

1858
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND
CHAPTER
of
Royal Arch Masons
of
ALABAMA



A.D. 1858 / A.I. 2388

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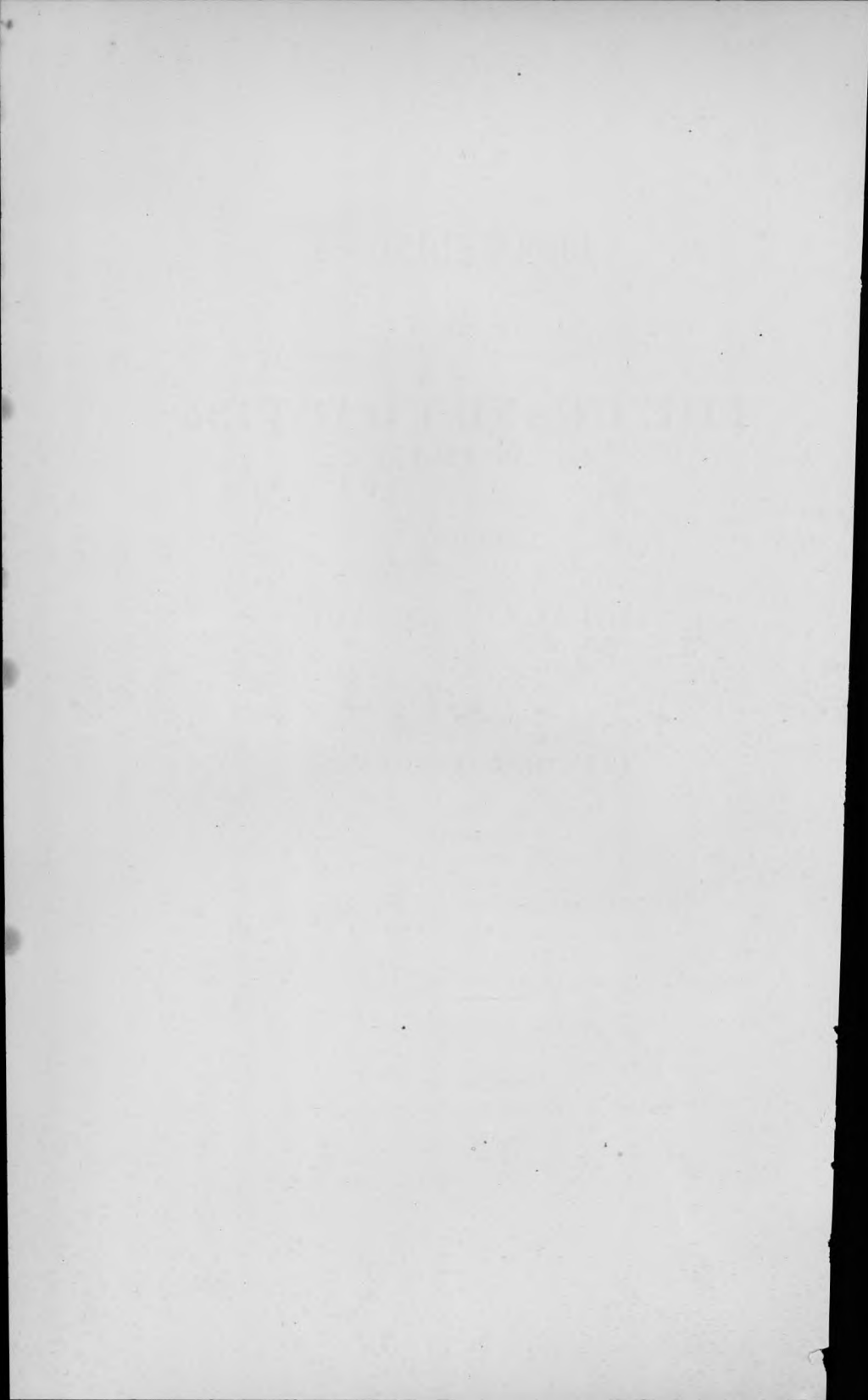
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A.D.2017, A.L.6017

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
THE GRAND CHAPTER
OF ALABAMA
AT ITS
ANNUAL CONVOCATION
HELD IN THE
CITY OF MONTGOMERY
COMMENCING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7TH, 1858.

Montgomery :
BARRETT & WIMBISH, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS,
1859.



PROCEEDINGS.

The M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama, convened at its Thirty-second Annual Convocation, at the Masonic Hall, in the City of Montgomery, on Tuesday, the 7th day of December, 1858, R. A. M., 2388.

PRESENT.

M. E. DAVID CLOPTON, Grand High Priest.
E. S. A. M. WOOD, D. G. High Priest.
E. H. P. WATSON, Grand King.
E. JOHN R. CLARK, Grand Scribe, p. t.
E. E. M. HASTINGS, Grand Treasurer.
E. DANIEL SAYRE, Grand Secretary.
E. MOSES PADGETT, Grand Chaplain.
E. THOMAS McDOUGALL, Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

W. P. CHILTON, Grand High Priest.
J. McCaleb WILEY, D. G. H. Priest.
JAMES L. PRICE, D. G. H. Priest.
EDWARD HERNDON, D. G. H. Priest.
H. S. SHELTON, Grand King.
WILLIAM H. NORRIS, Grand King.
J. M. BRUNDIDGE, Grand King.
THOMAS F. FLOURNOY, Grand Scribe.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

No.	Chapters.	Names of Officers.	Grade.
1	Tuscaloosa,	Robert Blair,	K.
2	Ex,		
3	Ex,		
4	Monroe,	R. C. Torrey,	H. P.

No.	Chapters.	Names of Officers.	Grade.
5	Eunomia,	R. W. Coltart,*	H. P.
6	Cyrus,	S. A. M. Wood,*	H. P.
		Joseph Ingram,*	K.
7	Ex,		
8	Ex,		
9			
10	Tuscumbia,		
11	Phoenix,	W. Kerr,*	H. P.
12	Marion,	R. T. Jones,*	H. P.
13	Ex,		
14			
15			
16	Ex,		
17	Wetumpka,	W. A. Allen,	H. P.
18			
19	Mt. Moriah,	B. T. Higginbotham,*	H. P.
20	Ex,		
21	Mobile,	James A. Miller,*	H. P.
22	Montgomery,	E. M. Hastings,	H. P.
23	Ex,		
24	Eufaula,	Joseph Saulsbury,*	H. P.
25	Courtland.		
26	Union,	James L. Price,	H. P.
27	Dayton,	C. C. Garrett,	H. P.
28	St. John's,	J. B. Harrison,	H. P.
29			
30	James Penn,	John R. Clark,	H. P.
31	Perfect Friendship,	David Gordon,*	H. P.
32	Fulton,	William H. Norris,	H. P.
		Th. H. Averett*	K.
		W. E. Beaird,*	S.
33	Autauga,	Lewis Stoudenmier,*	H. P.
34	Hermon,	E. Taylor,*	H. P.
		J. F. Foreman,	K.
		M. Buttersfield,*	S.

No.	Chapters.	Names of Officers.	Grade.
35			
36	Pickensville,	H. S. Shelton,	H. P.
		W. D. Dupree,*	K.
37	Concord,	M. C. Blanchard,	K.
38	Ex,		
39	Ex,		
40			
41	Washington,	C. N. Briggs,*	H. P.
42			
43	Tuskegee,	David Clopton,	H. P.
44	Choctaw,	W. D. Gaines,*	H. P.
		J. W. Henson,*	S.
45			
46			
47	Ex,		
48			
49	Hope,	L. B. Stephenson,*	H. P.
50	Sumter,	E. Herndon,	H. P.
51	Ex,		
52	Allenton,	B. S. Rives,*	H. P.
53	Uchee,	W. G. Johnston,*	H. P.
54	Tyrian,	J. McCaleb Wiley,*	H. P.
		W. F. Beard,*	K.
55	Suggsville,	S. Nordlinger,*	H. P.
		Henry Whitaker,	K.
56	Zerubbabel,	J. J. Havis,	H. P.
		W. M. Graves,	S.
57	Lebanon,	A. A. Hughes,*	H. P.
58	Hartwell,		
59			
60	Hiram,	S. D. Moorer,	H. P.
		R. D. Twombly,*	K.

No.	Chapters.	Names of Officers.	Grade.
61	Signet,	Thomas F. Flournoy,	H. P.
		John U. Brown,*	K.
62	Rockford,.	George E. Brewer,*	H. P.
		Isaac W. Suttle,	K.
63	Clayton,	W. M. Turner,*	H. P.
		Moses Padgett,*	K.
		R. J. Yarrington,*	S.
64	Central,	H. M. Jones,	H. P.
65	Russell,		
66	Farriorville,		

* Proxies.

The M. E. Grand Royal Arch 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:

A year of abundant mercies, enriching harvests, and unexpected deliverance from financial ruin—a year teeming with prosperity, contentment and happiness—every moment of which proclaims the goodness of Divine Providence—brings us under additional obligations to return thanks and praise to Him, who is the Disposer of all events, and the Jehovah of Freemasonry. Remembering the lesson we were taught when first we knelt at the Masonic altar, and invoking His aid and direction in our laudable undertaking, let us, companions, enter upon the discharge of those duties, which spring from our present relation to the Fraternity, and begin the accomplishment of the business that has convened us, endued with the spirit of Faith, Hope, and Charity.

One compensation for the rapid flight of time, is the pleasure of reunion on such occasions as this. Engaged in different occupations, mingling in different communities, and having different temporal ends in view, we are traveling different paths through life. In the course of our journeying, we have, to-day, arrived at one of those places where our paths cross, and we are privileged to meet and congratulate each other upon the success of the past, and encourage, by the hopes of the future. It is reanimating to get away, sometimes, from the selfishness of the world, and to feel that we stand within a circle of brothers, whose hearts beat strongly, and whose bosoms throb ardently for our welfare.

But, with the enjoyments of this occasion, there are mixed sad reflections. When we were last here, impressed by the kindly influences of the genius of Freemasonry, buoyed by its associated hopes, and impelled by the high emotions, which made our hearts kindred to the great heart of humanity, we felt a firm resolve to devote talent, energy and life to the noble object of doing good—spreading light and knowledge. But, now that time has enrolled upon the records of the past the transactions of another twelve-months the retrospect compels us to regret our errors, lament our losses—golden opportunities gone forever. How instructive is the *past*! How wise its precept! How prudent its counsels! How faithful its warnings! A lamp, that shines upon the way of the future.

“We take no note of time,
But from its loss. To give it, then, a tongue,
Is wise in man. If heard aright,
It is the knell of my departed hours.
Where are they? With years beyond the flood.
It is the signal of dispatch;
How much is to be done?”

Turning from these reflections, let us enquire, What is the purpose of this convocation? Why have we withdrawn, for a season, from our business, and left the endearments of home, to meet, undisturbed within the retirement of these

walls, and unobserved by the world?—If the masonic were a society whose existence could be dated from yesterday, and whose death would be recorded on to-morrow, we might be pardoned for feeling indifferent to the object of our assemblage, and to the effect of our action; for then it would be unfit to occupy our time, and unworthy of the thought and care which educated mind bestows. But, when we reflect that it is to be, and to act, and that the consequences of our deliberations and decisions are to be seen and felt, when we shall be seen and known no longer, it behooves us to be impressed with the importance of the business now demanding our attention, as much as of any other business of life. Government is necessary to all societies and communities—whether municipal, political, financial, educative, or eleemosynary. This possesses the power to enlarge or restrict the bounds of their operations, to fix their depth, and heighth, and length and breadth. As civil and political legislation may determine the character of a people—may develop or confine the resources of a country—may elevate the national importance, dignity and respect; or divide, distract and degrade a nation;—in like manner, may the results of the legislation of a Grand Chapter be experienced in the future history of all its subordinates—making to itself vessels of honor or dishonor. To our hands has been entrusted by our companions the cause of Royal Arch Masonry within the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Alabama. Confiding in our ability, zeal, and fidelity, they have committed to us this trust, and to what end? To conceive, establish, direct and manage plans for the advancement of a “science, which includes all others; teaching human and divine knowledge, and the moral duties which are incumbent upon all Masons, as members of civil society”—to consider and promote the interests and prosperity of an Institution, whose foundations are deeply laid in human necessities; whose strength is human weakness and dependence; and whose design is human elevation. Thus considered, our responsibility rises in its proportions, and astonishes by its magnitude; and I would invoke you to begin, carry on, and complete the work of this con-

vocation with feelings inspired by such views of your duty and obligations.

I desire to impress, as far as my feeble abilities will authorize, the truth, that Masonry consists not in a mere name; that it is not a fiction, a shadow; that it is based upon principles as steadfast as the "rock of ages;" that it possesses a conservatism, more powerful than that of the church—equal to the overthrow of sectional bigotry and political partizanship—liberalizing the heart and thus preparing the mind for growth and expansion, and making it a receptacle for truth; that it has an organization adapted to the capacity of human nature for culture and power and progress. Indulge me, then, whilst I portray the position and character of Freemasonry.

