

1868

PROCEEDINGS
of the

GRAND CHAPTER

of
Royal Arch Masons
of

ALABAMA



A.D. 1868 / A.I. 2398

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Chapter of Alabama,

AT THE

ANNUAL CONVOCATION

HELD IN THE

CITY OF MONTGOMERY,

Commencing Dec'r 8, 1868.



MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA:

BARRETT & BROWN, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS AND BINDERS.

1869.

PROCEEDINGS.

The M. Ex. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama held its Forty-Second Annual Grand Convocation at the Masonic Hall, in the City of Montgomery, on Tuesday, the 8th day of December, A. D. 1868, A. L. 5868, A. Inv. 2398.

PRESENT :

PELEG BROWN.....	Grand High Priest.
RICHARD F. KNOTT.....	D. G. High Priest.
JAMES H. JOINER.....	Grand King.
JAMES B. LUCKIE.....	Grand Scribe.
EDMUND M. HASTINGS.....	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE.....	Grand Secretary.
REV. ROBERT B. JAMES, <i>pro tem</i>	Grand Chaplain.
H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	Grand C. of Host.
THOMAS W. ROBERTS.....	Grand P. Sojourner.
JOE H. JOHNSON, <i>pro tem</i>	Grand R. A. C.
WILLIAM E. BEAIRD.....	Grand M. 3 V.
WILEY W. BLOODWORTH, <i>pro tem</i>	Grand M. 2 V.
MYLES J. GREENE, <i>pro tem</i>	Grand M. 1 V.
THOMAS McDUGAL.....	Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS :

WILLIAM P. CHILTON.....	Grand High Priest.
DAVID CLOPTON.....	Grand High Priest.
GEORGE D. NORRIS.....	Grand High Priest.
J. McCABLE WILEY.....	D. G. High Priest.
THOMAS C. HARTWELL.....	D. G. High Priest.
JAMES M. BRUNDIDGE.....	Grand King.
HUMPHREY S. SHELTON.....	Grand King.
ISAAC W. SUTTLE.....	Grand King.
MALICHI W. DAVIS.....	Grand Scribe.
PALMER J. PILLANS.....	Grand Scribe.

And High Priests, Kings, Scribes, and Proxies, from the following subordinate Chapters:

No. 1. Tuscaloosa	James W. Baird*	H. P.
" 4. Monroe	Noah A. Agee*	"
" 5. Eunomia	Louis D. Carter*	"
" 9. Clinton	George D. Norris*	K.
" 11. Phenix	Augustus F. Evans*	H. P.
" 12. Marion	Nathaniel T. Lupton*	"
" 19. Mount Moriah	Mortimer M. Cooke*	"
" 20. Livingston	John G. Apsey*	K.
" 21. Mobile	Isaiah B. Smaw	H. P.
" 22. Montgomery	Thomas W. Roberts*	K.
" 23. Talladega	Israel G. Smith	S.
" 24. Eufaula	John G. Harris*	H. P.
" 26. Union	Palmer J. Pillans	"
" 27. Dayton	Theodore L. Eastburn	S.
" 28. Saint Johns	John N. Browder	H. P.
" 30. James Penn	Daniel Sayre	K.
" 32. Fulton	Walter C. Jackson	S.
" 34. Hermon	Joseph H. Johnson	H. P.
" 35. James L. Daniel	James H. Joiner	K.
" 36. Pickensville	Zadok J. Daniel	H. P.
" 37. Concord	G. Albert Roberts*	K.
" 40. Camden	James Shearin	H. P.
" 43. Tuskegee	Louis W. Oppenheimer	"
" 44. Choctaw	James M. Dedman	"
" 52. Allenton	William T. Daughtrey*	K.
" 54. Tyrian	William R. Ditmars*	S.
" 55. Sugsville	Daniel P. Forney*	H. P.
" 56. Zerubbabel	William E. Beaird	"
" 57. Lebanon	Charles M. Erwin	K.
" 62. Rockford	James T. Norman	K.
" 63. Clayton	Malichi W. Davis	H. P.
	Humphrey S. Shelton	"
	Richard P. Bragau	"
	James M. McNamee*	K.
	James Brooks	S.
	J. Eades Gullett*	K.
	Robert H. Ervin*	S.
	James E. Cobb	K.
	G. Frank Smith	K.
	Daniel W. Bythewood*	H. P.
	A. N. Worthy	"
	A. A. Griffin*	K.
	Henry C. Wiley*	S.
	James Odum	H. P.
	John W. Fleming	"
	M. Reeder*	K.
	George W. Malone*	H. P.
	John A. Sears	"
	Matthew D. Moore	K.
	George C. Reynolds*	H. P.
	John Post*	K.
	Jere N. Williams	S.

No 64. Central	Isaac Johnson.....	H. P.
" 65. Russell	Thomas T. Cotnam.....	"
" 66. Alabama	{ Jesse J. Melton.....	"
	{ Oliver S. Beers.....	S.
" 67. Farriorville.....	{ John M. Creless.....	K.
	{ Enoch P. Salter*.....	S.
" 68. Cherokee.....	Shadrack H. Sedberry*.....	H. P.
" 70. Choctaw Corner.....	John F. Pate.....	"
" 71. Landmark.....	John W. Simmons.....	"
" 72. Midway	William C. Smith*.....	K.
" 73. Lawrenceville.....	Jesse S. Bruner*.....	H. P.
" 74. Opelika.....	E. C. Bowen.....	"
" 75. Pine Level	{ James B. Luckie.....	"
	{ Henry W. Clark*.....	K.
	{ Anthony H. Sellers.....	S.
" 76. Elyton.....	{ Goldsmith W. Hewitt.....	H. P.
	{ Gilbert T. Deason.....	K.
" 77. Smedley	O. F. Knox.....	S.
" 79. Hillabee.....	Martin G. Slaughter.....	H. P.
" 80. Loachapoka	{ Myles J. Greene.....	"
	{ Wiley W. Bloodworth*.....	K.
" 81. Jefferson	{ William W. Harder.....	H. P.
	{ Lewis B. McCarty.....	S.
" 83. Bell.....	John W. Garrison.....	H. P.
" 84. Carrollton.....	John T. Terry*.....	"
" 85. Gaston.....	{ William R. Horn.....	"
	{ R. L. Seale.....	S.
" 91. George D. Norris	Morris K. Taylor.....	H. P.
" 92. Notasulga	H. Clay Armstrong.....	"
" 93. Columbus	Moses Jones.....	"

*Proxies.

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

Prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Robert B. James.

The M. Ex. Grand High Priest delivered his Annual Address, and on motion of Companion Richard F. Knott, it was referred to a special committee of three, and the Deputy Grand High Priest appointed the committee as follows :

Companions William P. Chilton, George D. Norris, and J. McCaleb Wiley.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Companions of the Grand Chapter :

At our last Annual Convocation it was your choice to honor me with the position I now occupy ; and when I looked around and saw so many whose talents better qualified them to discharge the various duties that must necessarily devolve on me as your chief, I accepted the trust and entered upon the discharge of those duties with some misgivings of my ability ; but with a full determination to perform to the best of my ability, so far as circumstances would permit, to promote the interest and welfare of the craft. Now, companions, I stand before you to render an account of my stewardship, and to make such suggestions as seem to me for the good of the Order. But before entering upon the discharge of so important a duty, let us here, in humble adoration, offer our thanks to Him to whom alone we are indebted for the privilege of again assembling around the altar of our time-honored institution, and ask his protecting care and guidance in all that we do ; that all our thoughts, words, and actions, may tend to our advancement, and the honor and glory of the Great Author of our existence, to whom we are indebted for all that we enjoy, without whose aid we can do nothing, and while in the full enjoyment of present blessings and privileges, let us not forget to meditate upon the past, that we may thereby gain profit and instruction. The

time of our earthly pilgrimage, each one of us, is slowly but surely passing away. Many who were wont to meet us here, have ceased their labors on earth forever. Scarcely had we closed our labors at our last Annual Convocation and returned to our homes, when we were greeted with the sad announcement that one who was then with us, and took an active part in our deliberations, had finished his earthly pilgrimage and gone to everlasting rest. JAMES L. PRICE, Past Deputy Grand High Priest, is numbered with the dead—one whom we all knew well, and those who knew him best can best realize our loss. He was a good and zealous Mason, and an ornament to our Order, and is now, I trust, enjoying the happy welcome of "well done, thou good and faithful servant: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Let us cherish his memory with a record upon the tablets of our Order.

It is good that we should meet in Grand Convocation, and I trust that all, during recess, have been delving around among the antiquities and dilapidated works of our Ancient Companions, and that each one of you have made discoveries worthy of consideration, and brought them up for inspection.

It affords me much pleasure to state, that as far as my knowledge extends, harmony prevails throughout our jurisdiction. I have had earnest solicitations to visit and give instructions in the work and lectures, and it would have been a source of great pleasure to me had I been so circumstanced as to have enabled me to visit every Chapter in our jurisdiction. The earnest desire manifested to obtain the work and lectures adopted by the Grand Chapter is truly commendable.

Having been so long associated with the Committee on Work, it was with reluctance that I retired from it. But the work is in the hands of an able committee, who, I doubt not, will perform their duty faithfully, and I hope that full and ample time will be allowed them to discharge their important duty; and where defects are found, they should be carefully considered, and alterations made, only for good and sufficient reasons. While on this subject, I would suggest that the Grand Chapter adopt some means for the more rapid dissemination of the work and lectures. The Chapters are now so numerous, and so scattered over the State, I doubt whether it could be accomplished through grand lecturers, without incurring too great expense. Better to increase the committee,

who should be located in different parts of the State, each member being fully conversant with the work, and then make it their duty to hold conventions in portions of the State nearest their residence, to which the Chapters could send delegates to procure the work, and in this manner a dozen Chapters could derive the benefit in the same time it would take to instruct one. Uniformity of work is greatly to be desired, and to prevent any confusion during the recess of the Grand Chapter, I would suggest that some competent companion, well versed in the work and lectures, be selected as the oracle or custodian of the work, to whom any point of difference should be referred, and whose decision shall be final until the next Grand Convocation, where it would, if desired, come up for consideration. But that the custodian shall not be permitted to altar or change the work adopted, that alone to be with the Grand Body itself.

Special attention was called to this subject by my predecessor, and it was ordered to be referred to a special committee to report at this Convocation; but by an oversight that committee was not appointed. In connection with this subject, there is another to which I desire your special attention. I fear we are exalting too rapidly without the necessary instruction, and I am fully of opinion that candidates for the degrees in the Chapter should be required to make similar proficiency to that required by the Grand Lodge; and that before a Dispensation is granted to constitute a new Chapter, the same evidence should be required as to qualifications. If this rule is strictly observed, uniformity of work would soon obtain throughout our jurisdiction, and the recipients of our mysteries be better qualified to appreciate the merits of our Order.

By a perusal of the proceedings of other jurisdictions, I find in some that a Council of the Order of High Priesthood has been established. I see nothing in our Constitution authorizing the establishment of such an order. The degrees therein authorized are specially named. Therefore, without a revision of our Constitution, or a special resolution, the establishment of an Order of High Priesthood would be a separate and distinct body from the Chapter in its organization. It therefore seems to me that the only way the subject can properly be disposed of would be the establishment of a Council of the Order of High Priesthood, independent of the Grand Chapter, to confer the Order as an *honorarium* upon High Priests who desire to obtain the Orders; but not to make it obligatory as

a prerequisite to qualify a High Priest elect to preside. This subject was referred to a special committee at our last Annual Convocation, and when the committee make their report it will be for you to determine what action shall be had on the subject.

In September last it was my privilege to be present in the city of St. Louis during the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States ; but owing to a resolution adopted by our Grand Chapter in 1861, tending to sever our connection with the General Grand Chapter, I could not take my seat as a member, but met with the most cordial reception, and was fraternally invited to be present during their deliberations, and availed myself of the privilege, and was present during two of their sessions, at which time that which most interests us came up for consideration.

The difficulty between the Grand Chapters of Maryland and the District of Columbia was finally settled, and the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia recognized as a regular Grand Chapter ; also Potomac Chapter No. 8, which refused their allegiance to the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, was recognized as a regular Chapter subordinate to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, but without territorial jurisdiction over candidates for the capitular degrees. These bodies our Grand Chapter can now, without hesitation, most cheerfully welcome, and fraternally extend to them the right hand of fellowship.

Also a preamble and resolutions were there unanimously adopted, by which it was resolved "that the several Grand Chapters that had passed resolutions tending to sever their connection with the General Grand Body, (of which ours is one,) were constituent portions of the General Grand Chapter, and had no right to sever their connection without consent, and that a fraternal correspondence be opened with each of them, urging a return to their allegiance.

This matter, companions, deserves your serious and careful consideration. In tracing the history of the General Grand Chapter from its first organization, I can find nothing in its constitution, (and which has been several times revised,) neither any edict or resolution, that at all conflicts, or is oppressive to the interests of any of the subordinates, each of which being independent sovereignties within themselves for the regulation of their own affairs—her mission being to promote the general interest and

welfare of capitular masonry throughout our Union, taking under her control all territory where no Grand Chapters exist, and having appellate jurisdiction over such decisions and difficulties as may be submitted to it by the subordinates, and whose decision shall be final.

The history of our own Grand Chapter I have not been able to trace as clearly as I desire, but from what is left upon the records of the General Grand Chapter, it is evident that we are indebted to that body for our own existence ; and when an attempt was made in 1826 to dissolve the General Grand Body, Alabama was represented, and voted against that measure. And now, in view of all these facts, and other considerations, I feel it my duty to advise this Grand Body to rescind the resolution adopted in 1861.

With these thoughts, I leave the matter to your wise consideration, firmly believing, as I do, that the only power existing to dissolve the General Grand Body exists in the majority of the State Grand Chapters composing the same.

I have had the following questions submitted, to which I have returned answers as follows :

Q. Is it right to use a substitute to make up a class ?

Ans. It is not. See By-Laws of Grand Chapter, Article III., Sec. 8.

Q. Is it lawful to receive a petition for the degrees unaccompanied with the fee ?

Ans. It is not. See Article IV., Sec. 5, of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter.

Q. In case a petition is received unaccompanied with the fee, and the degrees conferred, who is responsible ?

Ans. The Secretary, if he announced the petition in due form. If ordered to receive it, and does so without protest, he is still liable. But if he objects, then the presiding officer would be liable ; and if not paid, would be subject to discipline.

Q. Is it lawful and in accordance with Chapter usage to confer the degrees on ministers of the gospel free of charge ?

Ans. It is not. The Constitution requires that the fee shall always accompany the petition, and no credit given.

Q. Can a Chapter Past Master sit in a Master Mason's Lodge, the Senior Warden presiding, who has not received the Past Master's degree ?

Ans. He can without any scruples of conscience whatever. The Past Master's degree received in a Chapter confers no privileges other than those he is entitled to receive in the Chapter.

Q. A petition for the degrees in a Chapter being rejected, how long should the candidate wait before petitioning again?

Ans. Held that he should wait twelve months, unless the objection is withdrawn. That is the rule in the Blue Lodge. Our Constitution is silent on the subject, and as this question is often asked, I would recommend that the Grand Chapter settle it definitely.

Q. Does suspension in the Blue Lodge suspend in the Chapter?

Ans. It does, for it is held that a Chapter is entitled to know all that transpires in the bodies below.

Q. Is it necessary to take any action in the Chapter after suspension in the Blue Lodge?

Ans. It is not, more than to note the fact, for suspension in the Blue Lodge suspends in all the bodies above.

Q. Would it be proper to admit a companion to a Chapter while he was under suspension in the Blue Lodge?

Ans. Certainly not. It would be just as improper as it would be to receive the petition of a Master Mason for the degrees in the Chapter while he was under the Masonic censure of suspension in the Blue Lodge.

Q. Is an appeal from the decision of the H. P. or presiding officer of the Chapter allowable in any case?

Ans. Held that it is not, unless the presiding officer sees fit to waive his right and submit to the decision of the Chapter. An appeal may be made to the Grand Chapter, or during recess, to the Grand High Priest.

