

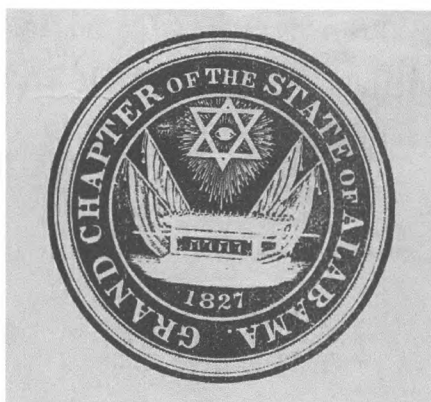
1865

PROCEEDINGS
of the

GRAND CHAPTER

of
Royal Arch Masons
of

ALABAMA



A.D. 1865 / A.I. 2395

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PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE GRAND CHAPTER
OF ALABAMA

AT THE
ANNUAL CONVOCATION

HELD IN THE
CITY OF MONTGOMERY

COMMENCING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5TH, 1865.

MONTGOMERY:
BARRETT & BROWN, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.
1866.

PROCEEDINGS.

The M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama convened at its Thirty-ninth Annual Convocation, at the Masonic Hall, in the City of Montgomery, on Tuesday, the 5th day of December, A. D. 1865, A. L. 5865, R. A. M. 2395.

PRESENT.

JAMES B. HARRISON, Grand High Priest.
PELEG BROWN, Deputy Grand High Priest.
W. A. O'HARA, *pro tem*, Grand King.
WILLIAM KERR, Grand Scribe.
E. M. HASTINGS, Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE, Grand Secretary.
DAVID B. SMEDLEY, Grand Chaplain.
GEORGE D. NORRIS, G. C. Host.
S. G. BURKE, *pro tem*, G. P. S.
W. C. BATCHELOR, *pro tem*, G. R. A. C.
C. C. CURTIS, *pro tem*, G. M. 3d V.
T. B. NESMITH, *pro tem*, G. M. 2d V.
J. G. BYTHEWOOD, *pro tem*, G. M. 1st V.
THOMAS McDougall, Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

WILLIAM P. CHILTON, Grand High Priest.
DAVID CLOPTON, Grand High Priest.
HUGH PARKS WATSON, Grand High Priest.
J. McCaleb WILEY, D. Grand H. Priest.
THOMAS F. FLOURNOY, D. Grand H. Priest.
H. S. SHELTON, Grand King.
JAMES M. BRUNDIDGE, Grand King..
N. B. CLOUD, Grand Scribe.

CHAPTERS REPRESENTED.

No.	Chapters.	Names of Officers.	Grade.
4	Monroe,	N. A. Agee,*	H. P.
5	Eunomia,	George D. Norris, E. B. Clapp,	H. P. S.
11	Phoenix,	William Kerr,	H. P.
12	Marion,	E. V. Levert,	H. P.
19	Mt. Moriah,	T. C. Clark,*	H. P.
20	Livingston,	George Wilson,	K.
21	Mobile,	William C. Batchelor,	H. P.
22	Montgomery,	Eben Kirk, H. P. Watson, James Davidson,	H. P. K. S.
23	Talladega,	Joseph H. Johnson,	H. P.
25	Courtland,	F. W. Sykes,*	H. P.
26	Union,	W. O. Hudson,	H. P.
30	James Penn,	William H. Forney,* G. C. Ellis,*	H. P. K.
35	James L. Daniel,	A. B. Starke,	S.
36	Pickensville,	H. S. Shelton,	H. P.
37	Concord,	W. H. McNamee,*	H. P.
40	Camden,	R. H. Ervin,* L. W. Jenkins,*	H. P. K.
43	Tuskegee,	David Clopton,	H. P.
44	Choctaw,	W. R. Horn,* John T. Foster,* Simeon Walton,*	H. P. K. S.
48	McKinley,	W. F. Perkins,*	H. P.
52	Allenton,	J. G. Bythewood,	H. P.
56	Zerubbabel,	A. F. M. Garrett,*	H. P.
58	Hartwell,	W. A. Brantley,	K.

No.	Chapters.	Names of Officers.	Grade.
62	Rockford,	T. S. McDonald,* J. A. Sears,	H. P. K.
64	Central,	L. W. Dalrymple,*	H. P.
66	Alabama,	Peleg Brown, Richmond S. Fletcher,	H. P. S.
67	Farriorville,	George Williams,*	H. P.
68	Cherokee,	S. K. McSpadden,	H. P.
69	Lower Peach Tree,	C. C. Curtis,	H. P.
71	Landmark,	James M. Bridges,	H. P.
72	Midway,	S. G. Burke, J. W. L. Daniel,	H. P. S.
73	Lawrenceville,	William A. O'Hara,	H. P.
75	Pine Level,	S. J. Townsend,	H. P.
76	Elyton,	Sam Thompson, G. T. Deason,	H. P. K.

*Proxies.

The M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter was opened in Ample Form.

Prayer by the R. E. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion David B. Smedley.

On motion of Companion H. S. Shelton, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

The M. E. Grand High Priest delivered his annual address, and, on motion, it was referred to a special committee of three, consisting of Companions David Clopton, R. H. Ervin and William C. Batchelor, and ordered to be spread upon the minutes, and printed with the proceedings.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Companions of the Grand Chapter:

Another year has passed, and we are again permitted to meet within these consecrated walls in Grand Convocation; not however without feelings of pleasure mingled with sorrow; with pleasure, that a kind Providence has preserved our lives amidst the many dangers we have passed through, and now permits us to grasp each other's hand with a cordiality that imparts a thrill of joy known and felt only in the heart of a true Mason; with sorrow, that many, very many, who formerly mingled with us on these occasions, will meet with us no more—the hand we once grasped with such joyous greeting now lies mouldering in the dust, the eyes that sparkled with animation, are now closed in death, their spirits have ascended to God. While we bow submissively to the will of Him who doeth all things well, and while we sympathize with friends and relatives, let us indulge the hope that our loss of companions beloved has been their gain, that they have been admitted into and now enjoy the glories of the Second Temple, that house not made with hands eternal in the heavens, the mysteries of which death, as the key alone can unlock. Previous to our last Convocation the Southern portion of our jurisdiction had not felt or experienced the horrors of war in all its bearings; since which we too have been made its victims. Wherever the army penetrated, the country was devastated, atrocities of every kind were committed, many were reduced to want, and now the crumbling walls, the isolated chimneys of once happy dwellings, are but monumental evidences of how well the work of destruction was executed; again, after the cessation of hostilities, crops that had been but just planted were abandoned, some in part, others altogether; some were left only for a time through want of labor, a large portion of those that were worked were not properly cultivated, and the yield was therefore very short. I speak not of these things politically but simply with a view to impress your minds with the present condition of our people, and the want and distress

that must inevitably follow. Many of our companions and brethren have returned home after years of suffering in the army or in prisons. They return with impaired health and broken constitutions, many of them maimed and crippled for life, utterly incapable of physical labor. They returned to find the little property upon which they depended for a support for their families and for themselves, all gone—all destroyed; and such are now dependent upon the charity of friends. Again an equally distressing picture is presented by the widows and orphans of our gallant soldiery; they have been made so by the chances of war and are now left destitute and without even a protector by its cruel and destructive hand. Among these doubtless will be found many who are the widows and orphans of companions and brothers beloved. These are emphatically widowhood and orphanage, who are to find in every true hearted Mason a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. In view of these facts and the situation of our people, if ever there was a time when Masons should practice the beautiful tenets of our order as taught in our Lodges and Chapters, that time is now. Let us begin the work immediately. Let us take counsel together and see if some means cannot be devised by which timely assistance can be rendered and thus a large amount of privation and suffering be, if not entirely relieved, so ameliorated as to avoid a want of the necessities of bare subsistence. By a firm persistent and united effort on our part we can go still farther and comfortably feed, clothe and educate many of these wards of Masonry, to whom we stand in the relation of guardians. Under these circumstances, Companions, I deem this the most important convocation ever held by this Grand Chapter, and recommend this whole subject to your most thoughtful consideration.

