

1869

PROCEEDINGS
of the

GRAND
CHAPTER

of
Royal Arch Masons
of

ALABAMA



A.D. 1869 / A.I. 2399

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A.D.2017, A.L. 6017

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Chapter of Alabama,

AT THE

ANNUAL CONVOCATION

HELD IN THE

CITY OF MONTGOMERY,

Commencing December 7th, 1869.



MONTGOMERY, ALA.:

BARRETT & BROWN, PRINTERS AND BINDERS.

1870.

REPORT

THE REPORT OF THE
COMMISSIONER OF THE
LAND OFFICE
FOR THE YEAR 1900
CONTAINS A
DETAILED ACCOUNT
OF THE
LANDS
AND
TERRITORIES
UNDER
THE
MANAGEMENT
OF
THE
LAND
OFFICE
DURING
THE
YEAR
1900
AND
A
GENERAL
STATEMENT
OF
THE
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UNDER
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CLOSURE
OF
THE
YEAR
1900

PROCEEDINGS.

The M. Ex. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama held its Forty-third Annual Grand Convocation at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Montgomery on Tuesday, the 7th day of December, A. D., 1869, A. L. 5869, A. Inv. 2399.

PRESENT:

PELEG BROWN.....	Grand High Priest.
H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	Deputy G. H. Priest.
JAMES B. LUCKIE.....	Grand King.
JAMES M. DEDMAN.....	Grand Scribe.
EDMUND M. HASTINGS.....	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE.....	Grand Secretary.
ANDERSON G. COPELAND, <i>pro tem</i>	Grand Chaplain.
MYLES J. GREENE.....	Grand C. of the Host
WILLIAM E. BEAIRD.....	Grand P. Sojourner.
MARTIN G. SLAUGHTER.....	Grand R. A. C.
MORTIMER M. COOKE.....	Grand M. 3 V.
WILEY W. BLOODWORTH, <i>pro tem</i>	Grand M. 2 V.
HENRY W. CLARK, <i>pro tem</i>	Grand M. 1 V.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....	Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

WILLIAM P. CHILTON	Grand High Priest.
DAVID CLOPTON.....	Grand High Priest.
GEORGE D. NORRIS.....	Grand High Priest.
JAMES McCaleb WILEY.....	D. G. High Priest.
THOMAS C. HARTWELL.....	D. G. High Priest.
RICHARD F. KNOTT.....	D. G. High Priest.
JAMES M. BRUNDIDGE.....	Grand King.
HUMPHREY S. SHELTON.....	Grand King.
ISAAC W. SUTTLE.....	Grand King.
JAMES H. JOINER.....	Grand King.
MALICHI W. DAVIS.....	Grand Scribe.
STEPHEN C. WILLIAMS.....	Grand Scribe.
PALMER J. PILLANS.....	Grand Scribe.

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

No. 1	Tuskaloosa.....	William A. Cochran.....	H. P.
" 4	Monroe.....	Noah A. Agee*.....	"
		George D. Norris*.....	"
" 5	Eunomia.....	William D. Humphrey*.....	K.
		Robert W. Coltart.....	S.
" 6	Cyrus.....	Henry W. Sample.....	H. P.
" 9	Clinton.....	John N. Martin*.....	"
" 11	Phenix.....	Nathaniel T. Lupton.....	"
		Thomas R. Ward.....	S.
" 12	Marion.....	George P. L. Reid.....	H. P.
		Mortimer M. Cooke.....	K.
" 17	Wetumpka.....	Isaac W. Suttle.....	K.
" 19	Mount Moriah.....	William C. Penick.....	S.
" 20	Livingston.....	Charles Coleman*.....	K.
		Robert D. Webb.....	H. P.
" 21	Mobile.....	Josiah L. Scruggs*.....	K.
		Palmer J. Pillans*.....	H. P.
" 22	Montgomery.....	William H. Sadler*.....	S.
		Daniel Sayre.....	H. P.
" 23	Talladega.....	Walter C. Jackson.....	K.
		James Davidson.....	S.
		Joseph H. Johnson.....	H. P.
" 24	Eufaula.....	James H. Joiner.....	K.
		Charles Pelham.....	S.
		James Milton.....	H. P.
" 25	Courtland.....	Thomas Cargile*.....	K.
" 26	Union.....	G. Albert Roberts*.....	S.
" 27	Dayton.....	P. P. Gilchrist.....	K.
" 28	Saint Johns.....	Robert Christian.....	H. P.
" 30	James Penn.....	Foster B. Terrell.....	S.
" 32	Fulton.....	James Kent.....	H. P.
" 34	Hermon.....	R. L. Kay.....	S.
" 35	James L. Daniel.....	William B. Wynn.....	K.
" 36	Pickensville.....	William E. Beaird.....	H. P.
" 40	Camden.....	Charles M. Erwin*.....	K.
" 43	Tuskegee.....	Isaiah A. Wilson.....	K.
" 44	Choctaw.....	Malichi W. Davis.....	H. P.
" 54	Tyrian.....	S. C. Woolfolk*.....	K.
" 55	Suggsville.....	Humphrey S. Shelton.....	H. P.
		John C. Moorhead*.....	K.
		Luckie W. Jenkins.....	H. P.
		J. Eades Gullett*.....	S.
		Sidney B. Paine.....	H. P.
		James E. Cobb.....	K.
		G. Frank Smith.....	H. P.
		William H. Biggs.....	H. P.
		Alfred N. Worthy*.....	K.
		William J. Hearin*.....	H. P.
		George W. Files.....	K.

*Proxies.

No. 56	Zerubbabel.....	{ H. T. Clemons*.....H. P. Mortimer Reeder*.....K.
" 57	Lebanon.....	{ George W. Malone*.....H. P. William J. Haralson.....K.
" 62	Rockford.....	{ John A. Sears.....H. P. Thomas S. McDonald*.....K.
" 64	Central.....	{ William J. Peddy*.....S.
" 65	Russell.....	{ Edward G. Walker.....H. P. Thomas B. Foster....."
" 66	Alabama.....	{ John Cortright*....."
" 67	Farriorville.....	{ Oliver S. Beers.....S.
" 68	Cherokee.....	{ John McCreless.....H. P. Samuel K. McSpadden....."
" 69	Lower Peach Tree.....	{ James A. Reeves*.....S.
" 70	Choctaw Corner.....	{ Christopher C. Curtis.....H. P. John F. Pate....."
" 71	Landmark.....	{ Horatio C. Grayson.....K.
" 75	Pine Level.....	{ James M. Bridges.....H. P. John H. Weed.....S.
" 76	Elyton.....	{ William G. Jackson.....H. P. Henry W. Clark.....K.
" 78	Danville.....	{ Goldsmith W. Hewitt.....H. P. Richard H. L. Whorton.....K.
" 79	Hillabee.....	{ James M. Ware*.....S.
" 80	Loachapoka.....	{ Anderson G. Copeland.....H. P. Simeon P. Lovelady*.....S.
" 81	Jefferson.....	{ Martin G. Slaughter.....H. P. Myles J. Greene....."
" 83	Bell.....	{ Wiley W. Bloodworth*.....K.
" 85	Gaston.....	{ James M. Allen*.....S.
" 86	Cocosa.....	{ William W. Harder.....H. P.
" 87	Moulton.....	{ Edward H. C. Bailey*.....K.
" 88	Roslin.....	{ John W. Garrison.....H. P.
" 89	Somerville.....	{ Simeon Walton....."
" 90	Greenville.....	{ William R. Horn.....K.
" 92	Notasulga.....	{ Robert L. Seale*.....S.
" 93	Columbus.....	{ Rodolphus O. Randall*.....H. P.
" 94	Cowikee.....	{ Benjamin F. Pope*.....K.
		{ DeWitt C. White.....K.
		{ Little B. Clayton.....H. P.
		{ Thadeus L. Robertson.....S.
		{ John F. Turney*.....H. P.
		{ Thomas M. Bragg....."
		{ John A. Duberly*....."
		{ Benjamin Dowd....."
		{ Chrisenberry Streater*.....S.

*Proxies.

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

Prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Anderson G. Copeland.

Companion Harvey G. Hazelrigg, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Indiana, and Representative of the Grand Chapter of Alabama near that Grand Chapter, being announced at the door, a committee consisting of Companions William C. Penick, Richard F. Knott, James E. Cobb, and the Grand Captain of the Host—Companion Myles J. Greene—was appointed to wait upon him, and invite him to visit the Grand Chapter. Upon entering he was received with the usual formalities, introduced to the companions, and seated upon the right of the Grand High Priest.

The M. Ex. Grand High Priest delivered his Annual Address, and on motion of Companion Edmund M. Hastings, it was referred to a Special Committee of three; and the Deputy Grand High Priest, Companion H. Clay Armstrong, appointed the committee as follows:

Companions Myles J. Greene, James H. Joiner, Palmer J. Pillans.

Grand High Priest's Annual Address.

Companions of the Grand Chapter :

Another year with its cares, its toils, its pleasures, and its sorrows, has been added to the journey of life. Under the superintending care of an over-ruling Providence, we have again assembled within the veils of our sacred sanctuary to mingle in council, to deliberate upon the past ; draw designs ; lay our plans ; stimulate and encourage each other, and to use our best endeavor to promote the harmony and welfare of our time honored institution.

Some whose familiar faces we have been accustomed to see we miss ; they have finished their labors and gone to receive their reward. Among them we miss our aged and honored Companion Thomas McDougal, who so long and faithfully served this Grand Chapter as Sentinel ; he died on the 27th of May last, and the last sad honors to the aged and faithful mason were paid to his memory. Let his name rest upon the tablets of our Order.

It is a source of much gratification to me to state, that as far as my knowledge extends, harmony continues to prevail throughout our jurisdiction ; and in the discharge of my official duties but one single instance has occurred of an unpleasant nature, and that in the Mobile Chapter No. 21, my parent Chapter, in which I received all my degrees, and I fear that I would fail in the discharge of my duty should I omit to report it.

This Chapter has made little effort to conform to the work established by the Grand Chapter, but on the contrary has opposed it, as it conflicted with a work received from an itinerant lecturer from another jurisdiction. This year having elected a new High Priest, I was in hopes the opposi-

tion would entirely cease. On the first convocation for work under their new officers, I availed myself of the opportunity of being present, but not in my official capacity ; and witnessing so much discrepancy in the work, differing from that of the Grand Chapter, I sought an interview with the High Priest on the following day, and to my surprise learned from him that he was not aware that the Grand Chapter had adopted any mode of work and lectures, and that he had been so informed by his predecessors, and that for two years past no work had been reported, and that he was working by their assistance and under their direction. I then attempted to disabuse his mind, when he informed me that any information I might give him in a private interview he would not consider binding, and that it would be necessary for me to address him an official communication, in order that he might lay it before his Chapter for consideration. Accordingly on the 27th of October, last, I addressed him an official communication, stating that I would pay his Chapter an official visit at their next regular convocation, at which time I would point out the discrepancies I had observed, and give such instruction as my duty required, and expressed a desire to see a full attendance of the members, especially the officers, his chapter being a large one, numbering over one-hundred and fifty members. At the appointed time I was announced and was received with courtesy, but upon entering was much mortified to find only six of their own members present, the High Priest being prevented by sickness, although it was their regular monthly convocation for the transaction of business, and it was only by the assistance of visiting companions they were able to open their chapter, two past High Priests of their chapter being among the number present.

I explained the object of my visit by quoting Sec. 1, Art. I; Sec. 5, Art. III; Sec. 2, Art. II, of the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter. After which I reported the ceremonies and work of the Mark Degree, giving some instructions in relation to the other degrees, and having been told that it was not my duty to teach the work I did not entertain any argument upon its merits or demerits, but claiming the right to tell them what it was, and call their attention to their duty.

I then by special request proceeded to close the chapter, prompting in the ceremonies; some of which were objected to, and to which the C. H., one of the Past High Priests, positively refused to conform.

I regret exceedingly to have to call the attention of the Grand Chapter to such an unpleasant matter, but knowing the strong opposition to the work which has so long been manifested, I have been exceedingly cautious and disposed to avoid any interference if I could possibly do so ; but with the spirit manifested, and the reception I had met with on a former occasion, I could not remain silent and discharge my obligations to the Grand Chapter.

It is truly to be regretted that the Grand Chapter, after so much labor and expense, should fail to make some of her light shine even in the darkest corners of her jurisdiction, and I hope some steps will be taken at this Grand Convocation to get the candle from under the bushel.

In my last address I directed your attention to the importance of establishing some mode by which the work and lectures of the Grand Chapter could be more effectually and rapidly disseminated. That part relating to the increase of the committee was referred to a special committee to report at this convocation, and I hope they will come prepared to make their report, and if the plan suggested should not be deemed sufficient by them, I hope they will suggest some other for the accomplishment of this most desirable object ; for the present plan I fear is inadequate. The work having been so long established and re-adopted from year to year by the Grand Chapter, I hope, if no other than the present mode is continued, the committee may have full and ample time allowed them to make their report, so that if any defects appear they may be pointed out and corrected.

During my masonic experience my attention has been so much directed to this subject I cannot forbear pressing the matter before you. There are evils to be corrected which in my humble judgement can only be done by a correct and uniform dissemination of the work, and that under the immediate patronage of the Grand Chapter. We are apparently in a progressive age, our whole country is flooded with what is termed masonic literature, and much of it I am sorry to say is useless trash, and which I fear is doing more to demoralize and destroy the harmony and usefulness of our beloved Order than all things else put together ; and what is still worse, much of this trash is found upon the shelves and vended by those who profess to be Masons. Such things may serve for the time to tickle the fancy and satisfy the curiosity, but in the end will kill, and lead their

patrons into a Babel or the condition of the Lost Tribes, where they will be totally unable to make themselves known or to trace their genealogy.

On the 5th of May last I received a memorial from Hartwell Chapter No. 58, stating that circumstances beyond their control compelled them to tender the surrender of their Charter; also requesting that they might be permitted to retain their effects, hoping that at a future day they would be able to resume their labors and have their Charter restored to them. I have placed these papers in the hands of the Grand Secretary and they will be laid before you at the proper time.

I now beg leave to call your attention to Sec. 2, Art. III, of the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter; that part which says, "any Chapter failing to assemble once in *any year*;" also that part which says "the Charter shall be forfeited;" both these phrases are susceptible of two applications; the first whether it means a masonic year, beginning and ending with our masonic year, or a year ending twelve months from the time of beginning; the second, whether a Charter is forfeited until so declared, if not, whether they may continue their work until so declared. These questions have been propounded to me, and I have made my decision as will appear in the answers, and whether right or wrong, I desire that the Grand Chapter may make a ruling, that there may be no doubt entertained hereafter.

The following questions have been submitted, to which I have returned answers as follows:

Q.—A petition being received without the accompanying fee (the petitioner being a Minister of the Gospel) and for which cause it was rejected, would a reconsideration of the ballot at a future convocation be proper on payment of the fee?

Ans.—*First*, by provision of Sec. 5, Art. IV, of the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter, there is no free list; the fee must always accompany the petition. *Second*, after the ballot has been declared it cannot lawfully be reconsidered, except by request of the parties casting the black ball, and that by the unanimous consent of all present, and that before any companion has left the Hall; for after that all action on the petition is ended, and it can only come up again on a new petition, which must take the regular course.

Q.—An office becoming vacant during the term, how shall it be filled?

Ans.—By an appointment made by the presiding officer, or by an election held under a Special Dispensation.

Q.—Can an officer resign during the term for which he has been duly elected and installed, and for what cause may an office become vacant?

Ans.—He cannot properly do so, and the office is vacated only by a removal from the jurisdiction or by death.

Q.—Can any of the preparatory degrees of the Chapter be opened without first convening and opening the Chapter?

Ans.—By the ruling of the Grand Chapter, the Chapter must always be convened and organized with a constitutional number present, the officers recorded in their respective stations, then if there is no business to come before the Chapter, the ceremonies of opening may be dispensed with, and either of the preparatory degrees opened for work, officers resuming their respective stations.

Q.—Can a Chapter having failed to assemble for fifteen months legally hold a convocation?

Ans.—Any Chapter failing to assemble once in any year its Charter shall be declared forfeited.—(*See By-Laws Grand Chapter, Sec. 2, Art. III.*)

Q.—If a Chapter should hold a convocation after the forfeiture of its Charter what is the effect?

Ans.—It would be illegal, and the only power to reinstate them in possession of their Charter is the Grand Chapter.

Q.—Would the officers and members of a Chapter that had forfeited its Charter be subject to discipline for holding such illegal convocation?

Ans.—They would if it had been so declared, for after the Charter has been declared forfeited they have no authority to use it until it is restored to them, and the only power to do that is the Grand Chapter itself; the Grand High Priest can only give authority through a dispensation to continue until the next Annual Grand Convocation.

Q.—What construction do you put upon that portion of Sec. 2 of Art. III of the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter, which says “any Chapter in the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter failing to meet once in any year.”