Q. Where should a sojourning companion guilty of unmasonic conduct be tried?

Ans. By the Chapter in whose jurisdiction he resides; but if practicable, it would be courtesy to communicate with the Chapter where he holds his membership. If unaffiliated, proceed at once; but better in all such cases for the Blue Lodge to assume jurisdiction.

In April last I received a communication from the High Priest of Dayton Chapter No. 27, asking permission to confer the degrees of M. E. M. and R. A. on a candidate who had received the preceding degrees in Hartwell Chapter No. 58. I decided it could not legally be done without the

consent of Hartwell Chapter, unless that Chapter had become extinct ; then a certificate of the Grand Secretary certifying the fact would be all that would be necessary.

In June last I gave authority by dispensation to Jefferson Chapter No. 81, to elect a Sentinel out of the usual time prescribed, the Sentinel elect refusing to serve and be installed.

On the 19th day of June last I issued my dispensation to a constitutional number of companions to form and open a Royal Arch Chapter by the name of Cowikee Chapter No. 94, to be located at Spring Hill, Barbour county. These companions came well recommended, and will doubtless submit such specimens of their work as will entitle them to receive a charter at this Convocation.

In January last I received a communication from the High Priest of Crawford Chapter No. 82, asking authority to remove that Chapter from that place to Silver Run. I replied, believing that Article III., Section 4, of the Constitution, denied the right to the Grand High Priest vesting the authority alone in the Grand Chapter itself.

In January last I received a communication from Bro. John R. Cushing, W. M. of Quitman Lodge No. 254, located at East Georgia, Butler county, accompanied with a request from Pythagorus Chapter of Griffin, Georgia, asking permission for that Chapter to receive the petition and confer the Chapter degrees on said Cushing. This request I declined to grant, as our Constitution on that subject is plain and clearly defined, and that I had no right to give authority to any Chapter in our own jurisdiction to infringe the rights of another, much less to a foreign one, and decided that before Bro. Cushing could legally get the degrees in any Chapter he must obtain the consent of the Chapter in whose jurisdiction he claims his residence.

On the 31st day of January last I gave a dispensation to Coosa Chapter No. 86, to elect and install their officers out of the usual time, they having received their charter at our last Annual Convocation.

Thus I have given you a report of my official acts, but in searching the history and early traditions of our Order, there is much upon which we might with pleasure and profit dwell.

The principles of our Order have come down to us hoary with age, being the oldest on record, and coeval with the world, and, as remodelled

by our ancient patrons, ranks the earliest, and in their teachings the most pure. Having stood the test of ages, though at times under the ban of ignorance and persecution, yet the teachings and principles still survive, overcoming all obstacles, and again breaking forth to shine with redoubled brilliancy. Early history teaches us that all that is now taught in Capitular and Cryptic Masonry, was originally taught in the first three degrees, including the Holy Royal Arch; but we have now by the incisions which have been made, three distinct bodies of Ancient Craft Masonry, which with the addition of the Templar Order, making four in all moving in harmony. Of the propriety of these incisions, it is not my purpose now to speak; but among the immense mass of Masonic literature now being published, and the strong desire for the accumulation of side degrees, now named as "Rites," I fear there is much that is calculated to injure and interfere with the teachings of our ancient Order and bring it into disrepute; and many who profess great proficiency in these side, or what are sometimes called higher degrees, can scarcely make themselves known as Ancient Craft Masons. Then, companions, let us adhere to our own Ancient work, practice and teach the principles as handed down to us from time immemorial. Let us in all our thoughts, words and actions, strive to avoid doing anything calculated to tarnish the fair fame bequeathed to us by our ancient patrons, that all may move on in harmony.

In conclusion, my companions, as your honored chief I must ask your courtesy and forbearance, and that you extend to me your charity for my imperfections in presiding over your deliberations, and earnestly hoping that our present Convocation will prove a happy, beneficial, and instructive one, and we be permitted to return to our homes, cheered with the satisfaction of having discharged our duty to the Craft.

PELEG BROWN, G. H. P.

The Grand Secretary made his Annual Report, and it was received and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Grand Secretary's Annual Report.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA, }
 GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Montgomery, Dec. 8, 1868. }

Companions :—The accounts and vouchers herewith submitted will show the amount of moneys received, disbursed, and paid over, since the last Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

Up to to-day fifty-six (56) subordinate Chapters have paid up their dues and are square upon the books, and two dispensations for new Chapters have been granted, thus showing that the course of Capitular Masonry is still onward and upward, and that the companions are commendably zealous in meeting the requirements of the Constitution. Though it is to be regretted that a number are delinquent.

The presentation jewel ordered at the last Grand Convocation to be procured for Past Grand High Priest, George D. Norris, is in the office and awaits the order of the Grand Chapter.

Fraternally,

DANIEL SAYRE, *Grand Secretary.*

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,

In account with DANIEL SAYRE, Grand Secretary.

1867.

CR.

Dec. 3. By dues received at Annual Convocation, (see Proceedings, pp. 59 and 60).....\$ 1225 50

DR.

Dec. 11. To amount paid Grand Treasurer.....\$ 1225 50
 Montgomery, December 8, 1868.

DANIEL SAYRE, *Grand Secretary.*

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GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,

In account with DANIEL SAYRE, Grand Secretary.

1867. CR.
Dec. 11. By Contingent Fund.....\$ 600 00

1868. DISPENSATIONS.
June 19. By Cowikee Chapter No. 94.....\$ 90 00
Sept. 25. " Daviston Chapter No. 95..... 90 00 180 00

1867. BACK DUES.
Dec. 14. By Bell Chapter No. 83..... 11 00
" 14. Hope Chapter No. 49..... 19 00

1868.
April 9. By Opelika Chapter No. 74 17 00 47 00
\$827 00

DR.
1867. COMMITTEE ON WORK.
Dec. 4. To paid David B. Smedley.....\$ 35 00
" 7. " " Peleg Brown..... 56 00 \$ 91 00

1868.
Jan'y 3. To paid bill of cost and expenses..... 63 65
M'ch 13. " " postage 20 00
" 16. " " Barrett & Brown, proceedings..... 261 00
April 1. " " Joel White..... 1 50
May 13. " " Presentation Jewel and Exp..... 101 20
July 20. " " Rent to October 20, 1868 150 00
Aug. 22. " " Southern Express..... 75
Dec. 1. " " Grand Treasurer..... 137 90
\$827 00

Montgomery, December 8, 1868.

DANIEL SAYRE, *Grand Secretary.*

The Grand Treasurer made his Annual Report, and it was received and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Grand Treasurer's Annual Report.

E. M. HASTINGS, GRAND TREASURER,

In account with Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Alabama.

1867.

DR.

Dec.	3.	To balance cash on hand per last report.....	\$1484 25
"	11.	" cash from Grand Secretary.....	1225 50

1868.

Dec.	1.	" cash from same	137 90
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\$2847 65

1867.

CR.

Voucher.

Dec.	6.	By paid P. J. Pillans, appropriation.....	1	\$100 00
"	9.	" " Thomas McDougal, Sentinel.....	2	20 00
"	11.	" " Grand Secretary, salary for 1867..	3	400 00
"	11.	" " same, Contingent Fund.....	4	600 00
"	11.	" " Grand Treasurer, salary for 1867..	5	100 00

1868.

Dec.	8.	By balance cash on hand.....	\$ 1627 65	2847 65
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1868.

DR.

Dec.	8.	To balance cash on hand.....	\$1627 65
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E. M. HASTINGS, *Grand Treasurer.*

Montgomery. December 8, 1868.

Companion Daniel Sayre, Committee on Codification, made the following report, and the report was received and referred to the Committee on Finance :

REPORT ON CODIFICATION.

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE, }
Montgomery, December 8th, 1868. }

*To the M. Ec. Grand High Priest, Officers,
and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Alabama :*

The undersigned, committee appointed by the Grand Chapter to codify and digest the resolutions, edicts, and decisions of the Grand Chapter, begs leave to report that he has performed that duty to the best of his skill and ability, and reports as follows :

1. A historical synopsis of the Grand Chapter from its organization up to 1840.
2. The act of the Legislature incorporating the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama, and the subordinate Chapters under its jurisdiction.
3. The Constitution of the Grand Chapter.
4. The decisions, resolutions, and edicts of the Grand Chapter.
5. Forms for keeping the minutes of a subordinate Chapter, and of the several Lodges held under its jurisdiction.
6. Rules for the transaction of business in a subordinate Chapter.
7. What Secretaries of subordinate Chapters are requested to observe.
8. Certain forms for the use of Secretaries of subordinate Chapters.
9. Installation ceremonies for the use of the Grand Chapter and its subordinates.
10. Addresses, jewels, and constitutional rules, for officers and Chapters.
11. Date of Royal Arch Documents.
12. Revised and corrected list of the officers of the Grand Chapter from its organization to the present time, with the year of their election.

If the digest, or code, thus prepared should be approved by the Grand Chapter, it will be for the Grand Chapter to determine how many copies shall be printed, how they shall be disposed of, and to make an appropriation for the purpose of carrying its design into execution.

Fraternally submitted,

DANIEL SAYRE.

Companion George D. Norris read the following communication from Companion John J. Dement, High Priest of Eunomia Chapter No. 5, in relation to P. G. High Priest,

James Penn, and it was referred to a special committee, consisting of Companions James H. Joiner, William P. Chilton, and George D. Norris :

COMMUNICATION IN RELATION TO PAST GRAND HIGH PRIEST,
JAMES PENN.

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., December 3, 1868.

M. Ex. Grand High Priest and Companions :

I desire to call your attention to the situation of our excellent Companion, James Penn, who for so many years was one of the brightest lights of our fraternity. His great services to the Order, and his present helpless and dependent condition, make a powerful appeal alike to our sense of justice and masonic charity.

He has for several years been prostrate and helpless as a child from several paralytic strokes. He is entirely dependent upon his daughters ; one of them, a young, handsome, and accomplished lady, has, in the most noble spirit of filial devotion, given up society altogether to devote herself entirely to the care of her father, who, helpless as an infant, requires her constant care. The other, a widow, is nobly devoting the whole of her moderate salary as teacher to the support of her father and sister. This, after paying the board of the three, leaves nothing for their other wants.

Individual contributions will be made by the members of the Chapter.

I appeal with confidence to the companions of the Grand Chapter for contributions to assist in making comfortable the remaining days of one who, in the time of his strength, labored wisely and indefatigably to promote in every possible manner the interests of our fraternity.

Fraternally,

J. J. DEMENT, H. P.,

Eunomia Chapter No. 5.

Companion Palmer J. Pillans, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, submitted his report, and the report was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes, and printed with the proceedings. (*See Appendix.*) And on motion of Companion George D. Norris, one hundred dollars was appropriated to the Chairman of the Committee.

Companion Palmer J. Pillans, Chairman of the Committee on the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia,

made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON THE GRAND CHAPTER OF THE DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA.

*To the M. Ex. G. H. Priest and Companions
of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama :*

The committee to whom was referred the claim of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia to recognition, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report :

That as the difficulties and the causes which led thereto between the Grand Chapter of Maryland, and the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia and the General Grand Chapter, have been fully set forth by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, your committee deem it unnecessary further to consume the time of this Grand Chapter therewith, but refer the companions to that report for information. Your committee, however, after a careful consideration of all the facts, are fully convinced of the propriety of this Grand Chapter extending to the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia the right hand of fellowship, and of giving to her a cordial greeting at the family board. Your committee having just been advised that all differences have been healed, by a recent action on the part of the General Grand Chapter, deem it proper to desist from any further expression of opinion, but express the supreme satisfaction they feel at the happy termination of what appeared to them a disgraceful embroilment among those whom they were wont to think most worthy companions. Your committee remember that "a soft word turneth away wrath," and that silence often prevents difficulty.

Your committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter cordially extends to the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia recognition and the right hand of fellowship.

Fraternally submitted,

P. J. PILLANS, *Chairman.*

Companion Daniel Sayre offered the following preamble and resolutions in relation to violations of jurisdictional rights as against the Grand Chapter of Tennessee, and the preamble and resolutions were adopted :

ON THE VIOLATION OF THE JURISDICTIONAL RIGHTS OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER OF TENNESSEE.

WHEREAS, complaints have been made by the Grand Chapter of Ten-

nessee to the M. E. Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, that subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction are in the habit of receiving petitions from brethren residing within the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of that State, and exalting them to the degree of Royal Arch without the knowledge or consent of the subordinate Chapters within whose jurisdiction they reside; now, for the purpose of preventing all grounds of such complaints in the future, and for the purpose of vindicating and executing the constitution and laws of this Grand Chapter, and of doing justice to our sister Grand Chapter of Tennessee, and all other Grand Chapters that may be interested in the question of jurisdiction, be it

Resolved, That the attention of all the subordinates of this Grand Chapter is specially directed to Section 8, of Article III, of the By-Laws of this Grand Chapter; and in case any complaints are hereafter made of the violation of said Section 8, the Grand High Priest is hereby directed to inquire into the truth of such alleged violation, and if ascertained to be well-founded either to suspend such Chapter, or the officer presiding at the time of said violation, as in his judgment may seem most proper and expedient, and report his action to the Grand Chapter at its next succeeding Annual Convocation. And be it further

Resolved, That whilst this Grand Chapter is determined to maintain all the rights of its own jurisdiction, it is equally determined that none of its subordinates shall interfere with the jurisdictional or other rights of any of its sister Grand Chapters.

Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and these resolutions be sent to the Grand Chapter of Tennessee.

The Grand High Priest announced the following

STANDING COMMITTEES.

No. 1, ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS.—Myles J. Greene, James Shearin, Lewis M. Oppenheimer.

No. 2, ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS.—Theo. L. Eastburn, Richard P. Bragg, James Odum.

ON DISPENSATIONS.—Martin G. Slaughter, Thomas T. Cotnam, Moses Jones.

ON FINANCE.—Oliver S. Beers, John F. Pate, Jesse S. Bruner.

ON BY-LAWS, SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS AND APPEALS.—John G. Harris, R. L. Seale, Anthony H. Sellers.

ON JURISPRUDENCE.—Palmer J. Pillans, Humphrey S. Shelton, William W. Harder.

ON WORK.—Edmund M. Hastings, H. Clay Armstrong, Joe H. Johnson.

Companion James H. Joiner presented a petition for a

Dispensation for a new Chapter at Columbiana, and it was referred to the Committee on Dispensations.

And then, after prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Robert B. James, the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until 8½ o'clock, to-morrow morning.

In Grand Chapter.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, Dec. 9, 1868.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 8½ o'clock, the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, Peleg Brown, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Robert B. James.

The minutes were read and approved.

Companion James H. Joiner offered a resolution that motions to lay on the table are unmasonic, and it was referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

Companion H. Clay Armstrong, from the Committee on Work, made report on the Mark Master's Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

Companion James B. Luckie offered the following resolution in regard to Crawford Chapter No. 82, and it was adopted :

CRAWFORD CHAPTER NO. 82.

Resolved, That Crawford Chapter No. 82 be allowed ninety days from this date within which to pay dues, make returns, &c., which it is required to do, and send the same up to the Grand Secretary, which if done shall be received and filed, and the charter of said Chapter be not declared forfeited.

Companion William A. O'Hara offered the following res-

olution in regard to Coosa Chapter No. 86, and it was adopted :

COOSA CHAPTER NO. 86.

WHEREAS, Coosa Chapter No. 86, working under Dispensation from the Grand Chapter of Alabama, having lost their dispensation and all appurtenances by fire, be it therefore

Resolved, That a duplicate Dispensation be granted said Chapter free of charge, and that the same officers be permitted to exercise the functions of their respective offices.

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

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

PELEG BROWN.....*Mobile*.....GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

The election of the residue of the Grand Officers was postponed until 8½ o'clock to-morrow morning.

And then, after prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Robert B. James, the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until 8½ o'clock to-morrow morning.

In Grand Chapter.

THURSDAY MORNING, Dec. 10, 1868.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 8½ o'clock, the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, Peleg Brown, presiding, the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Robert B. James.