Many of your subordinate Chapters have been for some time past delinquent in representation and dues. The situation of the country, the scarcity of money in many parts of the State, may prevent some from availing themselves of the benefit of a resolution adopted some time since, I therefore recommend that more time, if necessary, be granted, them. I have been

able to visit but few Chapters during the year. Such as I have visited appeared to be very anxious to procure the true work of the Grand Chapter. This work I must be permitted to say, they can procure if they will only have their Chapters duly represented in this Grand Body, and give the very able committee who have labored with great zeal and industry from year to year, more time to exemplify the work, then they would return to their Chapters much better qualified to confer the degrees upon intelligent candidates than they now are. There is an impression among many, who profess to be Royal Arch Masons, that Master Masons are entitled to and have a right to Royal Arch degrees. I confess that I am not so impressed. They have no other right than that conceded by the Chapter. The standard of Royal Arch Masonry is, I fear, not what it should be in some portions of our jurisdiction. Excuse me for speaking plainly; when I hear a man, who is recognized as a Royal Arch Mason, pronouncing the sacred name of Deity in the most blasphemous manner, when I hear him giving utterance to horrid and profane oaths, when I see him reeling and staggering under the influence of intoxicating drinks, I am necessarily forced to the conclusion that the standard of Masonry in the Chapter to which he belongs, is very low. And now in all candor let me say to you, presiding officers of Chapters, do your duty; let your imagination go back to your Chapter, take a survey of your membership, and if you know of any that are guilty of any of the offenses enumerated or any other unmasonic conduct in these demoralizing times, do your duty. When you return home institute the proper proceedings, no matter how influential he may be, no matter how high his social position, no matter how *bright* he may be considered, cut him off, purge your Chapter, remove the incubus, thereby doing and fulfilling your whole duty to the whole body of Masonry; for I assure you that such will only mar and soil the work, and cannot assist in the noble and glorious undertaking of preparing their fellow man for a reception into the Holy of Holies. It is far better that

your membership should be small and of the proper material, than to have your temple crowded with rubbish.

I have received the proceedings of a special convocation of the most Excellent Holy R. A. Chapter of the State of Rhode Island, held in Providence, on the 15th August A. I. 2395. The M. E. Thos. A. Doyle, G. H. P. informs the Grand Chapter that he has received a circular containing the information that the eminent and distinguished Albert G. Mackey, the late G. G. H. P. of the late G. G. Chapter of the United States, has called a meeting of the late officers and members of that body, etc.—That, as this Grand Chapter had not for some years recognized the existence of such an organization, he felt it his duty to convene this body for the purpose of taking such action in relation to the subject as might be deemed most proper. The Most Excellent reviews at some length the history of the late G. G. Chapter of the U. S., and remarks are also made by past Grand H. Priests and other prominent members, when they unanimously passed resolutions setting forth their views. To-wit:

“Resolved, That this Grand Chapter has learned with regret, of the intention to organize a General Grand Chapter of the United States, and in declining to participate in such formation, must also most emphatically protest against it.

“Resolved, That while this Grand Chapter admits that the General Grand Chapter once existing conferred a benefit upon the weak and struggling bodies then but just entering upon their work, yet the present healthful existence, correct Masonic tone, and the general harmony found among all the Grand Chapters, is such that its continued existence cannot, in our judgment, subserve the best good of our fraternity.

“Resolved, That, in the judgment of this Grand Chapter, the late General Grand Chapter of the United States dates its decline and complete dissolution from its meeting in Chicago in 1859, and that neither the prosperity or utility of Royal Arch Masonry require that it should be resuscitated.

“Resolved, That as this Grand Body, since the dissolution of the late General Grand Chapter, has, neither by itself or its subordinates, in its work, or in any manner whatsoever, recognized the existence of a General Body, and has found no difficulty arising therefrom, and as there appears to be no more ne-

cessity for a General Grand Chapter than for a General Grand Lodge, therefore this Grand Chapter must and does most respectfully but earnestly protest alike against the formation of a new, as against the resuscitation of the old and disbanded organization once known as the General Grand Chapter of the United States."

It is within the recollection of many present that the subject of dissolving the connection of this Grand Body with that of the G. G. Chapter had been discussed for some years, and not until after the meeting in Chicago was any conclusion arrived at, when at the convocation of this Grand Body in 1860 it was resolved with great unanimity to dissolve our connection with the G. G. Chapter of the U. S. I will make no suggestions as to the reasons which prompted the course, but submit the subject for your consideration, with the remark, that as Masons, we should contribute every thing in our power to allay and sooth every unpleasant feeling which may be ever thought to exist Masonically, between the North and the South. Although we may have suffered as Masons, let there be no circumstances or recriminations—let us pour oil upon the troubled waters—let us obliterate the past and act only as becomes Masons—Masonry knows no North, no South, no East, no West. "In every clime are masons to be found."

Dispensations have been granted to certain companions, as follows: Loachapoka on the 24th June, Jefferson on the 12th September, and Crawford on the 23rd Oct., 1865, to open Chapters and confer degrees, the companions of these several Chapters will report to this Grand Chapter and apply for charters.

I would also call your attention to the fact that several Chapters marked extinct on your roll have resumed labor under the impression that they were thus authorized by a resolution previously referred to. They are Camden No. 40, Union No. 26 and McKinley No. 48: there may be others, though they have not come to my knowledge. I recommend that all such be admitted upon the payment of all back dues:

there may however be cases in which upon proper representation it may become necessary to remit some if not all dues, but I will not anticipate, merely suggesting that this Grand Body show all the leniency and charity in their power.

By section 9 of our by-laws subordinate Chapters are required to hold an election of officers at their regular convocation immediately preceding the anniversary of St. John the Baptist. It is the duty of every subordinate to comply with this law on the day mentioned, if the Chapter has a sufficient number present to open, and if not then they should apply for a dispensation to do what they have failed to do at the right time.

The foregoing reflections I respectfully submit for your consideration trusting that our Heavenly Father will counsel and direct you in all your deliberations and crown your labors with success.

J. B. HARRISON.

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

GRAND SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

Grand Chapter of Alabama,
Office of the Grand Secretary, Montgomery, Dec. 5, 1865.

Companions:—The enclosed accounts, herewith submitted to you, will show, that all the moneys that have come into my hands since the last convocation of the Grand Chapter, have been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, *minus* the amount necessary for defraying the expenses of the Grand Chapter during the last masonic year, together with the sum then reported in my hands, the amount received for dues, and the amount received for dispensations.

I regret that I was unable to get the proceedings printed until late in the summer. The delay was caused, first, by the

impossibility of getting paper by the printing offices, and afterwards by a Federal raiding force which passed through here, and destroyed the offices. Nor at last, where they printed in good style, but I have done the best I could, under the circumstances.

It may not be improper for me to say, that capitular masonry seems to be reviving within our jurisdiction, and that the zeal of the companions is urging them to labor more devotedly beneath the Royal Arch. We are now directing our cause from a new point, and within a few years, we may hope to come up to our former standard of prosperity.

Faternally,

DANIEL SAYRE, Grand Secretary.

A.

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

C'R.

1864.

Dec. 6.	By balance in the hands of the Grand Sec---	\$ 175 42	
Dec. 6.	By dues received at this Gr. Convocation--	1,157 28	

DISPENSATIONS.

1864.

Dec. 6.	By Smedley, No. 77-----	\$ 90 00	
Dec. 6.	By Danville, No. 78 -----	90 00	
Dec. 6.	By Hillabee, No. 79-----	90 00	270 00
			\$1,602 70

Dr.

1864.

Dec. 9.	To paid Grand Treasurer-----	\$ 175 42	
Dec. 9.	To paid Grand Treasurer-----	1,157 28	
Dec. 9.	To paid Grand Treasurer-----	270 00	\$1,602 70

1865.]

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA.

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B.

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

CR.

1865.

Feb. 4.	By back dues from Bladon Spgs., No. 59--\$	10 00
Feb. 4.	By back dues from Tuskegee, No. 43-----	50 00
		\$60 00

DR.

1865.

April 7.	To paid rent -----	\$ 46 87
Dec. 1.	To paid Grand Treasurer-----	13 13
		\$60 00

C.

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

CR.

1865.

June 24.	By dispensation to Loachapoka, No. 80----\$	90 00
Oct. 23.	By dispensation to Crawford, No. 82-----	90 00
		\$180 00

DR.