Ans.—Twelve calendar months make one year. Our years of the Christian era we reckon from and begin on the first day of January. The years of an event begin the day the event occurs. A child born to-day,

at the expiration of twelve months is one year old; that is clear. A Chapter failing to meet at her regular time, and continuing to fail for twelve months, has failed in the spirit of the By-Law of the Grand Chapter. The word *any* in the By-Law, in my judgement, covers the whole ground; that is, the year beginning the day the event occurs and ending twelve months from that day; if any other construction is allowed, a Chapter might remain dormant two years before she could be reached by the constitution; as for instance, meet January 1st, 1869, and remain dormant until December 31st, 1870; yet you might say you have met once in each year, but you have not met once in each year of your life.

Q.—Is a companion eligible to be elected to the office of High Priest of a Chapter who is not a member of the same?

Ans.—He is not. It could not legally and properly be done.

Q.—Would it be proper for a Chapter to postpone an election for a High Priest until after the time prescribed by the constitution, to enable a companion to dimitt from another Chapter and affiliate, in order to make him eligible for the office of High Priest?

Ans.—It would not. Sec. 9, Art. III of the By-laws of the Grand Chapter says, "every Chapter shall, annually, at the regular convocation immediately preceding the anniversary in June, elect. Therefore, if practicable, an election should be held, after which it would require a special dispensation authorizing the same.

Q.—Would a delay, or postponement of an election, for the purpose of giving a companion an opportunity to dimitt from another Chapter and affiliate, so as to make him eligible for office, be a proper case for the use of the dispensing power?

Ans.—It would not, for it would be a clear case of evading the constitution, and the exercise of such extraordinary power would make the High Priest a party to such action. In all cases, if practicable, the constitution should be complied with; the dispensing power of the High Priest should only be used in cases of emergency, or where the good of the Order requires, and unforeseen events prevent a strict compliance with the constitution.

Q.—Is a companion who has never been elected and served in the office of King or Scribe, eligible to the office of High Priest?

Ans.—The constitution and regulations of the Grand Chapter are silent on this subject. Anciently the Master's Degree was the highest known in Masonry, and having received that degree, the recipients were entitled to all the benefits, although by the ruling of the Grand Lodge it is now otherwise. No rule prevails in the Grand Chapter that would exclude any worthy Companion R. A. Mason from being elected to the highest office in the Chapter. The Chapter Degrees being a part of Ancient Craft Masonry, their present organization is of modern origin, and I think not governed by the rule in reference to subordination in the Blue Lodge. Therefore I decide, that until there is some ruling to the contrary, any companion who is qualified is eligible to serve as High Priest when duly installed. In making this decision I am aware that I am in conflict with the ruling of the Grand Lodge, but I am induced to do it, believing, as I do, that true merit should be the only test, and as being in accordance with the true spirit and meaning of the Ancient Constitutions compiled by Anderson, wherein it says, "all preferment among masons is grounded upon real worth and personal merit only."

Q.—Would it be in order to entertain a motion concurred in at a previous convocation granting a dimit?

Ans.—I think not.—(*See Chapter Code of Alabama, Page 46, Rule 8.*)

Q.—Can a companion dimit without some reason given more than a desire to withdraw from the Chapter, or to sever his connection with the fraternity?

Ans.—I think the right of a companion in good standing to dimit cannot be denied. But I think the companions have a right to know his reasons, else how are they to know he is entitled to a dimit in good companionship. I would recommend a careful perusal of the Ancient Constitutions and Regulations on this subject.

This comprises all the decisions I have made during vacation that I consider of much importance; there are others too plain to admit of doubt, with which I do not wish to cumber this report, for I fear I have already indulged in too much repetition, and been more lengthy than is necessary; but as many of these questions are often asked, my object has been to bring them to a point, for your ruling, as your wisdom may direct, that they may be settled for future reference.

I have granted Special Dispensations to the following named Chapters to elect officers, they for good reasons given, having failed to elect at the proper time, viz.:

June 26th to Choctaw Chapter No. 44.

July 1st to Zerubbabel Chapter No. 56.

August 19th to Tuscombina Chapter No. 10.

On the 26th of May I visited Jefferson Chapter No. 81. I found this Chapter in a flourishing condition, and an earnest desire manifested to conform strictly to the work and lectures of the Grand Chapter. Assisted in the work of all the degrees, and exalted a class.

On the 19th of July I visited Eufaula Chapter, No. 24; did no work; gave them instruction in the work and lectures; the intelligence and zeal manifested by the officers and members bespeak the prosperity of this Chapter. I have had frequent invitations to visit and give instruction, and regret I have not been able to do so in all cases, and I hope the Grand Chapter will make some provision for the accomplishment of this most important object.

On the 2d of May last I received credentials from the M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee, and on the 3d of November from the M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Indiana, appointing me the representative of their respective Grand Chapters near the Grand Chapter of Alabama, which are herewith submitted, and I hope you will receive and accredit me as such; and for this courtesy extended I have appointed and forwarded credentials to Companion Jonathan S. Dawson as our representative near the Grand Chapter of Tennessee, and to Companion Harvey G. Hazelrigg as our representative near the Grand Chapter of Indiana, both of which have been accepted, and which I hope will meet your approval, and I would strongly recommend the system of representation with our sister Grand Bodies. It has already been adopted by many of them, and when fully and properly carried out, and used not as a sinecure, but as a medium of correspondence between the different Grand Bodies, I believe it will be productive of much good, and bring us in closer connection, and more strongly cement us in the bands of brotherly love and friendship.

The committee to whom was referred the duty of providing for the

establishing a Council of the Order of High Priesthood failed to make their report at our last Convocation ; I hope they will come prepared to do so at this, as many are in waiting desirous of receiving the Orders.

On the 5th of November last I received a circular letter from Companion John D. Caldwell, General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, enclosing a decree announcing that the Grand Chapter of Iowa had rescinded the resolution tending to sever their connection with the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and had returned to their allegiance ; also, that the Grand Chapter of Florida had become a member of the General Grand Chapter. The decree is herewith submitted.

Recognition and Welcome to M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Florida.

M. EX. GRAND CHAPTER OF IOWA REUNITES WITH GEN. GRAND CHAPTER U. S.

—O—

OFFICE OF GENERAL GRAND SECRETARY

OF THE

GENERAL GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER,

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

CINCINNATI, O., OCTOBER 27TH, A. D., 1869.

Sixty-third year of organization, A. I. 2399.

The following official documents, filed in this office, are communicated to the Royal Craft for information and observance.

In behalf of the General Grand Chapter.

JOHN D. CALDWELL,

General Grand Secretary.

[L. S.]

OFFICE OF THE GEN. GR. HIGH PRIEST OF THE GEN. GR. R. A. CHAPTER,

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

New York, October 25th, 1869.

To whomsoever it may concern, and especially all Royal Arch Masons acknowledging the Jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, Greeting :

“WHEREAS, The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Florida, at a regular convocation, held in the city of Tallahassee, commencing on the 11th day of January, 1869, did adopt the following Preamble and Resolution, to-wit :

"WHEREAS, The General Grand Chapter of the United States of America, waiving all matters heretofore in controversy, relative to the organization of this Grand Chapter, thereby admitting the regularity of the same, has most cordially and fraternally invited this Grand Chapter to become a constitutional member thereof."

"RESOLVED, That this Grand Chapter accept such invitation, in a true masonic spirit, and will hereafter bear allegiance and support to the said General Grand Chapter."

"Adopted by the Grand Chapter the 13th day of January, 1869.

ATTEST:

[L. S.]

"EDWARD BRADFORD, JR.,
Grand Secretary."

Now, therefore, I, JAMES M. AUSTIN, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, of the United States of America, do hereby order and direct, that said Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Florida be received and enrolled under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and be hailed and recognized accordingly.

The present opportunity is embraced, to show the Companions of Florida, a warm and generous welcome to the family of Grand Chapters forming the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and to congratulate the Royal Craft, upon this auspicious exhibition of fraternal love and the spirit masonry teaches.

The General Grand High Priest avails himself of this occasion, to offer to the Royal Craft his earnest congratulations upon the fact, that the Grand Chapter of Iowa, at its late convocation, rescinded its resolutions of withdrawal, resuming its place in the National Compact.

The R. E. JOHN D. CALDWELL, General Grand Secretary, is hereby charged with the promulgation of this decree.

Given under my hand and private seal, at the city of New York, the day and year first above written.

JAMES M. AUSTIN,
General Grand High Priest.

In my first address I called the attention of the Grand Chapter to the resolution adopted in 1861, tending to sever our connection with the General Grand Chapter of the United States; also to the action of that body on the subject at their triennial convocation in Saint Louis in 1868; and by reference to our proceedings it appears that no action was had on the subject. In referring to the matter at that time I was unable to trace the History of our Grand Chapter as clearly as I desired. Since publishing the Chapter Code, compiled by our Grand Secretary, and taking that in connection with the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter in 1826, I find the History more complete. It appears that the first attempt to form a Grand Chapter in this State was made in 1823 under the authority

of the General Grand High Priest, Dewitt Clinton ; but it was attended with many embarrassing circumstances. The necessary quorum it appears could not be obtained to meet the requirements of the General Grand Constitution ; yet in May 21st, 1823, it was so declared, and a constitution adopted, and Grand Officers elected. But at no time does it appear that representatives from more than two Chapters were present. Still the so-called Grand Chapter continued to meet from time to time and to grant Charters ; but frequently failing for want of a quorum. On one occasion the Grand Secretary met, "called the roll, no one answering, he adjourned himself." Difficulties now began to arise, Alabama Chapter at Cahaba and Monroe Chapter at Claiborne, refusing to acknowledge the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter, and for which the Grand Chapter declared them irregular. At this time, there being only four Chapters in the State, deriving their authority from the General Grand Chapter of the United States, viz., Tuscaloosa, Mobile, Alabama, and Monroe, and the two latter declared irregular for refusing allegiance to the Grand Chapter. Monroe Chapter memorialized the General Grand Chapter of the United States, remonstrating against the Grand Chapter of Alabama. The Grand Chapter also sent a communication to the General Grand Chapter, setting forth the difficulty, both of which were laid before the General Grand Chapter at their convocation in 1826, and which were referred to a committee who reported a series of resolutions, which may be found in the compendium of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter, page 80, which were unanimously adopted, and which caused a re-formation or the forming of this Grand Chapter, June 2d, 1827, by the four Chapters above named, acknowledging allegiance to, and under the authority of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

Thus, my companions, I have given you a short synopsis of the History of our Grand Chapter, and, under all the circumstances, it is clear to my mind, that we erred in passing the resolution we did in 1861, tending to sever our connection, and that it ought not to have been done without the consent of the General Grand Body ; our obligations as masons I

think should have prompted a different course, for she is our parent who gave us power and authority, and brought us out of difficulty when in trouble. The only argument I have ever heard used, is that it is an unnecessary and useless body and clothed with too much power. Of the former she may be to us at this time, and I hope no emergency in our affairs may ever arise to make it necessary for us to appeal to her again to settle our difficulties ; and of the latter, if that be the case, by a careful perusal of her constitution I cannot see it, and if she should attempt to usurp a power not ceded, or disturb a landmark, we all know by the rules of our Order her acts would be void, it having ever been conceded, "that it is not in the power of any man or body of men to make innovations."

This last is the "consideration" which prompted me in my former address to urge the rescinding of that resolution, for I do fear the motives that prompted in passing the resolution were very improper, and have a tendency to disturb one of the most sacred landmarks of our Order ; and I believe every companion who hears me to-day, if he will read the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for 1861, page 17, must come to the same conclusion, and I hope the resolution referred to will be erased from the statutes of this Grand Chapter—with equal propriety could not one of the subordinates of this Grand Chapter do the same thing !

With these thoughts I leave the subject for your careful consideration, and if you do not view the matter as I do, I shall feel at least that I have discharged my duty, in again bringing the matter before you. It is not the advantages or disadvantages of a General Grand Body that I am urging, but it is the propriety of such an act for such a cause.

And now, companions, I have laid before you my official acts for the past year ; nothing of an embarrassing nature has occurred implying any doubt in my mind as to the proper course to pursue, and it is with much pleasure that I congratulate the Craft upon the general prosperity of the Order ; and without trespassing farther upon your patience, I will close with a most earnest desire that all our proceedings may be characterized with harmony and brotherly love, and that each companion may return to

his home with the full satisfaction of having discharged his duty, and of having done something to promote the honor, interest, and welfare, of our time-honored Order.

PELEG BROWN,

Grand High Priest.

MONTGOMERY, Dec. 7th, 1869.

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, Ala., Dec. 7, 1869.

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

As soon after the close of the Grand Chapter in December, 1868, as it was possible to do so, I had 491 copies of the Chapter Code of Alabama printed and bound in handsome book form, at a cost of three hundred and fifty dollars. One hundred dollars was paid to the committee for preparing the Code, and fifty dollars to the Grand Secretary for superintending the printing and sale; making the cost within a fraction of one dollar per copy. Fifty-seven copies have been sold, and the account stands as follows :

Copies of Chapter Code of Alabama.....	491
“ sold.....	57
“ on hand.....	434—491

For these 57 copies the money has been paid over to the Grand Treasurer.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,

In account with DANIEL SAYRE,

Grand Secretary.

1868.

CR.

Dec'r 8. By dues received at Annual Convocation of 1868.—(See printed Proceedings, pp. 61 and 62.....\$759 00

DR.

Dec'r 21. To amount paid over to Grand Treasurer.....\$759 00

DANIEL SAYRE,

Grand Secretary.

MONTGOMERY, December 7, 1869

1869.]

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA.

21

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,

*In Account with DANIEL SAYRE,**Grand Secretary.*

1868.

CR.

Dec'r 21. By Contingent Fund.....\$1,000 00

BACK DUES.

1869.

May 10. By Greenville No. 90..... 5 75

June 1. By Marion No. 12..... 25

Aug't 19. By Cyrus No. 6..... 100 00

ERROR.

Aug't 7. By error in Suggsville No. 55..... 4 00

\$1,110 00

1868.

DR.

COMMITTEE ON WORK.

Dec'r 12. To paid Jo H. Johnson..... 43 50

H. Clay Armstrong..... 41 00

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Dec'r 11. To P. J. Pillans..... 100 00

GRAND SENTINEL.

Dec'r 17. To Thomas McDougal..... 15 00

1869.

April 2. To Barrett & Brown..... 260 50

15. To Postage..... 20 00

May 10. To Express charges..... 50

Oct'r 28. To Rent..... 150 00

Dec'r 1. To Grand Treasurer..... 479 50

\$1,110 00—\$1,110 00

DANIEL SAYRE,

Grand Secretary.

MONTGOMERY, December 7, 1869.

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

Grand Treasurer's Annual Report.

—o—

E. M. HASTINGS, GRAND TREASURER,

In account with the M. W. Grand Chapter of Alabama.

1868.

DR.

Dec'r 8.	To balance cash on hand this day.....	\$1,627 65
21.	To cash from Grand Secretary.....	759 00
1869.		
Dec'r 1.	To cash from Grand Secretary.....	536 50
		\$2,923 15

CR.

1868.

Voucher.

Dec'r 12.	By paid appropriation to James Penn, P. G. H. P.....	1	\$ 250 00
18.	By paid Grand Treasurer's salary for 1868.	2	100 00
21.	By paid Daniel Sayre Grand Sec'y salary. . .	3	400 00
	" " " " Contingent Fund....	4	1,000 00
	" " " " appropriation for Code	5	100 00
1869.			
May 18.	By paid Daniel Sayre Grand Secretary.....	6	50 00
July 10.	By paid Barrett & Brown for printing Code	7	350 00
Dec'r 7.	By balance cash on hand.....		673 15
			\$2,923 15

1869.

DR.

Dec'r 7.	To balance cash on hand this day.....	\$ 673 15
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E. M. HASTINGS,

Grand Treasurer.

GRAND TREASURER'S OFFICE, }
Montgomery, Dec. 7, 1869. }

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 record, and printed with the proceedings.—(*See Appendix.*)

Companion George D. Norris, Chairman of the Committee on the Order of High Priesthood, made the following report, and the report was received, and ordered to be spread upon the record and printed with the proceedings.

REPORT ON THE ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD.

To the Grand Chapter of Alabama :

We, your committee appointed in 1869 to procure and introduce the Order of High Priesthood into this Grand Jurisdiction, beg leave to report : That one of your committee, Companion George D. Norris, visited Nashville, Tenn., in the month of October last, and received the order, and with the assistance of M. E. Grand High Priest, H. G. Hazelrigg, of Indiana, together with Companion R. F. Knott, opened a Council of High Priests, and proceeded to confer the Order upon thirty High Priests and Past High Priests; that they have organized a Council and elected officers in accordance with the rules and regulations thereof, and beg leave to have the organization and proceedings printed with the proceedings of the Grand Chapter.

Fraternally submitted,

GEORGE D. NORRIS,
E. M. HASTINGS,
Committee.

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

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE.

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence not having had time to report at the last Grand Annual Convocation on the questions on masonic law contained in the address of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, and which were referred to it near the expiration of the convocation, beg leave now to report : That in their opinion the decisions of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest

are correct, and strictly in accordance with the usage and decrees in this jurisdiction, on the first, second, third, fourth and fifth questions. They think that the ruling of the M. Ex. on the sixth question is dictated by prudence, and that some settled law may prevail they recommend its approval by this Grand Chapter, that there may hereafter be uniformity in the action of the several Chapters under this jurisdiction.