The minutes were read and approved.

Companion Palmer J. Pillans, Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the M. Ex. Grand High Priest and Companions

of the Grand Chapter of Alabama :

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the question "whether a Mason who had been elected to receive the Chapter degrees, and who had been advanced, and afterwards lost an arm, could receive the other degrees of the Chapter," beg leave to report, in the language of the decrees of the M. W. Grand Lodge on the same subject, that "our ancient charges, regulations, usages of masonry, our own constitution, as well as our most approved works on Masonic Jurisprudence, all go to show that such a defect in physical conformation would render the candidate inadmissible ;" and your committee would further report, that the condition supposed would render it impossible for the applicant to receive the degrees properly.

Faternally submitted,

P. J. PILLANS, *Chairman.*

Companion Palmer J. Pillans, Chairman of the Commit-

tee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

*To the Most Excellent Grand High Priest and Companions
of the Grand Chapter of Alabama :*

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the following :

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the Grand Chapter that a motion to lay on the table is unmasonic, and therefore should not be entertained ;

Beg leave to report that they find the same provided for in the "Rules of Order" adopted by this Grand Chapter many years since, and under which it has been acting, and your committee are unwilling to presume that any previous Grand Chapter would have prescribed, or for so long a period tolerated any measure which was unmasonic, and consequently productive of detriment to the craft. They beg leave to refer the Grand Chapter to Rule 6, of the "Rules of Order" to be found in the edition of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter.

Fraternally submitted,

P. J. PILLANS, *Chairman*.

Companion Daniel Sayre offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

CYRUS CHAPTER NO. 6 REINSTATED.

Resolved, That Cyrus Chapter No. 6, at Florence, in the county of Lauderdale, the charter of which has heretofore been forfeited, be reinstated on the payment of back dues.

The Grand Chapter proceeded to the special order, it being the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing Masonic year, and it resulted as follows :

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	<i>Notasulga</i>	D. GRAND HIGH PRIEST.
JAMES B. LUCKIE.....	<i>Pine Level</i>	GRAND KING.
JAMES M. DEDMAN.....	<i>Selma</i>	GRAND SCRIBE.
EDMUND M. HASTINGS.....	<i>Montgomery</i>	GRAND TREASURER.
DANIEL SAYRE.....	<i>Montgomery</i>	GRAND SECRETARY.
REV. ROBERT B. JAMES.....	<i>Prattville</i>	GRAND CHAPLAIN.
MYLES J. GREENE.....	<i>Loachapoka</i>	GRAND C. HOST.

The Grand High Priest announced the following :

APPOINTMENT OF GRAND OFFICERS.

WILLIAM E. BEAIRD.....	<i>Orrville</i>	GRAND P. SOJOURNER.
MARTIN G. SLAUGHTER...	<i>Pinckneyville</i>	GRAND R. A. C.
MORTIMER M. COOKE.....	<i>Marion</i>	GRAND M. 3. V.
JOHN W. FLEMING.....	<i>Waverly</i>	GRAND M. 2. V.
GILBERT T. DEASON.....	<i>Elyton</i>	GRAND M. 1. V.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....	<i>Montgomery</i>	GRAND SENTINEL.

Companion James H. Joiner made the following report upon the communication from Companion John J. Dement, High Priest of Eunomia Chapter No. 5, in regard to Companion P. G. High Priest James Penn.

P. G. HIGH PRIEST JAMES PENN.

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

The committee to whom was referred the appeal of Companion J. J. Dement, H. P. of Eunomia Chapter No. 5, in behalf of our afflicted and worthy Companion, James Penn, beg leave to report as follows :

It is with feelings of deep regret that we are called upon to contemplate the helplessness and deeply afflicted condition of our worthy and much esteemed Companion, James Penn, who in by-gone days has exhibited in his Masonic character, through a long and useful life, all the cardinal virtues of our Order, and in his private relations the most marked evidences of an upright and honorable man.

Our beloved Companion is now well stricken in years. The burning taper of life is almost ready to flicker and go out, and e'er long the sands of time will have run from under his feet, and his mortal remains consigned to mother earth, there to remain until the morning of the resurrection, when, we trust, his body will rise and become as incorruptible as his soul. But while we are permitted to rejoice, and give thanks to our celestial Grand High Priest, that in his kind providence He has furnished us a Masonic light, which has so long illumed our pathway, and guided us in the exalted and much revered usages and tenets of our Order, and of availing ourselves of the high privilege of uniting with the brotherhood in their invocations to the GREAT I AM, that he will deal gently with our Companion in his afflictions and declining years, yet we should not forget that his present afflictions should tighten the chords which bind him to the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, and engender in our hearts a fervent sympathy and a more enlarged charity. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be transmitted to our venerable Companion as a testimonial that this grand body deeply sympathises with him in his pressing afflictions.

Resolved, That the M. Ex. Grand High Priest be authorized to draw his warrant on the Grand Treasurer for the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars, for the use and benefit of our worthy Companion, James Penn.

JAMES H. JOINER,

W. P. CHILTON,

GEORGE D. NORRIS,

Committee.

Companion George D. Norris, Chairman of the Committee on the Order of High Priesthood, made a report *ore tenus*, and the report was received and concurred in, and the committee ordered to be continued.

Companion R. L. Seale, 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.

To the Grand Chapter of Alabama :

The Committee on By-Laws, Suspensions, Expulsions, and Appeals, to whom were referred the By-Laws of subordinate Chapters, beg leave to report that they find the By-Laws of the following two Chapters correct, viz :

Moulton.....No. 87. George D. Norris.....No. 91.

The following are incorrect in the particulars mentioned, viz :

COWIKEE No. 94 provides for conferring degrees gratuitously on ministers of the Gospel when actively engaged in preaching. This, however charitable to the ministry, we think is not in accordance with the constitution of the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

MARION No. 12 removes officers by proclamation of High Priest, and elects to fill vacancies at any time by order of the High Priest. We know of no constitutional election save at convocations next preceding the Anniversary of Saint John the Baptist.

Faternally submitted,

R. L. SEALE, *Chairman.*

Companion Theodore L. Eastburn, from the Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 2, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS NO. 2.

To the Most Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your Committee on Chartered Chapter No. 2, respectfully beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the returns of the following Chapters, and find them to be correct :

Allenton	No. 52.	Choctaw Corner.....	No. 70.
Tyrian	" 54.	Lawrenceville.....	" 73.
Suggsville.....	" 55.	Pine Level.....	" 75.
Zerubbabel	" 56.	Elyton	" 76.
Lebanon	" 57.	Pinckneyville.....	" 79.
Rockford.....	" 62.	Loachapoka	" 80.
Clayton	" 63.	Jefferson.....	" 81.
Central.....	" 64.	Gaston	" 85.
Russell.....	" 65.	Moulton, U. D.....	" 87.
Farriorville.....	" 67.	Notasulga.....	" 92.
Cherokee.....	" 68.	Columbus.....	" 93.
		Cowikee, U. D.....	" 94.

The following are incorrect in the particulars specified :

SMEDLEY No. 77.—No seal attached.

BELL No. 83.—Correct, except no seal ; excuse is, that Chapter has none.

LOWER PEACH TREE No. 69.—Names of delegates not stated ; two dimitted, with no dates.

DANVILLE No. 78.—Names of delegates not mentioned.

LANDMARK No. 71.—One reported advanced, and one presided ; when the recapitulation calls for two advanced and two presided.

GEORGE D. NORRIS No. 91.—No seal attached ; excuse is, have not had the opportunity to procure one.

CARROLLTON No. 84.—No seal attached.

ALABAMA No. 66.—Correct, with the exception that the delegates are not named.

SOMERVILLE No. 89.—Amount of dues incorrect ; no seal attached ; number of members incorrectly stated in recapitulation ; should be 13 instead of 14.

MIDWAY No. 72.—Incorrect in almost every particular ; no seal attached.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

T. L. EASTBURN, *Chairman.*

Companion Martin G. Slaughter, from the Committee on Dispensations, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON DISPENSATIONS.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

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

We have examined the minutes of Moulton Chapter No. 87, and find them in the main correct, and recommend that a charter be granted.

We have examined the minutes of Cowikee Chapter No. 94, and find them correct and neatly kept, and recommend a charter.

We have also had under careful consideration a petition from the requisite number of companions for forming a new Chapter at Columbiana, in the county of Shelby. The companions have fully complied with the constitution and by-laws of the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama, and we would therefore recommend that a dispensation be granted.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

M. G. SLAUGHTER, *Chairman.*

On motion of Companion Grand Secretary, the Dispensation of Daviston Chapter was continued.

Companion H. Clay Armstrong offered the following preamble and resolution in regard to Opelika Chapter No. 74, and the preamble was concurred in and the resolution adopted :

OPELIKA CHAPTER NO. 74.

WHEREAS, Opelika Chapter No. 74, in the years 1863-4, exalted a number of companions who then resided at and near the town of Opelika, and who as soon as the war terminated, left said town and have since been suspended for the non-payment of dues ; and whereas said Opelika Chapter has paid dues to the Grand Chapter for all of its members since that time, with the exception of the year 1865 ; therefore be it

Resolved, That the dues of Opelika Chapter, for the year 1865, be and the same are hereby remitted.

And then, after prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Robert B. James, the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until 8½ o'clock to-morrow morning.

In Grand Chapter.

FRIDAY MORNING, Dec. 11, 1869.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 8½ o'clock, the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, Peleg Brown, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Robert B. James.

The minutes were read and approved.

Companion Myles J. Greene, from the 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.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 1, beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the returns placed in their hands, and find the following correct :

Eunomia.....	No. 5.	Courtland	No. 25.
Clinton.....	" 9.	Union.....	" 26.
Mt. Moriah.....	" 19.	James Penn	" 30.
Livingston.....	" 20.	Fulton.....	" 32.
Mobile	" 21.	Hermon	" 34.
Montgomery	" 22.	Concord	" 37.
Talladega	" 23.	Camden	" 40.
		Choctaw	" 44.

TUSCALOOSA No. 1.—Recapitulation incorrect.

MONROE No. 4.—No seal ; reason given, destroyed by the Yankees.

CYRUS No. 6.—Dues overpaid \$7.25. Returns signed by King as High Priest P. T.

TUSCUMBIA No. 10.—Blanks in caption not filled ; members not numbered ; no dues opposite names of members ; no recapitulation.

PHOENIX No. 11.—Nothing under head of dues.

MARION No. 12.—Returns signed by Scribe as acting H. P. Under head of deaths occurs the name of a companion reported as having died subsequently to first Monday in November, 1868 ; should have been returned as member. Dues short twenty-five cents.

WETUMPKA No. 17.—No King reported ; reason given as follows : "Companion Allen N. Lightfoot, the King elected, having dimitted." The returns are silent as to whether or not the King was installed. If he was installed, it is the opinion of your committee that this action was irregular.

EUFULA No. 24.—Under head of "heretofore reported" three names are reported as M. E. M., who are shown to have been exalted in January, 1868 ; also two as M. M., who are shown to have presided, been R. and A. and Exalted during the year 1868.

DAYTON No. 27.—Members incorrectly numbered.

ST. JOHNS No. 28.—Not signed by presiding officer.

JAMES L. DANIEL No. 35.—Does not fill out blanks as required by instructions, and under head of "degrees conferred," gives the number, without the names or dates.

PICKENSVILLE No. 36.—Overpaid dues \$8.75.

TUSKEGEE No. 43.—Nothing under head of "dues".

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

MYLES J. GREENE, *Chairman*.

Companion George D. Norris, Chairman of the Committee on the address of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in, except the first recommendation, which, on motion of Companion Mortimer M. Cooke, was referred to a special committee of three, to report on the first day of the next Annual Convocation ; and the committee was appointed as follows : Companions Mortimer M. Cooke of Marion, James M. Dedman of Selma, and Palmer J. Pilans of Mobile.

REPORT ON GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS :

To the Most Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

The Committee on the address of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, beg leave to report :

Your committee have read with much pleasure the address of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, Companion Peleg Brown, containing much valuable information, and characterized by his usual modest and unassuming manner, and congratulate the M. Ex. Grand Chapter in having for its supreme executive one who in every way is so suitably qualified for the discharge of the important duties and trusts devolving upon him.

We have carefully studied his suggestions, and would

1st. Recommend that the Committee on Work be raised to six, corresponding with the several congressional districts, and that this committee be required to visit every chapter in his district once in the year, and as often as the Chapters in said district may require and demand his services.

2d. We recommend that the compensation to be allowed to the committee be referred to Finance Committee.

3d. We recommend that the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, Companion Peleg Brown, be selected and chosen the custodian of the work of this Grand Chapter, to whom any differences should be referred, and whose decision shall be final, unless reversed by the Grand Chapter; *provided*, that the custodian be not allowed to alter or change the work adopted.

4th. We would recommend that the Chapters be required to examine candidates for advancement as to their proficiency in each degree, as required by the Grand Lodge, and that the same ruling apply to petitions for dispensations to form and open new Chapters.

5th. We recommend the establishment of a Council of High Priests, to confer the Order of High Priesthood upon the several High Priests of this Grand Jurisdiction who may desire it, as an *honorarium*, and that this Council be separate and distinct from the Grand Chapter.

We recommend that all questions on Masonic Law and the decisions of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

GEORGE D. NORRIS,
J. MCALEB WILEY,
W. P. CHILTON,

Committee.

Companion Oliver S. Beers, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

The Committee on Finance beg leave to report that they have examined the accounts and vouchers of the R. Ex. Grand Treasurer, and the R. Ex.

Grand Secretary, presented to the Grand Chapter, and find the same correct and satisfactory.

Your committee are satisfied that the Grand Chapter has ample means to meet all appropriations or expenditures made or to be incurred, and that it is only necessary for them to report the usual appropriations for incidental and contingent expenses to have fulfilled their duties. They beg, therefore, to report the following resolution :

Resolved, That the following amounts be, and the same are hereby appropriated out of any funds in the Grand Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to pay the ordinary expenses of the Grand Chapter.

To Edmund M. Hastings, R. Ex. Grand Treasurer, the sum of one hundred dollars, for his services as Grand Treasurer for the past Masonic year.

To Daniel Sayre, R. Ex. Grand Secretary, the sum of four hundred dollars, for his services as Grand Secretary for the past Masonic year.

And the sum of one thousand dollars as a contingent fund to defray incidental expenses for the ensuing Masonic year, including expenses of Committee on Work, on Foreign Correspondence, and the salary of the Ex. Grand Sentinel.

Your committee further report the balance sheet of the R. Ex. Grand Treasurer as a part of this report.

Fraternally submitted,

OLIVER S. BEERS, *Chairman*.

The report of the Committee on Work was postponed until the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

INSTALLATION.

The Grand Officers elected and appointed for the ensuing Masonic year were installed in Ample Form, George D. Norris, M. Ex. P. G. High Priest, officiating, and Companion Palmer J. Pillans, presenting.

The Grand High Priest presented a jewel to P. G. High Priest, George D. Norris, with the following appropriate remarks :

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S PRESENTATION ADDRESS.

M. Ex. Companion George D. Norris :

In accordance with a resolution unanimously adopted at our last Annual Convocation, a P. G. High Priest's jewel has been prepared, and it now becomes my pleasing duty to present it to you, as a testimonial of

the appreciation of this Grand Chapter of your past services in presiding over its deliberations. I hope you will accept and receive it, not for its intrinsic value, but as a memorial to remind you of our many pleasant greetings ; and when you shall have finished your earthly labors, may it be handed down to your posterity and be treasured by them as a token reminding them of the bright examples set by you and worthy of their imitation.

And now, in behalf of the officers and companions of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, I present it to you, hoping that when our pilgrimage on earth is ended we may again meet and be greeted in those everlasting mansions of the blessed, prepared from the foundation of the world.

To which Companion George D. Norris responded as follows :

RESPONSE OF P. G. H. P. GEORGE D. NORRIS.

M. Ex. Grand High Priest and Companions :

It is with feelings of unfeigned pleasure and gratitude that I receive this token of kindness from the Grand Chapter.