1865.

July 25.	To printing proceedings -----	\$63 00
Oct. 20.	To paid rent-----	50 00
Nov. 30.	To paid Grand Treasurer-----	67 00
		\$180 00

Montgomery, December 5, 1865.

The Grand Treasurer made his annual report, and the report was received and referred to the Committee on Finance:

GRAND TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

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

DR.

1864.		
Dec. 10.	To cash from Gr. Sec'y (of Contg. Fund)---	\$ 175 42
Dec. 10.	To cash from same, for dues-----	1,157 28
Dec. 10.	To cash from same, for Dispensations-----	270 00
1865.		
Nov. 30.	To cash from same, Conf. Treas. notes-----	13 12
Nov. 30.	To cash from same, U. S. Treasury notes-----	67 00
		\$1,682 82

CR.

1864.		
Dec. 9.	By this amount, balance due me-----	\$ 44 13
Dec. 9.	By paid Peleg Brown, appropriation (voucher 1) -----	306 00
Dec. 9.	By paid Thos. McDougall, Sentinel for 1864, (voucher 2) -----	15 00
Dec. 10.	By paid Gr. Secretary's salary, (voucher 3)	400 00
Dec. 10.	By paid Thos. McDougall, Sentinel for 1863, (voucher 4) -----	10 00
Dec. 10.	By paid same, (loan,) (voucher 5)-----	50 00
1865.		
Dec. 4.	By cash on hand in Conf. Treasury notes--	790 69
Dec. 4.	By cash on hand in U. S. Treasury notes--	67 00
		\$1,682 82

Dr.

1865.

Dec. 4. To cash balance in Confed. Treas. notes-----\$ 790 69

Dec. 4. To cash balance in U. S. Treas. notes----- 67 00

Which is respectfully submitted,

E. M. HASTINGS, Grand Treasurer.

Montgomery, Dec. 4, 1865.

Companion Daniel Sayre, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a report, and the report was received, and ordered to be spread upon the minutes and printed with the proceedings.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in the performance of the duties assigned them, have examined the proceedings of the Grand Chapters of Wisconsin, Kentucky, Maine, Florida, Indiana, Iowa and New Jersey, all for the present year, and which are all that have come to the hands of your committee—doubtless on account of the lack of proper mail facilities. Your committee, hope, however, that by the next convocation of this Grand Chapter, the mails will be so far re-established throughout the country, as to enable us to communicate with all the Grand Chapters in the Union.

Your committee regret to perceive, that there is still a spice of bitterness prevailing in the hearts of some of our northern companions, and tincturing their actions and expressions. This fact is the more observable in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Indiana. That Grand Chapter met on the 17th day of May last. At that time, the Confederacy had virtually ceased to exist. Petersburg had been evacuated, Richmond given up to the victors; and General Lee had surrendered. Under these circumstances, it might have been thought that a better feeling would have taken hold of the hearts of our northern companions; that kindness would have rooted out all disposition to hate; and that the olive-branch would

have been extended for our acceptance, and not that the waters of Marah would have been offered to our lips. But instead of exhibiting this friendly and masonic spirit towards us of the South, the Grand High Priest, Solomon P. Bayless, although writing from a bed of sickness, which he was not able to leave to attend the convocation of the Grand Chapter, does not hesitate to declare, in speaking of the murder of President Lincoln, that "he fell by the hand of an assassion, instigated *by the same spirit* that inaugurated and carried on the rebellion against the government." And the committee, to which was confided the duty of reporting suitable resolutions in regard to the same matter, speaks of his homicide "as one of the natural and legitimate results of this ill-conceived and unnatural rebellion." Now, we do not propose to inaugurate any discussion upon the subject of the late unhappy war; we desire—on the other hand—that it should be forgotten as soon as possible; that all traces of it should be wiped out; and that a spirit of masonic and friendly comity should be cultivated. But when the people of the South are put upon the same footing, are said to be imbued with the same spirit, and actuated by the same motives, with assassins and cut-throats, we are compelled to enter our indignant protest. We are neither. We fought honorably, and fairly, and we may be permitted to say, bravely, for the achievement of certain results. We have been disappointed in our calculations, and we submit to our fate with the spirit of men. The death of President Lincoln could neither help the cause of the South, nor retard the progress of the North, consequently upon his decease, as a base, we had erected no superstructure, least of all had we contemplated it as occurring in the manner in which it took place. He died not by the hand, or at the instigation, (so far as we know,) of any citizen of the late Confederacy. For his death we are not responsible. Our skirts are clear. Our hands are clean. There is no blood upon them, and therefore we need not implore, in the language of the great poet, "out damned spot."

WISCONSIN.

The Grand Chapter of Wisconsin convened in the city of Milwaukee, on the 1st day of February, the Grand High Priest, Melvin L. Youngs, presiding, with a competent number of representatives of subordinate Chapters present.

The Grand High Priest, in his annual address, congratulates his companions that *they* are permitted to meet in peace; that *their* ranks are unbroken; that the fires upon *their* altars are burning with more than their wonted brightness; while some of their sister jurisdictions are denied that privilege; some of *them* are reaping the fruits of a cruel and bloody war; *their* lands are laid waste; *their* homes are made desolate; the altars around which *they* were wont to bow are overturned; and their Chapters are broken up. As eloquent and truthful as is this gloomy and sombre-hued picture, Companion Youngs has taken in but a few of the rays which are reflected from our ravaged and plundered country. *He* has never *witnessed* our temples destroyed, and the luried flames from their roofs ascending towards the heavens; he has never seen our altars desecrated; or our fires quenched by the awful implements of war; our jewels filched from their stations; our furniture consumed; our records mutilated and torn in mere wantonness; and that great light in masonry, the HOLY BIBLE, trodden under the feet of rude soldiery. These things will, after a while, break upon the mind of Companion Youngs in all their vast dimensions and wretched enormity; and then he may be better fitted to consider and decide, who and what spirit is chargeable with these things.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was made by Companion H. L. Palmer. He reviews the proceedings of fourteen Grand Chapters. He wields an intelligent pen, and his report alludes to several points of interest which we shall notice under other heads.

During the convocation, a Past Grand High Priest's jewel was presented to P. G. High Priest Alvin B. Alden, with appropriate ceremonies.

MAINE.

The Grand Chapter of Maine convened at Portland, on the 1st of May; present A. J. Fuller Grand High Priest.

Pages in the proceedings are inscribed to the memory of Companions Cyril Pearl and Jonathan Greenleaf. The former was in the sixty-first year of his age, and had been chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for fourteen years. The latter was an old-time mason of upwards of forty years standing, and died at the ripe old age of seventy-nine.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Companion Josiah H. Drummond. He has much to say concerning the propriety of granting Dispensations for travelling military Chapters, and about the propriety of abolishing the office of Deputy Grand High Priest; both of which subjects are discussed in a fair and impartial manner, but they possess no special interest for the members of this Grand Chapter. The one has passed away with the war, and the other has never been mooted in this jurisdiction.

Companion Drummond has a good deal to say about the right of a Grand Chapter to dissolve its connection with the General Grand Chapter—in other words, to secede. He denies the right, but he does not give the argument. There appears to be a diversity of opinion upon the question among the Grand Chapters of the United States. Nearly all (if not quite all), of the Grand Chapters in the Southern States withdrew from the body several years ago, and so also have Iowa and Vermont, and perhaps others. Companion Yates, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Maryland and the District of Columbia, in his annual address to the Grand Chapter in 1864, argued in favor of the right, but we have not the proceedings of that year before us, and we do not know what the argument was, other than that the General Grand Chapter having radically changed its constitution at Chicago, in 1859, released the Grand Chapters from all obligations to it. The matter was referred to a committee of which Companion B. B.

French is chairman. His report, which we shall probably get in the proceedings of that Grand Chapter, for the present year, will doubtless be an able one, and give both sides of the question.