The seventh question was settled by an edict of this Grand Chapter in 1864, in accordance with the ruling of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, and while this edict remains unrepealed questions eight and nine can receive no other answer than that given by the M. Ex. Grand High Priest. The committee also endorse the opinions of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest in reply to questions ten, eleven and twelve.

Your committee, however, think that the edict of 1864, in relation to suspension for non-payment of dues, is of too stringent a character, and too sweeping in its effects. Your committee is of opinion that there is but one character of suspensions by the Lodge which should deprive a companion of masonic association with his Chapter, and that is suspension after due trial and judgement. That for non-payment of dues is certainly not of this class, and your committee doubts whether a Chapter ought to take cognizance of such suspension. Your committee say *ought*, because they think that it is wrong, though so long as the edict above alluded to remains in force, they know that the Chapters must be governed by it.

Your committee therefore recommend that the decisions of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest be confirmed.

Your committee also recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That the edict of this Grand Chapter in the proceedings of 1864, p. 14, and Chapter Code, p. 51—"That one suspended by a M. M. Lodge for non-payment of dues shall also stand suspended as a R. A. M.," be, and the same is hereby, repealed; and that suspension by a M. M. Lodge to be binding upon the action of the Chapters in this jurisdiction shall be suspension after trial and conviction.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. J. PILLANS,
Chairman.

The M. Ex. Grand High Priest announced the following

STANDING COMMITTEES:

No. 1.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS.—Sidney B. Paine, John A. Duberly, John A. Sears.

No. 2.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS.—Henry W. Clark, William H. Sadler, Mortimer M. Cooke.

ON DISPENSATIONS.—Martin G. Slaughter, James E. Cobb, Malichi W. Davis.

ON FINANCE.—Oliver S. Beers, Charles Pelham, Rodolphus O. Randall.

ON BY-LAWS, SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND APPEALS.—Samuel K. McSpadden, Goldsmith W. Hewitt, John McCreless.

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

Petitions were presented for the re-instatement of Uchee Chapter No. 53, and Hope Chapter No. 49, and they were referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

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

In Grand Chapter.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, Dec. 8, 1869.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 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 Anderson G. Copeland.

The minutes were read and approved.

Companion Mortimer M. Cooke, from the committee appointed at the last Convocation of the Grand Chapter, to report upon the expediency of increasing the Committee on Work to six, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT ON INCREASING THE COMMITTEE ON WORK.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

Your committee, to whom was referred so much of the address of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest to the Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held on the 8th of December, 1868, as related to an increase of the Committee on Work, beg leave to report that after a careful consideration of the reasons urged by the M. Ex. Grand High Priest in support of the change in the By-Laws of this Grand Chapter suggested by his said address, they have arrived at the conclusion that there exists no necessity for an increase of the Committee on Work, which may not be obviated without recourse to the cumbrous and expensive system recom-

mended by the Grand High Priest. It is very doubtful whether a committee can be found willing to undertake, without adequate compensation, the labor and expenditure of time and money which would necessarily be involved in the system recommended, and in the judgment of your committee the Subordinate Chapters of this jurisdiction are not just now in a condition to submit willingly to any further taxation. And as experience has demonstrated that the greater the number of a committee the less the probability of securing unity of purpose and harmony of action, your committee are decidedly of opinion that the Committee on Work is already large enough for the purposes and interests it was intended to subserve. Your committee, therefore, in view of the premises aforesaid, respectfully recommend that the suggestion of the Grand High Priest in this behalf be not concurred in.

All of which is most respectfully and fraternally submitted.

M. M. COOKE,

Chairman.

Companion H. Clay Armstrong, Chairman of the Committee on Work, made report on the R. A. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

The Grand Chapter proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing masonic year, Companions William R. Horn and James Milton acting as tellers; and the election resulted as will be recorded in to-morrow's proceedings, it having been postponed, after the election of Grand High Priest, until 8½ o'clock to-morrow morning.

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

In Grand Chapter.

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THURSDAY MORNING, Dec. 9, 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 Anderson G. Copeland.

The minutes were read and approved.

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

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	Notasulga.....	<i>Grand High Priest.</i>
JAMES B. LUCKIE.....	Pine Level.....	<i>D. Grand High Priest.</i>
JAMES M. DEDMAN.....	Selma.....	<i>Grand King.</i>
MYLES J. GREENE.....	Loachapoka.....	<i>Grand Scribe.</i>
EDMUND M. HASTINGS.....	Montgomery.....	<i>Grand Treasurer.</i>
DANIEL SAYRE.....	Montgomery.....	<i>Grand Secretary.</i>
REV. MARTIN G. SLAUGHTER.....	Pinckneyville.....	<i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
WILLIAM W. HARDER.....	Demopolis.....	<i>Grand C. Host.</i>

Companion Myles J. Greene, from the Committee on Grand High Priest's Address, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in. And the M. Ex. Deputy Grand High Priest, Companion H. Clay

Armstrong, appointed the committees provided for as follows :

ON THE DEATH OF COMPANION McDUGAL.

Companions Myles J. Greene, William W. Harder, and William P. Chilton.

ON MOBILE CHAPTER NO. 21.

Companions Mortimer M. Cooke, William R. Horn, and William E. Beard.

REPORT ON GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

The committee to whom was referred the address of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to make the following report :

The address of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest is an able and comprehensive exposition of Capitulary Masonry in Alabama, evincing an earnest desire and much laborious effort on his part to dispense true masonic light and knowledge throughout this jurisdiction.

It also contains many timely and valuable recommendations which we trust will receive the prompt attention and careful investigation which their high importance demands. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following :

That so much as relates to the death of Companion Grand Sentinel Thomas McDougal, be referred to a special committee of three.

That so much as relates to Mobile Chapter No. 21 be referred to a special committee of three.

That all that portion which relates to questions of masonic law be referred to Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

That so much as relates to credentials of representatives of Grand Chapters be endorsed by this Grand Chapter, and the proper credentials be furnished and forwarded.

That so much as relates to the General Grand Chapter be referred to a special committee of three, with instructions to report at the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

MYLES J. GREENE,
JAMES H. JOINER,
PALMER J. PILLANS,
Committee.

Companion Palmer J. Pillans, from the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following two reports, and they were severally received and concurred in :

[I.]

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Grand Chapter of Alabama :

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to whom was referred the petition of several members of Uchee Chapter No. 53, beg leave to report: That the circumstances which produced the extinction of this Chapter had caused the fires to burn dimly on many others, which with great difficulty were saved from the forfeiture of their charters. But your committee are pleased that efforts are to be made to revive this old Chapter. Your committee sees no legal or constitutional objection to prevent this Grand Chapter from exercising its charity and magnanimity. Your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following :

Resolved, That the charter of Uchee Chapter No. 53, now forfeited, be restored, and that this Chapter be relieved from any back dues.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

P. J. PILLANS,

Chairman.

[II.]

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Grand Chapter of Alabama :

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the application of Companions Anderson and Goodwin on behalf of Hope Chapter No. 49, to be allowed to surrender its Charter and be incorporated with Pickensville Chapter No. 36, beg leave to report :

That the papers do not bear evidence of their being the action of Hope Chapter, but only of two of its members on its behalf, and that this Grand Chapter ought not to entertain the same. The committee therefore beg to be relieved from any further consideration of the subject.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

P. J. PILLANS,

Chairman.

Companion Palmer J. Pillans, Chairman of the Commit-

tee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Grand Chapter of Alabama :

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to make this supplemental report: Since the beginning of this convocation of the Grand Chapter there has been referred to them a letter from James Gossip, R. Ex. Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, giving the welcome intelligence that the several Chapters in Nova Scotia had united in the formation of a Grand Chapter, under "the firm belief that a union of all the masonic interests would tend in a greater degree to create that harmony and peace so desirable in the fraternity," and asking a welcome at our hands. Your committee feel assured that this will most cordially be done by this Grand Chapter; we therefore recommend the adoption of the following :

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter most cordially welcomes the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia into the family of Grand Chapters, and extends to her a fraternal greeting.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

P. J. PILLANS,

Chairman.

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

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

The Committee on Finance beg leave to report the accounts and vouchers of the R. Ex. Grand Secretary and the R. Ex. Grand Treasurer as correct and satisfactory, and present the balance sheet of the R. Ex. Grand Treasurer as a part of this report—

Showing a balance on hand, 7th December, 1869, of.....	\$ 673 15
which amount has since been increased by receipts of dues	
to this Annual Convocation of, say.....	750 00
Leaving a fund now of.....	\$1,423 15

at the disposal of this Grand Chapter—an amount but little in excess of our wants for necessary current expenses, and suggesting the imperative necessity of at once providing for an increase of dues—for it is apparent that the surplus from this convocation will not, with the dues for 1870, as now fixed, meet your expenses, and your committee deem it their first duty to call attention to the danger and suggest the remedy, which they do by resolution accompanying this report.

Your committee recommend that the following appropriations be made for current necessary expenses, payable out of any money in the hands of the Grand Treasurer not otherwise appropriated, to-wit :

To Companion Edmund M. Hastings for salary as R. Ex. Grand Treasurer for past masonic year.....	\$ 100 00
To Companion Daniel Sayre for salary as R. Ex. Grand Secretary for same period.....	400 00
To Companion P. J. Pillans, Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for services and expenses.....	100 00
To Rent of Office of Grand Secretary.....	150 00
and as a contingent fund in the hands of the R. Ex. Grand Secretary to defray expenses of Printing Reports, Committee on Work, Grand Sentinel's Salary, and Incidentals, including the sum of \$50 00 as the contribution of the Grand Chapter towards expenses of repairing the Hall.....	500 00
	\$1,250 00

Your committee respectfully suggest to the Grand Chapter the propriety and necessity of some action looking to a participation in the great and glorious work of building the Temple, and recommend that a committee of three be appointed by the M. Ex. Grand High Priest to consider this subject, and digest, prepare, and report to the next annual convocation a plan placing this Grand Chapter in co-operation with the other Grand Bodies in this enterprise.

Resolved, That the by-laws of this Grand Chapter be so amended that section 3 of article III shall read "fifty cents" instead of "twenty-five cents," as amended at the Grand Convocation in December, 1867.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

OLIVER S. BEERS,

Chairman.

The Companion Grand Secretary offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

DUES REFUNDED TO CYRUS CHAPTER NO. 6.

Resolved, That the dues from Cyrus Chapter No. 6, up to and including 1867, be, and the same are hereby, refunded to that chapter.

The Companion Grand Secretary offered the following resolution and it was adopted :

AUTHORITY TO PROCURE OFFICE SEAL.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure an Office Seal.

Brother Sam Thompson offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

JEWEL TO P. G. H. P. PELEG BROWN.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby, instructed to procure a Past Grand High Priest Jewel to be presented to Past Grand High Priest, Peleg Brown.

The Grand High Priest *elect* announced certain standing committees and officers, which will be found at the conclusion of to-morrow's proceedings.

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

In Grand Chapter.

—o—

FRIDAY MORNING, Dec. 10, 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 Anderson G. Copeland.

The minutes were read and approved.

Companion Sidney B. Paine, 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, have examined the returns of the following Chapters and find them correct :

Tuscaloosa.....	No. 1.	James Penn.....	No. 30
Eunomia.....	" 5.	Talladega.....	" 23
Cyrus.....	" 6.	Tuskegee.....	" 43
Phoenix.....	" 11.	Montgomery.....	" 22
Marion.....	" 12.	St. Johns.....	" 28
Wetumpka.....	" 17.	Camden.....	" 40
Dayton.....	" 27.	Union.....	" 26
Hermon.....	" 34.	Mount Moriah.....	" 19
Choctaw.....	" 44.	Eufaula.....	" 24

COURTLAND, No. 25.—Report 57 members, dues \$12 75. Short of correct amount \$1 50.

MOBILE, No. 21.—Reports one companion only exalted on 9th April.

CONCORD, No. 37.—Reports one companion exalted ; no date given.

PICKENSVILLE, No. 36.—No seal attached to return ; same having been lost or mislaid.

LIVINGSTON, No. 20.—Blanks not filled.

CLINTON, No. 9.—M. E. M. and Mark Master reported under three heads.

TUSCUMBIA, No. 10.—Reports 50 cents as dues for each companion ; recommend that Grand Secretary correct the error.

JAMES L. DANIEL, No. 35.—Reports companions exalted under four heads.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

S. B. PAINE,
Chairman.

Companion Henry W. Clark, 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 M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 2 respectfully report, that they have examined the returns of thirty Subordinate Chapters, and that they find the following correct, to-wit :

Tyrian.....	No. 54.	Suggsville.....	No. 55
Lebanon.....	" 57.	Clayton.....	" 63
Farriorville.....	" 67.	Choctaw Corner.....	" 70
Land-Mark.....	" 71.	Pine Level.....	" 75
Elyton.....	" 76.	Danville.....	" 78
Loachapoka.....	" 80.	Jefferson.....	" 81
Bell.....	" 83.	Gaston.....	" 85
Coosa.....	" 86.	Roslin.....	" 88
Greenville.....	" 90.	Notasulga.....	" 92
Columbus.....	" 93.	Cowikee.....	" 94

And in the following we find certain errors and irregularities herein mentioned, to-wit :

ROCKFORD, No. 62.—No dates to Affiliations.

RUSSELL, No. 65.—Under the head of "Degrees Conferred" a companion is reported as a Mark, Past, and Most Excellent Master, should have been reported under the head of Most Excellent Master, with dates of conferring the several degrees.

ALABAMA, No. 66.—Returns correct ; but show that on the 9th day of April, 1869, there were two candidates exalted, in violation of the rule that

there shall not be more nor less than three exalted at one and the same time.

CHEROKEE, No. 68.—Dues not extended as directed by the Grand Secretary.

LOWER PEACH TREE, No. 69.—No date to Affiliations, and Dues one dollar short.

HILLABEE, No. 79.—Returns correct, but an accompanying paper, addressed to the Grand Secretary, shows that an election was held on 26th November, A. D., 1869, for Excellent High Priest and other officers of the Chapter "for the remainder of the present masonic year," and there being no evidence before your committee that a dispensation had been granted for such election, it is supposed to have been irregular.

MOULTON, No. 87.—No Seal.

SOMERVILLE, No. 89.—No Seal. Affiliations not entered in proper place, but the word "none" written there, and opposite the name of one member in the general list of members, the fact and date of his affiliation given under the head of remarks.

GEORGE D. NORRIS, No. 91.—Pays dues, 50 cents for each member, or \$4 75 in excess of amount due.

It is gratifying to your committee to be able to report, that so far as their observation extends a marked improvement is made in the character of the returns from Subordinate Chapters, and though the errors noted are for the most part, of an inconsiderable character, we have deemed it but proper to allude to them, that they may be avoided in future.

Your committee, cannot very well see how a Secretary of ordinary intelligence, and in the observance of reasonable care, should fall into any error, when furnished with blanks so admirably adapted to the purposes for which they are designed.

And, in conclusion, we would say that should we in future have a similar duty assigned us, we shall be most happy to observe that the Subordinate Chapters whose returns may be submitted for examination, have through their officers been guarded and protected against blurr, error, irregularity, or infringement of the established usages and customs of the Order, with that care and watchfulness with which one would protect and guard his own personal character, and thus unspotted to be placed in the archives of the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter—with such deposits will the Subordinate Chapters have reason to be proud of the evidence thus preserved of their diligence and assiduity in the observance of the landmarks of the Order, and of the Constitution, rules, and edicts of the Grand Chapter.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

H. W. CLARK,
Chairman.

Companion James E. Cobb, from the Committee on Dispen-
sations, 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 :

Your Committee on Dispen-
sations beg leave to submit the following
report :

We have examined the returns and minutes of Daviston Chapter, No.
95, under dispensation, and find the same replete with imperfections and
error. We note the following :

Under head "Degrees Conferred," in returns, we find that one candi-
date was "advanced," one "presided," two "received and accepted,"
and one "exalted," on the 7th day of May, 1869 ; and on the 6th Novem-
ber, 1869, a larger amount of work seems to have been done. Your
committee regard this as in violation of the spirit, if not the letter, of an
edict passed at the last annual convocation of this Grand Chapter—(*See
Chapter Code, page 53,*)—for we cannot very well understand how a can-
didate can receive the several degrees, be properly instructed, and exam-
ined all in the same evening.

It would also be clearly in violation of the edict of this Grand Chapter
against substitution, but by reference to the minutes, we find that the
Secretary has committed an error in dates in returns, and that not less
than three were exalted at any one time.

The minutes submitted to your committee, in the absence of a certifi-
cate, we must presume to be the original record.

They are on detached sheets of paper, and are hence highly objection-
able as a record. But they are obnoxious to more serious censure. Unless
such entries as "officers at their post," "the several offices being filled,
&c.," show it, it does not appear that there were present at any time a
sufficient number of companions to open the chapter ; and sometimes
the Secretary has omitted to state even that much, but has been content
to record the names of the three principal officers only, and then to pro-
ceed with "The Royal Arch Lodge was opened in due form."