When we consider its history, the circumstances of its origin, its preservation and world-wide existence; when we meditate upon its truths; when we witness it, advancing side by side, with mind and morals in their race to perfection; when we see it, with simple ease, throwing aside the outward form, which under one dispensation, it had assumed before the world, and putting on modern garnitures suited to the changing periods; and this, too, without being subjected to the charge of innovation, or removing a solitary landmark; we are almost forced to the belief that a divinity has ministered to its life, and "shaped its ends." Perhaps, it never entered into the mind of the wise Solomon to conceive the work which he was doing. Perhaps he thought that when the capstone was laid, and the children of Israel had assembled and celebrated the completion of the temple, Masonry had accomplished its mission, and would be lost amid the dispersion of its members. Could he have penetrated the veil that concealed the events of centuries, there unveiled, he would have looked upon it, standing in the midst of the nineteenth century, with its morality, literature, poetry and philosophy—recognized as one of the most expansive, comprehensive and powerful institutions of the age, and shining with a brightness which far surpassed the magnificence of the temple, or the glory of his sceptre. If morality be to inculcate and illustrate by ex-

pressive emblems and forcible lectures the moral duties of man in all the relations of life, public and domestic, then Masonry has its morality. If literature be learned elaborations of its principles, criticisms upon its character, disquisitions upon its analogies, and erudite records of its history, published either in permanent form, or magazines of great intelligence and appreciated worth, then has Masonry its literature. If poetry be aught else than mere metrical composition; if it be 'the truth inspired by feeling, and breathed into forms of beauty and sublimity;' if it be the expression of those holy and tender emotions, which, descending from on high, dwell in our inward world; then, without poetry, there is nothing in Masonry to move the soul, excite the imagination, arouse the feelings and enrobe the truth in the garment of allegory. If philosophy be the love of wisdom; if it be that, which "enlarges our views of God and His works, and renders our knowledge of both, practically useful and subservient to human happiness;" then, without Philosophy, all the ceremonies, lectures, tenets and emblems of Masonry are "sounding brass and tinkling cymbals." It lays its trophies at the feet of none but the feet of God. It acknowledges no superior power but the power of the Cross. And if the sun of our own zone, that rises in the East, and advances to meridian splendor, communicating light and life and growth to all nature, is an emblem of Christianity, then, Freemasonry finds a faint emblem in the midnight sun of the Arctic zone, which the lamented Kane describes, as coming out over the northern crest of a berg, "making the ice around, one great resplendancy of gemwork, and rubies and molten gold." Such thoughts and reflections ought to elevate the institution in our estimation, increase our attachment, and enlist our earnest co-operation in the fulfillment of its most sanguine hopes, and the realization of its most glorious promises.

Masonry in the United States occupies an eminent position, and possesses a world-reputation. By what means has this been attained?—Dr. Oliver, the distinguished author, remarked that, "one great cause of the overwhelming influence of

trans-Atlantic Masonry is the extensive encouragement given by its Grand Lodge to publications on Masonic subjects." The opinion of this eminent writer, who had accustomed himself to study Masonry in all its aspects, bearings and influences, should encourage us to persevere in our efforts to develop, mature and improve the entire range of Masonic literature and philosophy. Notwithstanding, however, all that has been written, the books that have been printed, and the magazines which are periodically published, how few duly appreciate the character, scope and design of Freemasonry! And I am apprehensive that capitular Masonry is not regarded by the Fraternity in Alabama, as it well deserves. A large number, probably by far the larger proportion, of Masons never read these publications, either from want of time, being engrossed by the cares and exactions of business, or from want of inclination, having never cultivated the habit and desire of reading and research. Vast numbers must be edified and instructed in the science of Freemasonry by oral communications. By whom? By the High Priests of the Chapters.

As I am now addressing the presiding officers of the Subordinate Chapters under your jurisdiction, excuse me, if, with plainness and candor, I suggest how much the character, respect, dignity and prosperity of your respective chapters depend upon your conduct, ability and proper qualifications. In this age of improvement, practical and intelligent men are not going to assemble periodically for the simple purpose of hearing the same fundamental truths expressed and reiterated, and witnessing the same routine of ceremonies. Means must be adopted to add more interest to the meetings of the Chapters—the members must be made to feel that the time there spent has not passed unimproved—but, rather, that the heart has been made more virtuous and the mind wiser. To this end, the High Priests of Chapters must be Masons who are equal in every respect to the duties and responsibilities of their position. It is not sufficient that they are competent to perform the ceremonies and repeat the lectures, as they have been committed to memory. This is but one of the high

qualifications necessary to the office of High Priest, and one which I would not underrate; for a High Priest ought to understand fully the duty of every office in the Chapter, and be competent to fill every station. He ought, likewise, to be a man of study and research, in order that he may explain and enforce the rules and precepts which the ritual teaches, instruct the companions in the history of capitular Masonry, and illustrate its principles and doctrines in impressive language, and by beautiful and appropriate metaphor. Become, companions, well versed in the history and analogies of the order, in its laws and regulations and modifications—make yourselves acquainted with the writings of those eminent authors, whose pages shine with the brightness of its truths and glory—render the convocations of your Chapters occasions and seasons of social intercourse, adorned with the beauty of morality and cemented by interesting, instructive and intellectual communings, and ere long there will be no cause to complain of thinly attended meetings, of the indifference and inattention of the companions.

So far as has been brought to my knowledge, nothing has occurred during the past year to disturb the peace and harmony which pervade your jurisdiction. The Grand Secretary will inform you how many dispensations have been issued for the establishment of new Chapters. I will be pardoned for alluding to only one. During the month of last February, in company with companions, the Deputy Grand High Priest and S. F. Hale, I went to Mobile in discharge of a duty, imposed upon us by the Grand Lodge. While there, I was sensibly impressed with the numerous and large demands, that were constantly made upon the charity of the brethren, and the promptness with which they were answered. My opinion, then formed, and still unchanged, is that the resources of one Lodge and one Chapter could not fully meet all the requisitions, which would be made upon them—more especially, as they were subject to be visited by a destroying epidemic, like that of the past Fall, when homes are made desolate, wives become dependent widows, and children helpless orphans. I was, also,

impressed with the importance of the relation, which the Fraternity there sustained to the Fraternity throughout the State, so far as regarded the estimate of the Masonic public abroad. Acting upon these views, when a petition was presented to me for the organization of another Chapter in the City of Mobile, I unhesitatingly granted a dispensation, the requirements of the Constitution having been complied with; which action I trust will meet with your approval.

During the present year, Masonry has been called upon to mourn the loss of some distinguished master workmen; two of whom deserve especial notice.

Wilkins Tannehill died at Nashville, Tennessee, on the 2d of June, 1858, aged seventy-one years. He was present and assisted in the organization of the Grand Lodge at Knoxville in 1813, forty-five years ago. He was appointed to the arduous position of Grand Secretary, which office he held for several successive years with credit to himself and great acceptability to his brethren. Afterwards, he was elected Grand Master, and subsequently six times re-elected. For more than a third of a century his name has ranked high with the Craft. Often have I heard him cited as authority in the Grand Lodge of Alabama. His great worth and excellence were perhaps not much known, except to the Brotherhood. By the Fraternity he was esteemed, loved and honored. Few Masons in this country possessed in a higher degree, its confidence. He was recognized as a generous friend, and characterized as a zealous and self-sacrificing Mason. One of his earlier compeers has said of him: "Brother Tannehill was hailed as the Genius of Masonry, and all bore willing testimony to his worth as a man and a mason. In a ripe old age he was gathered among his fathers. In life, he was pronounced 'true and square'—a perfect ashlar—and we hope was prepared to become a living stone in that house 'eternal in the heavens.'"

The reputation of General John A. Quitman was not exclusively masonic. Upon the battle-field he was marked for his discretion, skill and valor—in council he was wise and prudent—as a citizen, he was distinguished for his incorruptible pa-

triotism—as a man, he was respected for his probity—and, as a mason, he was esteemed for his zeal and excellence. His character illustrated those great cardinal virtues, Temperance, Prudence, Fortitude and Justice. For fifteen years he served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi—and perhaps, in his heart of hearts, he prized this honor as highly as any which was ever conferred upon him. Although wreathed with civic honors, and exalted in military fame—the observed wherever he moved—yet he never “deemed it derogatory to his dignity, to level himself with the Fraternity, and patronize its assemblies.” How true as well as appropriate, then, was the resolution which was adopted by Harmony Lodge, over which he had presided for four years, and with whose members he was intimately associated, “That as Freemasons we feel that a tall and stately column has fallen in our temple, possessing in an eminent degree all the characteristics of “wisdom strength and beauty.” His name is not the property of the State of Mississippi, but the common property of his country. His exalted worth belongs not to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, but is the possession of his whole Fraternity; and Masonry joins his Country in lamenting his death. An honored patron of the one, and a favored son of the other, has fallen.

A difficulty has occurred between the Grand Chapter of Michigan and the General Grand High Priest, the details and circumstances of which will be fully reported by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. I do not propose to discuss the questions involved in this controversy; although they deserve the serious consideration of this Grand Chapter. I shall content myself with expressing the opinion that the General Grand High Priest has erred, by exercising a power which is neither inherent in his office, or granted by the Constitution. Whatever may have been his motives, (and I believe that he considered that he possessed the power to do what he has done,) it still becomes the different Grand Chapters to express decided opposition to his course towards the Grand Chapter of Michigan, if they would preserve inviolate their independent rights.

This discussion has given rise to another, which is now almost exclusively engaging the attention of Royal Arch Masonry in the United States; and which endangers the existence of the General Grand Chapter. During the past summer I received from the Chairman of a Committee appointed by the Grand Chapter of Michigan a circular, asking a consideration of, and an opinion upon certain questions relating to the General Grand Chapter. To that circular I have not replied, as I did not deem it proper for me to commit even seemingly this Grand Chapter to any particular opinion, which I might express without your previous consideration thereof.

It is true, that the triennial meetings of the General Grand Chapter afford occasion for the pleasant re-union of leading and influential Masons from every section of our country; and, the consequent interchange of views and sentiments may have been productive of some benefit to the cause of Masonry. But for what other useful purpose has it served? In considering and reviewing its history we are necessarily impressed with the fact, that it has failed to accomplish the chief ends of its organization. At the last meeting, it refused to adopt any mode of work, and left the different Grand Chapters, each for itself, to adopt its own mode, thus indirectly admitting its inability to accomplish that great desideratum—uniformity of work. Instead of relieving grievances, it appears that through the conduct of its highest officer, it has caused grievance. Instead of harmonizing, it has produced conflict. Instead of having certain well-defined powers, the right is claimed to assume those at one communication which have been disclaimed at another; with the respective orbits of the General Grand Chapter and the State Grand Chapters unascertained, we know not at what point there is danger of conflict. It occurs to my mind, that the true policy of Masonry is to have as little governmental machinery and legislative machinery as possible—just enough to regulate and control its affairs and maintain peace and correspondence with foreign jurisdictions. And I am satisfied, from the repeated refusal of the Grand Lodges to organize and establish a General Grand Lodge, that the public Masonic sentiment is opposed to such organizations.

The withdrawal of the Grand Chapters of Kentucky and North Carolina from any connection with the General Grand Chapter, has produced feelings, which are unbecoming that charity that we profess, and called forth expressions which had far better have been left unsaid. This action has been characterized as "rebellious," and Masons have been charged with a disregard of their solemn obligations. I do not doubt that the Companions who composed those Grand Chapters had and felt, at the time they adopted these resolutions of withdrawal, as high regard for their obligations, as we have, who still acknowledge allegiance to the General Grand Chapter. I have no disposition to condemn their conduct as corrupt and unmasonic, although I might utterly disagree with them; but with all the information which I have been able to acquire, I am not yet prepared to deny their right to withdraw. For if it is acknowledged that the General Grand Chapter can usurp any power which its arbitrary will may determine, and the Grand Chapters are compelled to submit, unless a majority concur in condemning—this, in my opinion, would be an additional argument in favor of its dissolution.

Being convinced that it was inexpedient to dissolve the General Grand Chapter by the separate withdrawal of the different Grand Chapters, if it could be avoided; and hence having determined not to recommend the withdrawal of this Grand Chapter, I have not given to this subject the reflection and investigation which its importance demands, and have no opinion to express for or against this right, to which I am willing to commit myself unreservedly. The discussions that have already been had have sufficiently pointed the inefficiency, the weakness and the dangers of the present organization of the General Grand Chapter; and perhaps at its next Convocation, measures may be adopted to remedy these defects. You ought, however, to take action upon these subjects, in order that your representatives may know your wishes and opinions, and govern their conduct accordingly. It ought to be insisted upon, that the powers of the General Grand Chapter shall be defined and limited, so that the independent

rights of the State Grand Chapters shall be, at all times and under all circumstances duly observed and protected. If this cannot be accomplished, then it ought to be dissolved; but, by all means, let that dissolution be made in fraternity and good will. Let each say to the other, in the spirit of the language of the ancient patriarch, "Let there be no strife between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen, for we be brethren."

Permit me, Companions, in concluding this address to express the hope that the measures which you may, in your wisdom, adopt, will be good and wholesome; that nothing may be done to mar the bright escutcheon of Masonry, or lessen its dignity; that this Convocation may be agreeable and pleasant and promotive of those kindest feelings by which alone brotherly association can be preserved. To this end, we must drink of the fountain of all wisdom, and look to the source of all good—to that power which has directed, preserved and perpetuated our beloved Institution. "The Temple of Solomon looked towards the East; let us frequently direct our eyes to the same quarter, where the Dayspring from on High visited us, where the Son of Righteousness rose with healing in his wings, and cherubs and seraphs ushered in the dawn of the Evangelic day with this gracious song, 'Glory be to God on high, and in earth, peace and good will towards men.'"

DAVID CLOPTON.

On motion of Companion H. S. Shelton, the address of the Grand High Priest, was ordered to be spread upon the minutes, and to be referred to a special committee; and the D. G. High Priest appointed the Committee as follows:

Companions Henry S. Shelton, James L. Price, H. P. Watson, R. C. Torrey, and John R. Clark.

On motion of Companion J. McCaleb Wiley, the usual standing committees were ordered to be appointed.