How the General Grand Chapter would go to work to maintain its authority over the State Grand Chapters, should it be disposed to make the attempt, we are not advised. It might, indeed, as Companion Drummond suggests, declare the seceded Grand Chapters clandestine and irregular, and forbid all intercourse with the members of Chapters in other States; and it might even establish Chapters under its jurisdiction within the seceded States. But, we apprehend, that both these methods would be "pointless weapons feebly thrown," whilst the Grand Chapters of surrounding States are also seceded, the fact that that of any one State has been declared clandestine, would have but slight influence. And but few companions could be found who would be willing to isolate themselves from those by whom they are surrounded, and from intercourse with the subordinate Chapters of their own State, by accepting charters from the General Grand Chapter. But we shall be able to speak more advisedly of this matter in the course of another year or two, as it will doubtless be more or less discussed, until the next convocation of the General Grand Chapter, which will occur, in 1868, and therefore, for the present, we dismiss the subject.

Before we dismiss the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Maine we must notice a fact that would be somewhat remarkable in almost any other jurisdiction, and it may be even there. At the Grand convocation, the proceedings of which we have briefly reviewed, every Chapter in the jurisdiction made their returns, and paid up all their dues. It speaks well for those companions. Though their climate is cold and icy, their hearts must be warm and genial upon the subject of masonry—as they understand it. However, ninety-nine unaffiliated Royal Arch masons are reported, thirty-seven of whom reside in Bangor.

INDIANA.

The Grand Chapter of the State of Indiana convened at Indianapolis, on Wednesday, the 17th day of May, Eden H. Davis, the Deputy Grand High Priest, presiding. The Grand High Priest, Solomon D. Bayless, being sick, and confined to his bed, was not present. He sent, however, an address which was read by the Grand Secretary. The only point in it which we desire to notice, has already been referred to.

During the convocation a committee reported appropriate resolutions in regard to the decease of Companion Francis King, for fifteen years the Grand Secretary of that Grand Chapter. He had been a mason for thirty-nine years. He is spoken of as ardent, zealous, and faithful. A devoted friend, a kind father, and a worthy citizen. Prompt in his attendance during the hours of labor, and prudent and discreet during those of refreshment.

Resolutions were also adopted in regard to the decease of Companion Chauncey Carter, P. G. King. He had been a mason for forty-nine years, and died when he had nearly completed his race of three score years and ten.

Your committee regret that there is no report on Foreign Correspondence.

IOWA.

The Grand Chapter of the State of Iowa met in Marshalltown, on the 3d of June, L. S. Swafford, Grand High Priest, presiding.

The Grand High Priest, during the preceding masonic year, had granted a number of dispensations to receive the petitions of applicants, and ballot upon them *out of time*. The committee to which his address was referred, considered these dispensations, and reported that the course he had pursued was bad policy, and detrimental to the craft. We think so too, and so thought the Grand Chapter, for the report was adopted. We suppose that these dispensations were for the benefit of volun-

teers in the army, who were home on furlough, and desired to receive the degrees before they returned to their commands, but could not wait for the usual course. It is natural for us if we have the proper feelings of men who love their country, to desire to do everything we can for those who have been in the service of that country; but there are some things about masonry that ought not (and cannot with propriety) be bent and twisted to suit any man's convenience—that ought to be as inflexible as the ten commandments. Personal perfection cannot be dispensed with, either by the Grand High Priest or by the Grand Chapter itself. It is one of the fundamental ingredients of masonry "that a candidate for admission should be perfect in all his parts, that is, neither redundant nor deficient, neither deformed nor dismembered, but of hale and entire limbs, as a man ought to be." It is true that the rule which requires a petition to lie over from one stated communication to another before the ballot is taken, is not so inflexible. The constitution and laws under which a Grand Chapter acts, may provide for its being set aside, in special cases, and for sufficient reasons by dispensation from the Grand High Priest, but where no such provision is made, the constitution and laws must be complied with. But such dispensation should never be granted except for the most cogent reasons, otherwise, the very object of the rule is lost sight of, which is, "to make due inquiry into the reputation and capacity of the candidate," which, in the language of the Iowa committee, "would be bad policy and detrimental to the craft."

Companion Wright of Mount Moriah Chapter, No. 17, in describing the condition of his Chapter, notices a terrible tornado that passed over Comanche in 1860, and caused awful havoc in its course. A saw-log, thirty-two feet in length, and twenty-three inches in diameter, was carried to the distance of sixty miles, and into another State; every house in the place was injured or broken up; two hundred thousand dollars worth of property was destroyed; many families were left wholly destitute; widows and orphans were deprived of their means of support; the remainder of the community were

so impoverished that they could not help the more unfortunate; and thirty-seven lives were lost. Mount Moriah Chapter lost its Charter, which was blown away for forty miles, and was not found until three years afterwards, "one hundred and eighty miles the other side of the great river," the man who picked it up thinking it represented some bank stock, or other valuable property, and kept it. It also lost its records, jewels, and furniture. Its "altars were truly broken down, and its candlestick removed out of its place." Such is exactly our condition, and the condition of some of our Chapters; caused, not by a tornado passing over Comanche, but by the Comanches passing over us. Heavy and valuable property has been removed thousands of miles, and carried into a dozen States, and not found yet. Whole towns and cities have been burnt to the ground; and thousands of millions of dollars worth of property been destroyed. Whole communities have been left entirely destitute; thousands of widows and orphans deprived of their means of support; and hundreds of thousands of lives lost. Charters have been carried off and not recovered at all. We have lost our records, our jewels, and our furniture. Our altars have been desecrated, our candlesticks removed, the "book of the law" torn to shreds and tatters of profane and sacriligious hands; and our lights put out; and all this by the Comanches, that terrible tribe who regard neither age, sex, condition, nor color. We think Companion Wright is precisely in the right condition to sympathize with many of his Southern companions; and the Grand Chapter of Iowa decidedly wrong if it had not remitted the "dues" of Mount Moriah Chapter "to date"; and requested its eloquent representative to furnish a minute of the losing and finding the charter, that the narrative might be entered on the record. Your committee trust that our subordinate Chapters may furnish similar narratives of their losses during the late horrible war, and that the same may be entered on the records of the Grand Chapter.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Comp. W. B. Langridge. He reviews the proceedings of sixteen Grand Chap-

ters. The report is an excellent *resume* of the proceedings of the Grand Chapters which he reviews, written in a kindly spirit, and an intelligent appreciation of the duties of his great office. There is much in it which we would take pleasure in laying before the members of this Grand Chapter, but the length to which our report has already run, admonishes us to be brief.

NEW JERSEY.

The Grand Chapter of New Jersey met at Trenton, the 12th of September, the M. E. Grand High Priest, Charles M. Zeh, presiding. His address at the opening of the Grand Chapter is a most excellent document, and we should like to quote from it extensively, but should we commence doing that, the difficulty would be to know where to stop.

The Grand Chapter got through its business in one day, there appearing to be but very little to do. Jewels were voted to the Grand High Priest and Companion William H. Jefferys, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. His report is written from Aurora, Illinois, to which place he has removed. He reviews the proceedings of thirteen Grand Chapters.

KENTUCKY.

The Grand Chapter of Kentucky convened at the Masonic Temple in the city of Louisville, on Monday, the 16th day of October last, the M. E. Grand High Priest, William E. Robinson, presiding. The representatives of fifty Chapters were present.

The address of the Grand High Priest is characterized by intelligence, zeal, and brotherly affection. He says that as "the terrible struggle through which our country has been passing has been brought to a close, new responsibilities devolve upon us, not only as citizens, but more especially as Royal Arch Masons." He hopes that the Grand Chapter of Kentucky will

take steps to aid in the great work of reconciliation. Companion Robinson appears to have the ring of the true metal about him, and the Grand Chapter of Alabama will doubtless earnestly assist him in the good work of the fraternization of all worthy companions.

Capitular Masonry seems to be prospering in the "dark and bloody ground," but the Grand High Priest cautions the companions to guard well the "outer courts," and "not permit their fervency and zeal to outrun their prudence," and reminds them "to be careful to *select* the best material, not *collect* the greatest amount"; that "emulation should point to the enterprize of *work well done*, rather than to a *great deal of work*."

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Companion H. P. Jeffries, who we take to be a miller, from his frequent allusions to the technical terms belonging to that craft. At any rate, he is a ready writer; his hopper is full of grist, and the food he grinds out is fit for the workmen of the Temple. He reviews the proceedings of sixteen Grand Chapters with fairness and intelligence, and his remarks upon them seem to be characterized with justice and discrimination.