When one year ago I laid aside the authority with which I had been clothed by the partiality of my companions, I little expected this renewed expression of good will at their hands ; nevertheless, Most Ex. Grand High Priest, believe me it shall be all the more highly prized because of its being presented me so unexpectedly.

I accept this beautiful jewel at your hands, and shall treasure and prize it as long as my love and zeal for our Order shall continue, which shall be until my earthly house of this tabernacle shall have been dissolved ; until the silver cord is loosed, and the golden bowl is broken, and my spirit shall have entered the dark valley of the shadow of death.

Companion Gilbert T. Deason, appointed Master of the 1st Veil, not being present, was authorized to be installed by the High Priest of the Chapter of which he is a member.

On motion of Companion Edmund M. Hastings, it was resolved—

That a sufficient number of copies of the Code be printed and bound, in substantial book form, to defray the expenses of which the Grand Secretary is authorized to draw upon the Grand Treasurer, and superintend the printing, and the sale of the same, at cost.

That there be paid to the Chairman of the Committee on the Code one hundred dollars for preparing the same, and fifty dollars to the Grand Secretary for superintending the printing and sale of the work.

The following are the standing committees of the Grand Chapter :

ON WORK.

EDMUND M. HASTINGS	Montgomery.
H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	Notasulga.
JOSEPH H. JOHNSON.....	Talladega.

CUSTODIAN OF THE WORK.

PELEG BROWN.....	Mobile.
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ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

PALMER J. PILLANS.....	Mobile.
HUMPHREY S. SHELTON.....	Pickensville.
WILLIAM W. HARDER.....	Demopolis.

ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

PALMER J. PILLANS.....	Mobile.
MORRIS K. TAYLOR.....	New Market.
O. F. KNOX.....	Brundidge.
JAMES E. COBB	Tuskegee.
HENRY C. WILEY.....	Troy.

ON THE ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD.

GEORGE D. NORRIS.....	New Market.
EDMUND M. HASTINGS.....	Montgomery.
EUGENE V. LE VERT.....	Marion.

ON INCREASING THE COMMITTEE ON WORK TO SIX.

(See Grand H. Priest's Address.)

MORTIMER M. COOKE.....	Marion.
JAMES M. DEDMAN.....	Selma.
PALMER J. PILLANS.....	Mobile.

The minutes were read and approved.

And then, after solemn prayer to the Throne of Grace by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Robert B. James, the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama was closed in Ample Form.

DANIEL SAYRE, *Grand Secretary.*

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

*To the M. Ex. Grand High Priest and Companions
of the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama:*

It was with extreme reluctance that we undertook the labors of this committee after the experience of the past year; but under the belief that there should be no drones in our hives, and that we should endeavor to perform any duty to which we may be assigned, we have attempted to cull from the many pamphlets before us, such parts as we thought might be interesting to our companions in this jurisdiction. Whether these selections shall have been judiciously made, you, companions, are to judge; but while sitting in judgment we pray you to exercise both mercy and charity.

The committee have received from the R. Ex. Grand Secretary the following proceedings:

Arkansas	1867.	Iowa	1867.
Canada	"	Illinois	"
California	"	Kansas	"
Connecticut	"	Kentucky	1867-'68.
District of Columbia	"	Louisiana	1868.
Georgia	"	Maryland and Dist. Columbia	1867.
Michigan	1867-'68.	Ohio	"
Minnesota	1867.	Pennsylvania	1865-'66-'67.
Massachusetts	"	Rhode Island	1866-'67-'68.
Maine	1868.	South Carolina	1868.
Missouri	"	Tennessee	1867.
Mississippi	"	Texas	1868.
New York	"	Vermont	1867.
New Jersey	1867.	Virginia	1867.
Nebraska	"	Wisconsin	1868.
North Carolina	1868.		

Together with the "Funeral obsequies of the R. W. Charles A. Fuller, late Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee."

We propose to take them up in the order named, and to aid in disseminating the doctrines which may be inculcated therein.

ARKANSAS

Held her Annual Convocation on the 31st October, 1867. The M. Ex. Grand

High Priest, L. E. Barber, delivered a short address, but one conveying wholesome counsel, and making an urgent appeal for uniformity and harmony.

Companion C. B. Moore makes the report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, which is marked with ability, and written with great ease. His strictures on masonic law and usage are always correct, and a wholesome kindness of feeling and display of good will marks its every line. He approves the course of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia. M. Ex. L. E. Barber, was re-elected Grand High Priest, and Ex. Companion W. D. Blocher re-elected Grand Secretary.

We have a pamphlet of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, and another with the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of

CANADA.

The tenth Annual Convocation of whose Grand Chapter was held on the 13th August, 1867, M. Ex. Companion, T. Douglass Harrington, G. Z., and R. Ex. T. B. Harris, Grand Secretary E., with representatives from 20 chapters. We are somewhat confounded with the titles of several of their twenty officers, but hope that we may learn their signification before we write another review of their proceedings. They differ greatly from those in use among us, besides being much more numerous. The M. Ex. delivered a very business-like address, and in it recommends the exemplification of the work. He represents the craft as being in a prosperous condition there, and entirely harmonious. In it we are struck with the sympathetic feelings expressed for the destitute in this our Southern land, and more particularly that he recommends the extending material aid to our stricken widows and orphans. How sweet to contemplate this display of love for those of a common family, even though the aid should be as the 'widow's mite'. How fully are we thus taught to realize that we are a band of friends and brothers.

Companion J. Seymour, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviews the proceedings of most of the Grand Chapters of the United States, and among them ours. We regret exceedingly that those from Scotland and the British isles are not among them, for they are of deep interest to us, and it is through the Grand Chapter of Canada that we obtain information of them.

The committee dissent from the ruling of our P. G. H. P. Harrison, wherein he thinks the retailer of spirituous liquors should not be made a R. A. Mason, and also where he thinks that a maimed brother may be exalted; and your committee think that our companions in Canada occupy the correct position. Though the Grand Lodge of this State did, at one time, declare that retailers of intoxicating drinks ought not to be made Masons of, yet it has always been the opinion of your committee that this decree was exceedingly arbitrary, and not in accordance with general masonic principles; and that the Grand Lodge was making its decrees "subservient" to the designs of "tetotal quacks and monomaniacs," as is well said by the committee of Canada. If one who retails is unworthy of being introduced into the fraternity, why should not a brother be expelled, if he subsequently resorts to this business, or patronizes those who are engaged in it? and in what particular does he differ from him who deals intoxicating beverages to his customers in larger quantities?

M. Ex. T. Douglass Harrington was re-elected G. Z. R. Ex. T. Bird Harris was re-elected G. S. E.

CALIFORNIA.

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 14th October, 1867, the M. Ex. Charles Marsh, G. H. P., and R. Ex. L. C. Owen, Gr. Secretary, with 29 chapters represented. After the usual congratulations, the M. Ex. impressed upon the Grand Chapter the necessity and propriety of continuing the system of teaching the work by means of a Grand Lecturer, which method appears to be most highly esteemed by the larger part of these Grand Bodies.

There was nothing of general interest before the Grand Chapter, and the usual legislation was expeditiously disposed of.

Companion Owen again presented the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing those for 1866 from Alabama, among thirty others. Fraternally commenting on the address of the M. Ex. G. H. P., and the report of Companion Sayre, on Correspondence, he says: "We have again occasion to find fault with the Committee on Dispensations, for reporting in favor of granting a charter to a Chapter with the record of which they feel obliged to say—"it would fill several sheets to notice in detail the many inaccuracies occurring," and with the Grand Chapter for concurring in the report. A refusal to perpetuate a chapter, the members of which showed themselves so ill-fitted to conduct it in a creditable manner, would serve as a salutary lesson, and induce greater care in future." We feel very much ashamed to have merited this severe rebuke, but we can only confess errors and try to avoid them in the future. We had hoped that when we quoted the very just and highly proper comments of Companion Owen last year in relation to a similar dereliction—the evil complained of would have been avoided, and we believe that this Grand Chapter has not a second time been guilty of any such folly, but that our companions in the far off State have reviewed again our proceedings of same date, for we have looked with care through those of the subsequent year, but cannot find the cause of offense. We would take this opportunity, however, to urge upon the Grand Chapter to heed well the advice annually given from the East; to guard well the avenues to the Temple, rejecting all work which ought not to pass the overseer, trying it well by the square, and entertaining no feeling of sympathy where none is merited. We thank Companion Owen for again pinching us for this fault, and promise him that he will find nothing to make us ashamed in the future.

CONNECTICUT

Had a Semi-Annual Convocation the 6th of November, 1867, at which were the M. Ex. J. L. Gould, G. H. P., and Companion J. K. Wheeler, Grand Secretary, with 27 chapters represented, who assembled to witness the exemplification of the work, as is their custom; and the Annual Convocation was held on the 12th of May, 1868, with same officers and chapters.

The address of the M. Ex. treats in the main of matters of purely local interest, yet he severely reprehends the practice of conferring the capitulatory degrees on unaffiliated Masons, and recommends action on the part of the Grand Chapter in relation thereto. He also condemns a very common practice, but one equally reprehensible, of installing officers by proxy, and appropriately remarks: "A man might as well be made a Mason by proxy, as take the installation covenants, express or implied, by proxy."

We are a little surprised to find that the R. Ex. Deputy G. H. Priest reports that while visiting one of the subordinates he exalted *two* candidates, and presume that the practice of substitution prevails in that jurisdiction. This practice, we think, is as reprehensible as that of installing officers by proxy, and should not be tolerated, but rebuked as one not in consonance with the obligations of our Royal Craft.

We find, however, that the G. K. opposes the use of substitutes, and doubtless e'er long they will be of the past in this jurisdiction.

The Grand Chapter forbade the degrees to unaffiliated Masons, and prohibited installation by proxy. This will soon be the rule throughout the United States.

Companion Storer, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reports having had the proceedings of 18 Grand Chapters before him. His notice of ours is in a kind and fraternal spirit. We would like to make a few extracts from this report, but the examination of 31 proceedings admonishes us that but little space can be spared to each. Companion Storer very handsomely and very kindly rebukes the spirit of presumption displayed by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of Virginia, who make a very short report, excusing themselves for its want of substance and length, because they cannot join the "Mutual Admiration Society."

The same officers were re-elected G. H. Priest and Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

We gladly hail the advent of this new star in the R. A. firmament, and though its rise has been accompanied, and partly obscured, by storm clouds, yet its light is steady and brilliant, and promises to give great assistance to the weary in their travel through the rough and rugged paths which lead to the great and glorious work, and to cheer many who may feel weary and faint by the way.

Storms have been withstood, clouds have been riven, and the star shines brilliantly out.

To a full comprehension of the difficulties, and to enable this Grand Chapter to arrive at a just conclusion, a brief synopsis of the circumstances attending the origin of this Grand Chapter is absolutely necessary.

At the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Maryland and District of Columbia for 1866, an application was made by many of the representatives of the chapters in the District of Columbia for a separation and authority to organize a separate Grand Chapter for the District of Columbia. Action on this question was, however, postponed, and the matter referred to the several chapters in the District of Columbia for a full expression of their views.

Three chapters under date of January 21st, 24th and 11th Feb., 1867, requested the dissolution. One (Potomac No. 8) under date of February 5th, protested against it. On the 12th of March a call for a convention of the chapters of the District was issued for the purpose of organizing a Grand Chapter, and under same date the M. Ex. G. H. Priest, J. G. Smith, of the Grand Chapter of Maryland and District of Columbia, issued his edict, revoking the charters of these three chapters, and declared any meeting of either of these chapters, or any of their members for masonic purposes, "illegal and clandestine."

A protest of some of the members of these three chapters dissenting from the action of their chapters is also filed.

A convention of the three chapters was, however, held on the 16th of March, at which a resolution was passed asking the M. Ex. G. H. Priest of Maryland and District of Columbia to call a special convocation for the purpose of considering the application made at the previous annual convocation, and on March 26th a special convocation was held, at which it was resolved—"That this Grand Chapter gives its full and cordial consent to the formation of a Grand Chapter in the District of Columbia, the chapters in the District of Columbia having been previously restored to their proper standing as such. And subsequently, at a convocation held May 16th, it was resolved—"That the division of the jurisdiction is hereby declared to be complete."

At the second meeting of the convention of chapters in the District of Columbia, held April 6th, 1867, the question of the necessity of obtaining the sanction of one of the first four officers of the G. G. Chapter was discussed, but it was not deemed necessary, which question was again discussed at a meeting held April 20th, with, however, the same result. Companion Whiting, M. W. Grand Master, from the office of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, himself taking part in the conventions being held, addressed a letter to the M. Ex. G. G. H. Priest of the G. G. Chapter, stating very fully the facts, and asking if consent was necessary. To this he obtained a telegraphic reply, of date May 13th: "Consent probably unnecessary; hereby granted if it is—will write." And of same date, the G. G. H. Priest wrote to companion Whiting to much the same purpose. On the 23d of May then the installation of the Grand Officers took place, and the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia came into existence.

We find, however, that on the 4th of June the G. G. H. Priest, John L. Lewis 33, extends theegis of his protection to one of the chapters of the District of Columbia, dissenting from the course pursued by the other three, and attempts to give it authority to work regardless of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, and on the 13th of July the same M. Ex. G. G. High Priest, John L. Lewis 33, issued his bull declaring the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, irregular and clandestine. Thus matters stand, and it is a grave question whether this Grand Chapter should recognize the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia or not.

It would swell this report to too great length to enumerate all the arguments used for and against the recognition. But after a careful perusal of all that has been written hereon, your committee is forced to the conclusion that our companions of the District of Columbia are entitled to recognition. (Since the above was written, the reports of other proceedings have reached us, and we find that this is the conclusion of almost all the Grand Chapters, though in many instances they feel constrained to obey the mandate of the G. G. H. Priest, their acknowledged head.)

It is much to be regretted that both the G. G. H. Priest and the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia had not used a few soft words before resorting to the weapons of warfare. Our companions of the District of Columbia were probably too urgent in their desire hastily to organize, but what shall be said of our M. Ex. G. G. H. Priest, John L. Lewis 33, who first gives his consent, and in a few days punishes for action under this consent? In fact, unless the John L. Lewis who sent the telegram and John L. Lewis 33, who issues his

thunders, be different persons, we cannot comprehend the acts. By the way, why do we so often find foreign titles thrust into a chapter? What has M. D. or 33 to do with our capitulary degrees? This 33, and sometimes 32, and once 18, we have seen appended to the names of officers of the Grand Chapters as a title of distinction, but unless explained they are very meaningless, and we really think out of place here.

The action of the M. Ex. G. H. Priest of Maryland and District of Columbia is as difficult of solution by your committee as was the course of the M. Ex. G. H. Priest, for he presided over the special convocation of the Grand Chapter of Maryland and the District of Columbia at which the consent was given, and when the separation of the chapters of the District of Columbia and the Grand Chapter of Maryland and the District of Columbia was declared to be "complete," yet we find that he afterwards invokes the interposition of the power of the G. G. Chapter to protect him from the discipline of the Grand Chapter within whose jurisdiction he then is. And equally strange to your committee appears the action of the M. Ex. G. G. H. Priest, John L. Lewis 33, when he steps in to give such protection after his consent to the formation of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia.

It is also singular that the documents of the M. Ex. G. G. H. Priest, John L. Lewis 33, should all be attested under the seal of the chapter which he desires to protect, and by her Secretary. In short, passion not having been kept within due bounds, seems to have had the leadership, and brought shame and confusion to the craft.

We turn with pleasure to the proceedings of

GEORGIA,

The M. Ex. Samuel Lawrence being the G. H. Priest, and R. Ex. Christopher F. Lewis, Grand Secretary. We say with pleasure, because in the address of the M. Ex. we find true masonic spirit, and a just and eloquent rebuke to the introduction of any political feeling into masonic affairs. We had hoped to have seen no more of these things, and so far as we have yet taken up the proceedings, we are happy to state that the evidences are that masonry is again settling into its proper channels, and with the experience of the late past to warn, we hope never again to leave them for the uncertain and detrimental allurements of passion and prejudice.