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

GRAND SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

To the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama:

Companions—During the Masonic year which has just now come to a close, Royal Arch Masonry has had peace and quiet within its borders. Under the protection of the Great Jehovah, it has progressed steadily, quietly and healthfully, and while new Companions have been added to the old Chapters, three Dispensations have been granted for new ones, to which the weary sojourner may resort to assist in rebuilding the House of the Lord. The names of these new Chapters may be learned by reference to my general report, and also the amount of money received for them, which has been paid over to the Grand Treasurer.—The Dues received at the last Convocation, amounting to six hundred and twenty-nine dollars and fifty cents; and also *back dues* received since then, amounting to forty-five dollars and fifty cents, have been paid over to the proper officer.

Of the contingent fund of \$600 set apart at the last Annual Convocation, it has been necessary to expend only the sum of \$194.96—leaving a residue in my hands, unexpended, of \$405.04.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

DAN'L SAYRE, Grand Secretary.

Montgomery, Dec. 7, 1858.

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

DR.

December, 1857. To contingent fund.....\$600 00

1858.

Cr.

Mch. 3.	Paid Barrett & Wimbish for ptg. proceedings -----	\$ 50 00
Aug. 21.	Paid Barrett & Wimbish for charters -----	12 00
Aug. 16.	Paid Tuskegee Republican for proxies -----	3 00
Oct. 2.	Paid Pfister & White for stat'ry--	7 65
Nov. 8.	Paid postage -----	8 56
Nov. 2.	Paid Plster & White for stat'ry	13 75
Dec. 4.	Paid Pfister & White for Jewel--	100 00

Balance on hand-----\$405 04

Montgomery, Dec. 7, 1858.

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

1857.

Dr.

Dec.	To amount in the hands of the Grand Secretary as per his last report-----	\$ 9 50
	To cash received of Farriorville No. 66 for Dispensation -----	90 00
	To cash received of Alabama No. 67 for Dispensation -----	90 00
	To cash received from back dues:	
	Sumterville Chapter No. 50-----	\$ 7 50
	Tyrian Chapter No. 54-----	6 00
	Tuscaloosa Chapter No. 1-----	9 00
	Lebanon Chapter No. 57-----	10 50
	Pickensville Chapter No. 36-----	12 50
	To dues for 1857-----	629 50
	To cash received of Cherokee No. 68 for Dispensation -----	90 00
		\$954 50

1857.	Cr.		
Dec. 17.	By cash paid to the Gr. Treas.	\$ 621 00	
	By cash paid Hermon Chapter, collected by mistake	17 50	
1858.			
No. 23.	By paid to Grand Treasurer	316 00	\$ 954 50
Montgomery, December 7, 1858.			

DUES RECEIVED FOR 1857.

No. 4, Monroe	-----	\$12 00	34, Hermon	-----	38 00
5, Eunomia	-----	7 00	35, J. L. Daniel	----	23 00
6, Cyrus	-----	16 00	37, Concord	-----	13 00
9, Clinton	-----	10 00	41, Washington	----	11 50
10, Tuscumbia	----	10 50	43, Tuskegee	-----	9 50
11, Phoenix	-----	6 50	44, Choctaw	-----	16 00
12, Marion	-----	19 50	48, McKinley	-----	9 00
17, Wetumpka	----	7 50	49, Hope	-----	18 00
18, Jamestown	-----	12 50	52, Allenton	-----	20 00
19, Mt. Moriah	----	16 00	53, Uchee	-----	19 00
21, Mobile	-----	30 00	54, Tyrian	-----	19 00
22, Montgomery	----	27 50	55, Sugsville	-----	19 00
24, Eufaula	-----	12 00	56, Zerubbabel	----	9 50
25, Courtland	-----	14 50	58, Hartwell	-----	21 50
26, Union	-----	19 00	59, Bladon Springs	---	10 00
27, Dayton	-----	16 50	60, Hiram	-----	12 00
28, St. Johns	-----	13 50	61, Signet	-----	14 50
30, James Penn	----	11 50	62, Rockford	-----	9 00
31, P. Friendship	--	16 00	63, Midway	-----	12 00
32, Fulton	-----	13 50	64, Central	-----	8 50
33, Autauga	-----	12 50	65, Russell	-----	13 50
			\$629 50		

The Grand Treasurer made his annual 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.*

1857.

DR.

Dec. 8.	To balance on hand	\$ 738 70
Dec. 17.	To cash from Grand Secretary	621 00
1858.		
Nov. 23.	To cash from Grand Secretary	316 00
		\$1,675 70

1857.

CR.

Dec. 9.	By paid order to Washington Chapter, (voucher 1)	\$ 3 50
Dec. 11.	By paid order to A. W. Hawley (voucher 2)	7 50
Dec. 17.	By paid appropriation to Grand Treasurer, (voucher 3)	50 00
Dec. 18.	By amt. to Daniel Sayre for Washington Chapter (voucher 4)	3 50
Dec. 24.	By appropriation to Grand Sentinel (voucher 5)	20 00
1858.		
Jan. 12.	By paid appropriation to Grand Secretary, (voucher 6)	250 00
Jan. 12.	By paid appropriation to contingent fund, (voucher 7)	600 00
Jan. 21.	By paid appropriation for Testimonial to Mrs. A. P. Pfister (voucher 2)	200 00
July 31.	By paid order from Grand Secretary for rent (voucher 9)	25 00
Dec. 7.	By balance on hand	516 20
		\$1,675 70

E. M. HASTINGS, Grand Treasurer.

Montgomery, Dec. 7, 1858.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment, until this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, December 7, 1858.

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

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Grand Secretary read the following communication from Companion William A. Ferrell, P. G. H. P., and it was ordered to be spread upon the minutes:

Companions of the Grand Chapter of Alabama:

Circumstances over which I could exercise no control, prevented my being present at your last, and feeble health, as well as business in another State, will render it impossible for me to be at your present Convocation. I can assure you that my absence has not in the least abated my ardor for the general prosperity of our Order. I very much regret that I cannot work with, and for you, as I have done. I now learn by experience that my former exposures and efforts were too much for my strength, and I regret that I can only be regarded as a superannuate. Some of my most pleasing reflections are in reference to my efforts, though imperfect, to promote our beloved Order, and in trying to impart the true work. I was made a Royal Arch Mason in Mobile Chapter No. 21 in 1839; at the Annual Convocation of that year your partiality selected me for Grand King, and though time brings its melancholy reflections, still there are some pleasing mementoes of the past. Then a small room in the third story of a private building in Tuscaloosa was ample for the accommodation of the Grand Chapter.—All of my colleagues from Mobile Chapter

on that occasion have been called by the S. G. H. P. to *refreshment*. My compeers in office at that Convocation have also been summoned hence, and but few remain to attend your Convocation who were then present. It is, my Companions, with feelings of the deepest emotion, I accept and will wear the splendid Jewel your kindness has presented to me. This partiality for my feeble efforts would incline me, if my health would permit, to continue to labor.

This memento of your confidence, I will cherish while life shall last, and when my labors shall be ended, and the great drama of life wound up, I will bequeath it to my family as an evidence of your kindness—hoping it will always be a shield against the follies of life to those I may leave behind, as well as a beacon to direct to the celestial Grand Chapter above.

WILL. A. FERRELL.

Hollow Square, Nov. 24, 1858.

The Grand High Priest announced the following

COMMITTEES.

On Chartered Chapters, No. 1—J. B. Harrison, Winguit M. Turner, F. Flournoy, J. J. Havis, W. M. Graves.

On Chartered Chapters, No. 2—William H. Norris, R. W. Coltart, George E. Brewer, B. T. Higginbotham, W. Kerr.

On Chapters Under Dispensation—S. D. Moorer, Joseph Ingram, S. Nordlinger, L. B. Stephenson, John U. Brown.

On Accounts—James A. Miller, W. D. Gaines, Ezekiel Taylor, James L. Price, Charles C. Garrett.

On Foreign Correspondence.—S. A. M. Wood, R. C. Torrey, John R. Clark, M. C. Blanchard, J. McCaleb Wiley.

On Appeals—R. C. Torrey, Henry S. Shelton, Moses Padgett, M. Butterfield.

Companion S. A. M. Wood made the following report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and it was ordered to be spread upon the minutes, and the resolutions adopted:

REPORT.

To the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence ask leave to Report: That they have received communications from the Grand Chapters enumerated below, and for the years there mentioned:

States.	Y'rs	Grand High Priests.	G. Secretaries.
Missouri -----	1858	Marcus Boyd-----	A. O'Sullivan.
Georgia -----	1858	Philip T. Schley----	B. B. Russell.
Wisconsin ---	1858	Henry L. Palmer-----	J. W. Hunt.
Ohio -----	1857	George Rex -----	J. D. Caldwell.
Arkansas -----	1857	E. H. English-----	A. S. Huey.
North Carolina	1858	Peter Custis -----	Thomas B. Carr.
Maine -----	1858	Joseph C. Stevens----	Ira Berry.
Florida -----	1858	Thomas Hayward --	J. B. Taylor.
Indiana -----	1858	Daniel K. Hays-----	Francis King.
Louisiana -----	1858	R. F. McGuire-----	Samuel G. Risk.
Maryland -----	1858	T. S. Courtney-----	Joseph Robinson.
Michigan -----	1858	J. C. Coffinberry-----	R. S. Cheney.
New Jersey --	1857	Wm. H. Doggett-----	F. Brother.
Do. do.-----	1858	Wm. H. Doggett-----	F. Brother.
Mississippi ---	1858	A. R. Johnston-----	R. W. T. Daniel.
Virginia -----	1857	James Evans -----	John Dove.
Connecticut --	1858	David Clark -----	E. G. Storer.
California ----	1858	Thos. H. Caswell-----	Geo. I. N. Monell.
Rhode Island -	1858	John Eldred -----	Wm. C. Barker.
South Carolina	1858	A. G. Mackey-----	E. Thayer.

Presenting as they do to a Royal Arch Mason, a fund of information no where else to be obtained, we have read these volumes with eagerness. With few exceptions, the following topics are the prominent ones in all: "The G. G. Chapter—its powers—the amendments to its Constitution—shall we withdraw, or shall it be dissolved;" "Uniformity of work;" "The *degree* of Past Master."

We had desired and intended to review the proceedings of each Grand Chapter, separately. In no other way can we do justice to our notions of what a report from this Committee should properly consist. We find from many of these volumes the fact that our own proceedings do not regularly reach other Committees. This, we feel justified in saying, originates from careless handling in the mails. No one takes a deeper interest in receiving and returning the proceedings of Grand Chapters than our Grand Secretary. We find in all the kindest feelings expressed for the cause of Royal Arch Masonry in Alabama. This feeling, come from what State it may, is fully reciprocated by us. The evidences are indeed cheering every where. Royal Arch Masonry is being thoroughly studied, and when that is the case it will be honored.

We shall now proceed to present the action of the Grand Chapters above enumerated, on one or two subjects; but we feel that this is not giving a correct idea of the progress of the work in our beautiful Temple; but it is the best we can now do.

MICHIGAN AND THE G. G. CHAPTER.

A controversy has arisen between the Grand High Priest of Michigan, Companion Coffinberry, who has been supported by the Grand Chapter of that State, and the G. G. H. Priest of the General Grand Chapter, Companion Gilman.

A brief synopsis of the facts is necessary to a proper understanding of the matter about which the difference has occurred. The Grand Chapter of Michigan, in 1856, so amended its Constitution as to provide, "That a warrant may be granted for a new Chapter, upon a petition therefor, recommended by the Chapter nearest to the place where the new Chapter is to be formed, *or by two other Chapters* in this State."—And under the latter clause of this proviso, the Grand High Priest of Michigan, on the 10th of February, 1856, duly constituted Peninsular Chapter No. 16, in the city of Detroit, and installed its officers. Monroe Chapter No. 1 was already in

existence in that city, in good standing, and had refused to recommend the application of Peninsular Chapter. Monroe Chapter No. 1 complained to the G. G. H. Priest of the action of the G. H. Priest of the Grand Chapter of Michigan. Upon the information of parties as to what had transpired in Michigan, the G. G. H. Priest issued a Communication reciting the facts: "That the Grand Chapter of Michigan has granted a Charter for, and organized, a new Chapter in the city of Detroit, by the name of Peninsular Chapter without the petition therefor being accompanied with a certificate of Monroe Chapter, vouching for the moral character and Masonic abilities of the petitioners, and without a recommendation from that Chapter that a Dispensation should be granted them, said Monroe Chapter being the Chapter nearest to, and the only one at the place aforesaid; but on the contrary in direct opposition to the expressed opinion of Monroe Chapter; and said complaint was accompanied with a prayer that the official power of the General Grand High Priest be interposed to prevent a continuance of this grievance. The G. G. H. Priest issued a proclamation that certain articles of the Constitution of Michigan were null and void; that Peninsular Chapter was an irregular Masonic Assembly; that its Charter or warrant is void; and that every act which has been or may hereafter be done under the same is also void and is of no effect in Masonry.

This certainly novel case, and unusual exercise of power on the part of the G. G. H. Priest, caused a great sensation in Michigan, and is the subject of much discussion in all the Grand Chapters. It brings up two questions:

1st. From what source does the General Grand Chapter derive its powers, and how are they limited; or is the G. G. Chapter the fountain of all Masonic law and usage in Chapters?

2d. Can the G. G. Chapter, (and if it cannot, can the G. G. H. Priest) receive a complaint from a subordinate Chapter, against the Grand Chapter from which the subordinate holds its charter?

These questions were before the last G. G. Chapter, and, as we have heard, were both decided by a resolution; and the first one by a proposed amendment to the Constitution of the G. G. Chapter, will, we trust, be forever settled. But if decided, it was evidently in opposition to the views of the G. G. H. Priest, and his object, it is to be presumed, is to obtain a re-hearing. With regard to the action of the G. G. Chapter at Hartford, he calls it a "fallacy recently entertained for the first time." He says elsewhere that the Grand Chapter of Michigan "exists by virtue of the Constitution of the G. G. Chapter"—which, it is believed, is refuted by the fact, well known, that a Grand Chapter and Royal Arch Masonry may, and can, exist, if there was no G. G. Chapter, or Constitution of the G. G. Chapter, or G. G. H. Priest.