Companion Jeffries quotes in full certain resolutions passed at a special convocation of the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island, which we had not before seen, as those proceedings have not reached us. These resolutions take decided ground against the General Grand Chapter, and emphatically protest against reviving the old General Grand Chapter, or the formation of a new one; they declare that its existence cannot subserve the best interest of the Fraternity; that neither the prosperity nor utility of Royal Arch Masonry requires that it should be resuscitated; and that there is no more necessity for a General Grand Chapter than there is for a General Grand Lodge; and that the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island has not, since the dissolution of the General Grand Chapter, (which they date from its convocation in 1859, at Chicago), recognized its existence, either by itself or its subordinates.

FLORIDA.

The Grand Chapter of Florida met in the city of Tallahassee, on Monday the 9th of January, George F. Baltzell, M. E. Grand High Priest, presiding; and the representatives of eight subordinate Chapters present.

A letter was received from Tampa Chapter, and read to the Grand Chapter, in which it was stated that the Federal troops had made a raid on that place, and plundered their Chapter-room. The furniture, books, jewels, and charter, were all carried away, and none of them had been returned.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence was directed to inquire and report to the Grand Chapter, at its next annual convocation, the masonic law respecting the admission of maimed persons to receive the Chapter degrees.

An appropriate tribute was paid to the memory of Companion John B. Taylor, deceased, who had been Grand Secretary from the organization of the Grand Chapter in 1847, up to the time of his death.

There was no report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, but your committee are gratified in observing that Companion Thomas Brown was appointed chairman of that committee. Companion Brown is undoubtedly one of the ablest and most intelligent masonic writers in the country, and your committee look forward to his report at the next convocation of the Grand Chapter of Florida with great pleasure, especially upon the subject of conferring the degrees on maimed persons.

Companion David Jones was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion Hugh A. Corley Grand Secretary.

In the proceedings which we have reviewed, we find some decisions which we bring together at the close of our report.

1. The Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, has decided, that the Council of a Chapter (that is, the first three officers) cannot resign their offices, or dimit from the Chapter; nor can the subordinate officers, except in cases of permanent removal from the jurisdiction.

This decision was sustained, we believe, by the Grand Chapter. A different ruling, we understand, prevails in California and Indiana. In the Grand Chapter of the former State, Companion Owens, chairman of committee on Foreign Correspondence, remarks: "In California, we hold a different opinion, believing with our brethren of the Grand Chapter of Indiana, than an officer has as good a right to withdraw or resign as to be deposed." That may be, but has he any right to do either at his own will and pleasure?

2. The Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Maryland and District of Columbia has decided—that one who had lost an arm cannot receive the Chapter degrees, and that an artificial arm cannot supply the deficiency and render him competent. In the particular case in which he gave this decision, it was suggested that he might receive the degrees by proxy; but this suggestion was too monstrous to be entertained for a moment.

3. In Maine and Iowa, it is held, that where Royal Arch Masons petition for the formation of a new Chapter without dimitting from the Chapters of which they are members, they become dimitted by the fact of the formation of a new Chapter.

4. It has been decided, (though we cannot ascertain by what authority,) that where a member of one Chapter, supposing a dimit had been granted him, applied for membership in another Chapter, and was accepted, and was then elected and installed as High Priest, and it turned out that no dimit had been granted, but that it had been refused, the party was not a member of the second Chapter, nor eligible as High Priest, and that the office was vacant.

The decision has been doubted, but we think it sustainable upon principle. A party to be eligible to the office of High Priest of a Chapter, must be a member of that Chapter; but one cannot be a member of two Chapters at the same time. Once a member, always a member, unless the party ceases to be a member by dimit, by expulsion, by the breaking up of the Chapter, or by joining in the formation of a new Chapter, as in the case to which we have just referred.

5. A companion who is present at a balloting, has no right to demand a new ballot, except for reasons satisfactory to the Grand Council.

6. It has been decided by the Grand Chapter of New York, that it is not competent for a Chapter with a less number than nine present, to ballot for a candidate. With less than nine present, it is not a Chapter, and can do nothing as a Chapter.

7. In Maine it is held, that the Grand High Priest has no authority to grant a dispensation to fill a vacancy in the office of High Priest of a Chapter, while there is a King or Scribe in office who may succeed, nor can he grant a dispensation to fill a vacancy in the office of King while the Scribe remains; but he may authorize an election to fill a vacancy in the office of Scribe, because there is no officer subordinate to the Scribe who succeeds to that office,

Your committee have thus endeavored to perform the duty assigned to them, in reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Chapters which have come to their hands. They are aware that they have but imperfectly accomplished it, but if the Grand Chapter shall be satisfied that their work is reasonably square and good work, they will be more than compensated for the labor which it has cost them.

In the proceedings which have been reviewed, a great deal is said about the principles of the Order, their general tendency, the good, and tender, and kind and brotherly, and forbearing, and patient spirit which they are calculated to produce among the votaries of Masonry. How far they have had this effect among our companions, outside of the late Confederacy, we are not now in a situation to judge. We have not seen their proceedings for the last four years, and therefore we do not know what they have said about us, or what they have done in regard to us, or in what light they consider the masons in the seceded states. We know that many individual instances have occurred on the field of battle, where the gory streams ran free and far, and where the deep-

mouthed cannon rivaled the dread artillery of Heaven; and in the dreary prison, where the luckless soldier pined in hunger and nakedness, and under the cruelties of unfeeling wretches, who scarce deserved the name of men, and who were of nearer kin to the brutes than to humanity; in which the principles of our Order have actuated and controlled their professors; where the naked have been clothed, and hungry and famishing relieved, the pining and disconsolate comforted; where the heart broken has had the oil of gladness poured into his bosom, and perhaps, even life itself has occasionally been spared when it might lawfully have been taken. But whether these principles have actuated the masons of the other States as bodies, whether they have had any controlling influence over them as legislators for Grand Lodges, and Grand Chapters, and Grand Councils, and Grand Encampments—that is the question, and that question we are not now in a condition to decide. A band of robbers may have some humane individuals amongst them; a church of Christians may have some great scoundrels belonging to their association; but it is not the humane in the one case, nor the scoundrels in the other, that give character to the bodies to which they belong. We must wait, then, until we get the proceedings of the last four years of these bodies before we can determine their *animus* toward their brethren of the South. We must know what their Grand High Priests have said about us in their annual addresses; what resolutions they have passed; and how they have talked concerning us in their reports on Foreign Correspondence. These are the touch-stones by which they must be tried; the criteria by which they must be judged; the fires through which they must pass. And if they come out of these unscathed, with their garments whole, and no scent of the flames upon their robes, then are they masons indeed; then they are brothers of the heart; then may we take them to our bosoms with perfect joy, and full confidence in their masonic uprightness and integrity. But if they cannot stand this ordeal; if they cannot pass over these red-hot plough-shares with unburnt feet; if they cannot plunge their bared arms into this hissing and

seething caldron, and draw them forth again whole and sound as before; then it is useless and absurd to talk about fraternal ties and brotherly love among northern masons; the jewels they wear about their necks are but brilliant and unmeaning gewgaws, and the sooner they are cast out and buried among the rubbish of the Temple, never again to be exhumed by the workmen among the ruins and brought up as discoveries fit for inspection, the better for the Fraternity everywhere, and especially in southern jurisdictions.

DANIEL SAYRE, Chairman.

Companion S. K. McSpadden offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the representatives of all subordinate Chapters within this jurisdiction whose charters have been forfeited within the last four years, for the failure to make returns and pay "dues," and all those which are now in arrears for returns or "dues," be allowed to take their seats at the present annual convocation; and that all said subordinate Chapters whose charters are now forfeited, be, and the same are hereby reinstated.

Companion T. C. Clark offered the following preamble and resolution, and they were adopted:

Whereas, Mount Moriah Chapter, No. 19, by reason of the absence of all of its members as soldiers in the Confederate army, except three or four, has failed to elect any officers or meet for work as required by the constitution, since 1861, and *Whereas*, all dues of said Chapter have been paid up to the present time, be it

Resolved, That said Chapter is fully reinstated in all the rights and privileges which it had previous to and during the year 1861, and that the same officers who held positions at that time, be continued in their respective offices until the next regular convocation for the election of officers for said Chapter.