These minutes are imperfect and erroneous in almost every particular.
The Secretary seems to have been averse to the labor of keeping them,
else we cannot understand the short-hand style in which they are written.
He speaks of "petitions taking their usual course."

In view of all the facts appearing to your committee, and as this chap-
ter was continued under dispensation at the last annual convocation of
this Grand Chapter, and as a further continuance under dispensation

cannot be granted because of a constitutional prohibition ; we are constrained to recommend that it be discontinued. We therefore offer the resolution following :

Resolved, That Daviston Chapter, No. 95, be and the same is hereby discontinued.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. E. COBB,
Chairman.

Companion Mortimer M. Cooke, from the committee provided for by the report of the Committee on the Grand High Priest's Address, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in, and the committee therein provided for appointed, consisting of Companions William P. Chilton, David Clopton, and Thomas M. Bragg :

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MOBILE CHAPTER, No. 21.

To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your committee to whom was referred so much of the address of the Grand High Priest (read at the opening of this Grand Chapter) as referred to the action of Mobile Chapter, No. 21, in relation to the work adopted by this Grand Chapter, beg leave to report as follows :

That inasmuch as it is a matter of great difficulty for subordinate chapters to adopt in perfection and without change the work reported to this Grand Chapter, your committee think that the discrepancies in the work of Mobile Chapter, No. 21, referred to by the Grand High Priest, should be regarded with a charitable eye by all of us who are not perfect ourselves ; and more especially that the said address shows that there were really but six members of Mobile Chapter, No. 21, present at the time the grievances complained of occurred.

The gravity of the charges preferred by the Grand High Priest in this case, induced your committee to call before them the officer chiefly complained of, with a view to the institution of such thorough investigation as their importance merited. And having patiently and carefully considered the excuses rendered before the committee by the said officer, (viz : The Captain of the Host of Mobile Chapter, No. 21,) as well as the charges preferred by the address aforesaid, your committee are firm in the conviction that no wanton disrespect was intended either the Grand High Priest or this Grand Chapter, by the refusal complained of. And this conviction is strengthened by the fact that the ceremony with which the Captain of the Host of Mobile Chapter,

No. 21, refused compliance, has since been condemned and stricken from the work adopted by this Grand Chapter. According to his interpretation of the effect of his obligation, the C. H. was morally and conscientiously bound to act as he did. He, therefore, twice asked to be excused from the performance of the service required before resorting to an absolute but respectful refusal.

The point presented by this refusal is one of such nicety, and involves so many questions, both of masonic jurisprudence and of conscience, that your committee, with the time at their command, are not prepared to decide it. That point is this: Has the Grand Chapter either the right or the power to compel the observance of any ceremony at conflict with the conscientious scruples of any party against whom it is proposed to be enforced? And since your committee have declared their inability to decide thereon, they respectfully suggest that it be referred to a select committee for investigation and report at the next annual convocation of this Grand Chapter. If it is competent for this Grand Chapter to create masonry the matter would present no difficulty. But if masonry be already created and unchangeable in its peculiar features, your committee are not prepared to say that a subordinate should yield unhesitating obedience when, in his opinion, that obedience would reveal a conflict between his fealty to this Grand Chapter and his allegiance to his God.

The want of courtesy to which the Grand High Priest refers in his address as having been previously manifested towards him by Mobile Chapter, No. 21, was doubtless the result of inadvertence on the part of a new and inexperienced presiding officer, and your committee are of opinion that it should be apologized for. But they do not recommend that an apology be *required*, because they are satisfied that their companions of Mobile Chapter, No. 21, will readily acquiesce in this opinion and adopt the redress intimated without further requirement.

And your committee, having thus faithfully discharged the delicate trust committed to their charge, respectfully and fraternally submit this report.

M. M. COOKE,
Chairman.

INSTALLATION.

The Grand Officers elected and appointed for the ensuing masonic year were installed in Ample Form, Peleg Brown, M. Ex. Grand High Priest, officiating, and Companion Sidney B. Paine presenting.

Companion Samuel K. McSpadden, from the Committee

on By-laws, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON BY-LAWS.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your Committee on By-laws beg leave to report, that they have examined the By-laws of Montgomery Chapter, No. 22, and find the same correct in the main, but the committee think they are redundant, often requiring that which is specified in the constitution of the M. Ex. Grand Chapter.

They have also examined the By-laws of Columbus Chapter, No. 93, and find them correct in the main. There is one provision, however, in these by-laws which your committee recommend be changed by said chapter, and that is, the provision in reference to sums accruing from *finés*. There is no such thing as *finés* in masonry. With these suggestions your committee beg leave to return said by-laws with this, their report.

S. K. McSPADDEN,
Chairman.

Companion Sam Thompson offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

RESOLUTION TO PAY GEORGE D. NORRIS.

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars be appropriated out of any funds of this Grand Chapter in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, to defray the expenses of Companion Past Grand High Priest, George D. Norris, in going to, remaining at, and returning from the Grand Chapter of Tennessee, at Nashville, for the purpose of receiving the order of High Priesthood, to be conferred on the Present and Past High Priests of this Grand Chapter.

Companion Isaiah A. Wilson offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

UCHEE CHAPTER NO. 53 TO ELECT OFFICERS.

Resolved, That Uchee Chapter No. 53, the Charter of which has been restored at this Grand Convocation, be, and the same is hereby, authorized to elect officers as soon as practicable and report the result to the Grand Secretary.

Companion Palmer J. Pillans, presented the following explanation, and it was ordered to be spread upon the record :

EXPLANATION BY MOBILE CHAPTER NO. 21.

The undersigned, proxy for the High Priest of Mobile Chapter No. 21, begs leave to file this explanation, and ask that it may be spread upon the minutes.

The returns from this Chapter leave the inference that one member was exalted by the use of substitutes, which is prohibited in this jurisdiction, while the facts which should have been fully reported by the Secretary are as follows :

There were two in Alabama Chapter No. 66 awaiting exaltation, and one in Mobile Chapter No. 21, with no immediate prospect of others. One of those in Alabama Chapter was about to leave the jurisdiction, and that one in Mobile Chapter had a long time been waiting. It was therefore agreed by Alabama Chapter to exalt the brother in Mobile Chapter with the two then awaiting exaltation there in courtesy to Mobile Chapter, and for her benefit. This was done; thus enabling Alabama Chapter to exalt the three and without the use of substitutes. A full record of the action of Alabama Chapter in relation to the exaltation of the brother in Mobile Chapter was sent to Mobile Chapter and spread of record.

Fraternally submitted.

P. J. PILLANS.

Companion Joseph H. Johnson offered the following resolution and it was adopted :

NEW JEWELS, COLLARS, AND SWORDS.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure for the Grand Chapter a new set of jewels, collars, and swords, for the use of the Grand Officers.

Companion Myles J. Greene offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD.

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter approves the establishment of the Order of High Priesthood by the committee appointed at a previous convocation for that purpose.

The Grand Secretary offered the following resolution and it was adopted :

INTERCHANGE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Resolved, That the interchange of representatives between the several Grand Chapters of this Continent and this Grand Chapter is hereby recognized and adopted.

The following are the appointed officers and standing committees of the Grand Chapter :

APPOINTED GRAND OFFICERS.

JAMES MILTON.....	Grand P. Sojourner.
MATTHEW D. MOORE.....	Grand R. A. C.
JOHN A. DUBERLY.....	Grand M. 3 V.
WILLIAM R. HORN.....	Grand M. 2 V.
R. L. KAY.....	Grand M. 1 V.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....	Grand Sentinel.

ON WORK.

EDMUND M. HASTINGS.....	Montgomery.
JOSEPH H. JOHNSON.....	Talladega.
MYLES J. GREENE.....	Loachapoka.

CUSTODIAN OF THE WORK.

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

PALMER J. PILLANS.....	Mobile.
HENRY W. CLARK.....	Pine Level.
SAM THOMPSON.....	Elyton.

ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

PALMER J. PILLANS.....	Mobile.
JAMES E. COBB.....	Tuskegee.
WILLIAM D. HUMPHREY.....	Meridianville.
GEORGE P. L. REID.....	Marion.
BENJAMIN DOWD.....	Newton.

ON GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

(See report on Grand High Priest's Address, p. 29.)

DAVID CLOPTON.....	Montgomery.
WILLIAM P. CHILTON.....	Montgomery.
GEORGE D. NORRIS.....	New Market.

COMMITTEE ON QUESTION FROM MOBILE CHAPTER NO. 21.

(See report of Companion M. M. Cooke, p. 38.)

WILLIAM P. CHILTON.....	Montgomery.
DAVID CLOPTON.....	Montgomery.
THOMAS M. BRAGG.....	Greenville.

ON THE DEATH OF COMPANION McDOUGAL.

MYLES J. GREENE.....	Loachapoka.
WILLIAM W. HARDER.....	Demopolis.
WILLIAM P. CHILTON.....	Montgomery.

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 Martin G. Slaughter, 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

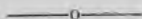
The following is a summary of the information received from the various sources mentioned in the preceding pages. It is to be understood that the information is given as it is, and is not to be taken as a statement of fact, but as a statement of what has been reported.

APPENDIX

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been mentioned in the preceding pages, and who are believed to be connected with the matter. It is to be understood that the names are given as they appear in the original reports, and are not to be taken as a statement of fact, but as a statement of what has been reported.

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been mentioned in the preceding pages, and who are believed to be connected with the matter. It is to be understood that the names are given as they appear in the original reports, and are not to be taken as a statement of fact, but as a statement of what has been reported.

Report on Foreign Correspondence.



To the Officers and Companions of the

M. E. G. Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama :

The undersigned, for the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, makes the following report. He is fully sensible of the blemishes it contains, but hopes to receive once more from the Companions that charitable consideration which his former efforts have received.

The committee have examined the proceedings of the following Grand Chapters :

Arkansas.....	Mississippi.....
Canada.....	Massachusetts.....
California.....	Minnesota.....
Connecticut.....	Texas.....
Delaware.....	Missouri.....
District of Columbia.....	New Jersey.....
Florida.....	New York.....
Georgia.....	Oregon.....
Indiana.....	Ohio.....
Iowa.....	South Carolina.....
Illinois.....	Tennessee.....
Kansas.....	Virginia.....
Kentucky.....	Vermont.....
Louisiana.....	Wisconsin.....
Maine.....	Nebraska.....
Maryland and District of Columbia....	

And now proceed to lay before this Grand Body such matters as they think most worthy of consideration.

ARKANSAS.

The address of the M. E. G. H. P. Luke E. Barber is replete with tender admonition of our masonic duty, and urgent in calling companions to the observance of the masonic virtues and masonic instruction so often overlooked by those whose duty it is to act on their O. B's.

In the discharge of his duty, as the dispenser of light, we find that he rules that a companion who is "suspended" for non-payment of dues from his lodge is also *ipso facto* suspended from the rights and privileges of his Chapter. Why is this so? We know that this is the general ruling, but is it just

and proper? It is meet that the mason who is suspended from his lodge for unmasonic conduct, should also, without further action, be deprived of all masonic association—but is the non-payment of dues indicative of moral obliquity or poverty only, or perhaps of inability, by reason of the impossibility of corresponding with his lodge? We are sorry that the word “suspended” being used warrants this deduction, and the Committee on Masonic Law sustain the M. E., but we are inclined to the belief that no mason should be deprived of his standing as such, except after due trial and the judgment of his brethren. It must be recollected that a failure to meet the demands of his lodge for a limited period by the constitutional provision of the Grand Lodge suspends. No intention to defraud appears, but the brother, absent, perhaps, and at great distance from his lodge, harrassed by cares, worn by poverty, unheard, uncited, is suspended, and though upright in his intentions and honest in his purposes, yet he is thus deprived of all masonic intercourse and masonic benefits. Is this right?

We find this very significant sentence in this address: “As the presiding officer of this Grand Chapter, I attended, with the companions holding the proxies of the other Grand Officers, the Triennial Convocation of the G. G. C., held at St. Louis, in September last. Of the hospitality of the Companions of St. Louis, and the courtesy of the City Council, of the pleasantness and agreeability of the visit, much might be said; *but of the work done, I have little to report—of masonic instruction received, nothing.*”

We find that this Grand Chapter received and acted upon a petition for the Capitular Degrees, and conferred the same upon the applicant. This is unusual, and though we do not doubt that the body, whence all light is supposed to issue, may make Companions if they choose, yet we doubt the propriety of such course very much indeed.

Companion Williams, from Committee on Foreign Correspondence, sets out with quite a lively disquisition on *belle lettres* in his notice of the address of our P. G. H. P. Norris. He does not see “*cui bono*” was our report of abstract of various Grand Chapters—neither do we. The labor was, however, undertaken and accidentally those proceedings having no returns came to hand last, else the abstract would have been complete, and we think useful; but *chacun a son gout*. The notice of our proceedings is, however, courteous and somewhat facetious.

In perusing this report, we have felt very much as we suppose the ass felt when placed between the two bundles of hay—first one thing then another has attracted us, and so many berries have we seen that we have found ourselves at a loss which to present to you, and have concluded to recommend the perusal of the whole, for we cannot determine what is best in it.

CANADA.

We are very much gratified at receiving the proceedings from this Grand Chapter, though they have arrived just at the close of the report and on the eve of the Annual Convocation. The twelfth Annual Convocation was held on 10th August, 1869.

M. E. Companion T. Wilson, P. G. Z. as G. Z. and R. E., Companion Thomas Bird Harris, G. S. E., with representatives from 25 subordinates.

The G. Z. being unfortunately unavoidably deprived of the pleasure of attending personally this convocation, sent his address, which was read by the Grand Secretary. In this he announces the Craft as in a prospering and healthy condition, and growing in importance and in numbers. And from it we learn that the bonds of amity between this Grand Chapter and those of the several States are being strengthened by the appointment of representatives from them severally.

Within this jurisdiction we find that subdivisions into districts, embracing only two or three chapters are made, which are required to be visited by Grand Superintendents—one of whom is assigned to each district. There being but few chapters to be visited, the duty is honestly performed, and the Grand Chapter is kept advised of the exact condition of each chapter under its jurisdiction, and the chapters are stimulated to perfect themselves, and to proper attention to their duties. We would that a plan like this were adopted here.

The Grand Superintendents report a very admirable condition generally, but we hence learn that substitutes are allowed in Canada. Although no mention is made of them, yet we must suppose they were used, when we read, "I also conferred the R. A. degree on one candidate, the others being unavoidably absent."

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Companion Henry Robertson, whose services were acknowledged by a vote of thanks, a proper appropriation, and his elevation to the dignity of G. J. We find that he reviewed the proceedings of no less than 28 Grand Chapters, including those of the G. G. C., making 32 volumes in all, in a spirit of brotherly love and R. A. charity. He mentions that in the United States there are many questions now agitating the companions, such as the propriety of the P. M. degree; the physical qualifications of candidates; dual membership; *what are the ancient landmarks*; the employment of substitutes; the order of High Priesthood; can a Grand Chapter confer degrees or ballot for candidates; the advantage of having a G. G. C.; the harmony of work; "our colored brethren"; has an elective officer a right to resign or to withdraw; the creation of R. A. masons at sight; can a candidate be stopped at any stage by a single objection; and whether masonry is benefitted or otherwise by the increase of degrees and orders." Some of these we think are pretty well settled, though oft-times mentioned, but others are still harassing us, and it is well that the companions should prepare themselves for a decision which must soon be made on them.

It is in the report on Foreign Correspondence of this Grand Chapter that we have intelligence generally from both Scotland and Ireland, and we are pleased to note that we thus again hear from the former. She seems to be spreading out on her usefulness—new chapters have been established by her in Trinidad, W. I., Queensland, Galasheels, Shanghæ, and Cape of Good Hope, besides in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Thus we see that wherever the sun shines, and as has been said wherever the sound of the hammer is heard there we may hear the sound of the gavel, and find companions and brethren ready to give us encouragement and hope.

The question as to the position of a mason suspended by a M. M. Lodge in the Chapter arose, and the Supreme Committee report, "There can be no doubt that the Grand Lodge of Scotland differing, it is believed, from every other Grand Lodge, recognizes no degree in masonry above that of Master Mason; and such being the case, it may view with indifference the effect which may be given to its sentence by the highest orders; but on the other hand, no brother can be admitted to the higher orders unless he proves himself to be a St. John's mason, and as by the obligation taken by every Master Mason he cannot speak upon the subject of St. John's masonry, with a brother suspended or expelled, while under either of these sentences, it seems to follow that were a suspended St. John's mason who happened to be a R. A. Companion, present at an exaltation, no candidate could give the necessary proofs that he was a Master Mason. After communicating with the Scribe E. of England, and the Registrar of Ireland, as to the practice there prevailing, resolutions were adopted, declaring against the right of a suspended brother to admittance into a chapter." This is in accordance with the decisions in the United States, but we presume the suspension here alluded to is for unmasonic conduct after trial and conviction, and not one simply by operation of by-laws for non-payment of dues, and which may be terminated at the will of the brother, or a standing which has its price and may be bought at any time that the brother chooses.