But we do not feel disposed here to discuss this matter, important as it is. It must have a very telling influence in the deliberations of the next Triennial Convocation. It will no doubt be before that body, and the G. G. H. Priest will most probably render a full account of his action in the premises. And although we feel disposed to side with the Grand Chapter of Michigan, we will not do any wrong or injury to wait, especially as nothing further has transpired on the subject.

Indiana, through her Grand High Priest and Grand Chapter, has spoken out, strongly sustaining Michigan.

Whether right or not, we cannot approve of the style and language of the Grand High Priest's address. After narrating the facts, he thus speaks: "Such an egregious blunder as the G. G. H. Priest has here evidently committed, shows him, in my opinion, a more fit subject for the insane asylum than the honorable position he now occupies amongst the Fraternity." This is far too harsh, even in a case of evident error of judgment. And in this case it seems there is a large minority of the Grand Chapter of Indiana, who agree with the G. G. H. Priest, for upon a vote on the following Resolution, introduced by a committee to whom this matter was referred, with M. E. Companion Hacker at its head:

"*Resolved*, That the Grand High Priest and Grand Chapter of Michigan, in their manly resistance to the powers assumed by Companion Gilman, as the General Grand High Priest, merit our warmest thanks, and have our unqualified commendation."—there were, Ayes 58, Noes 49.

So Companion Hacker thinks that fifty Companions "are more fit subjects" for an insane asylum than for the office of G. G. H. Priest—49 in Indiana and one in Baltimore.

We regret to read these things in Masonry, coming especially from one of the most intelligent, active, zealous and well beloved Masons in the West.

We give, on the other hand, what the Committee on Foreign Correspondence in Connecticut, (Companion Storer, chairman) says on this subject. After giving the Companions in Michigan the full benefit of all that the Grand High Priest, Companion Coffinberry, has so well and ably said in their defence on this subject, and stating the fact that he could not agree with them in believing there was no conflict in the amended provision of the Grand Chapter, and Section 7 of Article 11 of the G. G. Chapter, he goes on to say, "Whether the G. G. H. Priest has acted judiciously in declaring a Chapter chartered by the Grand Chapter of Michigan 'an irregular Masonic assembly,' is quite another question; and yet we must confess we have not been able to see how he could have done less than he has. As the highest and governing officer of the G. G. Chapter, he doubtless possesses as much authority as the Grand High Priest of a State Grand Chapter would have under similar circumstances."

And as bearing on this subject, the following is from the report of a Special Committee to the Grand Chapter of Ohio, of which that distinguished Mason, Companion Cornelius Moore, was Chairman, on the Proceedings of the General Grand Chapter. As a third reason for withdrawing from any connection with the G. G. Chapter, they say:

"Its assumptions of power are dangerous in the extreme; while it has declined to even hear a complaint from New York, it has undertaken to adjust one in Michigan on an *ex parte*

statement; (was not this last the sole act of one of its Officers, the G. G. H. Priest?—Wood, Chairman;) and not only declares that a Chapter working under a Charter granted by the Grand Chapter of Michigan, is not a Royal Arch Chapter, but the work it has done is no work at all, and its members are not Royal Arch Masons! Thus it is not only dangerous to the peace and prosperity of the Order, but to the very existence of our organization! What has been done in Michigan may be done in Ohio."

We leave this subject, regretting that the conflict ever happened; that it happened at this peculiar juncture, and sincerely hoping that within a few fleeting months the question may at Chicago be settled so as to strengthen the bonds of Love, and unite firmly all the Royal Arch Masons in America.

UNIFORMITY OF WORK.

We introduce this subject for the purpose of showing what effect the recommendation of the General Grand Chapter has had upon the State Grand Chapters. That recommendation was that the officers of each Grand Chapter should proceed to search out the true Ancient Work and impart it to the Subordinates.

Immediately after the Convocation of the G. G. Chapter, Kentucky resolved, "That the Royal Arch Work, as understood within this jurisdiction, is that which was introduced into this State by Thomas Smith Webb, and communicated by him to the members of the Royal Arch Fraternity in Kentucky, yet living—and able to extend it; and that the Subordinate Chapters be interdicted from using any work, from whatever source promulgated, which differs essentially from that."

Ohio.—The G. H. Priest, M. E. Horace M. Stokes, in his Address, says: "The revised ritual, approved and adopted at the last session of the Grand Chapter, (October, 1856) has been received with marked favor by the Craft throughout the entire jurisdiction. I have, in accordance with the action of the last

Grand Chapter upon the subject, endeavored 'to exercise all legitimate means known to the Order, wisely, prudently, and effectually, to disseminate to, and perpetuate among, the Chapters of the State, the work adopted with so great unanimity.' He authorized competent companions in different parts of the State to impart the Work, and then says: "These appointments of Companions located in the different sections of the State, enabled me to bring the means of instruction near and easy to all. I therefore issued a circular to every Chapter in our jurisdiction, informing them of these appointments, and directing them to conform their work to the ritual adopted by the Grand Chapter as aforesaid.

"From the reports of my deputies, and from other sources of information, I am gratified to be able to report that 'the work is progressing satisfactorily, and that in a short time the Craft in Ohio will be able to speak the same language.'

California.—The G. H. Priest, in his Address, says: "While we have advanced far towards the establishment of a uniform system of work, we should not relax our efforts until we shall have attained an object so desirable, and adopted some mode by which it can be preserved and transmitted, pure and unsullied, to our successors. The system of Grand Lecturers, being eminently calculated to accomplish these purposes, I would recommend that some provision be made by which the Grand Lecturer will be enabled to visit all the Subordinate Chapters in our jurisdiction; or, if this be impracticable, * * * I would recommend that our jurisdiction be divided into a convenient number of districts, and that there be appointed in each a Companion * * * who shall visit and lecture each Chapter, under such instructions and regulations as the Grand Chapter may impose." After much discussion, the recommendations of the G. H. Priest were not agreed to.

The Grand Lecturer is continued as an officer, and is paid by each subordinate who asks his services.

Michigan.—In this State they have adopted the system of a Grand Lecturer and Visitor, who is a constitutional officer. We find a short report from this Officer in the proceedings,

stating that he had visited such of the Chapters as had applied to him, and we presume he is paid by them. He says: "The teachers need instruction, that the members may thereby receive a knowledge of the Chapter degrees, as the 'talents' committed to the overseers in charge have not in many instances been cultivated with a thoroughness required by the importance of their obligations and duties."

Indiana.—G. H. Priest, Companion Hacker says: "Should the Grand Chapter adopt a plan by which the ceremonies and lectures of the several Degrees would be fully rehearsed and exemplified before the members at each Annual Convocation, the benefits resulting therefrom to the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction would be incalculable."

And the Grand Chapter extended the time of holding the Grand Chapter one day longer in each year, and passed a resolution requiring the Grand Officers to cause the work to be rehearsed and exemplified before them each year.

They also adopted the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That Companion William Hacker be authorized and requested to instruct the Subordinate Chapters in the work whenever requested."

P. G. H. Priest, Companion Hacker, has devoted one hundred and three days in visiting and instructing Chapters, and they allowed him the very small sum of \$200.

He visited thirty-one Chapters and stayed an average of three days. His information, knowledge of ritual, and devotion to Freemasonry is seldom equalled. No doubt his services will be of great benefit in Indiana.

Mississippi.—At the Annual Convocation, 1857, a Committee of the first four Officers of the Grand Chapter was appointed to examine the Work adopted by the Grand Chapter and report on the same. They, in consequence of the distance they resided from each other, and absence from the State, and pressing engagements, failed to meet.—They recommended the appointment of another Committee. We find the following resolution adopted by the Grand Chapter:

"Resolved, That the members of the Grand Chapter respectfully petition the M. E. Grand Council, to meet before leaving the city of Jackson, and hear all objections to the work as exemplified by our Grand Lecturer; decide what work shall be adopted by all Royal Arch Masons under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, and that every Subordinate Chapter be required to adopt the same."

And this is all that we have from Mississippi.

South Carolina.—"The M. E. Grand High Priest then exemplified the Work of the Chapter Degrees." This was done by the distinguished and learned Companion, A. G. Mackey. There is nothing else on the subject of work.

Arkansas.—The Grand Council made the announcement that they had constituted the whole of the Grand Royal Arch jurisdiction one district, and had appointed Comp. E. H. Whitfield, Grand Lecturer; the understanding being that he shall visit such Chapters as shall address him a request to do so, and depend upon their liberality for compensation." This is all we find in their proceedings.

North Carolina.—Has heretofore pursued the common system of Grand Lecturers. The Grand High Priest in his address says: "After the adoption of the System of Work, it will devolve upon you to devise some sure and certain method for its dissemination. The system of Grand Lecturer has become exceedingly objectionable, and should you depend upon your former mode of dispensing light by them, you will find that although, year by year, you may inculcate upon your Subordinates the great necessity of work, and urge upon them the employment of your Grand Lecturer, your solicitations will be unheeded, your commands neglected, and the rays of light emanating from this Grand Body, will not extend beyond the walls of your Grand Chapter. During your last Convocation, in conversation with a portion of the delegates, on this very subject, there were several methods proposed which would secure the object we have in view, and I hope that at this meeting some scheme will be suggested, which may be found worthy of your adoption."

This is gratifying intelligence—that “there were several methods” known in North Carolina that would secure uniformity of Work. They did not, however, adopt any plan, nor was any proposed, though a committee was appointed, save the old plan of Grand Lecturers, with a different mode of payment for his services. They, however, appointed an able committee, to consult with the G. H. Priest “as to the true and ancient work of the Most Sublime Degrees, and to report to the next Annual Convocation of the G. R. A. Chapter.”

Missouri.—Has adopted for some years the system of a Grand Lecturer, paid by Grand Chapter—salary \$200. In the proceedings for 1858 there is a report from the R. W. A. O’Sullivan, Grand Lecturer, giving an interesting account of his labors. Visiting nearly every Chapter in the State, and laboring with earnest zeal to perfect the officers and brethren in the work.

If this system can succeed anywhere, it *must* do so in Missouri.—They have a Grand Lecturer *fully qualified*. A Companion learned in the Ritual, whose knowledge of the Masonic history and philosophy is hardly surpassed in the Union; whose genial manners and elevated social virtues are so rarely found combined with so much firmness, and severe mental discipline; who has the confidence of Masonry throughout the jurisdiction, and is worthy of it. If then there should be a failure, it is the fault of the system.

The Grand Lecturer annually exemplifies the work before the Grand Chapter—they give him full time.

We make an extract from Companion O’Sullivan’s Report. After giving some glowing descriptions of zealous Chapters, he turns to those that are inactive and cold:

“Having said this much, I regret to be compelled to state, that there are some Chapters in the State, and they among the oldest, that are not fulfilling the great ends of their Organization. The sound of the gavel is seldom heard within their halls, the vails are allowed to decay with disuse; incense no longer burns within their sanctuaries, and the Grand Council is not found devising means whereby they may reconstruct

the moral temple. I have visited their silent receptacles of buried treasures, and an indescribable melancholy took possession of my soul, as I contemplated the evidences of decay so clearly observable. It was as if I was transported back to a former age, and stood, as did our brethren of old, amid the ruins of Tadmor, gazing upon the shattered columns of that once flourishing city—its altars overthrown and naught remaining to tell that there knelt ancient Craftsmen in silent prayer to the God of Isaac and Jacob.

“There are two great and prominent causes which, in my opinion, reduce Chapters to this condition :

1st. That Chapters are too frequently organized without the least reflection as to the duties to be performed or the expense to be incurred.

2d. The officers are not possessed of the necessary intelligence, nor are any steps taken to procure appropriate furniture or clothing.”

These suggestions of our Companion are worthy of thought and investigation in every jurisdiction.

Georgia—In his address, M. E. G. H. Priest, Companion Philip T. Schley, enters into a full statement of the condition of Chapters in that State, and how well they understand the Ritual. This report, like that of Missouri, is made up of bright and gloomy pictures. We have read this address with great pleasure. It is one of those documents in which the whole truth is told, fearlessly, honestly, and, as it must always be, with severe and searching effect upon delinquents. The Grand High Priest is made the Grand Lecturer, and he pursued the work with all the energy of his soul. The Grand Chapter set aside \$300 to pay his expenses. Georgia stands as Missouri, with a certainty of success, if great and tried abilities, earnest devotion, and a zeal equal to any emergency, can succeed. The Grand High Priest exemplifies the work before the Grand Chapter. A resolution was passed forbidding any companion except the G. H. Priest, or Dep. G. H. Priest, from exemplifying the work except in the Chapters of which he is a member, unless by request of the High Priest of the Chapter.

Maine.—A special committee to whom was referred the resolution of the G. G. Chapter, reported that the 15th Article of the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter required the first four officers to improve themselves in the work, lectures and charges; and to visit and preside in the several Chapters of the State, and give such instructions as shall result in uniformity. And it is also the duty of the G. H. Priest, at every convocation of the Grand Chapter, to cause to be given the Mark and Royal Arch Lectures."

The committee recommended no change.

That distinguished companion, Cyrus Pearl, offered a resolution which was adopted—"That a Committee of Work, to consist of one, should be appointed, to hold conference and correspondence, as in his judgment may improve us in relation to the ancient work, and report his action in the premises." Companion Freeman Bradford, P. G. H. Priest, appointed.