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the following

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Chartered Chapters No. 1—N. A. Agee, George Wilson, J. H. Johnson.

On Chartered Chapters No. 2—T. C. Clark, W. O. Hudson, A. B. Starke.

On Dispensations—T. F. Flournoy, W. R. Horn, C. C. Curtis.

On By-Laws, Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals.—Isaiah A. Wilson, Simeon Walton, W. A. Brantley.

On Masonic Jurisprudence—David Clopton, R. H. Ervin, George D. Norris.

On Finance—William Kerr, Sam Thompson, George Wilson.

On Work—Peleg Brown, E. M. Hastings, D. B. Smedley.

Companion S. K. McSpadden offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That a special committee of nine be appointed, whose duty it shall be to ascertain the names and numbers of all those subordinate Chapters, whose losses during the war, or whose present situation, disables them from paying back "dues." And that said committee report by resolution, relieving said Chapters in whole or in part.

And the M. E. Grand High Priest announced the committee, as follows:

S. K. McSpadden,	Humphrey S. Shelton,
Joseph H. Johnson,	L. W. Dalrymple,
T. S. McDonald,	E. B. Clapp,
Felix G. Norman,	Wm. C. Batchelor,
	James M. Bridges,

Companion Felix G. Norman offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to distribute all papers in his possession to the proper committees.

The report of the Committee on Work on the R. A. Degree was postponed until 8 1-2 o'clock to-morrow morning, and made the special order for that hour.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until 8 1-2 o'clock to-morrow morning.

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, December 6, 1865.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 8 1-2 o'clock, the M. E. Grand High Priest, James B. Harrison, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

The minutes were read and approved.

Companion Thomas F. Flournoy, from the Committee on Dispensations, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON DISPENSATIONS.

The Committee to whom were referred the proceedings of sundry Chapters under Dispensation, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to submit the following report:

They have examined the proceedings and minutes of Crawford Chapter No. 82, and find them neatly and correctly kept, and therefore recommend that a charter be granted.

They have examined the proceedings of Smedley Chapter No. 77, and find them neatly, but very inaccurately and incorrectly kept. They use terms not known to Royal Arch Masonry, and very many terms belonging to a Master's Lodge.

The minutes of said Chapter do not show that any by-laws have been adopted for the regulation and government of said Chapter. The inaccuracies on the minutes of said proceedings are very numerous, and cannot be pointed out without a very lengthy report. We recommend them to be more careful in the future, to enact by-laws for their Chapter, if they have not, and that a charter be granted.

They have also examined the proceedings of Loachapoka Chapter No. 80: we find them neatly and correctly kept and we recommend that a charter be granted. We also recommend that a charter be granted to Danville Chapter.

G. S. White, and sixteen other companions, send up a petition for a dispensation to form a Chapter at the town of Gaston, in Sumter county. The petitioners have complied in every respect, with the constitution, and we recommend that a dispensation be granted in accordance with the prayer of the petitioners.

J. W. Garrison, and eleven other companions, petition for a dispensation to organize a Chapter at Lineville, in Talladega county. They have complied with the constitution, and we therefore recommend that a dispensation be granted in accordance with the prayer of the petitioners.

Isaac VanEaton and eleven other companions petition for a dispensation to open a chapter at Moulton, in Lawrence county. Said petitioners have complied with the constitution and we therefore recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

All of which, is respectfully and fraternally submitted,

T. F. FLOURNOY, Chairman.

Companion Peleg Brown, chairman of the Committee on work, made a report on the R. A. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in:

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until 8 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

THURSDAY MORNING, December 7, 1865.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 8 o'clock, the M. E. Grand High Priest, James B. Harrison, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

The minutes were read and approved.

Companion David Clopton, from the Special Committee on the Grand High Priest's address, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

The Committee to whom was referred the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, report that they find the address to be one of interest to the Craft, and replete with wise and truly masonic suggestions. They recommend it to the earnest consideration of all companions, and especially of the High Priests of subordinate Chapters.

The Committee recommend that that portion of the address, which refers to the General Grand Chapter, be referred to a special committee of three, with instructions to report thereon at the next convocation of the Grand Chapter.

DAVID CLOPTON, Chairman.

Companion T. C. Clark, from Committee No. 2, on chartered Chapters, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS NO. 2.

To the M. E. Grand High Priest and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Alabama:

The Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 2, beg leave to report that they have examined the returns of the Chapters submitted to them and make the following report, viz:

They find the returns of the following Chapters correct, to-wit: Alabama No. 66, Lawrenceville No. 73, and Elyton No. 76.

Tuskegee, No. 43.—Has failed to pay dues for two members, because they are ministers of the gospel. The constitution makes no provision that your committee is aware of, to remit dues of ministers.

Choctaw, No. 44.—Returns show has seventy members, and that only thirty-five dollars is paid as dues to the Grand Chapter, while an amendment to the by-laws adopted at last annual convocation, requires one dollar be paid for each member, therefore, dues short, thirty-five dollars.

Allenton, No. 52.—Has forty-seven members, and pays only twenty-three dollars and fifty cents. Dues short twenty-three dollars and fifty cents.

Tyrian, No. 54.—The High Priest has failed to sign the returns to the Grand Chapter.

Zerubbabel, No. 56.—Makes one return for four years, which shows twenty-six members, while only twenty-nine dollars is paid as dues to Grand Chapter for the four years. Dues short, thirteen dollars and fifty cents.

Rockford, No. 62.—Returns show one hundred members, leaving out two dimitted which appear in regular list of members, and only pays forty-nine dollars. Dues short, fifty-one dollars.

Central, No. 64.—Has no dates whatever to its returns, nor does it appear whether this Chapter has met for work or conferred any degrees during the year. By a certificate from the High Priest, your committee learns that the books of said Chapter are lost or mislaid.

Farriorville, No. 67.—Returns show dues to Grand Chapter short twenty-three dollars.

Cherokee, No. 68.—Returns made for three years. Grade of officers not properly arranged. Has Treasurer and Secretary in the same list with members, and has also dimitted members in same column.

Lower Peach Tree, No. 69.—Heading of the returns says: "Names of Members and officers of L. P. Tree, 69," without giving any date whatever. The grade of officers is incorrectly

given, and among the officers is that of "chaplain," when no such officer of a Chapter exists under the constitution. Reports officers and R. A. Masons to the number of twenty-five, and has eight other names in same column. It does not state whether these eight are Mark Masters, Past Masters, Most Excellent Masters or Royal Arch Masons. Has no column for dues to Grand Chapter, or anything to show how much was due, or what was paid. No seal attached to the returns, nor attestation of Secretary, but a certificate on the back, signed by the High Priest, that "the within contains a true list of members of Lower Peach Tree Chapter, No. 69.

As this return falls far short of the requirements of Sec. 6, of Art. 4, of the constitution, your committee recommend that it be returned to the High Priest of said Chapter, with directions that he send up a new report conforming to the constitution.

Midway, No. 72.—Returns show seventy-two members, and that only thirty-six dollars dues to Grand Chapter is paid. Dues short, thirty-six dollars.

Landmark, No. 71.—Returns for two years. By the returns for 1864 it appears that there are eighty-eight members, leaving out one dimitted, which is in the same column with the other members, and only forty-one dollars and fifty cents paid to the Grand Chapter, when it should be forty-four dollars. Dues short, two dollars and a half. By returns for 1865, it appears that there are ninety-two members, when only forty-five dollars is paid as dues to the Grand Chapter. Dues short, forty-seven dollars.

Pine Level, No. 75.—Has dimitted members in same column with regular members of said chapter.

From information, your committee are satisfied that most of the Chapters herein reported as "short in dues," have paid the proper amount to the Grand Secretary, but these errors appear on the returns submitted to them. Where such is the case, they recommend that the returns be corrected.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. C. CLARK, Chairman.

Companion N. A. Agee, from Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 1, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS, NO. 1.

Your Committee No. 1, on Chartered Chapters, to whom was referred the returns of several subordinate Chapters, beg leave to submit the following report:

We have examined, and find correct, the returns of the following Chapters, to-wit:

Union Chapter, No. 26.

Mt. Moriah Chapter, No. 19, for 1861.