In this jurisdiction there is no Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and the duty of review falls on the M. Ex. G. H. Priest; it is for this reason we find the rebuke spoken of above.

The committee on the address of the M. Ex. G. H. Priest of the previous year reporting on the G. G. Chapter, says: "The action of the G. G. Chapter had, in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, rendered its jurisdiction wholly nugatory, and its existence an unnecessary expense. It had abandoned all actual authority, and had in fact become only the means of giving to a few prominent companions nominal rank without real power, and high sounding titles which meant nothing. There seems no longer any necessity for such an institution" which was adopted by the Grand Chapter.

This convocation revived the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The minutes appear to be very full and excellently well kept, and testify to

the merit which produced so glowing a compliment from the Grand Chapter towards the Grand Secretary, but we regret to see that he, too, by the addition of 32 to his name, is ashamed of the proper rank in our chapters. Ancient craft masonry needs no adornment; her "works do testify" for her, and we protest against the introduction of this foreign rank into her temples.

Companion Lawrence was re-elected G. H. Priest, and Companion Lewis Grand Secretary.

IOWA

Had her thirteenth annual convocation on the 17th October, 1867, with Companion H. H. Hemenway M. Ex. G. H. Priest, and Companion W. B. Langridge Grand Secretary.

In the address of the M. Ex. we find that he "held that a chapter having received a brother's petition in good faith and acted on the same, and was ready to confer the degrees at any suitable time, the brother moving away, could not legally demand his fees." This we think correct, but we would always vote for a return of the money, as we would be unwilling that our chapter should reap where it had not sown. The address is otherwise devoted to matters of local interest only, and exhibiting great prosperity in the craft.

A resolution to repeal the resolution severing connection with the G. G. Chapter was introduced at the previous convocation and referred to a committee, who, at this convocation, make their report. From this we make large extracts, because we agree with the committee in its conclusions, though we cannot endorse all it says in the matter; and further for the information of our companions, who, as a similar movement was attempted at our last convocation, and may again be at this, would like doubtless to know the sentiments of those companions who cannot be said to entertain generally any secession proclivities. The report of the committee, "after due consideration and discussion," was adopted.

The report says—"The resolution of dissolution was an outgrowth of the conviction that the G. G. Chapter had outlived its days of usefulness; that its machinery was cumbersome, that the theory on which it was based was vicious in every respect, and was opposed to the masonic divine idea that each Grand Chapter is supreme within its own jurisdiction, and of right should be so. The immediate exciting cause of the passage of the resolution was the promulgation of those formidable changes in the organic law of the G. G. Chapter which were proposed and advocated at the triennial convocation of 1856, and which were formally adopted as part of its constitution at Chicago, 1859. By these changes whose promulgation in 1856 was generally understood to be a condition precedent to their final adoption in 1859, the General Grand Chapter completely divested itself of its privileges, was emasculated of its powers completely, and in fine committed official suicide." * * * "Since that time your committee have attentively watched the progress of events masonic, and have seen nothing in the career of the G. G. Chapter to make them change the views they have entertained, but on the contrary, they have seen many things done, the which have intensified their hostility to any action on the part of this Grand Chapter which shall look to a resumption of relations, which were ever unequal, and which make the G. G. Chapter *richer* in exact proportion as they make us *poorer*."

"Again: The recent imbrolio in the District of Columbia, where the G. G. H. Priest has endeavored to defeat the organization of a Grand Chapter after having formally acquiesced during the preliminary stages of the movement, and with a tyranny which has no parallel in the history of Royal Arch Masonry, he has attempted to set aside the formal edict of a constituted and sovereign Grand Chapter, and aids and abets a subordinate thereof in its acts of rebellion, has still further served to convince us that the post of honor and safety for our Grand Chapter is in standing aloof from the G. G. Chapter in the future as it has done during the past nine years. We are competent to manage our own affairs without the assistance or supervision of any G. G. Body, whose sole use would seem to be, to furnish high sounding titles to ambitious companions, and which has never conferred any benefits on the Royal Craft, so far as the attentive reader of masonic history can discover."

We sincerely regret that "unavoidable circumstances" should have prevented the receipt of the report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

ILLINOIS.

The annual convocation was held on the 4th of October, 1867, M. Ex. companion O. H. Miner, G. H. Priest, and Ex. companion, H. G. Reynolds, Grand Secretary.

From the address of the G. H. Priest we learn that prosperity prevails in this jurisdiction.

At this convocation the following resolution was introduced as a substitute for another on the same subject:

"*Resolved*, That the representatives of this Grand Chapter to the next session of the G. G. Chapter to be holden in St. Louis next September, are hereby instructed to ask of the G. G. Chapter a release of this G. Chapter from its allegiance to that G. G. Body, there being no longer any necessity for a National Royal Arch Organization"; which, however, was laid on the table. It is only quoted here for the information of our companions, and that they may see that there is no harmonious action in relation to the G. G. Chapter, and also to remind them that it is better yet a while to keep aloof from such entangling alliances. A G. G. Chapter might doubtless be productive of much good, if properly organized and administered, but we fear that the love of power would lead to displays of arrogance and presumption, and we see that as at present constituted, it appears to be productive of great uneasiness and apprehension.

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Alabama among others, and is in true masonic spirit. In it the committee commend to attention the recommendation of the M. Ex. G. H. Priest of Ohio in his address of the year previous, to give authority to chapters to confer honorary membership on such of their members as by reason of age or infirmity, and long membership, might be deemed worthy of such distinction. To this recommendation we invite the attention of this Grand Chapter as eminently worthy of consideration. The report is from the pen of companion H. G. Reynolds.

M. Ex. companion G. W. Lininger was elected G. H. Priest, and Ex. companion H. G. Reynolds was elected Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN.

The convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State was held on the 6th of January, 1868; M. Ex. John P. Fiske, G. H. Priest, R. Ex. J. E. Johnson, Grand Secretary, with 47 chapters represented.

The address of the M. Ex. G. H. Priest is decidedly one of the best and most practical that we have read. Capitulary masonry is making rapid strides, and we are assured is producing desirable results. Much of the address is devoted to the consideration of the question of the legality and standing of those who have received the degrees in military or roving chapters. The M. Ex. distinctly avows that they should be treated as clandestine and irregular, and the Grand Chapter adopted the following resolution, it being part of the report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence:

“Resolved, That no State Grand Chapter has any right to grant charters or warrants for conferring the degrees of R. A. Masonry beyond the limits of its State jurisdiction, and the subordinate chapters of this State are ordered to treat all persons who claim to have received chapter degrees in military chapters, so-called, as clandestine-made Masons, who can be healed only by the work of regular chapters, acting under the authority of a State Grand Chapter, and within its proper jurisdiction.”

This decision seems to us eminently proper, and accords with the expressed views of many of the Grand Chapters.

We are surprised and bewildered that this Grand Chapter should have ordered the report of the committee “on the esoteric work” to be “deposited” with the Grand Secretary after it had been “read” and “adopted,” to be preserved among the archives of this Grand Chapter. Our companions in Michigan can have no difficulty in preserving “uniformity of work;” but they have adopted a very unusual method of producing it.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of 24 Grand Chapters, among which we find those of Alabama. It is written in a masonic vein, and is an able and eloquent exposition of the condition of our craft throughout the United States. We most fully appreciate the sympathy expressed towards us of Alabama, and argue that peace and harmony among the mystic fraternity will yet cement us in bonds far stronger and more durable than mere political ties ever can.

Companion G. C. Munroe was elected G. H. Priest; companion J. Eastman Johnson was elected Grand Secretary.

KANSAS.

The second annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 16th of October, 1867, with 6 chartered chapters represented, and 3 *U. D.*; the M. Ex. R. R. Rees, G. H. Priest, and R. Ex. E. T. Carr, Grand Secretary.

Royal Arch Masonry seems to be in a very flourishing condition in this jurisdiction, and from the proceedings we infer that the companions are fully awake to the necessity of guarding well the portals that none unworthy enter, and that only true and faithful craftsmen receive wages.

Companion Carr gives the report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, agreeably dishing up the proceedings of 16 Grand Chapters.

Companion R. R. Rees was re-elected M. Ex. G. H. Priest, and companion Carr was elected Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY

Had a convocation on the 21st of October, 1867, 65 chartered chapters represented; M. Ex. J. H. Branham, G. H. Priest, and companion P. Swigert, G. Sec'y.

The M. Ex. G. H. Priest urges the Grand Chapter to prohibit dispensations for emergent cases, yet he himself granted such. If he thought as he says, that "these dispensations to confer degrees out of time, and without due inquiry into the character of the applicant, is somewhat calculated to lower the standard of Royal Arch Masonry," why should he have granted them? Or, if emergencies might arise when the exercise of this great prerogative would be just and proper, why prohibit its exercise? To us it appears that the Grand Chapter makes its selection for the elevated position of G. H. Priest, having in view the capacity, firmness, and discretion, so imperatively demanded, but hardly expects a total disregard of all these qualities at any time, much less does it expect him to use his power, and lend his authority for any act which is "calculated to lower the standard of R. A. Masonry." While we think that these cases of emergency may arise, and also that they should be examined and criticized with suspicion, yet we are unwilling to clip the prerogatives of the G. H. Priest. We would rather take lessons from the past, and exercise greater care in the selection of our rulers.

Efforts are being made to bring about "uniformity in the work," and we recommend to our Kentucky companions the plan apparently adopted in Michigan, of having the report of the committee "read" and "adopted," but instead of ordering it to be "deposited" with the Grand Secretary, furnish a copy to the subordinate H. Priests. This will insure uniformity of work, and end this pursuit of "the chimera," as companion Corson calls it.

Companion Hodges, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviews the proceedings of 23 Grand Chapters, among which are those from Alabama, which he very courteously and fraternally criticizes. In his review of Ohio, commenting on the address of the M. Ex. in relation to the G. G. Chapter, he thinks the day of usefulness of this institution is at an end, and that there is a very evident desire exhibited by the G. G. Chapter to destroy the efficiency of the State Grand Chapters, and arrogate to itself the supreme control over the craft within the United States. He says: "In our judgment, the G. G. Chapter is a useless body, and the sooner it is dissolved by common consent, the better for R. A. Masonry throughout our whole country."

Companion I. T. Martin was made M. Ex. G. H. Priest, and companion P. Swigert re-elected Grand Secretary.

The proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky for the annual convocation held on the 19th of October, 1868, came to hand at a very late period, and just before closing this report. We have given it attention, however, and find the most prominent point in the address of the G. H. Priest, I. T. Martin, is the one urging the establishment of a Grand Lecturer, to give conformity and uniformity to the work and lectures.

The usual business of a Grand Chapter was disposed of. There was no report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Companion B. G. Hawkins was elected G. H. Priest, and companion P. Swigert again elected Grand Secretary.

We have the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of

LOUISIANA,

Held on the 11th of February, 1868; M. Ex. H. P. Buckley, G. H. Priest, and R. Ex. J. C. Batchelor, Grand Secretary, with the representatives of 19 chapters.

The G. H. Priest's address is confined to matters purely local, having no general interest further than as they show a commendable zeal and interest in capitulary masonry among our companions in that jurisdiction.

Companion W. W. Leake makes the report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, having the proceedings of 18 Grand Chapters before him, but unfortunately he had not ours. He criticizes with power the course of the M. Ex. G. G. H. Priest, John L. Lewis 33, in relation to the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, and among other things, says: "It is well known that the existence of the G. G. Chapter has always been considered by many eminent Masons of doubtful propriety and necessity, and those who advocate its continuance watch with jealous eye every exercise of authority by the General Grand officers touching the interest of the Grand Chapters under its jurisdiction."

P. D. G. H. Priest, S. M. Todd, was elected M. Ex. G. H. Priest, and companion J. C. Batchelor was re-elected Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

This Grand R. A. Chapter held several special convocations in relation to the separation of the jurisdiction of the District of Columbia, all of which has already been succinctly embodied in the report on Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia. This annual convocation was held on 11th November, 1867, M. Ex. Companion Wm. A. Wentz, D. G. H. Priest, as G. H. Priest, and Companion G. L. McCahan, Grand Secretary; nine Chapters represented. The Grand Chapter revoked its action of the special convocations, and declare their previous action to have been irregular, and now null and void, and further that their proper jurisdiction includes the District of Columbia, because the acts were done under a "misapprehension of authority," and because the "M. Ex. G. G. H. Priest, has since issued his edict," declaring the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia irregular, and because of the unconstitutionality of their former action. It also endorsed the action of the M. Ex. G. G. H. Priest, in declaring the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia irregular, &c.

Companion J. L. Yeates, was elected M. Ex. G. H. Priest, and Companion W. A. Wentz, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, was presented by Companion E. L. Stevens, and ably reviews the proceedings of twenty-four Grand Chapters, and four of these for two years, Alabama being of the number. It is an able and interesting report, and devotes much space to the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, notwithstanding the same has no legal existence and is irregular and clandestine.

MINNESOTA.

The annual convocation was held on 22d October, 1867, with ten Chapters represented, M. Ex. B. F. Smith, G. H. Priest, and R. Ex. L. E. Thompson, Grand Secretary.

The G. H. Priest's address informs us that R. A. Masonry is a living body in Minnesota, and that peace, harmony, and fraternal feeling prevail there. No subjects were referred either to the Committee on Grievances or on Masonic Jurisprudence.

MASSACHUSETTS.

In this jurisdiction there are quarterly convocations, when the usual business of Grand Chapters is transacted. Companion Henry Chickering presents the report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and kindly reviews the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, though differing with some of the views expressed by our lamented P. G. H. Priest Harrison. As the same difference is frequently found in the examination of Grand Chapter proceedings, and have been noticed elsewhere, we deem it unnecessary to further allude to them here. The views of our P. G. H. Priest are not sustained in this jurisdiction.

MAINE.

The annual convocation was held 4th May, 1868, M. Ex. Companion J. H. Drummond, G. H. Priest, and R. Ex. Companion Ira Berry, Grand Secretary.

In the address of the M. Ex. G. H. Priest, we discover a large share of masonic inspiration, and sound masonic law. He again deprecates the use of substitutes in conferring the degrees which, your committee thinks, cannot be too often or too severely condemned; but which practice prevails to a very great extent.

We are inclined to indorse absolutely all of his decisions on masonic law, two only however will we cite, because we have known them as mooted among very sound and good masons.

"Objections by a member of a chapter to a candidate after he is accepted and *before any degree is conferred on him*, are equivalent to a rejection, and should be so recorded."

Again, "when a candidate is rejected by objections made after favorable ballot, his petition can not be withdrawn."

Thirty-seven Grand Chapters, including Alabama, are reviewed by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence through their chairman, the M. Ex. G. H. Priest, who makes an apology very neatly for the performance of this duty. We know no reason why one should apologise for so excellent, sound, and well digested a report.

He speaks in complimentary terms of the address of M. Ex. G. H. Priest Norris, and declares that "to extract any part mars the whole."

It is in this report that we find the best synopsis of the difficulties in reference to the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, and we think the best masonic course recommended; and though he recognises the binding force of the order from the G. G. H. Priest, yet he does not think that action proper. He, however, like ourselves, thinks that with less haste the more speed would have resulted, and with fewer words on the part of both *combatants*, the better feeling would have resulted, and masonry been saved this unpleasant (to use no harsher word) catastrophe.

MISSOURI.

The annual convocation of the Grand Chapter was held on the 9th October,

1867, R. Ex. Companion M. Collins, D. G. H. Priest, as G. H. Priest, and R. Ex. G. F. Gouley, Grand Secretary, with eighteen chapters represented, the G. H. Priest being necessarily absent.

The address of the D. G. H. Priest, while treating of local matters, showing great prosperity in the craft, gives utterance to a well merited eulogium upon the worth and merits of companion O'Sullivan. We shall miss his brilliant *critiques* and fraternal excuses for our faults and short-comings; and we entertain the hope that the constant exercise of his charitable and fraternal feelings has earned for him a place in the tabernacle above, "that house not made with hands."