New Jersey.—In our recently organized sister, the Grand Chapter appointed the first four officers a Committee on Work, at the time of their Organization. At the first Convocation, the Grand High Priest, Companion Wm. H. Doggett, assisted by P. G. H. Priest, M. J. Drummond, of New York, exemplified the work before the Grand Chapter, which by resolution was adopted as the standard work of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, and her Subordinates; and the officers of the Chapters enjoined to obtain the work, as speedily as possible, and practice the same.

So New Jersey, but a year or two in existence, is in the same line, and we suppose about as far advanced as most Grand Chapters.

Florida.—Has a Grand Lecturer. There is no report from him; and nothing said on the subject of work in the proceedings of 1858.

Virginia.—In the proceedings of 1858, we find that the Grand Lecturer resigned his office, and that a Committee on Work was appointed. No report on that subject.

Connecticut, Maryland, and Wisconsin.—The subject is not mentioned.

Louisiana.—We have found nothing in the proceedings of this Grand Chapter on the subject, except what has emanated from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. It is from Companion J. Q. A. Fellows, Dep. G. H. Priest, as chairman, and so ably embodies some of the opinions of your Committee, that they conclude what they have to say on this subject by quoting from it:

“* * * * * It is necessary for the universality of the Order that uniformity should exist; the question is, how can this be brought about? and to what extent is it necessary to carry it? To our mind, the question is one of easy solution. We must discard the idle notion that words, mere words, are everything. We must start with the idea that they are nothing, except as the expression of an idea, a principle. Drop this or that form of expression, or this or that movement, in truth, every form of expression, and every movement, in the consideration of this question, and fall back upon first principles. Determine what great principles or truths we wish to teach in the various ceremonies of each degree; on what those principles rest; whence they had their origin; how they were inculcated, by what forms and ceremonies; what has been the general practice as far as we are able to learn by reading and inquiry, and we have the starting point. Then take the work as we have received it, and see how well it fits to the superstructure thus erected. How well it rests upon the foundation thus laid, and we will find no difficulty in arriving at a Uniformity of Work; not a uniformity of words, perhaps, but a uniformity in our method of conveying to others those great principles and ideas which we have ourselves received and studied till we understand them. To accomplish all this requires an intelligent mind, and such only should be admitted. It necessitates a careful and arduous study and extensive reading, which should be the constant habit of all Masons. The mere committal to memory of certain words and phrases, and their parrot-like repetition, would be destructive, as it has already in a measure been, to that harmony and uniformity which is so much desired. The principles of the Order can be

written. The ideas to be conveyed to the candidate can be published to the world, and when they are studied and have become fixed in the mind, the oral communication of them can be easily retained in all their simplicity and purity, not by remembering which word follows the others, but by knowing what the idea is which is intended to be conveyed, and the educated mind will then express the idea, both as to its order and form, as it should be expressed, whether that idea be contained in a pass-word, step, sign, or its words of explanation. * * * * * The Ritual of Masonry, we understand, to be its work and nothing else, and in which there must be an uniformity, or Masonry so far fails of being universal. This Ritual, for similar reasons, cannot be changed, nor even committed to writing. It is but the expression in an emblematical form of the leading principles and object of our Institution, and its uniformity can only be secured by first knowing what those principles are, and properly understanding them. When this is done, the uniformity will exist of itself. To bring about this desirable end, we have written the foregoing, and shall be satisfied with our labors, if it but leads to a candid reflection upon the views we have thus vaguely and imperfectly advanced."

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

Finding in the addresses of many of the M. E. Grand High Priests of the different State Grand Chapters, and throughout all their proceedings, much said and done on the subject of withdrawing from their connexion with this Grand Body, your committee at one time proposed to extract from all these addresses and reports sufficient to show the feelings of each jurisdiction. But they are forced to believe it will do no good. We can but regret the action of Kentucky and North Carolina. They have already by resolution withdrawn. In Ohio, in Georgia, in Texas, in Michigan, in Indiana, committees, of their oldest, ablest and most beloved companions, have been appointed to report before the Triennial Convoca-

tion upon the expediency and practicability of withdrawing. Other Grand Chapters are discussing this matter. We regret that any of them should have retired before the next Convocation. The matters then to come up are of the first moment, and then and there would, it appears to us, have been the proper place to withdraw, with mutual good will and kind words, and well wishes for the future. Every Grand Chapter represented at Hartford ought to be represented at Chicago. The good of Royal Arch Masonry demands it, and we trust they all will be.

In the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence made by Companion Brown to the Grand Chapter of Florida, there is much said upon the subject of the G. G. Chapter. We allude to it to correct what seems to us an inaccuracy in the statement of Companion Brown as to the cause of the difficulty between Florida and the General Grand Chapter.

A select committee reported at the last convocation of the G. G. Chapter on this subject, and say:

"That from facts known to some of them, they are quite sure that the difficulty arose from a mistaken interpretation of the action of the G. G. Chapter, in the matter of a Chapter that had been inadvertently established in that State by the Grand Chapter of South Carolina, itself a constituent of this body; which fact was communicated to the G. G. Chapter, at the triennial session in 1844 by the representative of that Grand Chapter, with a request that the General Grand Chapter would take such action in the premises as would remedy the irregularity."

"A resolution was adopted, intended to be quite agreeable both to the Grand Chapter of South Carolina and the new Chapter thus irregularly established. About the same time a Grand Chapter was formed in Florida, which, as before stated, mistook the intention and meaning of the action of this body, took umbrage at it, and refused all connection therewith."

The Florida Committee on Correspondence say:

"They have no desire to excite further discussion on this subject— but they nevertheless must say that the select committee, in the foregoing report, show that they do not understand our true position, and the causes which compelled us to withdraw our application for affiliation under the jurisdiction of the G. Grand Chapter. We were very *discourteously required*, first—to show our authority for organizing a Grand Chapter, and then if we would pay to the G. G. Chapter ninety dollars for the charter of Florida Royal Arch Chapter No. 4, at St. Augustine, and all dues from said Chapter, from the date of its charter up to the time of our admission under the G. Grand Chapter—all of which had been paid to the Grand Chapter of South Carolina—then, the G. Grand Chapter would heal us, and receive us under her jurisdiction. This proposition the Grand Chapter of Florida rejected, but in no spirit of umbrage."

The writer of this, to vindicate History, states that the first reason given above is inaccurate. Florida was not "*discourteously required, etc.*" Turn, if you please, to the proceedings of the G. Grand Chapter for the year 1847, page 41, and you find this language upon the application of Florida to come under the jurisdiction of that body:

"It will be seen from the facts set forth, that our companions in Florida evince that regard for our General Grand Constitution which should entitle them to *respectful and solicitous attention*. It is to be regretted that the Grand Secretary of that Grand Chapter did not furnish that precise information of the origin of the several chapters which composed the Convention, as would enable your Committee to report in such a manner as to recommend to this G. Grand Chapter the incorporation of that Grand Chapter under your jurisdiction at the present time. It is not known to your committee from what source the chapters in that State derived their charters; nor can they from anything which is in their possession decide whether they were legally constituted or not. We presume they were; but believe that it would not be in accordance with the general spirit of action of this G. Grand Chapter, to in-

corporate the Grand Chapter of Florida under its jurisdiction, until some further steps are taken in regard to these facts."

And then, after pointing out some conflicting provisions in their Constitution with the Constitution of the G. Grand Chapter, resolutions are offered to facilitate her incorporation through the G. Grand Officers. The writer of this wrote that report. He did so at the request of the chairman of the committee. Inexperienced himself he had the advice of several distinguished Royal Arch Masons, living in Tennessee and Kentucky. There is not a discourteous word in it. And there was nothing in the hearts or minds of any of the committee, or any member of the G. Grand Chapter, so far as he knew, except a deep feeling of Masonic regard and friendship for the Royal Arch Masons of Florida, that would of itself have forbid such a thing as discourtesy, to one asking to enter into a confederacy of equals. As to what Companion Brown says about dues, &c., there is not a word in the whole report. It must have happened at some other time, of which we know nothing. We regret that when he undertook to set the Committee of the G. Grand Chapter right, he was not more explicit himself. But we only meant to set the G. Grand Chapter Committee of 1847 right, and having done so, wish that no cloud may darken the onward course of the Grand Chapter of Florida.

Your Committee in view of the important action, which will probably be had at the next tri-ennial convocation of the G. G. Chapter of the United States of America, and believing that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry in this State demand that we should be represented, offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the first four officers of this G. Chapter be requested to attend in person or by proxy the next convocation of the G. G. Chapter.

Resolved, That the sum of six hundred dollars be set apart to pay the expenses of the delegates attending said convocation.

S. A. M. Wood, Chairman.

Companion S. A. M. Wood, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to which was referred the proposed amendments to the constitution of the General Grand R. A. Chapter, in relation to striking out from the degrees that of Past Master, made the following

REPORT.

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom was referred the amendment to the constitution of the G. G. Chapter with regard to striking out from the list of degrees that of Past Master, and who were instructed carefully to examine the same, beg leave to report—

That they have given a great deal of consideration and investigation to the subject. It is one about which they have been able to ascertain but *few facts*. From no authentic Masonic History can they precisely date the time when the degree of Past Master was first conferred in Lodges held under Chapters. So far as they have been able to do so, they have scanned the ancient laws and works of Masonry in a vain endeavor to acquire information on the points referred to them. It is probably less than one hundred and fifty years old, and we quote the following from a private letter to us from a distinguished companion:

“Formerly, you know, the Master’s degree was only conferred in Grand Lodge. When the rule was changed, and the degree fell into the power of each Lodge to confer, then (I think) the order of Past Master was instituted. There was and is, an absolute necessity for some covenant tie to bind together, for mutual support and counsel, those upon whom the onerous and responsible charge of government of Lodges depends.

“That the degree should never have got into Chapters, I am convinced. It was only one of the ten thousand instances of ignorance, neglect, and daring innovation, performed in the

last century. But neither ought the Master's degree to have got out of the Grand Lodge. One of these errors is as easy to cure as the other—they are inseparable."

Your Committee agree with the conclusions arrived at above, and not desiring to extend to a great length their reasons for believing that to strike the Past Master's degree from those conferred by Lodges held under Chapters, would produce great confusion, content themselves with offering the following quotation from the address of the M. E. G. H. Priest of Arkansas, M. E., L. E. Barber:

"My objection to the amendment goes further. I fear its adoption would legislate me out of every Masonic organization, heretofore making the Past Master a prerequisite. According to my present impressions, I do not think that I could "assist or be present" at conferring the degrees of M. E. M., or R. Arch upon any one who had not received the degree of P. M. I could not protect myself under the shelter of the ballot, because this would be injustice to others. The only course might be absence, when the degrees were about to be conferred. This might not, it is true, be any loss to the fraternity; but might there not be others whose conscientious scruples might be the same as mine?"

We think that many R. A. Masons will be placed in a similar situation, and therefore report the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter deems it inexpedient to amend the constitution of the G. Grand Chapter so as to strike out the degree of Past Master.

Faternally,

S. A. M. Wood, Chairman.

Companion S. A. M. Wood, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report on the amendments proposed to the constitution of the G. Grand Chapter; and the report was concurred in and the resolutions adopted:

REPORT.

Amendments to the constitution of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America, proposed by M. E. Companion A. G. Mackey, of South Carolina, for M. E. Companion Albert Pike, of Arkansas, referred to the State Grand Chapters, and action to be had thereon at the triennial Convocation at Chicago, 1859.

To the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama:

Your Committee are aware that recommendations on this subject should not properly come from them. These amendments ought to have been brought to your notice at your last Convocation, and would have been but for the unavoidable and much to be regretted absence of Companion Ferrell, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. But inasmuch as action must be had at this Convocation, so that your representatives may speak your will at the meeting of the G. Grand Chapter at Chicago, we have thought it best to lay these amendments before you. Your Committee do not intend to discuss them. We find in the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas, the ablest review of the whole matter. It has the sanction of three of her P. G. H. Priests, Companions Pike, English, and Whitfield; and is, in the opinion of your Committee, worthy of the perusal and study of every Royal Arch Mason in the land. Its length forbids us to quote entire, and we therefore ask permission to read it to this Grand Chapter. We content ourselves with placing in columns, side by side, the several proposed amendments, with the constitution as it now is, and add the action which we recommend to this Grand Chapter.

AMENDMENT NO. 1.—ARTICLE I, SECTION 2.

Present Provision.

"The General G. Chapter shall have and maintain JURISDICTION over all State Grand

As proposed to be amended.

"The General G. Chapter receives all of its powers, faculties, and prerogatives by

Chapters, and over Chapters in those State, 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 the advancement of the great cause of benevolence and virtue."

grant and delegation from the several State Grand Chapters, and it can have and possess no other powers than such as are expressly granted and delegated to it by them, or as are indispensably necessary to the exercise of its general powers, and consistent with the nature of the confederation between the State Grand Chapters. It can exercise no doubtful powers, nor any powers by implication merely; and all Masonic powers not hereby granted to it, are reserved to the Grand and Subordinate Chapters of the several States.

"It shall have and maintain jurisdiction over all Chapters established by itself in those States, Districts, Republics, and Territories, which recognize this jurisdiction, and where there is no Grand Chapter established.

"It shall have power to decide all questions of Masonic law, usage and custom, which may arise between any two, or more G. Chapters, or in any of the Subordinate Chapters under its own immediate jurisdiction, and all that may be referred to it for its decision by any G. Chapter by

formal vote; and its decisions so made shall be deemed and regarded as those of the supreme judicial tribunal of Royal Arch Masonry in the last resort.