We here, in the review of Scotland, find a treatise on the origin and antiquity of the R. A. degree, by a "learned and eminent companion, W. J. Hughan, Truro, Cornwall, P. Z., No. 79," in which he says: "The probability is, that the degree originated with the noted Chevalier Ramsey, of Ayr, and the 'Ancients.'"

His notice of Alabama and of ourself is courteous and friendly.

M. E. Companion Harrington furnishes the intelligence that his Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, has been initiated into the mysteries of our Order. The G. Z. and G. S. E. were both re-elected.

We had almost forgotten to thank our companion, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for the information which he gave to us, thus far assisting us to unravel the tangle of our brain as to nomenclatures—but we do so now, for even the smallest favor should be thankfully received, and we would enlarge our sense of obligation whenever he shall give us the entire roll.

CALIFORNIA.

A perusal of the address of the M. E. G. H. P., J. S. Titus, will satisfy any companion that capitulary masonry is in a very healthy condition there—no doubts seem to have risen—no difficulties calling for the interposition of the G. H. P. are found, but the craft seem to be industriously engaged in the good work animated with the best and purest intentions.

When a brother has been elected to receive the Chapter degrees, and has received the M. M. degree, and is objected to before his further advancement, the Grand Chapter requires that "such objection shall be referred to a committee

who shall report thereon, and if the objection, or cause of the objection, be, in the opinion of two-thirds of the members present, not a valid and masonic one, the chapter may confer the degrees in the same manner as if no objection had been made."

By these proceedings we find that this Grand Chapter not only believes that it has the power to grant charters to companions to constitute new chapters without previous probation under dispensation, but that it has also exercised it. This proceeding, however unusual, is entirely within the power of these supreme bodies, and it has been a source of astonishment to us to hear the reverse sentiments expressed. Our Grand Lodge, at its last annual communication, acted precisely as did the Grand Chapter of California, when she granted a charter for the constitution of Bienville Lodge.

Companion L. C. Owen, for the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviews our proceedings for 1867 quite kindly, and has not found cause this time for the application of the lash because of our bad work, but seems satisfied that we are probably doing good, true and square work.

In his review of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas, he finds fault with the Grand Chapter for expecting subordinates to conform to fundamental law, when that Grand Body itself sets at naught its own edicts. He says that the Grand Chapter violated three of its own requirements when it received the petition of a brother and exalted him, by "the reception of the petition" "in directing the candidates to pay to the chapters in whose jurisdiction they resided, the fees for the degrees (which should have been collected before the degrees were conferred) and because the due and ample enquiry into the candidate's knowledge and understanding of the degrees through which he had already passed could not be made." "We do not think that fault could be found with a subordinate for failing to observe regulations which the body making them had set at naught." Very good, and this instance, like others occasionally occurring, demonstrates the necessity for good example from those in high places.

We agree with Companion Owen in his condemnation of the practice of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, in publishing the names and description of those rejected by the several chapters in that jurisdiction. It seems to us vastly inconsonant with the charity of which we boast, and which we so urgently teach. This report, like all from its author shows systematic and sound thought.

CONNECTICUT.

We have the proceedings of the Semi-Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held on 13th October, 1868, and the Annual Convocation on the 11th May, 1869. At the former no business seems to have been transacted, save the unpleasant one of providing for bills outstanding in consequence of the defalcation of a trusted treasurer. At the Annual Convocation this officer was by resolution expelled from all the rights and privileges of R. A. Masonry, and Benjamin Beecher, late the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, stands expelled for the embezzlement of the funds. We rejoice, however, to see that the Grand Body, by additional levy, has again placed her exchequer in a healthy condition.

The address of the M. E., J. L. Gould, treats of matters of local interest, and the proceedings of the G. G. C. Of this, he says that among the members are to be found "constitution tinkers," who are anxious to be making changes in the organic law, and in the work, though the session was harmonious and agreeable. He congratulates R. A. Masonry upon the advances made in the last few years in the far West. R. A. Masonry seems to be in a flourishing condition in this jurisdiction.

We find, however, that this Grand Body deemed it of sufficient importance, by resolution, to forbid "the introduction of spirituous liquors into the chapter or ante-rooms," which would lead to the inference that this custom was beginning to prevail, if it had not already existed a long time, and by excess have required the interference of the Grand Chapter. As the Council sits in the sanctuary, we are a little surprised that such action could have been necessary.

We find that this Grand Chapter, as some others, have found it necessary to require, as our Grand Lodge requires, the candidate for the degrees to state whether he has applied to any other Chapter.

At this convocation Companion J. H. Barlow was elected M. E. G. H. P., and Companion J. K. Wheeler re-elected Grand Secretary.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Companion W. Storer, who has so often delighted us in the same role. It is exceeding full and complete, and most completely places his brethren in possession of what is transpiring in other jurisdictions, and it grieves us that this is the last we shall hear from him who has been always courteous, always kind, and always charitable. But, though he has "grown grey in the service" and is "not so young by a score of years as when he first assumed the responsibility," we do not find that his fire has been quenched or his zeal diminished. He tells us: "That the fire of youth must eventually smoulder among the cooling embers of advancing years. The frosts of age will chill the youthful blood, resist the approach of winter as determinedly as we may." And truly has he said: "That our labor has not been altogether in vain." We find, however, that notwithstanding his eloquent appeal to be relieved from the labor of another report, that the M. E. has re-appointed him on the committee.

In this report he reviews the proceedings of thirty-five Grand Chapters, among which we find those of Alabama for 1866. He quotes liberally, and we presume approvingly from the address of M. E. G. H. P. Brown in relation to what Companion Brown deems "side" or higher degrees of masonry. We were glad to see that he does not defend the use of substitutes, except in feebly stating that their use has been so long and familiarly known as "to have attained almost the sanctity of landmarks." Thanks, Companion Storer, for your encouragement to one whose inexperience had well nigh caused him to fall by the way.

This report is one which betokens more care, industry and intelligent enquiry than any we have read, in fact Companion Storer ranks as the first of the Bohemians, where Companion Corson very properly puts him. Long may he live to enjoy the fruits of a well spent life.

DELAWARE.

On the 20th January, 1869, four R. A. Chapters were assembled at Dover, under authority of the G. G. H. P. of the G. G. Chapter, and organized the Grand Chapter of this State, adopting a constitution, electing officers, &c. Companion D. C. Godwin was made M. E. G. H. P., and Companion A. T. A. Torbert was made E. G. Secretary.

In looking over this Constitution we find that our Companions of Delaware have provided against any misconception in the mooted and oft recurring question of vacancies, and we are inclined to think that the plan pursued by them is such as is calculated to give entire satisfaction. An officer can resign in this jurisdiction, and any vacancy other than in the office of High Priest can be filled at any regular convocation of the Chapter.

We are rejoiced to say that this star again appears, from the cloud by which it has been obscured, to shed its benign influence on our craft. We greet thee, sister, and hope that your influence may be felt for generation after generation—All hail!

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

On 12th of March was held a special convocation of this Grand Chapter, apparently for no other purpose than to have a committee reply to what are termed the mis-statements of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of Maryland and District of Columbia, which report was made to an adjourned convocation, held March 18th. We think that if the committee had been imbued "with malice toward none, with charity for all" we should not have had this report, but one with less of the fire of enmity and more of the oil of love. The extra convocation was a mistake, and the report a mistake, the one called under the influence of passion and the other made in haste and without due reflection.

A Semi-Annual Convocation was also held on 11th May, at which only some business of personal interest to the Grand Chapter was transacted, and on 9th November the Annual Convocation was held, with representatives from five chapters present, at which nothing was done except the hearing the address of M. E. G. H. P. Holmead and making a few appropriations. The M. E. in his address confined himself to congratulations on the happy termination of their difficulties and showing the inconsistencies of the action of the G. G. Chapter. The Grand Chapter was called from work until the 30th November, previous to which however Companion B. B. French was elected G. H. P., and Companion N. D. Larnier re-elected Grand Secretary.

In these proceedings we find a very able report from the Committee on Jurisprudence as to the amount of maiming necessary to the disqualification of the applicant, and though we cannot go quite as far as this committee in its disregard of the "perfect man," yet we are of opinion that most of its views are correct, though more liberal than those usually entertained. We have not the report of our committee on this subject alluded to, before us, but we are in-

clined to the opinion that the views of the P. G. H. P. have been mistaken for those of the committee. The rule in this jurisdiction is that "it is incompetent for R. A. Chapters to confer the respective degrees of masonry upon candidates whose physical defects are such as to prevent them from conforming literally, to all the requirements of all the degrees "which is substantially expressed in the resolution of the Grand Chapter of District of Columbia as follows:

"That the question of physical disqualification is one, in the determination of which each chapter must judge for itself, being guided only by a sound discretion and an enlightened judgment as to the requirement of our craft."

This Grand Chapter passed resolutions whose object was to accept in good faith the place assigned them by the General Grand Chapter and restore harmony to the craft.

FLORIDA.

This Grand Chapter convened on the 13th January, 1868, the M. E. G. H. P. being absent, and the D. G. H. P. Wm. Morrill, presiding. An address from the M. E. was, however, read, from which we learn that the fires are burning dimly upon the altars, and also that poverty and distress surround our companions. The business of the Grand Chapter pertained entirely to local matters, none of which have any general interest. P. G. H. P. Thomas Brown, late Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, has gone to the eternal rest. No more will his pen excite the ire or arouse the jealousies of others by his well-timed strictures or judicious denunciation. A mourning page was ordered to be dedicated to his memory.

There is no report from this committee with the proceedings.

Companion J. Ellenwood was elected Grand High Priest, and H. A. Corley elected Grand Secretary.

After closing our report, the proceedings of the Grand Convocation for 1869, in January, came to hand, wherein we find that the cause of capitular masonry is beginning again to revive in that jurisdiction; that the altars on which the fires had died out are being again lighted up, and new ones are being erected.

Companion DeWitt C. Dawkins was elected M. E. G. H. P., and Companion Ed. Bradford jr., Grand Secretary.

At this Convocation this Grand Chapter accepted the invitation of the G. G. C., and is now an integral part of that body.

The report on Correspondence is from the pen of Companion Dawkins, and though hastily written, as he avers, contains a condensed view of the condition of the Grand Chapters reviewed. He is kind in his notice of Alabama, but in his haste, or because he had not his spectacles, he mistakes the Committee on Jurisprudence for that on Correspondence.

GEORGIA.

We have the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for 1867 and 1868, together with the address of the M. E. G. H. P., at the session of April, 1869, but no proceedings for this year.

M. E. Companion Lawrence, G. H. P., again had to review the proceedings of the several Grand Chapters in the absence of a Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and though very short it contains wholesome truths and the enunciation of true masonic principle, which we hope will hereafter be found guiding all who are expected to instruct the uninformed.

The committee to whom was referred the address of the Grand High Priest of the year previous, reiterate the opinion of the Grand Chapter of Georgia, of the uselessness of the General Grand Chapter and were discharged from further consideration of the subject. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence was revived at this convocation.

Companion Lawrence was again elected Grand High Priest, and Companion B. B. Russell elected Grand Secretary.

At the convocation of 1868, the M. E. G. H. P. devotes a great part of his address to the correction of typographical errors in the printed copy of his address in 1866, all of which are duly noted. Nothing of general importance transpired at this convocation.

We have a report on Foreign Correspondence from Companion J. Emmett Blackshear, being the first for some years. In it he reviews twenty-seven proceedings, ours being of the number, and we congratulate our companions in Georgia on having given such an able accession to the corps of reporters. We find that he possesses an aptitude in the use of the scalpel which is only equalled by that of Companion Corson or Guilbert, and that though fearless in its use he is yet gentle in his touch.

INDIANA.

The Twenty-third Annual Convocation was held on the 21st October, 1868, M. E. T. Newby, Grand High Priest, presiding, with fifty-seven chapters represented.

It is in the address of the M. E. that we find a report of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter, and in the absence of published proceedings from this august and imperishable body for the information of companions, we will make use of this synopsis. One of the resolutions of this General Grand Body is as follows:

Resolved, That no State Grand Chapter organized by this Most Excellent General Grand Body, or which at any time became a constituent member thereof, can lawfully surrender its connection with the General Grand Chapter without its consent, but the allegiance of each of said Grand Chapters is inalienable and now due."

Is the government of the General Grand Chapter a material or a moral one? Suppose that either Kentucky, Rhode Island, Iowa, North Carolina, Vermont, Alabama, Texas, or Georgia, or the Grand Chapters of these States decline any further connection with this General Grand Body, what is it proposed shall be done with them? This General Grand Body cannot, under its constitution, use disciplinary powers, because this is expressly forbidden, and what then? Is it not ridiculous in a body claiming immaculateness, pretending to be a concentration of all the dignity and all the excellence and all the wisdom of Royal Arch Masonry to intimate a threat which it is powerless to execute? If

the General Grand Chapter possessed the power to punish State Grand Chapters, then such a resolution as the above might have been proper; but when it has no such power, then, by this act, it renders itself only the subject of a greater share of and more supreme contempt than its whole course in relation to the Grand Chapter of District of Columbia had previously subjected it to.

In almost every State Grand Chapter we find a feeling of uneasiness and apprehension in relation to this General Grand Body, and we find this General Grand Body seeking to enlarge its powers. The doctrine of inalienability of allegiance we thought had long since been exploded, and that various governments which previously adhered to this doctrine had at last yielded to the more sensible one of allowing the subject to make his selection.

What if the Grand Chapters of these several States can be coerced into this semblance of submission, is this the allegiance desired, that of unwilling minds chafing under restraint that harrows, and which, begets hatred and all that follows in its train? Is this the end and aim of this General Grand Body and of masonry? Let not this question be pushed in this way. It were infinitely better to maintain harmony in separate families than discord pent up and united.

We confess to great astonishment when we read this resolution. We had thought that one State Grand Chapter was the equal of every other State Grand Chapter, whether State or General. But if *allegiance* (a strange word to be used masonically,) be inalienable, what then becomes of the "own free will and accord," of which we hear so much, and of which we are justly proud? Is it possible that any contract once entered upon is indissoluble? We presume that when the several Grand Chapters entered into this arrangement, it was for mutual benefit. Nothing can be produced to show that it was ever contemplated that the step was to be irrevocable, but as it was done of the free will so to the free will should the continuance be left.

Allegiance, as we said, was a strange word in masonry—allegiance is the duty a subject owed to his lord, the obligation by which he was *bound* to his service, what a subject owes to his sovereign, what a citizen owes to his State, and a violation of this obligation, a refusal to perform this duty, subjects the offender to condign punishment. Is it proposed that this General Grand Body shall discipline these several State Grand Chapters, and punish them for disobedience to its behests, and a refusal to recognize and obey its authority?

The Grand Chapter of this State, believing that the objects of its organization were to be advanced by union among the several Grand Chapters entered into this family. This she did in exercise of her own discretion, and now not alone in the belief that the General Grand Chapter "had outlived its day of usefulness," she prefers to attend to her own mission in her own way, believing as Pennsylvania, that she is capable of taking care of her own officers without aid or advice from abroad. It is doubly important that she should keep aloof from foreign entanglement while the question of an increase of power in the General Grand Chapter is yet undecided.

From this address and the proceedings we learn that Royal Arch Masonry is progressive and healthy in this jurisdiction. Many new chapters have been and still are in process of formation, and no cases of grievance had to be ad-

justed. Death here, as elsewhere, has been busy and our companions are called to mourn the loss of one in whom they had placed great confidence, P. G. H. P. Isaac Bartlett.

Companion Newby made the report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviewing the proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Chapters, among which we are pleased to find Alabama, and is a fair collection of those facts and opinions most proper to be known by the companions with judicious criticism.

Companion H. G. Hazelrigg was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion J. M. Bramwell elected Excellent Grand Secretary.

IOWA.

This Grand Chapter was convoked on the 16th October, 1868, Right Excellent J. W. Satterthwaite Grand King as Grand High Priest.

The Deputy Grand High Priest being present, but not presiding, because, as we infer from the proceedings, his claims to that position were not recognized, we presume, by the Grand King. This difficulty is obviated for the future as the Grand Chapter settled the matter by a resolution fixing the status and defining the powers of the Deputy Grand High Priest. The Most Excellent Companion Hemmenway Grand High Priest, being absent, his address was presented and read by the Grand Secretary. It shows almost unexampled prosperity. He deprecates the use of substitutes and recommends action on the part of the Grand Chapter—which action the Grand Chapter took. He also recommends that the work and lectures be entrusted to the custody of a committee chosen from the several parts of the State the Grand High Priest being *ex officio* one of them, to whom all questions should be referred. The committee, however, to whom the matter was referred, reported adversely to the same.

Companion P. C. Wright was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion W. B. Langridge was re-elected Grand Secretary.

We again miss from these proceedings the report on Foreign Correspondence from our Companion Guilbert, for by this loss we are indeed grieved. Where shall we find so sound a discretion, so candid and fearless a criticism, or so keen and cutting a rebuke as was usually to be found in his reports?

ILLINOIS.

This Grand Chapter convened on the 9th October, 1863, G. Lininger Most Excellent Grand High Priest, with ninety-three chapters represented.