Montgomery Chapter, No. 22.

Camden Chapter, No. 40.

Eunomia Chapter, No. 5, for 1863.

Phoenix, No. 11, but incomplete.

And the following incorrect, to-wit:

James Penn Chapter, No. 30, short of dues.....	\$ 68 50
Hermon Chapter No. 34, short of dues.....	24 00
Mobile Chapter No. 21, short of dues.....	105 00
Courtland, Chapter No. 25, short of dues.....	34 50
Concord Chapter No. 37, short of dues.....	36 00
Eunomia, (1865) No. 5, short of dues.....	27 00
Eunomia (1864) No. 5, dues paid on seven members who have been dimitted and reported among the present members.	
Pickensville, No. 36, overpaid dues.....	\$1 00
Marion, No. 12, short of dues.....	41 50

Monroe Chapter, No. 4.—Has no seal. The H. P. reports that the seal, records, and furniture were taken away or destroyed by the Federal troops in April last.

James L. Daniel Chapter, No. 35.—Dead members carried out in the list of members. \$28.50 paid for back dues: we have no means of knowing whether correct or not.

Talladega Chapter, No. 23.—Short of dues, \$40.00. Five dollars of the amount being for ministers, whose dues are remitted contrary to the Grand constitution.

Livingston Chapter, No. 20.—Short of dues, \$28.50. Two dollars of the amount due on two ministers.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted,

N. A. AGEE, Chairman.

Companion William C. Batchelor offered the following preamble and resolution, and they were adopted:

Whereas, The emergency under which the by-laws were amended so as to make the dues one dollar for each member no longer exists, therefore be it

Resolved, That the by-laws be now amended so as to read, "fifty cents dues for each member," and that the amounts paid by the several Chapters above that sum, be refunded.

Companion Thomas F. Flournoy offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That all Chartered Chapters whose charters have not been declared forfeited, and which have failed to pay "dues" and make returns to the present convocation of the Grand Chapter, be allowed ninety days to make returns to the Grand Secretary, and if found to be correct by him, that they be received, and the returns filed with the other papers, and their representatives, if present, are hereby allowed to take their seats.

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

JAMES B. HARRISON, Selma, Grand High Priest.

PELEG BROWN, Mobile, D. Grand High Priest.

WILLIAM KERR, Greensboro, Grand King.

GEORGE D. NORRIS, Newmarket, Grand Scribe.
E. M. HASTINGS, Montgomery, Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE, Montgomery, Grand Secretary.
REV. E. V. LEVERT, Marion, Grand Chaplain.
JOSEPH H. JOHNSON, Talladega, Grand C. H.
THOMAS McDOUGALL, Montgomery, Grand Sentinel.

Companion William C. Batchelor, from the Committee on By-Laws, Suspensions, Expulsions, and Appeals, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON BY-LAWS, SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND APPEALS.

Your committee beg leave to state that they have performed the duties assigned them, and submit the following report and recommendations:

In by-laws of Crawford Chapter, No. 82, Art. 3d, Sec. 1, for the words "it shall be final," substitute "he shall be declared rejected."

Hillabee Chapter, No. 79, Art. 2, Sec. 1, for the word "Evangelist," substitute "Baptist," and same change in Section 2, of same Article. In Section 3, strike out "the highest officer present," and insert "King or Scribe." Art. 3, Sec. 1, for "a" insert "two," and strike out "at least" where it occurs.

Danville Chapter, No. 78, Art. 2, Sec. 1, strike out all after the words "shall be regularly installed." Art. 2, Sec. 4, for the "highest officer present," insert "King or Scribe." Art. 5, Sec. 1, strike out the whole section. Sec. 2, Art. 5, strike out the words "Mark Master's degree separate or for all the."

Smedley Chapter, No. 77, Art. 3, Sec. 1, strike out "or for the degree of Mark Master only," and also, "except in extreme cases of emergency." Art. 3, Sec. 3, strike out the whole section.

In the case of appeal from the action of Concord Chapter, No. 37, it appears that the application of a candidate had

been duly rejected, and at a subsequent convocation, a motion was made for a reconsideration of the vote, which was carried, the appellant objecting. The candidate was thereupon balloted for, declared elected, and received the degree.

Your committee are of the opinion that inasmuch as the proceedings had at the time, do not set forth the fact that previous objections were withdrawn, and there was still opposition made to the action of the Chapter by the companion appealing, the action of Concord Chapter No. 37 was in direct violation of Art. 3, Sec. 6, of the by-laws of the Grand Chapter, which declares that "no candidate shall be received without the unanimous consent of the members present," and your committee recommend that the Grand Chapter severely censure Concord Chapter, No. 37, and if a similar case be again reported, that her charter be suspended.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. C. BATCHELOR, Chairman.

Companion S. K. McSpadden, from the Special Committee on Propositions and Grievances, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES.

The Special Committee on Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the destitute condition of subordinate Chapters, have had under consideration such as have come before them, and beg leave to recommend as follows:

That the dues of Eunomia Chapter, No. 5, for the years 1863 and 1864 be refunded.

That the dues of Tuscumbia Chapter, No. 10, for the past five years be remitted, that said Chapter be reinstated, authorized to elect officers, and proceed to work.

That the dues of Russell Chapter, No. 65, for the past four years be remitted; and, as the charter of said Chapter was de-

stroyed by the Federal troops, we recommend that a charter issue free of charge, and that they be authorized to elect officers and proceed to work.

That the dues of Cherokee Chapter, No. 68, for the past three years be remitted; that said Chapter be reinstated and authorized to proceed to work.

That the dues of Elyton Chapter, No. 76, for the past year, be remitted.

That all back dues from Clinton Chapter, No. 9, be remitted; that said Chapter be reinstated, authorized to elect officers, and proceed to work.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

S. K. McSPADEN, Chairman.

Companion William Kerr, from the Committee on Finance, made the following report, and the report was received, and concurred in :

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance, to which was referred the accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, beg leave to report that they have examined the accounts and find them correct.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM KERR, Chairman.

Companion J. W. L. Daniel offered the following resolutions, and they were adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter heartily reciprocates the expressions of brotherly love and kindness set forth in the proceedings of various Grand Chapters north, as we learn from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Resolved, That it is the sincere desire of this Grand Body to cultivate the feelings of brotherly love and charity towards our companions wheresoever dispersed.

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

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

FRIDAY MORNING, December 8, 1865.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 8 o'clock, the M. E. Grand High Priest, James B. Harrison, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

The minutes were read and approved.

Companion Peleg Brown, Chairman of the Committee on Work, made report on the M. M. and P. M. degrees, and the report was received and concurred in.

The Grand Officers elected for the ensuing masonic year were installed in Ample Form, the M. E. P. G. H. P. David Clopton officiating.

Companion Peleg Brown, Chairman of the Committee on Work, made report on the M. E. M. degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

On motion of Companion William Kerr, it was ordered, that the sum of two hundred dollars be set apart in the hands of the Grand Secretary, as a contingent fund for the ensuing masonic year.

Companion Felix G. Norman offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That hereafter the Committee on Work shall make report on the first day of each Grand Convocation.

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

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to have 500 copies of the constitution, by-laws, and rules of order of the Grand Chapter printed for the use of the Grand and subordinate Chapters.

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

S. G. BURKE, Midway, Grand P. S.
L. W. JENKINS, Camden, Grand R. A. C.
E. B. CLAPP, Huntsville, Grand M. 3d V.
W. T. BROWN, Lafayette, Grand M. 2d V.
W. O. HUDSON, Uniontown, Grand M. 1st V.

COMMITTEE ON WORK.

PELEG BROWN, Mobile.
EDMUND M. HASTINGS, Montgomery.
DAVID B. SMEDLEY, Troy.

ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

DANIEL SAYRE, Montgomery.
JOHN T. FOSTER, Butler.
N. A. AGEE, Claiborne.
GEORGE WILSON, Livingston.
W. A. BRANTLEY, Cahaba.

The minutes were read and approved.

And then after solemn prayer to the Throne of Grace by the R. E. and Reverend Grand Chaplain, E. V. Levert, the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama, 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 THE AMOUNT OF DUES RECEIVED FOR 1865.