Companion Gouley, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Chapters, among which we find ours. He objects to conferring the degrees on maimed bretheren, and we assure our companion, that this is the rule in this jurisdiction, notwithstanding the opinion of our P. G. H. Priest to the contrary, and was well set forth by our Committee on Foreign Correspondence in 1866, who said: "Let every candidate have his limbs, and be perfect as a man ought to be, is the land-mark which guides us here."

The annual convocation of the Grand Chapter of

MISSISSIPPI,

was held on 23d January, 1868, M. Ex. W. D. Ferris, G. H. Priest, and R. Ex. O. T. Keeler, Grand Secretary, with representatives from sixty-six chapters. The inference from the address of the G. H. Priest, is fair, that capitulary masonry, though struggling in that jurisdiction, is making fair head against the adverse storms that beset it. Companion Ferris expresses the opinion that Mississippi is still under the jurisdiction of the G. G. Chapter, and advises that if deemed proper the Grand Chapter should take constitutional steps to dissolve it.

The Grand Chapter provided for a return to the plan of teaching the work and lectures by a Grand Lecturer, as one more certain of preserving uniformity and promoting and inciting greater efficiency therein than any other. It also punishes the use of substitutes by forfeiture of charter, which we think will put an effectual stop thereto in that jurisdiction.

We regret that we do not find the proceedings of our Grand Chapter before the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and are at a loss to account for their absence when our neighbor is so near and so accessible. The report is a pleasant and able one, and breathes of love.

Companion J. O. Lusher was elected G. H. Priest, and Companion O. T. Keeler elected Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK.

The seventy-first annual convocation of the Grand Chapter was held on 4th February, 1868, M. Ex. S. H. Stone, G. H. Priest, and R. Ex. C. G. Fox, Grand Secretary, with one hundred and twenty-four chapters represented.

At this convocation it was determined to organize a Council of High Priesthood.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is a most complete

summary of the acts of our companions in the jurisdictions reviewed, being twenty-four in number. It abounds with a display of masonic virtues and withal a just criticism. The same companions were re-elected to the offices of G. H. Priest and Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY

Held an annual convocation on 11th September, 1867, M. Ex. Israel Baldwin, G. H. Priest, and Ex. J. Woolverton, Grand Secretary, with fifteen chapters represented. We noticed these proceedings in our last report, and will now only glance at the report on Foreign Correspondence, which embraces the proceedings of twenty-nine Grand Chapters, ours among them. In noticing the address of our late P. G. H. Priest Harrison, the committee, like all others of whatever jurisdiction, scents the heresy therein contained as to the reception of masons maimed from whatever cause, and says—"that we should never allow our hearts to cause our heads to err." The committee gives us one G. D. Morris, for G. H. Priest, while we thought that his name was Norris. Be more careful in future, Companion Corson.

We have the proceedings from the first convocation of the Grand R. A. Chapter of

NEBRASKA,

which we hail with great delight. The address of the M. Ex. G. H. Priest, H. P. Duell, though short, is true to masonic instincts, and fervent in its appeal for the practice of the cardinal virtues.

Three Chapters in Nebraska, with the consent of D. G. G. H. Priest, met in Convention on 19th March, 1867, and organised a Grand Chapter, which held its first convocation on 17th June. Thus we see, one by one, new stars appear in the firmament, whose light we hope may forever be a guide to the wanderer, and we sincerely pray that the "work" of our companions "may remain when they, their children, and their children's children, shall have departed."

We recommend that a suitable committee be entrusted with the preparation of proper resolutions of greeting to our new-born sister.

Companion J. W. Moore was elected G. H. Priest, and Companion J. N. Wise was elected Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA

Held her annual convocation on 2d June, 1868, M. Ex. Companion A. Martin, G. H. Priest, and Ex. T. B. Carr, Grand Secretary, with nineteen Chapters represented. The perusal of the address of the M. Ex. produced in us great pain and distress, but we felt that what he has stated in reference to that jurisdiction, may be truthfully said also of others, perhaps all, within this stricken section. And amid our grief we admire the candor and the courage which enabled him so to mortify his pride as to give utterance to such truths. We copy:

"You will not be disappointed at finding my report barren of all that is most cheering to the masonic heart. The past year has been prolific of suffering and sorrow." * * * * "A deplorable lethargy seems to pervade the whole body of the fraternity." * * * "The condition of our institution is truly lamentable, but supineness will not improve it. I know that the cares, trials,

and anxieties, which are pressing upon all classes of our people, tend greatly to diminish their interest in masonry; and therefore to keep them away from our meetings. Our Chapters are thus permitted to languish, and in many cases to expire, with scarcely an effort to sustain the waning fires upon their altars."

Although he eloquently portrays the advantages of masonry socially, and the necessity of social intercourse, amidst the financial gloom, yet his spirit seems broken, and despair seems to have found a lodgement in his breast. We offer to him, and to the companions of that jurisdiction, our heart-felt sympathies, and none can so well sympathise as those who encounter the same difficulties, and experience the same poverty which is thus crushing these companions. He continues—"companions, it would be an act of the most consummate folly on the part of your chief officer, to lay before you new and elaborate schemes for the advancement of the interests of R. A. masonry in your jurisdiction, for the nourishment of the body, when it is too painfully evident that the spirit has passed away."

Success follows not despondency, nor is the journey shortened by continual looking back. The past should be forgotten or only remembered to aid us in the selection of our paths in the future. The present is upon us, and with it alone ought we to deal in such manner as shall lay a foundation of hope for the future. Let us hope, however, that this eloquent address may have nerved our companions for vigorous action in the future, and that life may yet be found, where he had supposed "that the spirit had passed away," and that we may next receive tidings of a revival of those energies which shall yet build up the waste places.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviewed the proceedings of thirty-one Grand Chapters, among which we find those of Alabama. Commenting upon the refusal of P. G. H. P. Norris, to allow the use of substitutes, but sending the candidate to another chapter for exaltation, they say: "We think the *letter* of the law is complied with, even when substitutes are used, and very much doubt the propriety or expediency of conferring degrees upon a candidate during one 'official visit,' or of sending a candidate to a neighboring chapter to be exalted."

The notice of our proceedings is however in a very kind and fraternal spirit.

The committee, after a careful review of the whole papers in relation to the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, recommend it to the "fraternal consideration" of that Grand Chapter. The report was received and ordered to be printed, and not read, so that there was no action of the Grand Chapter on this recommendation.

The committee urge the propriety of merging the Council Degrees into those of the Chapter, for reasons which appear to your committee of sufficient gravity to compel their assent thereto.

OHIO.

The annual convocation was held on the 11th October, 1867, M. Ex. G. Rex. G. H. Priest, and Ex. J. D. Caldwell, Grand Secretary, with representatives from ninety-nine chapters. The G. H. Priest devotes a portion of his address to the consideration of the status of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia. In the action of the G. G. H. Priest he sees "attempted encroach-

ments upon the rights of State Grand Chapters," and he expresses the hope that the action of the Grand Chapter of Ohio will be such as to "sustain the action of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, and recognise that of the District of Columbia.

On this subject he quotes from section 2, article I, of the Constitution of the G. G. Chapter, that "It (the G. G. C.) shall have no power of discipline, admonition, censure, or instruction, over the State Grand Chapters, &c."

His positions are all fully sustained by the report and resolutions from the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom the address was referred, which resolutions were adopted.

Companion Matthews, from Committee on Foreign Correspondence, compares his labors to a stroll in a beautiful garden filled with rare and curious plants and flowers. From these he has culled a bouquet for the Grand Chapter, selecting the most beautiful and fragrant, but leaving the wormwood in his path, hoping that if rejected, in a few years it will die for the want of cultivation. His review of Alabama, is kind, encouraging, and courteous.

Companion G. Rex, was re-elected M. Ex. G. H. Priest, and companion J. D. Caldwell, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA,

As Massachusetts, holds quarterly convocations of her Grand Chapter, as well as annual "convocations," all of which have come in one pamphlet for the years 1865-'66-'67. At these various convocations the usual business has been promptly transacted.

Companion W. H. Allen, from the Committee on Correspondence, reports having had the proceedings of thirty-three Grand Chapters before him.

In his notice of the G. G. Chapter and of the assurance by the M. Ex. G. G. H. Priest John L. Lewis, "that the G. G. Chapter has not been dissolved, and will not be in the coming time," he says: "We have no hostility to this body, and if by any means it can make itself useful, by promoting harmony and prosperity in other jurisdictions, we bid it God-speed, while we pursue the same objects by our own methods, without any interference in the affairs of others, or permitting others to interfere with us."

The report throughout is the calmest and justest, that has passed in our review, and we only regretted that it was not longer. It closes with a series of resolutions which were adopted, the last of which is as follows:

"That the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania will unite with all R. A. Masons in other jurisdictions, in cementing the bonds of masonic union and charity between the Grand Chapters and companions, and of friendship between the people of the two sections of our country which were recently at war with each other."

RHODE ISLAND.

We have the proceedings for the years 1866-'67-'68, in one pamphlet, and we feel great pleasure in being again in communication with our companions of this "plantation." In 1866 companion T. A. Doyle, M. Ex. G. H. Priest, congratulates the Grand Chapter on the prosperous condition of the craft there. When speaking of the G. G. Chapter, he uses this language: "The signs of approaching dissolution were apparent long before its final departure, and

having yielded up what little vitality remained, it seems hardly necessary to be wasting time and energy in endeavoring to call back to life, a body so long departed, and of so little utility in its latter days."

The proceedings are marked by harmony, and indicate prosperity among the craft. At this and the other two convocations the usual business alone was disposed of. There being no grievances to redress, no appeals to consider, our companions, with minds serene, digestions unimpaired, closed, in every instance, by retiring collectively to a Grand Chapter dinner. A very pleasant re-union on the eve of separation, but which the size of our Grand Chapter prevents our imitating. Companion Doyle, remains G. H. Priest, and companion S. B. Swan, Grand Secretary.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The annual convocation was held on the 11th February, 1868, M. Ex. companion R. S. Bruns, G. H. Priest, and companion Ebenezer Thayer, Grand Secretary, with fourteen chapters represented.

The address of the M. Ex. G. H. Priest is as eloquent as was his report on Foreign Correspondence the previous year, and depicts most feelingly the deep distress of our companions in that jurisdiction, only another witness, however, of our terrible and spirit-breaking condition. But to us is left hope—hope for better times, and we urge our companions in these impoverished and devastated jurisdictions to raise high the banner, and exert every nerve to the pursuit of right, and the Great Giver of all good will yet deliver us from this house of bondage.

Companion M. Moses, makes the report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and reviews the proceedings of twenty-four Grand Chapters, with an ease and taste rarely equalled, and we think never excelled. Those from Alabama are among the number. He closes his report with many excellent suggestions, and an urgent appeal to the companions to rise superior to misfortune, and to take the control of circumstances. He urges them to the practice of the various masonic virtues, that their work may be acceptable in the sight of the "GREAT I AM," and honor and credit redound to the institution.

Companion Bruns was again made M. Ex. G. H. Priest, and companion Thayer, re-elected Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE

Had an annual convocation on the 11th October, 1867, M. Ex. companion J. L. Dawson, G. H. Priest, and companion C. A. Fuller, Grand Secretary, with sixty-four chapters represented.

The address of the M. Ex., is mostly devoted to local matters, but it also complains of a violation of jurisdiction by surrounding chapters. Mississippi to prevent this, put the ban on any brother of her jurisdiction who may be exalted in the chapters of Tennessee; she declaring her readiness thus to compel a proper respect for each jurisdiction. We hope, however, that these differences will soon be healed and comity result.

In referring to the complication in the matter of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, the M. Ex. remarks: "It will be remembered that steps were taken some years since, looking to a separation from that body, (the G. G. Chapter) to which your attention is called. The G. G. Chapter in its proper

sphere is not objectionable, it is a source of regret, however, that its last session, held at Columbus, Ohio, in September, 1865, did, unintentionally, no doubt, tacitly approve some utterances of a political character, contained in the address of the M. Ex. G. G. H. Priest, A. G. Mackey, which if persisted in by Masonic bodies, will ultimately not only destroy their usefulness, but their organizations." And the Grand Chapter subsequently "*Resolved*, That this Grand Chapter announces its continued adhesion to the G. G. Chapter of the United States, and expresses the earnest hope that the same, under its present organic law, may be perpetuated."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviewed the proceedings of 22 Grand Chapters, with Alabama included, in a tone most eminently masonic and forbearing, and in a style at once clear and forcible.

Companion T. A. Thomas was elected M. Ex. G. H. Priest, and companion Charles A. Fuller re-elected Grand Secretary.

In June following, companion Fuller had passed the veils and gone to rest. We have before us a pamphlet containing his "funeral obsequies."

TEXAS.

The annual convocation was held June 8th, 1868; M. Ex. F. B. Sexton, G. H. Priest, and Ex. Robert Brewster, Grand Secretary, with 42 chapters represented.

The G. H. Priest complains of the violation of Masonic comity by a chapter in Iowa, for having exalted after a six months residence in Iowa, a citizen of Texas, who had been there rejected. His address contains a wail like that from North and South Carolina.

"From all the information I have received during the year, I am satisfied that there is much apathy among the chapters subordinate to this jurisdiction." * * * "This is to be attributed *partly* to the impoverished condition of the country, and partly to the political oppression we are enduring." We can most fully appreciate the trials and sufferings of our companions, for are we not of the same kindred? And most heartily do we sympathize with them.

The committee on the reports of the Grand Officers in relation to a ruling of the G. H. Priest, says: "The rule laid down in regard to re-installation of re-elected officers of subordinate chapters, we believe to be erroneous and not sustained by the Royal Craft. The installation or re-induction of a re-elected officer is not required by law or usage." * * "His installation obligations remain in force, and his induction into office in such a case is perfect without repeating it." Which was approved by the Grand Chapter, and which meets with the hearty approval of your committee.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviewed the proceedings of 24 Grand Chapters, including ours. The report betokens a just appreciation of what is right and proper, and abounds with life and vivacity. We doubt not companion A. S. Richardson is a live Mason. "By their fruits shall ye know them."

Companion J. D. Giddings was elected M. Ex. G. H. Priest, and companion R. Brewster re-elected as Grand Secretary.

VERMONT.

The annual convocation was held on the 2d of October, 1867; 21 chapters represented.

The condition of the craft seems prosperous, and peace and harmony prevail. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence give a kind glance at our proceedings for 1866.

Companion C. A. Miles was elected G. H. Priest, and companion J. B. Hollenbeck Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA.

The annual convocation was held on the 12th of December, 1867, with 23 chapters represented.

The address of companion Dame, G. H. Priest, is truly eloquent in style, and well defining the duties of Royal Arch Masons. If his words be heeded as they ought to be, Virginia will as surely lead in the masonic character and training of her children in the future, as she has done politically in the past.

"Very mistaken views," he says, "prevail among the fraternity in reference to masonry. Many think that conferring the degrees is all the machinery of the institution; but such is not the case. Every man raised is not a Mason; nor every one exalted a companion, any more than every circumcised man is a child of Abraham, or every one baptised a christian. In every case, it is the adoption, possession, and development of certain clearly defined principles, which are sealed by the outward ceremony. Because of this misconception many think the chapter will be sustained, and Royal Arch Masonry advanced by increase of membership. Rough material is presented, and unskillful workmen mark it; but it can never be wrought into that building which true Masons are endeavoring to erect. Numbers do not give property or character—worth does." "Every member's friend will not make a Royal Arch Mason, any more than the stone in every man's land will make good building material."

The whole address might profitably be transferred to our report, if space allowed. He also recommends the organization of a Council of High Priesthood.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, after examining the proceedings of 24 Grand Chapters, find nothing in them worthy of note, but that the propriety of examining candidates as to their proficiency in each degree before conferring the subsequent degree, which had been recommended by a committee in Virginia, had enlisted the attention of other Grand Chapters.

Companion E. H. Lane was made G. H. Priest, and companion John Dove re-elected Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN.

The annual convocation was held on the 5th of February, 1868; M. Ex. companion D. H. Wright, G. H. Priest, and R. Ex. W. T. Wright Grand Secretary, with representatives from 36 chapters.