The address of the M. E. shows the Royal Craft to be prosperous and progressing. He however points to some ulcers festering on the body, and earnestly appeals to the Grand Chapter to use its utmost exertions to diminish the use of profanity, and also intemperance among the companions. He congratulates the Grand Chapter that uniformity of work may be attained in that jurisdiction now that a Committee on Work will report, and intimates that there is a surer way of preserving it than by leaving it to the judgment, discretion, or fallible memory of a "custodian."

This Grand Body requires, as we now do, examination in each degree before the candidate can be advanced. It also requires, as does our Grand Lodge, that the petitioner for Chapter degrees shall state in his petition whether he has ever before petitioned any other Chapter in that jurisdiction, and if so which, and prohibits the degrees until by unanimous vote of the chapter having rejected him permission be granted.

Most Excellent Companion J. H. Miles was elected Grand High Priest, and Excellent Companion H. G. Reynolds was re-elected Grand Secretary.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, from the pen of Companion Reynolds, betokens a thoughtful head and ready pen. It is sprightly and usually sound; yet we were pained to find that even he is unable to separate temporal feelings from masonic ones, thus—the great and terrible bugaboo *secession* looms up to his vision as a terrible apparition, and dims his sight so much as to produce frightful figures, such as terrify old women and children. Why this harp upon a single string? Why appeal to passions fast being allayed and not rest the case upon sound good sense and masonic argument? Is it necessary to invoke the love of *the flag* to “nail it to a mast head” to effect the object? or can we not “reason together” and fraternally live together or fraternally live apart?

This report is in the same vein as was the address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of Indiana, the previous year, when he desired to have Indiana recall her act of severance from the General Grand Chapter. As then we deprecate any arguments drawn from politics, and the use of passions engendered by heated party conflict.

KANSAS.

Again we have the welcome tidings from our young sister that masonry is progressing in that region. This Grand Chapter held its fourth Annual Convocation on the 19th October, 1868, the Right Excellent Grand King, E. A. Smith presiding, but at the ensuing session the Most Excellent Grand High Priest was present, with representatives from ten chapters. There seems to be work for the chapters, and noticing the rejections we suppose that the portals are being well guarded; yet we find that in several of the chapters a number not divisible by three have been exalted. A resort must then have been had to the use of substitutes, a practice which we think wrong, and which is being prohibited by Grand Chapters pretty generally; yet no application for charity is made and no grievance had to be redressed. This shows a very healthy record. Harmony prevails and brotherly love abounds.

The chapter confined its labors to matters of interest only to those within its jurisdiction. The Most Excellent Grand High King, R. R. Rees, delivered a pretty valedictory, and Companion O. A. Bassett was elected Grand High Priest and Companion E. T. Carr again Grand Secretary.

The report from Committee on Foreign Correspondence is lengthy and well written; containing among others a review of our proceedings for 1867.

KENTUCKY.

The proceedings of the Grand Chapter of this State for the Annual Convocation held on 18th October, 1869, is before us, and we rejoice that they are in our hands thus early and not laid over until another year shall have passed. It is quite a large volume, and the promptness with which it is placed before the other Grand Chapters is evidence of the value of the Grand Secretary, Companion P. Swigert. Companion Richard G. Hawkins, Grand High Priest, presided; with representatives from eighty-four subordinates present. The Grand High Priest states that "the past year has been a quiet one with us," "and the Order in this State is, as far as I can learn, in a prosperous condition."

A new revised constitution and rules was adopted at this convocation—we have not had time to examine them in detail, but presume that they cover the usual ground—we see that they are especially minute in their requirements.

Companion Henderson presents the report on correspondence, in which he reviews fraternally and critically such proceedings as were on hand. He mistakes the report of our Committee on Jurisprudence, however, when he states it reported "that a motion to lay on the table was unmasonic, and should not be entertained" for this was the language of the motion referred. To this the committee objected and from it differed, and so reported, and the report was adopted. Put on your specs Companion Henderson, and don't make us say exactly what we did not say.

The Grand Chapter at this convocation appointed a Committee on Work, consisting of three, who are to hunt among the rubbish and produce a work, and while bringing this up, doubtless like other committees that we wot of, if they espy a beautiful piece of work and should be struck with its singular form and beauty, they will most likely bring it up, and present it as *the work*, such work as is *essential* for the prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry, and uniformity among the craft. We would advise the committee to seek only for the work of their fathers, and if found to produce it, but to guard well against innovations and suggestions of beauty and symmetry. Companion E. B. Jones was elected M. Ex. Grand High Priest, and Companion P. Swigert was elected Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA.

This Grand Chapter convened on 9th February, 1869, Most Excellent S. M. Todd, Grand High Priest, and Right Excellent J. C. Batchelor, Grand Secretary, with representatives from twenty subordinates.

The address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest is devoted to such matters as pertain to his own jurisdiction and to an account of his Stewardship in the last triennial convocation of the General Grand Chapter. He also states that "we are now cursed as we have been in former years, with the presence in our midst of a clandestine and spurious body calling itself the "Supreme Council of A. & A. S. Rite for the sovereign and independent State of Louisiana, of which one Chassaegnac is chief," &c., which had been recognized by the Grand Orient of France.

Upon which the committee to whom was referred the address report the following resolution, which was adopted:

"That all masonic correspondence and fraternal relations between the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Louisiana, and the Grand Orient of France, cease and be discontinued, and that no mason holding allegiance to that Grand Body, be recognized as such in this jurisdiction."

Companion S. M. Todd was again elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion J. C. Batchelor again elected Right Excellent Grand Secretary.

Companion Horner gives us a report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence which betokens a desire to put the Companions of Louisiana in close and confidential relations with those of other jurisdictions. His report is able and "exhaustive," and we regret that we are constrained not to extract as much as we would wish from this excellent work. He reviews no less than forty volumes of proceedings, among which we find those of Alabama for 1867, and his notice of them and of us is full and flattering. We are aware however of our short-comings and deficiencies, and are induced to undertake the great labor, for which amid the cares of business, and the struggles consequent upon an impoverished exchequer, we find so little time only from that sense of duty which is the result of the conviction that no place should be sought, no task imposed avoided.

The committee thinks with us that there is no need for an edict requiring a book of marks or the selection and record of a mark, as these are the imperative requirements of the degree itself.

In allusion to the action of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas in electing and exalting an * * * * * he says: "This action is as strange to us as it was to many others of sister jurisdictions. Admitting that the Grand Chapter of Arkansas has the right, and we believe she has, is it not more honored in the breach than in the observance?"

The report of the committee contains a detailed report of the course pursued by the Louisiana Delegation on all questions arising in the General Grand Chapter, and it seems clear to our minds that no good can possibly result to Masonry or to the Royal Craft by a connection with that body.

There is to be sure an intimation in this report that those Grand Chapters which have thought proper to dissolve the connection previously existing had done so, in no "honorable, open and lawful a manner." This however we pass, only congratulating ourselves that we are out, and expressing the determination to remain until we become satisfied that the interests of our Order shall demand a return to our "allegiance," as it has been elsewhere denominated. To us it seems that whatever course will be productive of harmony and good will, will most conduce to our prosperity. Our intellectual powers cannot grasp the nice distinctions of constitutional law which are so often pressed upon us, but our perceptions are not so dull, but that we perceive that those composing this General Grand Body are either disgusted with its imbecility, annoyed at its uselessness, or apprehension of its encroachments. To avoid these harassing doubts and fears is certainly to be desired, and for this reason we feel that we, in common with those occupying the same position with us, are on the vantage ground. In these proceedings we find a very full report of the

course pursued by the representatives of this Grand Chapter in the General Grand Chapter, and there is now pending, as the result of their observation, for action at the next annual convocation the following resolution :

"That in the opinion of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana the organization known as the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, has become useless, may become dangerous, and ought to cease to exist. That our representatives at the next Grand Convocation of the General Grand Chapter be, and they are hereby instructed, to propose and advocate the adoption of resolutions providing for the total extinction of the said General Grand Chapter ; and that in the event of the non-passage of such resolutions, then that our said representatives request the release of this Grand Chapter from all her obligations to, and connection with said General Grand Chapter."

We make no comment.

MAINE.

This Grand Chapter held its Annual Convocation on 4th May, 1869, Companion J. M. Larrabee, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion Ira Berry, Grand Secretary, with twenty-nine chapters represented—one only not being represented.

The address of the Most Excellent is entirely pertaining to business of that locality.

Companion Drummond gives the report from Committee on Correspondence, reviewing Alabama among thirty-five Grand Chapters. It is succinct and interesting.

In speaking of the expression of the Grand High Priest of Kansas in relation to the powers of the General Grand Chapter, as "delegated powers," he says: "It (the G. G. C.) possesses the power to change its own constitution without limit. It is the parent of all Grand Chapters, according to the theory of its constitution, as it originally was and always since has been. We must look this question squarely in the face. The Gen. Grand Chapter when formed, and theoretically ever since, has been the ruling power in Royal Arch Masonry in this country, and the Grand Chapters have no powers, but those delegated to them by it. We are aware that the constitution *now says* the General Grand Chapter shall exercise only "the powers delegated to it." But delegated to it *how?* By its own constitution, which it may change as it pleases. The idea of powers delegated to it, by the State Grand Chapters is in it, if at all, in mere form, and no more. It has agreed to exercise only such powers—until it changes its mind.

Look these expressions of the powers and conscience of the General Grand Chapter "squarely" in the face, my companions, and be assured that a few more St. Louis revels would probably destroy all limitations in the constitution, and the General Grand Chapter become, what is herein claimed for it, the supreme power, allowing the existence of the State Grand Chapters only as it may suit its convenience or contribute to its pride.

Companion Joseph Pearson Gill was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest and Ira Berry was again elected Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 9th November, 1869, Most Excellent John L. Yeates Grand High Priest, and Right Excellent W. A. Wentz Grand Secretary, with ten chapters represented.

We find that the Most Excellent Grand High Priest devotes almost his entire address to the action of the General Grand Chapter in relation to the Grand Chapter of District of Columbia, and in it he certainly shows up the inutility and imbecility of the former body. As we had already stated elsewhere, we can hardly conceive how any body of men or masons could have pursued a course better calculated to produce for them supreme contempt than has this General Grand Body and its chief officer. The resolutions in relation to the Grand Chapter of District of Columbia seem to us glaring in their inconsistencies, and the previous action of the General Grand Chapter in seating the representatives of what their General Grand High Priest had pronounced a clandestine body without the withdrawal of such denunciation, is to us most unaccountable, and surely foreshadowed the subsequent action.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest of Maryland and District of Columbia, says :

"From this summary of proceedings which we think embraces every important point necessary to make known, you will be enabled to act advisedly, and wisely determine whether you will remain longer in union with the General Grand Chapter, powerless as its constitution declares it to be, as to any right of discipline, admonition, censure or instruction? Whether you will continue joined to a factious and versatile power, without authority to enforce its own decrees? A '*nomine et umbra*—a shadow without a substance, a body without a living heart.' Hard words from a child to a parent, yet admonishing that that little tea party is by no means homogeneous or harmonious."

We by no means agree with the Most Excellent that the Grand Chapter of Maryland and District of Columbia has done nothing to produce this singular tempest. She certainly agreed to a separation—a partition of her territory—and after it was done declared it to be "final and complete."

The committee to whom this portion of the address was referred, reported a series of resolutions, as follows :

1. *Resolved*, That the action of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, in regard to the District of Columbia, is in direct violation of its constitution, and therefore null and of no effect, and has no binding force.
2. *Resolved*, That a State Grand Chapter has no right to violate its constitution and adhere to such action, and that the General Grand Chapter is more restricted in this respect.
3. *Resolved*, That we request the several State Grand Chapters to review their action, and take into consideration all the facts in the case, and adopt measures in accordance therewith.
4. *Resolved*, That this Grand Chapter believes that she has now placed herself in her proper position, and will maintain her rightful authority over every foot of the original territory of the State of Maryland.
5. *Resolved*, That the sentence heretofore pronounced by this Grand Chapter

against her recusant subordinates, and their members is hereby re-affirmed, and all those true to their allegiance are required to take due notice thereof and act accordingly.

Which resolutions were separately voted upon and adopted—the second unanimously—and the others with but one dissenting voice. Thus we see that Royal Arch masonry is by no means harmonious in the more northern portions of the Union. A voice is heard from the extreme South denouncing the whole course of the General Grand Chapter, and before the sounds have died away the extreme North declares that it will be heard “in relation to the assumptions of the General Grand Chapter touching its usurpation in the Grand Chapter of Maryland and District of Columbia, while we deplore this unpleasant condition of the question. This Grand Chapter, with the published proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Maryland and District of Columbia before it, in which it is declared “that the division of the jurisdiction is hereby declared to be complete,” and looking upon the subsequent action of the Most Excellent General Grand High Priest Lewis, as an assumption, and without proper warrant cordially greeted the Grand Chapter of District of Columbia, and now the Grand Chapter of Maryland and District of Columbia declares that it erred in its former action, and asks that we look upon her proceedings of the last year as unauthorized, and retrace our steps. This appears to your committee as a very strange request. Are we to reject companionship with our brethren of the District of Columbia, whom we were urged to recognize by the Grand Chapter of Maryland and District of Columbia, because the last Grand Body should now regret her former action, and under this feeling, like children, recall their gift? We sympathize with our companions in Maryland, though we think, as we thought last year, that less haste on the part of each would have been productive of greater good to the parties interested and to the craft generally. The die is cast however. The Grand Chapter of District of Columbia has been generally recognized, and under the recommendation, and with the published consent of the Grand Chapter of Maryland and District of Columbia, and it were useless to ask these Grand Bodies to recall their previous action and to reverse it.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Companion C. H. Ohr, who in his exordium makes a lengthy and somewhat facetious apology for defects, if any be found. He reviews the proceedings of twenty-five Grand Chapters, among which we find ours, which is kind and fraternal. He appears surprised that the matter of the Grand Chapter of District of Columbia should have been recommended to reference to a special committee by our Most Excellent Grand High Priest, but still more astonished that no such committee had been appointed. By reference however to page thirty-five of printed proceedings he will find the committee in capitals, doubtless to attract attention, &c.

We clothed ourselves in sack-cloth and ashes once, because of Companion Owen's keen sight and blade in laying open to the gaze of our companions generally our short-comings and deficiencies, and we had hoped forgiveness, but Companion Owen, not having changed his glasses, again saw the same offence against propriety where it was not to be seen, and again gave us a severe flagellation, and now we find that Companion Ohr is making us undergo mortifi-

cation while, search as we may, we can no where find that we have been guilty of the offense a second time. Our repentance, coupled as it was with a full confession, was sincere and we hope will produce lasting results—let us therefore have peace—no more scarification then of the old wound.

The whole report is a fair review of the several proceedings under the influence of the masonic virtues, though "My Maryland" evidently pervades the whole. In his notice of the Grand Chapter of District of Columbia he somewhat forgets the mantle which he elsewhere uses (perhaps by this time he had lost it; and becomes a little personal, though the report on this subject is mainly argumentative. It is claimed that this Grand Chapter gave its consent to the formation of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia unconstitutional and illegally, and that therefore it is null and void, and no consent was given. It is also claimed that a State Grand Chapter cannot diminish its jurisdiction, and that the District of Columbia is a part of the State of Maryland. So you see, my companions, the singular "muddle" into which our companions of Maryland have placed themselves and from which they ask us to assist in extricating them, and the "gordian knot" they themselves have made and which they ask us to assist in cutting. To your committee the duty of this Grand Body seems to be plain. To stand by her previous action until she shall see that reasons stronger than those yet urged shall appear to induce a change. Our companions in both Maryland and the District of Columbia have lost sight of the moral application of one of the three great lights; yet we hope that time will cool these unmasonic passions and furnish yet a solution to this troublesome entanglement.

Companion Charles H. Ohr was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion W. A. Wentz elected Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI.

The twenty-first Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 14th January, 1869, Most Excellent J. O. Lusher Grand High Priest, and Right Excellent O. T. Keeler Grand Secretary, and representatives from fifty-three subordinates.

The address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest bears a rather gloomy aspect. Financial distress is felt by our companions there, and the fires remain extinguished on many of their altars; yet harmony and good feeling are to be found, and doubtless ere long these will bring forth fruit. He calls the attention of the Grand Chapter to the violation of the edicts of the Grand Chapter by one of its subordinates in the use of substitutes in conferring the Royal Arch Degree, which edict declares that the chapter so acting shall *forfeit its charter*. On which the committee to whom this was referred report a resolution relieving the chapter from its operation, because of the *ignorance* of the High Priest; yet administers a reprimand to the chapter. The Most Excellent deplores "the system of electioneering, wire-working, and log-rolling," which he has observed. Truly, nothing seems to your committee more unmasonic or more calculated to produce bickering and hard feeling among the craft, among whom there should be no contention, save that noble emulation of "who can

best work and best agree." Yet we presume that it is to be observed in all Grand Bodies. We have known it here, and with the Most Excellent of Mississippi, we deplore it.