No.	Name.	Location.	County.	High Priest.	Secretary.	Meeting.	Dues.	
4	Monroe,	Claiborne,	Monroe,	R. C. Torrey,	N. A. Agee,		29	29 00
5	Eunomia,	Huntsville,	Madison,	George D. Norris,	G. H. Scruggs,	1st Tuesday,	54	92 00
11	Phoenix,	Greensboro,	Greene,	William Kerr,	O. F. Casey,		50	50 00
19	Mount Moriah,	Marion,	Perry,	John Howze,	T. B. Allen,		31	93 00
12	Marion,	Clinton,	Greene,	D. Harrison,	B. T. Higginbotham.		70	35 50
20	Livingston,	Livingston,	Sumter,	C. S. McConnico,	S. W. Murley,	3rd Friday,	55	55 00
21	Mobile,	Mobile,	Mobile,	Wm. H. Sadler,	Francis R. Jarvis,	1st Thursday,	210	105 00
22	Montgomery,	Montgomery,	Montgomery,	Eben Kirk,	W. H. Dingley,	2d Saturday,	71	71 00
23	Talladega,	Talladega,	Talladega,	C. G. Cunningham,	W. W. Houston,	1st Monday,	75	35 00
25	Courtland,	Courtland,	Lawrence,	Jos. C. Baker,	G. K. Clopper,		69	34 50
26	Union,	Uniontown,	Perry,	James L. Price,	William Deason,	1st Saturday,	29	29 00
30	James Penn.	Jacksonville,	Calhoun,	J. R. Clark,	D. P. Forney,	Last Monday,	138	68 50
34	Hermon,	Union Springs,	Macon,	James A. Jones,	Thomas Pullum,		48	
35	Jas. L. Daniel,	Glennville,	Barbour,	O. Florence,	J. M. Wright,		35	60 50
36	Pickensville,	Pickensville,	Pickens,	S. N. Ferguson,	Jno. D. Johnston,		37	37 00
37	Concord,	LaFayette,	Chambers,	R. P. Bragaw,	W. H. McNamee,		68	68 00
40	Camden,	Camden,	Wilcox,	Zo. S. Cook,	D. A. McDonald,		42	41 00
43	Tuskegee,	Tuskegee,	Macon,	David Clopton,	John C. Smith,	2 and 4 Sat.,	18	17 00

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GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA.

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No.	Name.	Location.	County.	High Priest.	Secretary.	Meeting.		Dues.
44	Choctaw,	Butler,	Choctaw,	C. N. Wilcox,	J. C. Chapman,		71	71 00
48	McKinley,	McKinley,	Marengo,	W. T. Abrahams,	M. H. Smith,	2d Friday,	22	41 00
52	Allenton,	Allenton,	Wilcox,	J. G. Bythewood,	James L. Grace,	1st Saturday,	47	23 50
54	Tyrian,	Troy,	Pike,	D. B. Smedley,	Joel D. Murphree,		76	
56	Zerubbabel,	Waverly,	Chambers,	J. J. Havis,	D. A. Patrick,		26	60 00
57	Lebanon,	Lebanon,	DeKalb,	Thos. T. Cotman,	J. C. Boyle,		48	
58	Hartwell,	Cahaba,	Dallas,					50 00
63	Rockford,	Rockford,	Coosa,	Isaac W. Suttle,	W. L. Smith,	Fri. bf 4 Sab.	100	50 00
64	Central,	Montevallo,	Shelby,	S. M. Doak,	J. M. Vest,		38	57 00
66	Alabama,	Mobile.	Mobile,	Peleg Brown,	Enoch S. Harrell,		97	97 00
67	Farriorville,	Farriorville,	Pike,	M. J. Bean,	James L. Williams,		46	23 00
68	Cherokee,	Centre,	Cherokee,	S. K. McSpadden,	W. P. Golightly,		52	
69	L. P. Tree,	L. P. Tree,	Wilcox,	C. C. Curtis,	J. Mayer,		33	33 00
71	Landmark,	Barnes' X Rds.	Dale,	R. Deal,	B. J. L. Powell,		93	93 00
72	Midway,	Midway,	Barbour,	S. G. Burk,	J. B. Feagin,	1st Thursday,	72	72 00
73	Lawrenceville,	Lawrenceville,	Henry,	W. A. O'Hara,	Lattimer L. Teague,		23	23 00
74	Opelika,	Opelika,	Russell,					
75	Pine Level,	Pine Level,	Montgomery,	S. J. Townsend,	H. W. Clark,		48	48 00
76	Elyton,	Elyton,	Jefferson,	Sam Thompson,	John C. Morrow,		62	

Affiliated Royal Arch Masons, 2,083. Amount of Dues, \$1,662.50.

TABLE OF GRAND CHAPTERS.

State.	G. H. Priest.	Residence.	Grand Secretary.	Residence.	Meets at	Time.	No. Ch'ps	No. R. A. Masons.
Alabama,	Jas. B. Harrison,	Selma,	Daniel Sayre,	Montgomery,	Montgomery,	December,	61	2,083
Arkansas,			James W. Finley,	Little Rock,				
California,	John Kirkpatrick	Downieville	L. C. Owens,	San Francisco	San Francisco,	October,	34	1,315
Canada,	T. D. Harrington	Quebec,	Thos. B. Harris,	Hamilton,	Quebec,	August,		
Connecticut,			E. G. Storer,	New Haven,				
Florida,	David Jones,	Lake City,	Hugh A. Corley,	Tallahassee,	Tallahassee,	January,	8	
Georgia,			B. B. Russell,	Augusta,				
Illinois,	Wiley M. Egan,	Chicago,	H. G. Reynolds,	Springfield,			72	
Indiana,	Thomas Pattison	Aurora,	William Hacker,	Indianapolis,	Indianapolis,	May,	49	1,633
Iowa,	John H. Brown,	Cedar Falls	W. B. Langridge,	Muscatine,	Davenport,	June,	25	782
Kentucky,	Harry Hudson,	Louisville,	P. Swigert,	Frankfort,	Louisville,	October,	72	2,053
Louisiana,			Sam. M. Todd,	New Orleans,				
Maine,	A. J. Fuller,	Bath,	Ira Berry,	Portland,	Portland,	May,	17	1,165
Maryland,	James G. Smith,	Washington	W. Morris Smith,	Washington,	Baltimore,	November	12	717
Massachusetts,	Richard Briggs,	Boston,	Thos. Waterman,	Boston,				
Michigan,	A. B. Cudworth,	Pontiac,	J. E. Johnson,	Centreville,				
Minnesota,	C. W. Nash,	Hastings,	C. W. Carpenter,	St. Paul,				

TABLE OF GRAND CHAPTERS.

State.	G. H. Priest.	Residence.	Grand Secretary.	Residence.	Meets at	Time.	No. Ch'p	No. R. A. Masons.
Mississippi,							13	
Missouri,	T. E. Jarrett,	St. Louis,	A. O'Sullivan,	St. Louis,			8	732
New Hampshire,	Jno. R. Holbrook,	Portsmouth	Horace Chase,	Hopkinton,			14	547
New Jersey,	J. G. C. Robinson	Paterson,	J. Wolverton,	Trenton,	Trenton,	September	90	
New York,	D. A. Ogden,	Penn Yan,	John O. Cole	Albany,				
North Carolina,			Thos. B. Carr,	Wilmington,				
Ohio,	George Rex,	Wooster,	Jno. D. Caldwell,	Cincinnati,	Toledo,	October,		
Oregon,			Benj. F. Goodwin,	Portland,				
Pennsylvania,			William H. Adams,	Philadelphia,				
Rhode Island,			Samuel B. Swan,	Providence,				
South Carolina,			Ebenezer Thayer,	Charleston,				
Tennessee	John Frizzell,	Winchester,	Chas. A. Fuller,	Nashville,	Nashville,	October,	23	
Texas,			James M. Hall,	Crockett,				
Vermont,	L. B. Englesby,	Burlington,	J. B. Hollenback,	Burlington,	Burlington,	October,		
Virginia,			John Dove,	Richmond,	Richmond,			
Wisconsin,	Melvin L. Young	Milwaukee,	Wm. T. Palmer,	Milwaukee.	Milwaukee,	February,	26	1,123