We learn from the G. H. Priest's address that there are to be found in that jurisdiction two spurious branches of capitulary degrees, styling themselves the "Egyptian Masonic Rite of Memphis," and the "Ancient Primitive Rite of Memphis of 33 degrees," both started by those who had been Masons, but who are now expelled—Burt and Seymour; the first from the capitulary degrees, and the latter from the Scotch rite. And we infer that they had made some progress. At this we might have been surprised, but that there seems to be a fascination in many degrees, and that to be able to write a large figure at the end of a name is more agreeable than the conviction that we have done with others as we would that they should do unto us.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviewed our proceedings in company with those of 23 others, and it treats us courteously and fraternally.

M. Ex. A. V. Carpenter was elected G. H. Priest, and R. Ex. W. T. Palmer re-elected Grand Secretary.

And now, companions, we have finished this our journey through other jurisdictions. It has been one of pleasure, for wherever we went we felt sure that we would meet with friendly greetings, and such has been our experience. But at times we have been seriously grieved, for we have seen our companions sometimes straitened for means, and mourning over the distress surrounding them; and again we have met many green mounds where the grass is fresh with the watering of tears. "Monuments to the loved and lost, mile-stones in life's journey, on which the inscription "passing away" admonishes us "to work while it is yet day, for the night cometh when no man can work." From the records of most of our sister jurisdictions we gather the names of those who have gone to swell the innumerable multitude which throng the silent halls of the great necropolis. Their footprints are fast being covered by the drifting dust, and the places which knew them will know them no more forever."

Then let us, companions, so live that when we shall be called to "that bourne whence no traveler returns," the G. A. O. T. U. may receive us as living stones fit for the building "not made with hands eternal in the heavens."

P. J. PILLANS, *Chairman.*

EDICTS,
Decisions, Resolutions, and Authoritative Reports
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,
AT ITS ANNUAL CONVOCATION IN 1868.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the question "whether a Mason who had been elected to receive the Chapter degrees, and who had been advanced, and afterwards lost an arm, could receive the other degrees of the Chapter," beg leave to report, in the language of the decrees of the M. W. Grand Lodge on the same subject, that "our ancient charges, regulations, usages of masonry, our own constitution, as well as our most approved works on Masonic Jurisprudence, all go to show that such a defect in physical conformation would render the candidate inadmissible;" and your committee would further report, that the condition supposed would render it impossible for the applicant to receive the degrees properly. (*See proceedings, p. 24.*)

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the following :

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the Grand Chapter that a motion to lay on the table is unmasonic, and therefore should not be entertained;

Beg leave to report that they find the same provided for in the "Rules of Order" adopted by this Grand Chapter many years since, and under which it has been acting, and your committee are unwilling to presume that any previous Grand Chapter would have prescribed, or for so long a period tolerated any measure which was unmasonic, and consequently productive of detriment to the craft. They beg leave to refer the Grand Chapter to Rule 6, of the "Rules of Order" to be found in the edition of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter. (*See proceedings, p. 25.*)

3d. We recommend that the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, Companion Peleg Brown, be selected and chosen the custodian of the work of this

Grand Chapter, to whom any differences should be referred, and whose decision shall be final, unless reversed by the Grand Chapter; *provided*, that the custodian be not allowed to alter or change the work adopted. (*See proceedings*, p. 32.)

4th. We would recommend that the Chapters be required to examine candidates for advancement as to their proficiency in each degree, as required by the Grand Lodge, and that the same ruling apply to petitions for dispensations to form and open new Chapters. (*See Proceedings*, p. 32.)

Names and Numbers of Chapters,

*With the Number of Members, Amount of Dues Paid to the Grand Chapter,
and the Number of those Advanced, Presided, Received and Acknowledged,
Exalted, Affiliated, Rejected and Dimitted.*

Number.....	NAMES OF CHAPTERS.	No. of Members..	Am't of Dues.....	Advanced.....	Presided.....	Rec. and Ack.....	Exalted.....	Affiliated.....	Rejected.....	Dimitted.....
1	Tuscaloosa.....	30	\$ 7 50	5	5	6	6	2	2	6
4	Monroe.....	30	7 50							
5	Eunomia.....	54	13 50	1	1	1	3			1
6	Cyrus.....	29	14 50	15	14	12	12	2	1	3
9	Clinton.....	26	6 50	3	3	3	6	1		1
10	Tusculumbia.....	24	6 00							
11	Phenix.....	46	11 50							2
12	Marion.....	63	15 75	2	2	2	3	1		11
17	Wetumpka.....	38	9 50	4	4	4	6			2
19	Mount Moriah.....	54	13 50	9	9	9	9	2		5
20	Livingston.....	46	11 50	2	2	2	3	1		2
21	Mobile.....	163	40 75	2	2	3	3			10
22	Montgomery.....	53	13 25	8	8	8	6			2
23	Talladega.....	46	11 50							2
24	Eufaula.....	56	38 00	8	9	9	12	4	3	6
25	Courtland.....	56	13 75					1	1	4
26	Union.....	21	5 25	3	3	3	3			2
27	Dayton.....	16	4 00	2	2	3	3			2
28	Saint Johns.....	60	27 50	3	5	6	6	4		5
30	James Penn.....	96	24 00	3	3	3	3	2		6
32	Fulton.....	25	6 25	1	1	1				3
34	Hermion.....	59	38 75	3	3	3	3	1	1	1
35	James L. Daniel.....	36	9 00	3	3	3	3			2
36	Pickensville.....	35	17 50	1	1					2
37	Concord.....	44	11 00	2	2	1		1		4
40	Camden.....	49	12 25							3
43	Tuskegee.....	23	5 75	3	3	3	3			1
44	Choctaw.....	54	13 50	3	3			3		2
52	Allenton.....	22	5 00							4
54	Tyrian.....	44	11 50	1						9
55	Suggsville.....	36	5 00							
56	Zernbbabel.....	22	15 00	3	3	3	3			2
57	Lebanon.....	45	11 25	3			3			8
62	Rockford.....	78	19 50	6	6	6	6	2	1	5
63	Clayton.....	45	11 25	8	8	6	6			2
64	Central.....	23	5 75							8

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF CHAPTERS—CONTINUED.

Number.....	NAMES OF CHAPTERS.	No. of Members	Am't of Dues.....	Advanced	Presided.....	Rec. and Ack.....	Exalted	Affiliated	Rejected	Dismissed.....
65	Russell.....	29	\$ 7 25							
66	Alabama.....	71	17 75	4	4	3	3	2		7
67	Farriorville.....	23	5 75	1	2					3
68	Cherokee.....	38	29 00							1
69	Lower Peach Tree.....	23	5 75							2
70	Choctaw Corner.....	9	2 25							
71	Landmark.....	59	14 75	2	2	3	3			6
72	Midway.....	43	41 25	3	3	3	3		1	11
73	Lawrenceville.....	32	8 00	5	5	5	3	2		2
74	Opelika.....	36	9 00							10
75	Pine Level.....	48	12 00	1					1	2
76	Elyton.....	75	18 75	20	20	20	21			1
77	Smedley.....	36	27 00							
78	Danville.....	29	7 25							2
79	Pinckeyville.....	42	10 50							13
80	Loachapoka.....	32	8 00	4	3	3	3	4		4
81	Jefferson.....	36	9 00	5	5	5	6	1		3
83	Bell.....	21	5 25	2	2	2		1		
84	Carrollton.....	31	7 75	4	4	7	6			2
85	Gaston.....	29	7 25				3	3		
87	Moulton.....	18		3	3	3	3			1
89	Somerville.....	14	3 25							
90	Greenville.....	23						1		
91	George D. Norris.....	15	3 75							1
92	Notasulga.....	21	5 25	5	5	6	6			
93	Columbus.....	17	4 25	2	3	3	3	2	1	
94	Cowikee.....	13		3	3	3	3	1	1	
95	Daviston, U. D.....	13								



JAMES L. PRICE,

P. Dep. Grand High Priest,

DIED,

DECEMBER 18TH, 1867.

One whom we esteemed ;

Whose Death we deplore ;

Whose Memory we cherish

AT REFRESHMENT ABOVE.

A T R E S T.

John L. Marshall, July 1.....	Monroe.....	No. 4
John G. Coltart, April 16.....	Eunomia.....	" 5
Cargill J. Massenburg, May 25.....	Clinton.....	" 9
Benjamin Fitzpatrick, September 9.....	Phenix.....	" 11
George M. Martin, October 19.....	Marion.....	" 12
Charles Elliott, November 3.....	Wetumpka.....	" 17
Lydal P. Saxon, August 19.....	Mount Moriah.....	" 19
Thompson W. Fleming, February 1.....		
Willis Meriwether, December, 1867.....	Livingston.....	" 20
U. T. McLemore, December, 1867.....		
John E. Baker, December, 1867.....	Mobile.....	" 21
Stephen W. Murley, May 8.....	Montgomery.....	" 22
Christopher S. McConnico, August 6.....	Eufaula.....	" 24
Azariah B. Alvord, July 4.....		
Elias F. Travis, September, 1868.....	Courtland.....	" 25
Samuel B. Marks, June 30.....		
Isaac G. Maxwell, July 4.....	Union.....	" 26
Weeks Tippin, June 13.....		
Thomas Davidson, February 28.....	Saint Johns.....	" 28
S. A. Singley.....	James Penn.....	" 30
J. B. Coons, April 9.....	Fulton.....	" 32
Maurice Morris, September 24.....	Herman.....	" 34
JAMES L. PRICE, December 13, 1867.....	Pickensville.....	" 36
D. S. Walker, September 10.....	Concord.....	" 37
W. O. Hudson, October 5.....	Tuskegee.....	" 43
William Waddill, October 2.....	Choctaw.....	" 44
Peter Nunnally, October 13.....	Allenton.....	" 52
Joseph H. Chambers, March 28.....	Suggsville.....	" 55
James A. Jones, November 7.....	Lebanon.....	" 57
Thomas G. McNorton, September 18.....		
Thomas J. Winston, November 9.....	Rockford.....	" 62
Robert Mitchell, July 1.....		
Norris Finley, May.....	Clayton.....	" 63
Bestor Coleman, August 11.....	Russell.....	" 65
A. C. Hinson, September 23.....	Alabama.....	" 66
Derusha Daffin, October.....	Cherokee.....	" 68
Christopher C. Carden, February 24.....	Lawrenceville.....	" 73
Joseph D. Murphy, September 4.....	Opelika.....	" 74
John S. McDonald, January 18.....	Elyton.....	" 76
William Evans.....		
David L. Smith, July 23.....		
Charles Petty, April 27.....		
George W. Carpenter, July 6.....		
George E. Cowan, November 3.....		
John M. Jenks, September 15.....		
John C. White, September, 1867.....		
William A. Fenn.....		
William J. Singletary, June 29.....		
Jeremiah B. Willis, October 26.....		
D. S. Furgerson, June 5.....		
George J. Roebuck, April 6.....		
Eugene Griffin.....		

F. W. Lindsey, April.....	Danville	" 78
T. J. Russell, June.....	Pinckneyville	" 79
A. A. Beall, November 22.....	Gaston	" 85
A. E. Brockway, February 15.....		

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

TUSCALOOSA No. 1.—Joseph Shelton.

EUNOMIA No. 5.—Robert C. Brickell, Robert T. Searcy, Samuel M. Weaver.

MARION No. 12.—John T. Barron, Charles C. Crow, J. Burrell Clay, William Cook, G. H. Fort, A. S. Hinton, W. A. Jones, Joseph McCombs, Alascon B. Norris, George M. Spencer, Thomas S. Vaughn, Charles H. Wood, L. S. Washburne.

MOBILE No. 21.—John H. Aston, James H. Beardslee, William Boughton, William P. Brashears, Freeman W. Clayton, James W. Campbell, George W. Claiborne, Charles J. B. Delaye, Leroy E. Douglas, John P. Fowler, Francis L. Girard, Charles Gliassman, William H. Graves, James B. Hazard, Samuel W. Holston, John Hurtel, Henry C. McEwan, Sylvester L. Nidelet, Edward Oelrick, Auguste Poiteven, John T. Y. Payne, Leonidas R. Sullivan, David W. Starke, Joseph B. Vaughan, Joseph Voyle, Clinton D. Middleton, James R. McClintock, William S. Matthews, David A. Moniac, James Welsh, Alexander M. Wood.

MONTGOMERY, No. 22.—George H. B. Matthews, J. M. Dillehay, S. H. Bowen, William F. Teat, T. C. Wilder, Eleodoro Camps, R. H. Molton, A. C. Barron.

TALLADEGA No. 23.—A. J. Weathers, Daniel Duncan, H. C. Edmonds, John M. Houghton, W. J. Jordan, J. W. McKibbin, Andrew J. McAlpin, R. G. Roberts, D. B. Oden, J. W. Jones, H. H. Huckabee, Samuel Clabangh, M. H. Hansard, Uriah Dulaney, William McCain, T. C. Cassaway, T. J. Kent, P. S. Weathers, M. R. Russell, James M. Skaggs, W. C. Patterson, A. J. Ritchie, W. H. Williams, William M. Taylor, William M. Ritchie, N. Woodruff, Joseph Allen.

COURTLAND No. 25.—J. C. Feathersen, George W. Griffin, A. T. Goodloe, R. N. Harris, S. S. Ives, W. G. Whitefield.

SAINT JOHNS No. 28.—John Erhart, Abel Hill, Joseph Hardie, Oscar F. Harvell, Lawrence Coken, John McGrath, Blackgrave T. Maxey, Augustus G. Thompson, John J. Thompson, John M. Tillman, John Weedon.

ALLENTON No. 52.—William J. Sessions, C. B. Low, D. W. Carter, B. S. Rives, G. W. Chambers, J. W. Purifoy, George A. Barge, S. J. R. Jenkins, John Marshall, R. L. Arnold, J. R. Williamson, W. T. Wade, E. Reynolds, R. C. Davidson, W. W. McConnico, A. C. Ramsey, D. S. McDonald, W. W. Spence.

ROCKFORD No. 62.—Nathan Jester, R. H. Hunt, J. Templeton, H. Stoudemire, Daniel Taylor, Asa H. Edwards, William Sturdevant.

CLAYTON No. 63.—E. Smith, Thomas H. Jones, James A. Bass, T. L. Scott, George W. Coleman, J. W. Harper, William R. Skinner.

ALABAMA No. 66.—Charles R. Valient, Gideon B. Massey, George O. Barnes, William S. Levy, Frank M. Cambridge.

FARRIORVILLE No. 67.—James C. Bass, James W. Crossley, Charles Cogdell, James W. Hicks, J. P. D. Kelley, James C. Morrison, E. W. Starke, John D. Smith, Milton C. Tillery, Zack J. Wilson, William A. Walker, G. L. Wilson, Henry B. Thompson.

CHEROKEE No. 68.—Isam R. Pucket.

LOWER PEACH TREE No. 69.—J. W. R. P. Threadgill, James J. Welsh, Thomas S. Threadgill, Samuel J. Tivilly.

LANDMARK No. 71.—Daniel Trout.

MIDWAY No. 72.—Samuel Feagin.

OPELIKA No. 74.—Thomas F. Flournoy, C. T. Floyd, R. Thomas, C. Chamberlain, C. D. McCoy, W. H. C. Edwards, G. W. Edwards, F. M. Jones, Raleigh Hightower, J. W. White, J. Stephens, T. C. Dailey, M. Pruitt, S. H. Pitts, H. H. Collins, C. W. Shearer, — Lyons, David Dunn, A. L. Revel, A. H. Cross, E. H. Walker, W. Burt, — Barton, J. W. Holtzelaw, J. P. B. Chambers, S. J. Daniel, E. N. Dunn, W. Sheppard.

DANVILLE No. 78.—John Barns, David W. Bryant, Harvey L. Cowan, W. Gray, Robert H. Johnson, Claiborne A. C. Jones, E. P. McGaughey, Elijah N. McDaniel, W. Rhodes, W. Stradford, W. S. Turrentine, W. W. Wilhite, William P. Wallan, W. W. Hall, W. P. Warner, Bird Wilhite.