We are glad to see that the companion to whom was referred that portion of the address, which suggested that the right to grant dispensations in emergent cases should be abolished, agreed with our expressed views of last year, and reported adversely. It appears strange that a recommendation of this character should always come from one who has exercised this power, and who, like the Grand High Priest of Kentucky last year, should declare that the exercise of the power is calculated "to lower the standard of Royal Arch Masonry." Then why did he use the power? Strange, that with these views a companion would lend his great power to produce only evil. Companion George D. Fee was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion O. T. Keeler, G. S. Companion Patton again gives us his report on Foreign Correspondence in his usual most excellent, and what is still better, most masonic style. In this we find a lengthy review of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter, but we confess that the more we read of this D. of C. difficulty, the more intricate becomes the web; and we find ourselves in the condition of a man made a juror for the first time. Had there been no General Grand Chapter, we believe that the whole difficulty between the Grand Chapter of M. and that of D. C. would long ago have been solved.

His notice of Alabama is kind and courteous. Of the address of Past Grand High Priest Norris, he says, it "is couched in unmistakable masonic language, and in a style that can not be surpassed."

We make the following extract from his review of the proceedings of Connecticut, not because of the pleasure it gives us, but because of its truth; and though the exposure is somewhat damaging, yet we hope that good to our beloved order may result:

"It is too often the case that men of immoral, yea, I may say, of bad character—such as take the name of God in vain, drunkenness, gambling, speaking evil of good men, regard not the solemn obligation as a Master Mason—are, through favor, permitted to enter the sacred precincts, participate in all that should be "Holiness to the Lord," and as soon as they have the degree in possession, the next thing heard of them is in some rowdy gambling or drinking saloon, taking the name of God on his polluted lips, and boasting that he is a Royal Arch Mason in good standing." * * * "We must be pardoned for any word uttered that does not suit the taste of such as choose to disagree with us, as to what constitutes a true and good mason."

We by no means agree with our companion, when, in conclusion, he says, "that peace and harmony prevail throughout the entire jurisdiction in the United States," for assuredly he has forgotten the unsettled condition of masonic affairs in Maryland and the District of Columbia.

Within this jurisdiction we find that there are 2,576 affiliated Royal Arch Masters, and that during the year there were 105 exaltations.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The Grand Chapter of this State holds quarterly convocations, and during 1868 these were held on 10th March, 9th June, 13th October, and 8th December, Most Excellent Richard Briggs, Grand High Priest at the three first and Companion Henry Chickering at the fourth; Companion E. Thomas Waterman being Grand Secretary.

At the first convocation, a committee previously appointed reported, "that the Ritual of the Past Master's degree shall be confined to the ceremonies of introduction, election, obligation, installation, and lecture, to be conferred without any intermission or interruption in the order of progression. And in the Royal Arch the living arch shall not be less than three and a half feet in height, and remain stationery while being used." All of which was "accepted" and ordered to be printed.

At the second convocation it was also *voted* that the delegates to the General Grand Chapter should "use their most earnest efforts to obtain a dissolution of the said General Grand Chapter; and failing to obtain such a dissolution, to seek a peaceable withdrawal therefrom, agreeably to the obligations of Royal Arch Masons."

Which instructions the proxies for the officers of the Grand Chapter failed to obey, for reasons assigned; among which we find as follows: "The other alternative presented by your vote, that we seek a peaceable withdrawal from the convocation, could not, in our judgment, have been attempted at that time, and before an opportunity had been offered of once more presenting the subject for your consideration, without lessening to a great degree the influence of Massachusetts in *other Masonic Bodies then meeting in St. Louis*," &c. The italics are ours.

At the third convocation, Companion Chickering was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and after attending to such business as pertained to that locality, proceeded to the Banquet Hall. Of the proceedings here we have no record.

Massachusetts was called during last year to mourn the loss of their Most Excellent Companion, J. G. Johnson, Past Grand King, who, as the committee state, had "remained true and faithful to our institution, adhering to it during all its persecutions, ennobling it not less by the integrity of his character, and the purity of his life, than by his ardent devotion to every good work by which its best interests might be promoted." He had passed the three score years and ten allotted to man. May he have been able to present the signet at the veil above.

Dispensations for new chapters seem in that jurisdiction not to be granted by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, except upon recommendation of the Grand Chapter after petition, and new Chapters are still springing up there.

We find that in this jurisdiction there appears to be growing a disposition to dispense with the robes, and we heartily wish that we could number them among the things of the past, as entirely useless.

It is apparent that Massachusetts does not hold to the rule of most other jurisdictions, requiring the chapter degrees to be conferred only on affiliated masons.

Companion Henry Chickering again furnishes the report from Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of nineteen Grand Chapters, some of them for two and three years; but among them we look in vain for Alabama. The report is lengthy and exceedingly agreeable. He displays unmistakably the true masonic spirit in his notice of the proceedings of the District of Columbia, and also those of Maryland. He says: "Nor do we believe it (the difficulty) will ever be settled till a different spirit is manifested."

Of the General Grand Chapter he says: "We went to Saint Louis not prepossessed in favor of the General Grand Chapter. We came away fully convinced of its usefulness."

We had marked many passages for copy, but fearing the too great length of our report may deter the companions from a perusal, we are compelled to forego their use.

MINNESOTA

Held an annual convocation on 26th October, 1868. Most Excellent Luther Dearborn, Grand High Priest, and Right Excellent W. S. Combs, Grand Secretary, with ten chapters represented. The Most Excellent in his address, in alluding to the strides of civilization and masonry over that "almost boundless domain," says: "The history of our order is the history of progress; and wherever we hear 'the sound of axe, hammer, and tool of iron,' there also we hear the sound of the 'gavel' calling from refreshment to labor, in the noble tenets of our profession—Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth." The address is replete with sound masonic instruction, and an earnest caution to the companions to guard against the vices of intemperance and profanity.

Since the previous convocation, the Grand Chapter Hall had been burned, and a loss of records, &c., sustained; but "redivivus" is their motto, and we see that they are rising from the ashes. We sympathise with our companions. We have known not this loss exactly, but we have seen the altars of our subordinates despoiled; but, thanks to the Grand High Priest above, a spirit of determination to rise superior to these minor difficulties has enabled us to rekindle the fires on the most of them, and ere long the light as of other days will shed, we hope, its benign influence.

Companion Moses W. Getchell was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion W. S. Combs, Grand Secretary. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, consisting of Companions T. C. Pierson and S. B. Foote, makes a most excellent report, having reviewed the proceedings of 29 Grand Chapters, many of them for two and three years. We find those of Alabama among them, which received full attention from the committee. Objection is made to the use of the term "Ancient Landmarks" by our Most Excellent Grand High Priest Norris, in his address, as improper in relation to the Capitular Degrees, and the question, "What are the Landmarks—the *immovables* in the Capitular Degrees?" we think is pertinently asked.

The committee, if they have been willing to bear the infliction of our subsequent report, will see that no political considerations enter into our aversion to a connection with the General Grand Chapter, but a desire to keep aloof from a discordant family and a useless organization. And we find that the commit-

tee of Minnesota agree with us in respect to the utility. They say, "We have ever been an ardent supporter of the General Grand Bodies, and in favor of still another; but must confess, that the experience of the last session has weakened our faith in their utility." Oh, consistency, indeed thou art a jewel!

This report is *first-class*. It avinces not only sound judgment in the subjects selected, but great learning in masonic history, and a peculiar method of putting "*multum in parvo*." Our "scissors" were useless, for we found it impossible to use all that we had selected; and not being able to decide which to exclude, we have concluded to recommend each companion to obtain the full report and each read it for himself.

MISSOURI.

The Grand Chapter of this State held its twentieth Annual Convocation on 7th October, 1868, Most Excellent Companion Martin Collins Grand High Priest, and Companion Frank Gouley, Grand Secretary, with twenty-six chapters represented.

The address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest is very beautiful and contains some well expressed sentiments, and from it we make the following extract, because we think that it contains the essence of success and efficiency in the Capitular Degrees:

"When a brother by petition expresses his wish to advance from the lodge into the chapter, careful enquiry should be instituted, not only as to his general intelligence and morals, but also as to his masonic education and knowledge of the rites and mysteries, so far as he has received light. See to it that he has wrought honestly in the quarries and exhibited specimens of his *own* skill; then reward him according to his merits."

This Grand Body adopted the following resolution, which fully explains the reason for its introduction:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Chapter that the decision of our Most Excellent Grand High Priest—that "before a chapter could receive, and entertain such a petition, the chapter under whose local jurisdiction the applicant holds his membership in the lodge should be notified of his intention to take the chapter degrees, and requested to waive jurisdiction over him"—is erroneous; that lodge membership has nothing to do with chapter jurisdiction; and if an affiliated mason has resided one year within the jurisdiction of any subordinate chapter in this jurisdiction, said chapter thereby acquires jurisdiction over him, and has the right to entertain his petition, and act upon the same.

Companion Oren Root Jr., was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion G. F. Gouley Grand Secretary.

Companion Gouley again makes the report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-five Grand Chapters and those of the General Grand Chapter.

We find that his comments on the singular action of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas in making a Royal Arch Mason of Brother Cope from the stump, are unique and convincing; but we do not quote because of the matter having been elsewhere ventilated sufficiently. He is brief, kind and courteous in his notice

of Alabama. He deals fairly with reports that are "excellent, faithful, spicy, interesting, valuable, good, made with great ability, sensible, good natured, lively, very able and courteous;" but we find that he gives particular *jits* to the use of numerals added to the names of officers of the chapter. Hear him: "It is an old saying that 'figures don't lie,' but Prentiss, of Mississippi, once said in court that 'those who put them down sometimes do.' Now we do not charge any falsification on the part of the signatures before us, but we do protest against this sort of nonsense; and we challenge any man to show that a companion is any more a Grand High Priest, or Grand Secretary, or General Grand High Priest, even though he puts down the numerals of 18, 32, 33, 1001 or the grand 'curley ques' of the 'E Clampus Vitus.'"

We have extracted enough to show that Companion Gouley is a lively and interesting writer, and if space permitted we could show that he is generally a very sound one.

NEBRASKA.

Again we have the proceedings from this Grand Chapter, whose convocation was held on 23d day of June, 1869, with Most Excellent Daniel H. Wheeler Deputy Grand High Priest as Grand High Priest, and representatives from three chapters.

The Grand High Priest was not present, but sent his address, which was read. From it we learn that other chapters are springing up, and that harmony prevails. But we also learn that the practice of profane swearing is sufficiently prominent to call for rebuke from the East.

This Grand Chapter also decrees that suspension for non-payment of dues by a lodge, suspends the companion from his chapter.

The Grand Chapter was mainly occupied in perfecting and amending its constitution.

Companion D. H. Wheeler was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion J. N. Wise elected Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY.

The twelfth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 9th September, 1868, Most Excellent Companion J. V. Mattison Grand High Priest, and representatives of twenty-seven subordinate chapters.

The Grand High Priest delivered a very touching address, in which he announced the loss, by theft, of his masonic jewel and valuables; and from this, as well as from the reports of the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Secretary, we derive the information that capitulary masonry is thriving and harmonious there.

Companion Jesse P. Case was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion John Woolverton re-elected Grand Secretary.

Companion Corson, from Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviews the proceedings of thirty Grand Chapters, among which we find those of Alabama for 1867, and we also find that he still persists in naming our Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest Morris, when the proceedings most clearly give

it as Norris. His review of us, and of our proceedings, is exceedingly kind and courteous.

He still maintains, as sound, the opinion that when a brother is elected to receive the degrees of a chapter, he can only be deprived of them upon charges preferred and trial had. In this he is somewhat singular.

The report is racy, sometimes exceedingly witty, and once in a while decidedly severe, yet always courteous. We think that our companion has been keeping the compass in view since last he wrote.

NEW YORK.

The seventy-second Annual Convocation was held, February 2d, 1869, Most Excellent Seymour H. Stone Grand High Priest and Companion Christopher G. Fox Grand Secretary, with representatives from one hundred and thirty-five subordinates. The Grand High Priest's address was strictly a business document and pertaining exclusively to that locality, except wherein he delivers an encomium on the General Grand Chapter. But from this address we derive the intelligence agreeable to every Royal Arch Mason that capitular masonry is making rapid strides within that jurisdiction.

At this convocation, among the questions submitted for a decision by the Grand Council, we find the following:

"Can the lodges of Mark, Past or Most Excellent Masters be opened for the purpose of conferring those degrees, on candidates previously elected, without first opening the chapter on the Royal Arch Degree?"

The Grand Council answer that the lodges mentioned, can only be opened and held under the sanction and by the authority of the chapter, and hence, if opened without sanction, they would be illegal. It is therefore decided that lodges of Mark, Past, and Most Excellent Masters must be opened as a sequence to the Royal Arch Chapter and not directly of themselves.

This Grand Chapter has proposed to amend the constitution by providing that the Grand Chapter will exact no annual dues for any Royal Arch Mason who has remained in good standing for a period of twenty-five years, and forbidding chapters to exact from such. We think this right.

It appropriated \$250 to the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, Companion Joseph White.

The report from the committee is signed by the members thereof, though we presume it was from the pen of its chairman. It embraces the review of thirty-two proceedings, among which we find Alabama, of whose proceedings his review is exceedingly short and complimentary.

The whole report is a business like document, containing a great deal of valuable information for the craft, and breathing the very essence of masonic virtue. It contains some valuable suggestions at its close, the most noteworthy of which perhaps are: "That each Committee on Correspondence should adopt a uniform method of statistical table, properly filled and footed, and that there should be a uniformity in size of printed proceedings, that the operations of each year might the more readily be bound."

Companion John W. Simons was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion Christopher G. Fox elected Grand Secretary.

OREGON.

The Grand Chapter of Oregon was held on 22d June, 1868, Most Excellent Companion B. F. Brown Grand High Priest, with representatives of five chapters.

The address of the Grand High Priest discloses the fact that this Grand Chapter had exceeded her powers in granting a charter to a chapter in Idaho, on what account or in what particular we do not know—unless it were beyond the limits of her jurisdiction.

Companion J. H. Wythe prepared a very creditable report for Committee on Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-one Grand Chapters, including Alabama.

Companion James R. Bayley was elected Grand High Priest, and R. P. Earhart elected Grand Secretary. The membership consists of one hundred and forty-nine.

OHIO.

The fifty-second Convocation was held on 16th October, 1868, Most Excellent George Rex, Grand High Priest, and Companion John D. Caldwell, Grand Secretary.

The Most Excellent in his address says : "The past year has been one of more than usual activity in Capitulary Masonry,—and during the same period, the numbers of chapters in this jurisdiction has increased in a corresponding ratio."

We find that this Grand Chapter has rendered herself liable to the lashings of Companion Owen, of California, whose patient investigation and scrutinizing eyes will as surely detect the irregularities here as in Alabama. The Committee on Charters and Dispensations say of a chapter—"The proceedings of this chapter are very irregular; the business of the chapter being done in the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, as may be found convenient. The chapter is very seldom opened. * * We recommend that a charter issue to this chapter." Are these the evidences of skill which entitle them to a charter? We think with Companion Owen that it is far better to do less work, unless the work we present be good, square, and true. Slovenly work, or such as is not fit for our Temple, deserves only to be heaved over among the rubbish. These companions, as the committee report, have demanded wages when none was due, and have been rewarded by the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter by resolution ordered its representatives to the next General Grand Chapter to vote against the amendment to the constitution of the General Grand Chapter giving to that body supreme power over State Grand Chapters, and which was laid on the table at its last triennial convocation, asserting "that such powers would prove difficult, if not incapable of enforcement."

Companion Charles C. Kieffer was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Companion John D. Caldwell elected Grand Secretary.

Companion Howard Matthews makes the report from the Committee on Correspondence reviewing the proceedings of thirty Grand Chapters, including those of the General Grand Chapter. We find those from Alabama for 1867 among them, and we are gratified that our companion found so much worthy of note to extract, and are obliged to him for his compliment to us.

Well does he say in commenting upon the address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of Connecticut: "This is a subject that has frequently caused us much pain and mortification. In the several apartments of the Temple we have found those who, without capacity to appreciate or understand the beautiful and sublime emblems and teachings of the institution, have treated it as a good joke, to mortify and embarrass a candidate, while passing through the ceremonies, and endeavored to turn into ridicule, points having the most solemn reference. He who would be guilty of this is not fitted to occupy a place in our Temple; he is unworthy to be numbered with the "Sons of Light," and he has not been inducted into the *first principles* of masonry, and is not capable of appreciating its *moral application*. From the preparation room of initiation to the summit of masonry, there is no place where thoughts, other than the *most solemn*, should be entertained for a moment, and we hope that a universal verdict of condemnation of this highly unmasonic practice may go up from every Grand Jurisdiction." To all of which we give our most hearty assent.

The whole report is a good one, displaying great judgement in the selections and masonic feeling in the criticisms.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Annual Grand Convocation of this Most Excellent Grand Chapter was held on February 9th, 1869. Companion R. S. Bruns, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion E. Thayer, Grand Secretary; with representatives from twenty-three subordinates.