"It shall have no power of discipline, admonition, censure, or instruction over the Grand Chapters, nor any legislative powers whatever, not hereby specifically granted, nor any authority to suspend the proceedings of any State Grand Chapter, nor shall entertain any complaint against any Grand Chapter, preferred by any Subordinate Chapter, or individual Mason in that jurisdiction or elsewhere; but it may upon proper reference to it of any matter of controversy between any two or more Grand Chapters, and even where the question is not one of Masonic law, custom or usage, (both, or all such G. Chapters consenting to such reference), act as final arbiter between them, and settle such controversy.

"It shall be judge of the qualifications of its own members. It shall see that the ancient work of the order is preserved in the several degrees, and establish uniform form-

ulas for installation of its own officers and those of the Grand and Subordinate Chapters, for the consecration and constitution of Chapters, and the opening of Grand Chapters; and it may suspend the proceedings of any Chapter, under its own immediate jurisdiction, in any State, District, or Territory, where there is no Grand Chapter, for any wilful violation of any of the provisions of this constitution or for gross unmasonic proceedings or conduct."

This amendment contemplates a radical change in the constitution. If adopted, the fears heretofore entertained of the G. Grand Chapter, of itself or through its officers exercising any "tyrannical power," are forever put to rest. In the language of Companion C. Moore of Ohio, Chairman of Special Committee of the G. Chapter of that State, on this subject, "it will render the G. Grand Chapter simply harmless." The 2d Section of Article I, of the constitution of the G. Grand Chapter was adopted in 1844, and when examined will be contemplated by many Royal Arch Masons with real anxiety, as to its final results. In deciding on this amendment, the question will be settled, "whence are the powers of the General G. Chapter derived," and settled, we believe, right, by the adoption of the amendment, and we offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter is of opinion, and doth instruct its delegates to the G. Grand Chapter of the United States, at its next triennial Convocation to vote accordingly, that the amendment proposed at the last session of that body by Companion A. G. Mackey to the G. G. constitution by substi-

tuting a new Section for Section 2, of Article I, ought to be adopted as proposed.

AMENDMENT NO. 2.—ARTICLE I, SECTION 3.

Present Provision.

Provided, That any Chapter under this jurisdiction, in any State, District, or Territory, where there is no G. Chapter duly established shall have a right to appear by its first three officers, or any one of two of them; which officers shall collectively have one vote."

As proposed to be amended.

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 but one vote. So soon as a Charter is ordered to issue to any Chapter under dispensation, it shall be entitled to be represented under this Section, and those who were its officers while under dispensation, shall be its officers under the Charter until their successors are elected and qualified; and being installed, if present, shall become, by the order for a Charter, members of the General Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the amendment proposed to Section 3, of Article I, ought to be adopted.

AMENDMENT NO. 3.—ARTICLE I, SECTION 4.

This amendment proposes to add to the provision that each State Grand Chapter shall have four votes. The following provision as to the mode in which the vote shall be given, when it is not fully represented: "If there be but two repre-

representatives, the inferior officer or his proxy shall give his own single vote, and the higher or his proxy shall give the other three. If there be three representatives, the highest officer or his proxy shall give two votes, and the others or their proxies one vote each."

We see no necessity for this amendment; the constitution allowing that matter to be settled with the delegates, where it may well be left, and we offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the amendment proposed to Section 4, of Article I, ought to be rejected.

AMENDMENTS NO. 4 AND 5.—ARTICLE I, SECTION 6.

Present Article.

The General Grand High Priest * * * * shall have power and authority to grant dispensations for a limited length of time, for new Royal Arch Chapters, * * * * which term of time shall in no case extend beyond the *time* of the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter. * * * And in all cases of such Dispensation, the officer who may grant the same shall immediately notify the G. Grand Secretary thereof, and make report of the same at the next triennial meeting of this General Grand Chapter, when the General Grand Chapter may grant the said Chapter a Charter.

As proposed to be amended.

The General Grand High Priest * * * * shall severally have power and authority to grant Dispensations, for a limited length of time, for new Royal Arch Chapters, * * * * which term of time shall in no case extend beyond the close of the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter. * * * * And in all cases of such Dispensations, the officer who may grant the same shall immediately notify the General Grand Secretary thereof, and make report of the same at the next triennial meeting of this General Grand Chapter, when the G. Grand Chapter may grant the said Chapter a Charter; *which Charter shall be taken and deemed to be a continuation of the original warrant of Dispensation.*

The first of these amendments corrects an error. The second carries out amendment No. 2.

Resolved, That the amendments proposed to the 6th Section of Article I, ought to be adopted.

AMENDMENT NO. 6.—ARTICLE I, SECTION 9.

Present Article.

"The only degrees recognized by this General Grand Chapter, to be conferred under its jurisdiction, are Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason." * * *

As proposed to be amended.

The only degrees recognized by this General Grand Chapter, to be conferred in Chapters under its jurisdiction, are Mark Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason. * * *

This strikes out the degree of Past Master, to which we object, as see our report elsewhere.

Resolved, That the amendment proposed to the 9th Section of Article I, ought to be rejected.

AMENDMENT NO. 7.—ARTICLE I, SECTION 11.

Present Provision.

"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 on the regulations of the General Grand Chapter."

As proposed to be amended.

"In every Chapter and Lodge under the immediate jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, all questions" etc.

Resolved, That the amendment proposed to Section 11, Article I, ought to be adopted.

AMENDMENT NO. 8.—ARTICLE I, SECTION 14.

This amendment proposes to add the following Section to this Article:

Section 14. An appeal shall in all cases lie to the General Grand Chapter, from the decision of the M. E. G. G. H. Priest; but his opinion and decision shall stand as the judgment of the General Grand Chapter, unless it is otherwise determined by the concurrent vote of two thirds of all the members present.

Resolved, That the amendment proposed as Section 14, Article I, ought to be adopted.

AMENDMENT NO. 9.—ARTICLE III, SECTION 5.

Present Provision.

"That any worthy Companion from out 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."

As proposed to be amended.

"Authority is hereby given to every Chapter under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, or of any State Grand Chapter, to confer the degrees of Mark and Most Excellent Master upon any worthy Companion from without the jurisdiction of the United States, who may not have received them, and who may present himself as, and prove himself to be, a Royal Arch Mason; to the end that he may thereby be healed and become a regular Royal Arch Mason, free of charge."

Resolved, That, amended by inserting the words "Past Master," after the words "Mark Master," the amendment proposed to Section 5, Article III, ought to be adopted.

AMENDMENT NO. 10.—ARTICLE MISCELLANEOUS, SECTION 1.

Present Provision.

"Whenever it shall be inconvenient for the G. Grand Officers or the G. or Deputy G. H. Priest, respectively to attend in person, to constitute a new Chapter and install the officers, they shall, severally, have power and authority to appoint some worthy High Priest or Past High Priest to perform the necessary ceremonies."

As proposed to be amended.

"Whenever it shall be inconvenient for the General Grand Officers, or the G. or Deputy G. H. Priest, 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 the High Priest of the same Chapter, while it was under dispensation, when he himself shall have been installed*, to perform the necessary ceremonies."

Resolved, That the amendment proposed to Section 1, of Article Miscellaneous, ought to be adopted.

AMENDMENT NO. 11.—ARTICLE MISCELLANEOUS, SECTION 2.

Present Provision.

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."

As proposed to be amended.

The Officers of every Chapter under this jurisdiction, *whether chartered or under dispensation*, before they enter upon the exercise of their respective offices."

Resolved, That the amendment proposed to Section 2, Article Miscellaneous, ought to be adopted.

AMENDMENT NO. 12.—ARTICLE MISCELLANEOUS, SECTION 2.

Present Provision.

This constitution shall not be altered, or amended, unless such alteration or amendment be proposed in writing at one regular meeting of the G. 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."

As proposed to be amended.

This constitution shall not be altered, or amended, unless such alteration or amendment be proposed in writing at the 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. But no future constitution, nor any amendment to this or any future constitution, other than those made at the present session, shall become or be in force, or operation, until they shall have been submitted to and approved by, at least two-thirds of the Grand Chapters of the confederation, and until such approval has been officially promulgated by proclamation of the General G. H. Priest; and no amendment shall ever be made, unless by the unanimous consent of ALL the Grand Chapters, to change the system of government and the nature of the confederation, to derogate from the sov-

ereignty and independence of such Grand Chapters, to make the G. Grand Chapter supreme and sovereign, or the source of power; or to invest it with the inherent powers of a G. Lodge of Master Masons."

Resolved, That the amendment proposed to Section 3, Article Miscellaneous, ought to be adopted.

AMENDMENT NO. 13.—ARTICLE XI, SECTION 4.

This amendment, proposed by the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence of the G. Grand Chapter, to strike out the second proviso in Section 4, of Article XI, which provides "and provided that the same fees as are required by this constitution for Charters, shall be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Secretary."

The amendment proposes to allow the State Grand Chapters to fix for themselves the price of a Charter for new Chapters. We recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That the amendment proposed to Section 4, of Article XI, ought to be adopted.

AMENDMENT NO. 14.—ARTICLE I, SECTION 9.

This amendment was proposed by the G. H. Priest Companion Tucker, of Vermont.

Present Provision.

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

As proposed to be amended.

No Royal Arch Mason, within the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter *shall be permitted* to confer any degree in Masonry not recognized as a constitutional degree; nor

Royal Arch Mason, and no Royal Arch Mason, who shall have regularly 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.

to establish any society of Masons not recognized as a constitutional body; and the first four officers of the General Grand Chapter, or any three of them, *shall in all cases*, have authority to decide all constitutional questions under this Section; nor shall any Royal Arch Mason be permitted to give lectures, or instruction, on the several degrees of Masonry conferred by or under the authority of, the G. Grand Chapter, except he or they shall have been duly authorized by two of the State Grand Officers; which authority shall be given under their hands and the seal of the State Grand Chapter, attested by their Grand Secretary."

With regard to *what this amendment means*, there has already been several different opinions expressed. This of itself would constitute an insuperable objection to it. The fundamental law should be clear in its meaning, and the proposed amendment has turned out not to be so. We have objections to give it any meaning yet proposed, and offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the amendment proposed to Section 9, of Article I, from Companion Tucker, ought not to be adopted.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 15.—ARTICLE I, SECTION 7.

Present Provision.

The fees for instituting a new Royal Arch Chapter, with subordinate degrees, shall be ninety dollars and no more.

As proposed to be amended.

The fees for instituting a new Royal Arch Chapter, with subordinate degrees,* shall be sixty dollars, and no more.

We believe the fees are already low enough. The only object in reducing the fees would be to increase the number of Chapters. There are enough already, and when more are needed, the fee will not be wanting at \$90.00.

Resolved, That the amendment proposed to Section 7, Article I, ought not to be adopted.

And without entering into any argument upon the many interesting questions embraced in said amendments, your Committee trust that in accordance with the request of the G. Grand Chapter, that this Grand Chapter will act upon them all.

Fraternally,

S. A. M. Wood,
Ch'n. Com. F. Cor.

Companion E. Herndon offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the name of Sumterville Chapter No. 50, be changed to the name of *Sumter* Chapter No. 50; and that the same be moved from Sumterville to Gainesville, Sumter county.

Companion Thomas F. Flournoy offered the following preamble and resolution, and they were adopted:

WHEREAS, The building in which Union Chapter No. 26 held its Convocation, was, on 25th November last, destroyed by fire, involving a total loss of the furniture, jewels, and Charter of said Chapter; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Charter of said Chapter be renewed, and the Grand Secretary be ordered to prepare and issue the same, free of charge; and that the dues of said Chapter for the present annual Convocation, be remitted.

Companion James L. Price, Chairman of a Special Committee appointed at the last convocation of the Grand Chapter, made the following

REPORT.

To the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama:

Your Committee, appointed to purchase and present to the widow of Amand P. Pfister, late Grand Secretary, some suitable testimonial of silver, properly inscribed, beg leave to report that, at a cost of \$200.00, they purchased a Pitcher, Salver, and two Goblets, which were presented to Mrs. Pfister, as evidenced by her letter acknowledging their receipt, which is hereby submitted and made a part of this report.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES L. PRICE, Chairman.

Mobile, November 30th, 1858.

Mrs. A. P. Pfister,

Respected Madame:—At the last Convocation of the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama, James L. Price, E. M. Hastings, and James A. Miller were appointed a Committee to invest an appropriation made by the Grand Chapter, in some suitable testimonial of silver, to be appropriately inscribed and presented to the widow of our deceased late Grand Secretary, A. P. Pfister.

On behalf of that Committee it is made my pleasing duty to present you herewith the following articles: One Pitcher, one Salver, and two Goblets, as a memento of the high appreciation of our late worthy and efficient Grand Secretary.

I am, Madam, in behalf of the Committee,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. MILLER.

Mobile, 2d December, 1858.

James A. Miller, Esquire,

My Dear Sir:—Your note of the 30th ult, signed in behalf of a Committee, composed of yourself, James L. Price, and E. M. Hastings, Esquires, I have received, as also accompanying, the Pitcher, Salver, and two Goblets, presented to me as the widow of Amand P. Pfister, late Grand Secretary.

In presenting me with this beautiful testimonial of your regard and esteem for the memory of my lamented husband, I have no words to express how deeply, how sincerely, I feel and appreciate your motives.

I beg you will accept, and through you the brotherhood that you represent, my grateful thanks. I shall preserve and cherish it, not only as a memorial of the departed, but in grateful remembrance of the Fraternity whom my late husband so loved, honored, and respected.

I am, dear sir, yours respectfully and truly,

M. A. PFISTER.

Companion Charles C. Garrett offered the following preamble and resolution, and they were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of the State of Alabama, by resolution adopted, authorizing the M. W. Grand Master to appoint a committee to have the proceedings of said Grand Lodge reported, and employ some suitable person to collect and prepare for publication, the history of Freemasonry in Alabama; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter defray one-third the expenses of said publication.