PENCKNEYVILLE No. 79.—A. S. Smith, John Lucius, Abda Christian, W. D. Stone, C. H. Webb, A. S. W. Stone, James M. Phillips, James Gay, H. L. Harland, C. W. Smith, A. G. Peddy.

BELL No. 83.—W. F. Robinson.

CARROLLTON No. 84.—James Young.

REINSTATED.

MARION No. 12.—William H. Redding, Robert D. England.

MONTGOMERY No. 22.—W. Crawford Bibb.

TALLADEGA No. 23.—William Y. Hendricks, Matthew Turner, Malichi G. Rhodes, James Barker.

JAMES PENN No. 30.—Lucius J. Meade, William H. Albright.

CAMDEN No. 40.—S. George Cochran, George B. Chambers, William G. Fail, James B. Hallman, Edward N. Jones.

TUSKEGEE No. 43.—H. E. Taliaferro.

TYRIAN No. 54.—Wiley Williams.

ROCKFORD No. 62.—Iram L. Lee, Hardy Jones, Peter E. Temple, John S. Bentley, George B. Gunn, T. L. Hudgins, A. M. Debardeleben, W. D. Saxon, Z. P. Kimbrough, R. M. Templeton, B. C. Hayney, J. M. Berry, T. U. T. McCain, A. G. Peddy.

CLAYTON No. 63.—F. D. Veal.

RUSSELL No. 65.—Larkin Willis, Samuel C. Norwood.

ALABAMA No. 66.—John W. Inzer, William M. Inzer.

SUSPENDED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

TUSCALOOSA No. 1.—Thomas P. Lewis.

CAMDEN No. 40.—George H. Moye.

ALLENTON No. 52.—J. A. Crook, J. B. Groce.

LAWRENCEVILLE No. 73.—James M. Sanders.

DANVILLE No. 78.—Thomas Mayfield.

JEFFERSON No. 81.—George S. Markham.

EXPELLED.

ZERUBBABEL No. 56.—J. W. Webb.

ALABAMA No. 66.—Walter Regan.

PENCKNEYVILLE No. 79.—W. Brewer, William J. Gallaway.

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

No.	NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POSTOFFICE.	HIGH PRIEST.	SECRETARY.	CONVOCACTIONS.
1	Tuscaloosa.	Tuscaloosa.	Tuscaloosa.	Tuscaloosa.	John M. Martin.	E. M. Burton.	2d Thursday.
4	Monroe.	Clairborne.	Monroe.	Clairborne.	Rufus C. Torrey.	Noah A. Agee.	on or bef f m.
5	Ennomia.	Huntsville.	Madison.	Huntsville.	John J. Demott.	John H. Reedy.	1st Tuesday
6	Cyrus.	Florence.	Lauderdale.	Florence.	Sam'l D. Weakley.	William Ragsdale.	1st Tuesday
9	Clinton.	Athens.	Limestone.	Athens.	Joshua P. Conant.	Augustus F. Evans.	2d Monday.
10	Tuscumbia.	Tuscumbia.	Calbert.	Tuscumbia.	Felix G. Norman.	J. E. Keenan.	1st Tuesday.
11	Phenix.	Greensboro'.	Hale.	Greensboro'.	Thomas R. Ward.	Oscar F. Casey.	2d Tuesday.
12	Marion.	Marion.	Perry.	Marion.	Edmunds Mason.	Benj. M. Huey.	1st Tuesday.
17	Wetumpka.	Wetumpka.	Elmore.	Wetumpka.	Isaiah B. Suaw.	Wm. S. Penick.	1st Tuesday.
19	Mt. Moriah.	Etowah.	Greene.	Etowah.	Robert D. Webb.	J. T. Smith.	3d Saturday.
20	Livingston.	Livingston.	Sumter.	Livingston.	Palmer J. Pillans.	J. L. Scruggs.	3d Friday.
21	Mobile.	Mobile.	Mobile.	Mobile.	John N. Browder.	J. H. Hampshire.	1st and 3d Thurs'y
22	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Joseph H. Johnson.	Calvin W. Sayre.	2d Saturday.
23	Talladega.	Talladega.	Talladega.	Talladega.	Zadok J. Daniel.	H. H. Hamill.	3d Friday.
24	Enfauila.	Enfauila.	Barbour.	Enfauila.	Joseph C. Baker.	John C. Thomas.	1st Saturday.
25	Courtland.	Courtland.	Lawrence.	Courtland.	Robert Christian.	Geo. K. Clopper.	2d Tuesday.
26	Union.	Uniontown.	Perry.	Uniontown.	L. M. Opheimier.	J. M. Redding.	1st Thursday.
27	Dayton.	Dayton.	Marango.	Dayton.	Joe. M. Dedman.	John F. Tarrant.	2d Tuesday.
28	Saint Johns.	Selma.	Dallas.	Selma.	John R. Clark.	Euclid Johnson.	Last Monday.
30	James Penn.	Jacksonville.	Calhoun.	Jacksonville.	Wm. E. Beard.	Daniel P. Forney.	1st Saturday.
32	Fulton.	Orrville.	Dallas.	Orrville.	R. H. Powell.	Eljah L. Coleman.	1st and 3d Friday.
34	Herman.	Union Springs.	Bullock.	Union Springs.	Malichi W. Davis.	Thomas Pullum.	2d Saturday.
35	James L. Daniel.	Glennville.	Barbour.	Glennville.	Richard P. Bragan.	S. C. Woodfolk.	2d Saturday.
36	Pickensville.	Pickensville.	Pickens.	Pickensville.	Edw. S. Shelton.	John C. Moorhead.	2d "
37	Concord.	La Fayette.	Chambers.	La Fayette.	Lock W. Jenkins.	J. E. Scarbrough.	1st Monday.
40	Camden.	Camden.	Wilcox.	Camden.	Wm. G. Swanson.	William Lawler.	1st Thursday.
43	Tuskegee.	Tuskegee.	Macon.	Tuskegee.	Chris N. Wilcox.	John C. Smith.	4th Monday.
44	Choctaw.	Butler.	Choctaw.	Butler.	J. G. Bythewood.	J. C. Chapman.	1st Monday.
52	Allenton.	Allenton.	Wilcox.	Allenton.	Joel D. Murphy.	J. W. Wilson.	1st Saturday.
54	Tyrian.	Troy.	Fike.	Troy.	Samuel Coale.	Samuel Forwood.	Friday of 3 Sab.
55	Suggsville.	Suggsville.	Clarke.	Suggsville.	John W. Fleming.	D. A. Patrick.	2d Saturday.
56	Zerubbabel.	Waverly.	Chambers.	Waverly.	William J. Roberts.	J. C. Bogie.	2d and 4th Thurs'y.
57	Lebanon.	Lebanon.	De Kalb.	Lebanon.	John A. Sears.	Wm. T. Womble.	3d Friday.
62	Rockford.	Rockford.	Coosa.	Rockford.			Friday of 4th Sab.

63	Clayton	Clayton	Barbour	Clayton	Montevallo	James S. Paulin	James J. Winn	Monday af 1st Sab
64	Central	Shelby	Jackson	Montevallo	Stevenson	E. G. Walker	Sylvester Steele	4th Monday
65	Russell	Mobile	Bullock	Mobile	Farriorville	Thos. T. Colman	Wm. M. Cowan	3d Friday
66	Farriorville	Cherokee	Wileox	Centre	Centre	Jesse J. Melton	A. W. W. Murdock	2d and 4th Friday
67	Cherokee	Low'r Peach Tree	Choctaw Corner	Choctaw Corner	Barnes & Roads	Abijah Haley	Alex. Youngblood	1st and 3d Saturday
68	Low'r Peach Tree	Choctaw Corner	Choctaw Corner	Choctaw Corner	Barnes & Roads	S. K. McSpadden	James A. Reeves	2d Tuesday
69	Choctaw Corner	Choctaw Corner	Choctaw Corner	Choctaw Corner	Barnes & Roads	C. C. Curtis	Jacob Mayer	2d Saturday
70	Choctaw Corner	Choctaw Corner	Choctaw Corner	Choctaw Corner	Barnes & Roads	John F. Pate	St. M. Gilmore	3d "
71	Landmark	Midway	Dale	Midway	Abbeville	J. A. F. Campbell	John W. Simmons	3d "
72	Midway	Abbeville	Bullock	Abbeville	Abbeville	John W. L. Daniel	C. McKennon	1st Thursday
73	Lawrenceville	Opelika	Henry	Opelika	Opelika	John E. Price	J. S. Bruner	4th Saturday
74	Opelika	Pine Level	Lee	Pine Level	Pine Level	E. C. Bowen	R. M. Greene	2d and 4th Thursday
75	Pine Level	Elyton	Jefferson	Elyton	Elyton	James B. Luckie	N. D. Wright	1st and 3d Wednesday
76	Elyton	Brundidge	Pike	Brundidge	Brundidge	G. W. Hewitt	John C. Morrow	2d Saturday
77	Snedley	Danville	Morgan	Danville	Danville	W. J. A. Hilliard	De Kalb Williams	Friday bf 2d Sab
78	Danville	Pinkneyville	Tallapoosa	Pinkneyville	Pinkneyville	A. G. Copeland	John Y. Ferguson	2d Saturday
79	Pinkneyville	Loachapoka	Lee	Loachapoka	Loachapoka	M. G. Slaughter	G. M. Gamble	Saturday bf 3d Sab
80	Loachapoka	Demopolis	Marengo	Demopolis	Demopolis	Myles J. Greene	J. C. Phillips	1st and 3d Tuesday
81	Jefferson	Lineville	Clay	Lineville	Lineville	Wm. W. Harder	Ed. A. Taylor	4th Wednesday
82	Bel	Carrollton	Pickens	Carrollton	Carrollton	John W. Garrison	J. L. Williams	2d Saturday
83	Carrollton	Gaston	Sumter	Gaston	Gaston	S. F. Hill	J. M. Davis	Saturday bf 3d Sab
84	Gaston	Monkton	Lawrence	Monkton	Monkton	W. R. Horn	Marion E. Tarvin	2d Thursday
85	Monkton	Somerville	Morgan	Somerville	Somerville	H. M. Welch	Dewitt C. White	2d Monday
86	Somerville	Greenville	Butler	Greenville	Greenville	Sum. I. S. Morrow	Geo. W. Thigpen	3d Saturday
87	Greenville	New Market	Madison	New Market	New Market	Thomas M. Bragg	Wm. R. Whitman	1st and 3d Tuesday
88	Geo. D. Norris	Notasulga	Macon	Notasulga	Notasulga	Morris K. Taylor	William S. Ford	4th Saturday
89	Notasulga	Dale	Dale	Dale	Dale	H. C. Armstrong	William S. Ford	1st and 3d "
90	Columbus	Spring Hill	Barbour	Spring Hill	Spring Hill	Moses Jones	Ransom Deal	1st "
91	Cowhee	Davidson	Tallapoosa	Davidson	Davidson	Solomon G. Burke	J. Wallace Comer	1st Friday
92	Davidson	Davidson	Davidson	Davidson	Davidson	Joseph C. Taylor	Edward Lambreth	1st and 3d Friday

1868. RECAPITULATION.

Chapters that were represented.....	53
Members reported at this convocation.....	2,523
Dues received at this convocation.....	\$759 00

WORK OF THE YEAR.

Advanced.....	171
Presided.....	168
Received and Acknowledged.....	169
Exalted.....	177
Affiliated.....	47
Rejected.....	14
Dimitted.....	194
Died.....	56
Suspended for unmasonic conduct.....	7
Expelled.....	4
Suspended for non-payment of dues.....	214
Reinstated.....	35

STATE OF THE CHAPTERS.

Chapters square upon the books.....	55
Chapters delinquent.....	13
Chapters under Dispensation.....	2
Charters forfeited.....	25
Whole number at end of the year.....	95

Notice to Subordinate Chapters.

Officers of Subordinate Chapters, and especially High Priests and Secretaries, are requested to take particular notice of the following :

"Any Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter failing to assemble once in any year, (at *least* once in any year, is the meaning,) or being represented in this Grand Chapter for three years successively, or fail for two successive years to make their returns, and pay the dues required by the third section of this article, the charter of such chapter shall be forfeited." (*See Sec. 2, Art. III., of the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter.*)

DELINQUENT CHAPTERS FOR 1868.

DELINQUENT IN DUES FOR ONE YEAR.

No. 49.....	Hope.
" 88.....	Roslin.
" 90.....	Greenville.

DELINQUENT IN DUES FOR TWO YEARS.

No. 48.....	McKinley.
" 58.....	Hartwell.
" 59.....	Bladon Springs.
" 82.....	Crawford.

DELINQUENT IN REPRESENTATION FOR ONE YEAR.

No. 10.....	Tuscumbia.
" 25.....	Courtland.
" 69.....	Lower Peach Tree.
" 78.....	Danville.
" 88.....	Roslin.
" 89.....	Somerville.
" 90.....	Greenville.

DELINQUENT IN REPRESENTATION FOR TWO YEARS.

No. 17.....	Wetumpka.
" 48.....	McKinley.
" 49.....	Hope.
" 58.....	Hartwell.
" 59.....	Bladon Springs.
" 82.....	Crawford.

CHARTERS FORFEITED.

Numbers 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 29, 31, 33, 38, 39, 41, 42, 45, 46, 47, 50, 51, 53, 60, 61.

ADDRESS OF GRAND SECRETARIES.

NO.	GRAND CHAPTER.	GRAND SECRETARY.	ADDRESS.
1.	Alabama.....	Daniel Sayre.....	Montgomery.
2.	Arkansas.....	William D. Blocher.....	Little Rock.
3.	California.....	Lawrence C. Owen.....	San Francisco.
4.	Canada.....	Thomas B. Harris.....	Hamilton, C. W.
5.	Connecticut.....	Joseph K. Wheeler.....	Hartford.
6.	District of Columbia.....	Noble D. Larner.....	Washington, D. C.
7.	Florida.....	D. L. Oakley.....	Monticello.
8.	Georgia.....	Benjamin B. Russell.....	Augusta P. O. box 308.
9.	Illinois.....	Harman G. Reynolds.....	Springfield.
10.	Indiana.....	John M. Bramwell.....	Indianapolis.
11.	Iowa.....	William B. Langridge.....	Muscotine.
12.	Kansas.....	E. T. Carr.....	Leavenworth.
13.	Kentucky.....	Philip Swigert.....	Frankfort.
14.	Louisiana.....	James C. Batchelor.....	New Orleans.
15.	Maine.....	Ira Berry.....	Portland.
16.	Maryland.....	William A. Wentz.....	Baltimore.
17.	Massachusetts.....	Thomas Waterman.....	Boston.
18.	Michigan.....	J. Eastman Johnson.....	Centreville.
19.	Minnesota.....	William S. Combs.....	Saint Paul.
20.	Mississippi.....	Oscar T. Keeler.....	Columbus.
21.	Missouri.....	Geo. Frank Gouley.....	St. Louis.
22.	Nebraska.....	J. N. Wise.....	Plattsmouth.
23.	New Hampshire.....	Horace Chase.....	Hopkinton.
24.	New Jersey.....	John Woolverton.....	Trenton.
25.	New York.....	Christopher G. Fox.....	Buffalo.
26.	North Carolina.....	Thomas B. Carr.....	Wilmington.
27.	Ohio.....	John D. Caldwell.....	Cincinnati.
28.	Oregon.....	R. P. Earhart.....	Salem.
29.	Pennsylvania.....	John Thomson.....	Philadelphia.
30.	Rhode Island.....	George H. Burnham.....	Providence.
31.	South Carolina.....	Ebenezer Thayer.....	Charleston.
32.	Tennessee.....	John Frizzell.....	Nashville.
33.	Texas.....	Robert Brewster.....	Houston.
34.	Vermont.....	John B. Hollenbeck.....	Burlington.
35.	Virginia.....	John Dove.....	Richmond.
36.	Wisconsin.....	William T. Palmer.....	Milwaukee.
37.	United States.....	John D. Caldwell.....	Cincinnati.