusalem,	New Prospect,	Greene,	W. A. Ferrell,	J. K. Elliott.
47	Ex.				
48	McKinley,	McKinley,	Marengo,	S. B. Jackson,	James G. Kelly.
49	Hope,	Bridgeville,	Pickens,	E. R. Shipman,	T. B. Gardner.
50	Sumterville,	Sumterville,	Sumter,	L. H. Anderson,	W. G. Myers.
51	Ex,				
52	Allenton,	Allenton,	Wilcox,	J. G. Bythewood,	J. S. Jones.
53	Uchee,	Uchee,	Russell,	M. W. Davis,	Thomas M. Walton.
54	Tyrian,	Troy,	Pike,	Alfred N. Worthy,	Joel D. Murphree.
55	Suggsville,	Suggsville,	Clarke,	Samuel Coale,	Samuel Forwood.
56	Zerubbabel,	Oakbowery,	Chambers,	J. J. Havis,	J. M. Kennedy.
57	Lebanon,	Lebanon,	DeKalb,	S. K. McSpadden,	W. J. Haralson.

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

Nos.	Chapters,	Locations,	Counties,	High Priests,	Secretaries.
58	Hartwell,	Cahaba,	Dallas,	John A. Lodor,	Isaac W. Lenoir.
59	Bladon Springs,	Bladon Springs,	Choctaw,	B. D. Turner,	A. H. Hutchinson.
60	Hiram,	Bragg's Store,	Lowndes,	S. D. Moorer,	R. D. Hunter.
61	Signet,	Society Hill,	Macon,	Thomas F. Flournoy	J. M. Jones.
62	Rockford,	Rockford,	Coosa,	William Garrett,	George E. Brewer.
63	Midway,	Midway,	Barbour,	Moses Padgett,	J. C. P. Kennymore.
64	Central,	Montevallo,	Shelby,	A. W. Hawley,	T. B. Miller.
65	Russell,	Stevenson,	Jackson,	A. A. Russell,	A. C. Austin.

STANDING RESOLUTIONS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER.

Convocation of 1847.—That the refunding to candidates for degrees a portion of the fees established by the Grand Chapter, thereby avoiding the constitutional provision regulating the same, is a violation of the spirit of the Constitution.

Convocation of 1851.—That all persons are prohibited from Lecturing in the subordinate Chapters in the State of Alabama, on the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry, unless they be members of a subordinate Chapter in the State, or authorized by the Grand Chapter so to do.

Convocation of 1852.—That hereafter no warrant of Dispensation to form a new Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, shall be recommended by any subordinate Chapter, until such subordinate Chapter is fully satisfied that none of the petitioners are members of any other Chapter, and which fact must be certified in the recommendation.

Convocation of 1852.—That it is deemed inexpedient by this Grand Chapter to grant Dispensations for any new Chapter within twenty miles of any other Chapter, *provided*, that this resolution shall not apply to cities.

Convocation of 1853.—That expulsion or suspension from a Lodge of Master Masons operates as expulsion or suspension from all the privileges of Royal Arch Masonry.

Convocation of 1853.—That this Grand Chapter does not approve of subordinate Chapters Exalting less than Three at the same time.

Convocation of 1856.—That a standing Committee on Work be appointed, of which the Grand Lecturer shall be Chairman, whose duty it shall be to report the work and lectures to this Grand Chapter, on or before Wednesday of each of its Annual Convocation. And when said work and lectures are adopted, the Grand Lecturer shall, in his visits to subordinate Chapters, instruct them in the same.