Companion E. M. Hastings, Chairman of a Special Committee appointed at the last Convocation of the Grand Chapter, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee appointed to procure a jewel for M. E. P. G. High Priest William P. Chilton, beg leave to report that they have attended to that duty, and that the jewel is now ready for presentation.

E. M. HASTINGS, Chairman.

The report was received and concurred in, and on motion of Companion J. McCaleb Wiley, the presentation was set for Thursday afternoon, at 3 1-2 o'clock.

On motion of Companion Henry S. Shelton, the consideration of the proposed amendments to the constitution of the Grand Chapter, was postponed until the next Grand Convocation.

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

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, December 8, 1858.

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

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Grand Chapter proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing masonic year, and it resulted as follows:

DAVID CLOPTON, of Tuskegee, Grand High Priest.

S. A. M. WOOD, of Florence, D. G. High Priest.

H. P. WATSON, of Montgomery, Grand King.

J. R. CLARK, of Jacksonville, Grand Scribe.

E. M. HASTINGS, of Montgomery, Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE, of Montgomery, Grand Secretary.
J. H. WILLOUGHBY, of Gadsden, Grand Chaplain.
JOHN U. BROWN, of Society Hill, }
HENRY S. SHELTON, of Pickensville, } Grand Marshals.
THOMAS McDougall, of Montgomery, Grand Sentinel.

The Grand High Priest made the following appointments:

JOHN U. BROWN, of Society Hill, G. C. Host.
HENRY S. SHELTON, of Pickensville, G. P. S.
R. C. TORREY, of Claiborne, G. R. A. C.
S. D. MOORER, of Bragg, G. M. 3d Veil.
J. J. HAVIS, of Oak Bowery, G. M. 2d Veil.
R. W. COLTART, of Huntsville, G. M. 1st Veil.

The Grand Secretary reported the following Chapters delinquent at this Convocation:

No. 9, Clinton.
29, Eureka, 2 years.
46, Jerusalem, 2 years.
48, McKinley, for 1856 and 1858.
59, Bladon Springs.

Companion J. B. Harrison, made the following report from the Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 1, and it was received and concurred in:

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS, NO. 1.

The Committee, No. 1, on Chartered Chapters, to whom was referred reports from Subordinates, have examined the same and beg leave to make the following report:

The reports of Monroe Chapter No. 4, Mt. Moriah Chapter No. 19, Fulton Chapter No. 32, Mobile Chapter No. 21, Autauga Chapter No. 33, Montgomery Chapter No. 22, are correct.

Marion, No. 12—Officers improperly arranged; deaths in the wrong column; short of dues \$1.50; not paying dues for three ministers of the gospel.

Perfect Friendship, No. 31—No Masonic grade given after the list of officers; date of R. A. Masonry incorrect; date of advancing and presiding not given.

Phoenix, No. 11—Date of R. A. Masonry not given.

Dayton, No. 27—No Masonic grade given; one death and withdrawals numbered in the list of members.

St. Johns, No. 28—Officers improperly arranged.

Tuscumbia, No. 10—Officers improperly arranged; under the head of remarks, mentions the dropping the names of P. Masters without showing any cause.

Eunomia, No. 5—No date of R. A. Masonry given; members not numbered; we know no such officer as Recorder in a Chapter.

Wetumpka, No. 17—No Masonic grade given after the officers.

Union, No. 26—The names suspended, expelled, and withdrawn, in the list of members; pays dues for a P. Master; date of R. A. Masonry incorrect.

Courtland, No. 25—Reports no officers; dimitted and M. M. numbered with members; date of R. A. Masonry incorrect; private correspondence of the Secretary with the Grand Secretary under the head of remarks.

Cyrus, No. 6—Date of R. A. Masonry not given.

Tuscaloosa, No. 1—Officers improperly arranged; pays dues on a M. E. Master.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted,

J. B. HARRISON, Chairman.

Companion B. S. Rives offered the following preamble and resolution, and they were adopted:

WHEREAS, Several of the Subordinate Chapters, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, have failed for several Grand Convocations to make returns and pay dues, and have thereby forfeited their Charters; therefore, be it

Resolved, That all such Chapters shall have 90 days, after notice of this resolution, to make their returns and pay dues according to the provisions of the constitution; and having done so, they shall be reinstated in all their rights and privileges as members of this Grand Chapter; and those that fail so to do, shall suffer a forfeiture of their Charters, and the same shall be delivered up on the demand of the Grand Secretary.

On motion of Companion Thomas F. Flournoy, it was ordered that the installation of the Grand Officers take place to-morrow afternoon, immediately after the presentation of the jewel to Companion Chilton.

On motion of Companion J. B. Harrison, it was ordered that all papers and documents in appeal cases be referred to the Committee on appeals.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow afternoon at 3 o'clock.

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IN GRAND CHAPTER.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, December 9, 1858.

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

The Minutes were read and approved.

On motion of Companion H. P. Watson, the thanks of the Grand Chapter were returned to the Grand Chapter of South Carolina for a copy of the "Book of the Chapter," by Companion A. G. Mackey.

On motion of Companion Winguit M. Turner, the vote on yesterday, adopting the preamble and resolution offered by Companion B. S. Rives, was reconsidered, and the following as a substitute adopted:

Resolved, That all the Subordinate Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, which have been delinquent for two years, shall have ninety days to send their returns and dues, and those Chapters that fail to do so shall forfeit their Charters.

Resolved, That those Chapters which have been delinquent for one year shall have ninety days to send up their reports and dues.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to communicate these resolutions to each of the delinquent Chapters.

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

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

We have examined the accounts of Companion Grand Secretary, Daniel Sayre, which we find to be correct; leaving a balance in his hands as per account current as herewith rendered of four hundred and five dollars and four cents.

We also upon examination find Companion Grand Treasurer, E. M. Hastings' account current herewith, correct; leaving a balance in hand, on December 7th, inst., of five hundred and sixteen dollars and twenty cents.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. MILLER, Chairman.

Companion S. D. Moorer presented the following report from the committee on Dispensations, and it was received and concurred in:

The Committee on Dispensations, to whom were referred the proceedings of certain Chapters and other papers, have instructed me to submit the following report:

Cherokee, No. 68.—We are well pleased with the Minutes of this Chapter; they are neatly written, and show good work. We recommend a charter.

Farriorville, No. 66—With the exception of a few verbal inaccuracies the Minutes of this Chapter are generally correct. We recommend a Charter.

Alabama, No. 67—A letter from Companion Thomas Henry informed your committee that this Chapter has held but one convocation, the proceedings of which were not transmitted to the Grand Chapter. We recommend that the Dispensation be renewed.

Respectfully submitted,

S. D. MOORER.

Companion Henry S. Shelton, from the special committee on the Grand High Priest's Address, made the following report, and it was received and concurred in:

The committee to whom was referred the address of the Grand High Priest, beg leave to report that they have read the same with equal pleasure and profit. The subjects which it discusses are handled with the usual ability of the presiding officer of this Grand Chapter.

There are questions of fact raised as to the relations of the several Grand Chapters of the United States to the General Grand Chapter, upon which we need not at present express an opinion. It will be time enough to do that after the next Convocation of that General Grand Body. Should it appear from its proceedings at that time, that it is likely to usurp powers never contemplated by its constituents, this Grand Chapter will know how to take care of itself.

Respectfully submitted,

H. S. SHELTON, Chairman.

Companion William H. Norris presented 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 beg leave to report, that they have examined the returns of the following Chapters, and find them correct, to-wit:

No. 55, Russell.	56, Uchee.
34, Hermon.	37, Concord.
49, Hope.	41, Washington.
36, Pickensville.	60, Hiram.
64, Central.	30, James Penn.
56, Zerubbabel.	58, Hartwell.
50, Sumterville.	54, Tyrian.

Clayton, No. 64—Has no seal.

Allenton, No. 52—Date of dimitted members not given.

Lebanon, No. 57—Has no seal.

Tuskegee, No. 43—Has no seal.

Signet, No. 61—Dimitted and deceased members names placed in list of other members, and no date given.

Suggsville, No. 55—No date given to dimits granted; under the head of remark, they say, "F. Jones has taken two degrees," without date.

Choctaw, No. 44—Dues overcharged; each member charged one dollar, when it should be fifty cents.

Rockford, No. 62—Return very imperfect, and badly made out. Officers not properly given, and improperly arranged. P. M. incorrectly arranged. Under the head of remarks, we find the following endorsed, "John Walker, who was a member of the Chapter at Talladega when the charter was forfeited, has petitioned Rockford Chapter for membership, and by unanimous vote of the Chapter asks that the Grand Chapter make him a member."

Your committee are unwilling to say whether or not this Grand Chapter shall make John Walker a member of Rockford Chapter. We, therefore, leave that matter with the Grand Chapter.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

WM. H. NORRIS, Chairman.

At 3 1-2 o'clock the M. E. Grand High Priest presented the jewel ordered to P. G. H. Priest, William P. Chilton.

Companion R. C. Torrey made the following report from the Committee on Appeals; and it was received and concurred in:

The Committee on Appeals, to whom was referred the appeal of W. Fayette Davidson, from the action of St. John's Chapter No. 28, in expelling him from said Chapter, have attended to that business and now beg leave to report:

A committee of the Chapter, on the complaint of a member, preferred charges of unmasonic conduct against the accused, embracing five specifications. On the trial, which appears to have been in all respects regular, the Chapter determined by vote that three of the specifications were sustained, and that two were not. The charges were mainly sustained by the testimony of a single witness, and at first we were in doubt whether weight should be given to such testimony, when the charges were formally denied by the accused; but upon a careful consideration of the papers sent up, and especially of the answer of the accused, wherein he examines each specification in detail, we are satisfied that there are corroborating circumstances which tend to support the charges; and if the charges are sustained we think the Chapter was justified in the extreme measure of expulsion. We do not undertake to say, that if we had been members of the Chapter, we would have voted with the majority, but after a full consideration of the matter we are not prepared to say that the action of the Chapter is wrong. We have carefully considered the elaborate answer

of the accused, and we confess that it has not been without some influence in bringing us to the conclusion to which we have come. It informs us that he is an ordained minister of the Gospel, and that he is or recently has been engaged in the duties of his holy calling. We have rarely seen in any document, and comprised in so small a space, so much denunciation and bitterness, such facility in the use of the language of vituperation and abuse; and we are astonished that one claiming the benefits of a Royal Arch Mason, and assuming the character of a Christian gentleman, could have the heart to conceive and deliberately put upon paper the many scandalous epithets which abound in his defence. Our conclusion is that the action of St. Johns Chapter, No. 28, in this matter, ought to be affirmed.

R. C. TORREY, Chairman.

The M. E. William P. Chilton, P. G. H. P., proceeded to install the officers elected for the ensuing Masonic year.

Companion J. McCaleb Wiley 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 Masonic 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 the Grand Treasurer for his services during the past year.

That the sum of Twenty Dollars be paid the Grand Sentinel, for his services during the present convocation, in lieu of *per diem*.

Companion R. W. Coltart offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, when a subordinate chapter forfeits its charter and ceases to exist, the members of such Chapter, not being able to obtain dimitts, may affiliate with any other chapter willing to receive them, upon sufficient evidence of the fact of such cessation.

On motion the thanks of the Grand Chapter were returned to the M. E. G. H. P., David Clopton, for the able, dignified and courteous manner with which he has presided over the deliberations of the Grand Chapter during the present convocation.

The following are Standing Committees to report at the next convocation of the Grand Chapter :

TO REVISE THE CONSTITUTION.

HENRY S. SHELTON, of Pickensville.

H. P. WATSON, of Montgomery.

J. W. LENOIR, of Lowndesboro.

DAVID CLOPTON, of Tuskegee.

JAMES L. PRICE, of Uniontown.

ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

S. A. M. WOOD, of Florence.

R. C. TORREY, of Claiborne.

JOHN R. CLARK, of Jacksonville.

M. C. BLANCHARD, of Lafayette.

J. McCaleb Wiley, of Troy.

And then after prayer to the Throne of Grace, by the R. E. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, J. H. Willoughby, the Grand Chapter was closed in ample form.

DANIEL SAYRE, Grand Secretary.

REGISTER OF CHAPTERS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,
WITH THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS, AND AMOUNT OF DUES RECEIVED FOR 1858.

260

Nos.	Chapters.	Locations.	Counties.	Post Office.	High Priests.	Secretaries.	Dues.
1	Tuscaloosa,	Tuscaloosa,	Tuscaloosa,	Tuscaloosa,	Henry McGown,	S. H. Bacon,	18 \$9 00
2	Ex,						
3	Ex,						
4	Monroe,	Claiborne,	Monroe,	Claiborne,	R. C. Torrey,	N. A. Agee,	27 13 50
5	Eunomia,	Huntsville,	Madison,	Huntsville,	John J. Ward,	John B. Trotman,	38 19 00
6	Cyrus,	Florence,	Lauderdale,	Florence,	W. B. Wood,	S. A. M. Wood,	32 15 00
7	Ex,						
8	Ex,						
9							
10	Tuscumbia,	Tuscumbia,	Franklin,	Tuscumbia,	W. H. Newsum,	John N. Green,	21 10 50
11	Phoenix,	Greensboro,	Greene,	Greensboro,	F. M. Peterson,	William Kerr,	24 12 00
12	Marion,	Marion,	Perry,	Marion,	E. V. LeVert,	James B. Sellick,	42 19 50
13	Ex,						
14							
15							
16							
17	Wetumpka ,	Wetumpka,	Coosa,	Wetumpka,	William A. Allen,	W. T. Hatchett,	22 11 00

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

[Dec.

18								
19	Mt. Moriah,	Clinton,	Greene,	Clinton,	Dempsey Harrison,	B. T. Higginbotham	33	16 50
20	Ex,							
21	Mobile,	Mobile,	Mobile,	Mobile,	James Wilkins,	James A. Miller,	74	37 00
22	Montgomery,	Montgomery,	Montgomery,	Montgomery,	E. M. Hastings,	John N. Browder,	51	25 50
23	Ex,							
24	Eufaula,	Eufaula,	Barbour,	Eufaula,			26	13 00
25	Courtland,	Courtland,	Lawrence,	Courtland,	Joseph C. Baker,	J. H. Lorange,	30	15 00
26	Union,	Uniontown,	Perry,	Uniontown,	James L. Price,	William Deason,	34	17 00
27	Dayton,	Dayton,	Marengo,	Dayton,	Charles C. Garrett,	Enos Rogers,	30	15 00
28	St. Johns,	Selma,	Dallas,	Selma,	J. B. Harrison,	A. J. Goodwin,	27	13 50
29								
30	James Penn,	Jacksonville,	Calhoun,	James Penn,	John R. Clark,	William H. Forney,	22	11 00
31	Perf. Fr'ds'p,	Benton,	Lowndes,	Benton,	John Adams,	Henry Traun,	28	14 00
32	Fulton,	Fulton	Dallas,	Fulton,	William H. Norris,	W. R. Smyly,	29	14 50
33	Autauga,	Autaugaville,	Autauga,	Autaugaville,	E. Stoudenmier,	A. W. McNeel,	24	12 00
34	Hermon,	Union Spgs.	Macon,	Union Spgs.	Th. L. McGowen,	John J. Pitts,	40	20 00
35	J. L. Daniel,	Glennville,	Barbour,	Glennville,	John M. White,	John Crowell,	9	4 50
36	Pickensville,	Pickensville,	Pickens,	Pickensville,	H. S. Shelton,	Z. Pulliam,	30	20 50
37	Concord,	Lafayette,	Chambers,	Lafayette,	Jefferson Falkner,	W. J. Carlisle,	22	11 00
38	Ex,							
39	Ex,							
40								

REGISTER OF CHAPTERS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,
WITH THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS, AND AMOUNT OF DUES RECEIVED FOR 1858.

Nos.	Chapters.	Locations.	Counties.	Post Office.	High Priests.	Secretaries.	Dues.	
41	Washington,	Summerfield,	Dallas,	Summerfield,	B. J. Harrison,	C. N. Briggs,	21	10 50
42								
43	Tuskegee,	Tuskegee,	Macon,	Tuskegee,	David Clopton,	Jesse L. Adams,	25	12 50
44	Choctaw,	Butler,	Choctaw,	Butler,	W. W. Lang,	William E. Warren,	31	31 00
45								
46								
47	Ex,							
48								
49	Hope,	Bridgeville,	Pickens,	Bridgeville,	E. R. Shipman,	T. B. Gardner,	21	10 50
50	Sumter,	Gainesville,	Sumter,	Gainesville,	Edward Herndon,	B. Garner,	20	10 00
51	Ex,							
52	Allenton,	Allenton,	Wilcox,	Allenton,	J. G. Bythewood,	E. H. J. Mobley,	40	20 00
53	Uchee,	Uchee,	Russell,	Uchee,	M. B. Jelks,	Th. M. Walton,	34	17 00
54	Tyrian,	Troy,	Pike,	Troy,	A. N. Worthy,	Joel D. Murphree,	38	18 00
55	Suggsville,	Suggsville,	Clarke,	Suggsville,	S. Coale,	S. Forwood,	38	19 00
56	Zerubbabel,	Oak Bowery,	Chambèrs,	Oak Bowery,	J. J. Havis,	Joshua Caldwell,	17	8 50
57	Lebanon,	Lebanon,	DeKalb,	Lebanon,	W. J. Roberts,	W. J. Haralson,	16	8 00

58	Hartwell,	Cahaba,	Dallas,	Cahaba,	John A. Lodor,	Isaac W. Lenoir,	43	21	00
59									
60	Hiram,	Bragg,	Lowndes,	Bragg,	S. D. Moorer,	R. D. Hunter,	25	12	50
61	Signet,	Society Hill,	Macon,	Society Hill,	T. F. Flournoy,	J. M. Jones,	31	14	50
62	Rockford,	Rockford,	Coosa,	Rockford,	W. Garrett,	George E. Brewer,	25	12	00
63	Clayton,	Clayton,	Barbour,	Clayton,	P. P. McRae,	R. J. Yarrington,	35	17	50
64	Central,	Montevallo,	Shelby,	Montevallo,	S. A. M. Doak,	T. B. Miller,	14	7	00
65	Russell,	Stevenson,	Jackson,	Stevenson,	A. A. Russell,	A. C. Austin,	25	12	50
66	Farriorville,	Farriorville,	Pike,	Farriorville,	M. J. Bean,	James S. Williams,	34		
67	Alabama U. D.	Mobile,	Mobile,	Mobile,	Thomas Henry,	Thomas J. Carver,			
68	Cherokee,	Centre,	Cherokee,	Centre,	J. H. Willoughby,	D. L. Nicholson,	21		

Total number of affiliated Royal Arch Masons, 1,307. Amount of dues received, 631.50.

TABLE OF GRAND CHAPTERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

Grand Chapters	G. H. Priests.	Residences.	Grand Secretaries.	Residences.	Where Held.	Time.
Alabama,	David Clopton,	Tuskegee,	Daniel Sayre,	Montgomery,	Montgomery,	Tu. af 1 Mon. in Dec.
Arkansas,			A. S. Huey,	Little Rock,	Little Rock,	October.
California,	Th. H. Caswell,	Nevada,	Geo. I. N. Monell,	Sacramento,	Sacramento,	Th bf 2 Tu in May.
Connecticut,	David Clark,		E. G. Storer,	New Haven,	Hart. & N. H'n,	Tu bf 2 W in May.
Florida,			John B. Taylor,	Tallahasee,	Tallahassee,	January.
Georgia,	Philip T. Schley,	Savannah,	B. B. Russell,	Augusta,	Augusta,	April.
Illinois,	N. D. Elwood,	Joilet,	H. G. Reynolds,	Springfield,	Springfield,	2d Tues in Sept.
Indiana,	Daniel K. Hays,	Attica,	Francis King,	Indianapolis,	<i>Shifting</i>	May, Tu bf 4 Mon.
Iowa,			T. S. Parvin,	Muscatine,		May.
Kentucky ,	W. M. Samuel,	Paris,	P. Swigert,	Frankfort,	Lexington,	October, 2 Tuesday.
Louisiana,			S. G. Risk,	New Orleans,	New Orleans,	February.
Maine,	J. C. Stephens,	Bangor,	Ira Berry,	Portland,	Portland,	May.
Maryland & D. C.			Joseph Robinson,	Baltimore,	Wash. & Balt.	Nov. 2d Monday.
Massachusetts,			Thos. Waterman,	Boston,	Boston,	June.
Michigan,			Reuben S. Cheney,	Jackson,		
Mississippi,			R. W. T. Daniel,	Jackson,	Jackson,	Jan., 2d Monday.
Missouri,	Marcus Boyd,	Springfield,	A. O'Sullivan,	St. Louis,	St. Louis,	May.

New Hampshire,			Horace Chase,	Hopkinton,		June.
New York,	Peter P. Murphy	Royalton,	John O. Cole	Albany,	Albany,	1 Tues in Feb.
North Carolina,	Peter Custis,	Newbern,	Thos. B. Carr,	Wilmington,	Wilmington,	1st Monday in June
New Jersey,			Frank Corlies,	Eatonton,		September.
Ohio,	George Rex,	Wooster,	Jno. D. Caldwell,	Cincinnati,	Columbus,	October.
Pennsylvania,						
Rhode Island,	John Eldred,	Newport,	Wm. C. Barker,	Providence,	Providence,	March.
South Carolina,	A. G. Mackey,	Charleston,	Ebenezer Thayer,	Charleston,	Charleston,	February 15.
Tennessee ,			Chas. A. Fuller,	Nashville	Nashville,	October.
Texas,	Jas. F. Taylor,	Marshall,	James M. Hall,	Crockett,	Huntsville,	4 Wed. in June.
Vermont,	Philip Tucker,	Vergennes,	J. B. Hollenback,	Burlington,	Montpelier,	August.
Virginia,	James Evans,	Richmond,	John Dove,	Richmond,	Richmond,	Dec. Th af 2 Mon.
Wisconsin,	H. L. Palmer,	Milwaukee,	John W. Hunt,	Madison,	<i>Shifting.</i>	1st Wed in Feb.

Will Grand Secretaries note the *regular* times and places of holding the Grand Convocations of their several Grand Chapters?
 Next meeting of the General Grand Chapter will be held in Chicago, 2d Tuesday in September, 1859.

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER FROM ITS ORGANIZATION IN 1823 TO THE PRESENT TIME.

	G. High Priest.	D. G. H. Priest.	Grand King.	Grand Scribe.	G. Treasurer.	Grand Sec'y.
1823	Dugald McFarlane,	John Elliott,	Horatio G. Perry,	Wm. B. Patton,	John H. Vincent,	John B. Hogan.
1824	Dugald McFarlane,	John Elliott,	And. Hutchinson,	James Weakley,	John H. Vincent,	John B. Hogan.
1825	Israel Pickens,	John Elliott,	And. Hutchinson,	James Weakley,	Henry A. Snow,	Wm. D. Stone.
1826	Nimrod E. Benson,	John Elliott,	Harry I. Thornton,	Thaddeus Sanford,	Andrew McBryde,	Wm. D. Stone.
1827	John Murphy,	John Elliott,	Horatio G. Perry,	B. B. Fontaine,	Henry A. Snow,	Wm. D. Stone.
1828	John Murphy,	John Elliott,	Harry I. Thornton,	B. B. Fontaine,	Henry A. Snow,	John G. Aikin.
1829	Thos. B. Creagh,	James Penn,	Harry I. Thornton,	Charles O. Foster,	Andrew McBryde,	John G. Aikin.
1830	Thos. B. Creagh,		James H. Saxon,	And. Hutchinson,		John G. Aikin.
1831						
1832						
1833						
1834						
1835						
1836						
1837	John C. Hicks,	G. W. Esselman,	Isham Woodward,	Thos. B. Jones,	Major Cook,	
1838	John C. Hicks,	J. L. F. Cottrell,	A. B. Dawson,	Felix G. Norman,	Major Cook,	Doric S. Ball.
1839	John C. Hicks,	A. B. Dawson,		Felix G. Norman,	Major Cook,	Doric S. Ball.

1840	John C. Hicks.	A. B. Dawson,	Wm. A. Ferrell,	R. H. Dalton,	Major Cook,	A. P. Pfister.
1841	A. B. Dawson,	Edward Herndon,	David Moore,	Jno. A. Whetstone,	Major Cook,	A. P. Pfister.
1842	David Moore,	Edward Herndon,	N. W. Fletcher,	Felix G. Norman,	L. S. Skinner,	A. P. Pfister.
1843	David Moore,	Edward Herndon,	Felix G. Norman,	G. W. Creagh,	Wm. Garrett,	A. P. Pfister.
1844	David Moore,	G. W. Creagh,	Charles Whelan,	E. V. Levert,	Wm. Garrett,	A. P. Pfister.
1845	James Penn,	G. W. Creagh,	Charles Whelan,	E. V. Levert,	Wm. Garrett,	A. P. Pfister.
1846	Felix G. Norman,	J. McCaleb Wiley,	Stephen F. Hale,	William Hendrix,	Edward Hernon,	A. P. Pfister.
1847	Felix G. Norman,	William Hendrix,	S. A. M. Wood,	Sydney Smith,	Wm. Garrett,	A. P. Pfister.
1848	William Hendrix,	Rufus Greene,	J. M. Brundidge,	Moses F. Hoit,	Nimrod E. Benson,	A. P. Pfister.
1849	William Hendrix,	Rufus Greene,	J. M. Brundidge,	John R. Clark,	Nimrod E. Benson,	A. P. Pfister.
1850	William Hendrix,	Rufus Greene,	Wm. P. Chilton,	John R. Clark,	Nimrod E. Benson,	A. P. Pfister.
1851	Rufus Greene,	Wm. P. Chilton,	John R. Clark,	Sydney Smith,	E. M. Hastings,	A. P. Pfister.
1852	Wm. P. Chilton,	James L. Price,	Wm. H. Norris,	Thomas J. Clark,	E. M. Hastings,	A. P. Pfister.
1853	Wm. P. Chilton,	James L. Price,	Wm. H. Norris,	Thomas J. Clark,	E. M. Hastings,	A. P. Pfister.
1854	Wm. P. Chilton,	James L. Price,	Thos. J. Clark,	M. W. Davis,	E. M. Hastings,	A. P. Pfister.
1855	Wm. A. Ferrell,	John R. Clark,	H. S. Shelton,	M. W. Davis,	E. M. Hastings,	A. P. Pfister.
1856	Wm. A. Ferrell,	T. C. Hartwell,	H. P. Watson,	T. F. Flournoy,	E. M. Hastings,	A. P. Pfister.
1857	David Clopton,	S. A. M. Wood,	H. P. Watson,	R. D. Huckabee,	E. M. Hastings,	Daniel Sayre.
1858	David Clopton,	S. A. M. Wood,	H. P. Watson,	R. D. Huckabee,	E. M. Hastings,	Daniel Sayre.
1859	David Clopton,	S. A. M. Wood,	H. P. Watson,	John R. Clark,	E. M. Hastings,	Daniel Sayre.

Note.—Companion A. P. Pfister was elected Grand Secretary on the 3d of Decemmmber, 1856, but having died on the 28th of January, 1857, Companion Daniel Sayre was appointed Grand Secretary by the Grand High Priest.