The address of the Most Excellent is beautiful in its conceptions, and beautiful in its style. He says, that "we have great reason to rejoice, companions, that so much has been bestowed upon us, even though so much, which we might crave, hath been denied. We have gone through great trials, but we have survived them." * * * * "Not that there is yet a perfect day for us; we are still required to bend in humility, but with hope—to struggle with care, for the better strengthening of that moral muscle, upon the due exercise of which, all human hopes must depend; and keeping ever in mind the grand examples of the great men who have gone before us, to work, with such zeal, faith, and energy, for the realization of each precious providence, as will show us to be worthy of that Divine favor, which can alone guarantee our full recuperation, recompense, and repose.

While we still deplore our losses and afflictions, we are to remember, that it is by these processes that God tries the hearts of men, rebukes their pride to a becoming humility, and counsels them that all success must result from His

favor; and that His favor can only be found by modest submission to His law, and our resignation to His will.

It rejoices me, companions, to believe that the work of revivification is already begun among us. I see it in numerous proofs during the experience of the past year."

Nothing is more beautiful than his dissertation on *justice* and *mercy*, which we would extract except for the fear of being too prolix in this report.

The Grand Secretary makes a lengthy report, which contains an eloquent appeal to the companions of that jurisdiction to "awake, arouse themselves, and exert the mighty energies of their noble order for the recuperation of their dearly beloved country, and its restoration to prosperity throughout its length and breadth."

We note in this the acknowledgment of the receipt of \$100 donation from the Grand Chapter of New Jersey.

The report on correspondence is from the pen of Companion James Birnie, to whose honor the Grand Chapter "*Resolved*, unanimously by a rising vote." the thanks of this Grand Chapter "for his very able, valuable, and judicious report."

Companion Birnie reviews the proceedings of eighteen Grand Chapters, including those of the General Grand Chapter, and the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland; and some of these for two and three years. We find Alabama for 1867 among them.

Companion R. S. Bruns was again elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion Thayer was again elected Grand Secretary, both being unanimous.

TEXAS.

We have tidings from the 20th annual convocation of this Grand Chapter, held on the 14th of June, 1869, Most Excellent J. D. Giddings, Grand High Priest, presiding; with a representation from thirty-one chapters.

From the address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, it is seen that we no longer need feel distress for the poverty of our companions in Texas, and that no longer is a "wail" heard from her borders, but "neither famine or pestilence has been suffered to waste our State, and an abundant harvest has filled the land with plenty."

The Grand High Priest says: "I deem it proper to call your attention to a letter from the Secretary of Mount Horeb Chapter No. 59, presenting a novel case, an exceptional one, for which I am not aware that any uniform rule of action has been heretofore adopted in our jurisdiction—that of a companion who has become insane, and in arrears for dues, which had accrued during that condition, submitting the question, should the unfortunate companion be suspended in conformity with the strict letter of the by-laws, or what course should be pursued? Suspension for non-payment of dues is a punishment for the neglect of a known obligation. No judgment or sentence of a court of law, or in the forum of conscience, could be binding against a lunatic. He could be guilty of no wrong, after the light of reason had been withdrawn; and does it not follow that the status of such should not be changed during such condi-

tion?" On which, the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports make the following commendable Report :

"The case from Mount Horeb No. 57, of an unfortunate companion who, having lost his reason, and while in that condition becomes in arrears for dues, is one of those cases for which no rule can be laid down, but which can always be easily disposed of by the exercise of practical good sense. The annual remission of the accruing dues of the Chapter is not only its right, but its duty ; to suspend an insane companion during his misfortune would not only be cruel, but disgraceful, and a construction of any existing law to justify such action, would be forced and an outrage on masonic decency."

We note among the Grand Officers making reports, our quondam friend, W. C. Young, Grand Visitor from the Eastern District, who, with the other Grand Visitor, showed commendable zeal in their extensive journeys, and a laudable disregard of personal comfort. They all show that Royal Arch Masonry is improving in that jurisdiction.

The whole proceedings show that capitulary masonry is active, and that the Grand Chapter is fully alive to the importance of exercising a vigilant care over the subordinates, for which reason we find that the work, acts and doings of these are carefully scrutinized, and discipline (though rarely exercised) called in to aid in the preservation of the purity of the membership. As in other jurisdictions, every effort is being made to prevent the use of substitutes, and to prohibit the practice, injurious and insane as it really is, of intemperance and profanity. Old Chapters are being revived and new ones are springing up, while the Committee on Work has displayed zeal and energy in the discharge of their duty.

At this convocation, Companion W. G. Veal was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion R. Brewster re-elected Grand Secretary.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reports the examination of the proceedings from thirty-two Grand Chapters, among which we are pleased to find ours.

In noticing that portion of the address of Most Excellent Grand High Priest Brown, in which he reports his visit to the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, and the invitation by it extended to him to unite with it and join in the proceedings, and his reasons for not accepting it ; that the G. Chapter of Alabama had passed a resolution in 1861 "*tending to sever our connection.*" Which passage the committee quotes entire. The committee says :

"We deny the dogma that a State Grand Chapter can not withdraw without the consent of the General Grand Chapter. No such covenant was ever made with the so-called National Body by a State Grand Chapter. The State Grand Chapters were never the subjects or subordinates of the so-called General Grand Chapter. They are in fact its masonic equals. The General Grand Chapter was designed as a General Assembly of the Royal Arch Craft ; it was a *confederacy* for certain purposes by agreement, and any body had and has the right to retire therefrom, if it so elect. What is the penalty if it does? and who can enforce it?"

Which sentiments correspond with those already written by us in the review of the proceedings of another Grand Chapter. And we are the more surprised

at the claim set up of allegiance when we find that the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter only claims that this Grand Body is "a confederation between State Grand Chapters."

We would inform our companions in Texas that there was another, and perhaps more cogent reason, why Most Excellent Companion Brown abstained from taking part in the proceedings as the representative from Alabama, than the resolution of 1861 "*tending to sever our connection*;" which was, that on the last day of the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, and at or within the last hour of its session in December, 1867, a motion was made to repeal the resolution of 1861, which was almost unanimously laid on the table. This is not to be found in the proceedings as printed, but is nevertheless a part of the history.

We fear our companions on the committee suffered themselves to be too easily "*riled*" by the report of Companion Storer of Connecticut, and after some "comparisons said to be odious," with great "self-complacency" boast to us of the illimitable extent of their jurisdiction and the unexampled zeal of their companions. Companion Storer is most amiable, and usually most just, and deserves much consideration. We will agree with the committee, that perhaps in no jurisdiction can be found a more self-denying spirit than is exhibited by our companions of Texas; their zeal is indisputable, and is evinced by the re-establishment and growth of their chapters.

The report bears the names of Companions Phillip C. Tucker, W. B. Botts, and Robert Brewster. It has every evidence of having been carefully prepared, and in its comments is usually just and correct, "save in that single instance" given above.

TENNESSEE.

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held September 30th, 1868, Most Excellent T. A. Thomas, Grand High Priest, and Companion John Frizzell, Grand Secretary, with representatives of fifty-one subordinates.

The address of the Grand High Priest is a straight-forward document pertaining to business, and to business only. In it he complains of the great diversity in the work in that jurisdiction, and earnestly urges the Grand Chapter to take vigorous measures to adopt and establish *a work*. In this connection we find that he entertains a keen sense of the disappointment he experienced in not being able to obtain *the work* from the General Grand Chapter, whose convocation at St. Louis he attended. Eight dispensations for organizing new chapters were granted by him, indicative of the zeal of our companions there.

This Grand Chapter "*Resolved*, That the Grand High Priest be respectfully requested not to exercise this power (the granting dispensations during recess) in future."

Companion William Maxwell was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion John Frizzell was elected Grand Secretary.

Companion George S. Blackie, M. D., makes the report on correspondence, examining the proceedings of twenty-six Grand Chapters, among which are

those from Alabama. The report is a very pleasant resume of the condition of the Royal Craft.

VIRGINIA.

Grand Annual Convocation on 17th December, 1868, Companion E. H. Lane, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion John Dove, Grand Secretary, with twenty-six chapters represented.

There is a tone of despondency in the Grand High Priests' address not usual from that jurisdiction. In it he deploras the lethargy which has crept seemingly over many of the companions and their indifference. He says truly that: "Two things are indispensably necessary to the usefulness and prosperity of every Royal Arch Chapter—good and sound material, and a thorough and correct knowledge of the work; without these no chapter can prosper. The first is accomplished by guarding well the entrance to the sanctuary; the second by always having competent and faithful officers. I fear in some instances both are neglected. Wherever this is the case the chapter sickens, and after lingering awhile expires. The extinction of a number of chapters in this jurisdiction is attributable to one or other of these causes." Here, also, we hear of want of uniformity in work. This will ever be until the work can be placed beyond the tinkering propensity of either Officers of Chapters or Committees on Work.

There was no report from Committee on Foreign Correspondence, at least we find none with the proceedings, perhaps the committee again found nothing worthy of note in the proceedings of their sisters, or were indeed afraid lest it might be supposed that they were anxious to "*jine*" the "mutual admiration society?" We regret the fact none the less.

VERMONT.

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 7th October, 1868, Companion Charles A. Miles, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion John B. Hollenbeck, Grand Secretary, with representatives from twenty-three chapters; being the whole number of chapters within this jurisdiction. This is very rarely the case and speaks well for the zeal of our companions in Vermont.

The Grand High Priest says: "The record of the year, just ended, is a satisfactory one—peace has been within our walls, and prosperity within our palaces."

He urges the companions to select an abiding place for the meetings of the Grand Chapter—objecting to its present nomadic existence. He also recommends the re-establishment of kindly relations with the General Grand Chapter and sending of delegates to that Grand Body, and he too urges the necessity of the adoption of *a work as the work*.

The committee to whom was referred the report on correspondence of the previous year, report favorably on the masonic spirit breathed and the "fraternal sympathy which should ever characterize the intercourse of one mason with another. But they also find the report prolix, and containing financial

statements that would be uninteresting to the general reader." Now, we wonder if that committee would have been a whit the less prolix than Companion Britton. The great difficulties to be encountered by the reporter is to know what to leave out, how little to comment, and what would be agreeable to the *general reader*. This last might perhaps be ascertained if there were any, but we fear that after all the time consumed and the labor spent, very few of the companions of each chapter ever read a line of the report. It is mainly useful in conveying intelligence to other jurisdictions, not only of the abstract proceedings of a Grand Chapter, but of the habits of thought on subjects arising within that jurisdiction and others. If these reports were more generally read the companions generally would be far brighter on masonic jurisprudence, and doubtless less intolerant on immaterial differences than they now are. We have no head for statistics, and have therefore never compiled the profits and losses of the different chapters; yet we know many who would like just such information.

Companion Joshua Britton again gives us the Report on Correspondence; reviewing the proceedings of thirty Grand Chapters, consisting of thirty-four pamphlets, among them we find ours, which he reviews kindly. We are glad to find that he thinks, with us, that non-payment of dues "ought not to deprive the delinquent of all masonic rights." This is the case, however, in this jurisdiction; for the edict is "that one suspended by a Master Mason's Lodge for non-payment of dues, shall also stand suspended as a Royal Arch Mason."

He says: "In conclusion we remark, that our report notwithstanding its length has its deficiencies. Some topics of interest to the Royal Craft have necessarily been passed in a brief manner, or with a simple mention, from a desire to confine our report to prescribed limits."

WISCONSIN.

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 3d February, 1869, Most Excellent A. V. H. Carpenter, Grand High Priest, and Companion W. T. Palmer, Grand Secretary, with thirty-eight chapters represented; there being but thirty-nine chapters, one only was unrepresented.

The Grand High Priest delivered a most excellent address—pointing out to the companions the rocks and shoals which lie in our way in the voyage we have undertaken. He again cautions against the following after false gods, such as he announced last year had beguiled the minds of our companions—"The rite of Memphis." "This charlatanism, I repeat, is nearly extinct in our borders," he says. Intemperance too seems to have been making inroads on the fair fame of our companions there, for he eloquently calls for the practice of the cardinal virtues. He says:

"I have no apology to offer for introducing this subject into an address of this kind. We have been too much in the habit of self-laudation, and have not examined into our actual condition; or if we have done so, we have been careful to conceal the facts. "*Whitewashing*" is very useful as an ornamental art, and to obliterate superficial spots, but should never be used to cover up indications of internal defects, which if not corrected will corrupt the

whole system." He urges to the performance of all our duties; to guard well the sacred treasures, and to suffer none to approach the altar save the worthy.

We find that provision is made by this Grand Chapter that the Report on Correspondence shall be printed in advance of the convocation of the Grand Body and distributed to the members. This we think a wise provision, and would place the companions in possession of information which might be esteemed valuable then, but cast aside as valueless at a later period.

The same officers as above named were again elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary.

Companion William H. Norris makes the report on correspondence, reviewing the proceedings in twenty-three sister jurisdictions, one of which is Alabama. His opinion of public orations may be gathered from the following: "It is proposed (in Iowa) that future installations be public, and 'signalized by a public oration'—a style of advertisement ill suited to a fraternity which is forbidden to proselyte."

The plan and style of the whole report is most excellent.

This closes our report. We yet find that there are wanting ... and ... to make our numbers "full and complete," which we most sincerely regret; for though the labor be great, the pleasure is by no means small. Among this great number, we find that good-will prevails, and that, save in one instance, harmony—entire harmony, is to be found. In some parts and under certain jurisdictions, where the hand of Providence has not been heavily laid, great prosperity in the Craft appears, and the light of true masonry is spreading; and even where our companions have been sorely tried, where poverty and death have made their greatest inroads, that the hearts of the brethren are strong in the good work and prosperity begins to dawn. Upon a review of the whole field, we most certainly have cause for congratulation.

Wisconsin requires the report on correspondence to be in the hands of the Grand Secretary one month before the Annual Convocation, and that it be printed and placed in the hands of the members of the Grand Chapter at its *opening*. We would recommend this course to this Grand Chapter, as one calculated to put the companions in possession of information with which they should be familiar during the convocation.

Companions! the writer is sensible of the obligation under which he has been placed by the kindness of the companions of this Grand Chapter; and with the expression of thanks to you for your very flattering consideration heretofore, he now takes leave of you as Chairman of your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, satisfied that this may be placed in abler hands.

P. J. PILLANS, Chairman,

EDICTS,
Decisions, Resolutions, and Authoritative Reports
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,

At its Annual Convocation in 1869.

1. Substitution to make up a class is prohibited. (*See address of G. H. P. in 1868, and report of Committee on Jurisprudence in 1869.*)

2. Petitions for the degrees can not be received unaccompanied by the fee. (*Ibid.*)

3. If the Secretary announce that a petition is received in due form, and it is unaccompanied by the fee, he is liable. If ordered to receive it, and he 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. (*Ibid.*)

4. A chapter has no right to confer the degrees on Ministers of the Gospel free of charge. (*Ibid.*)

5. A chapter Past Master can sit in a Blue Lodge while the Senior Warden is presiding, although the latter has not received the Past Master's degree. That degree, received in a Chapter, confers no privileges other than those he is entitled to receive in a Chapter. (*Ibid.*)

6. A candidate for the Chapter Degrees, being rejected, should wait twelve months, unless objections are withdrawn. (*Ibid.*)

7. Suspension for non-payment of dues in the Blue Lodge does not suspend in the Chapter. (*Ibid, reversing the edict of the Grand Chapter in 1864. See proceedings of that year, p. 14, and Chapter Code, p. 51.*)

8. There is no appeal from the decision of the presiding officer of a Chapter, unless he chooses to permit it; but an appeal may be taken to the Grand Chapter, or, in vacation, to the Grand High Priest. (*Ibid.*)

9. A sojourning companion guilty of unmasonic conduct, should be tried by the Chapter within whose jurisdiction he is sojourning; unless, through courtesy, charges are preferred before the Chapter to which he belongs. But if unaffiliated he may be proceeded against at once. However, it is better to let the Blue Lodge take cognizance of the case.— (*Ibid.*)

10. The degrees can not be conferred by a chapter upon a candidate who lives within the jurisdiction of another chapter. But if the chapter to whose jurisdiction he did belong has forfeited its charter, another chapter may receive his petition and act upon it; *provided*, he has the certificate of the Grand Secretary that he was a member in good standing at the time of the forfeiture. (*Ibid.*)

11. That the Grand Chapter of Alabama most cordially welcomes the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia into the family of Grand Chapters, and extends to her a fraternal greeting. (*Proceedings of 1869, p. 31.*)

12. That this Grand Chapter approves the establishment of the order of High Priesthood, and authorizes its proceedings to be printed with the proceedings of the Grand Chapter. (*Ibid, pp. 23, 41.*)

13. That the interchange of representatives between the several Grand Chapters of this Continent and this Grand Chapter is hereby recognized and adopted. (*Ibid, p. 42.*)

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.	AMOUNT OF DUES.	ADVANCED.	PRESIDED.	RECEIVED & ACK'D.	EXALTED.	AFFILIATED.	REJECTED.	DIMITTED.
1	Tuscaloosa	30	7 50	3	3	3	3	..	..	3
4	Monroe	25	6 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	Eunomia	46	11 50	5	5	6	6	1	1	1
6	Cyrus	30	7 50	3	3	3	3	..	..	1
9	Clinton	29	7 25	5	5	4	3	1	..	..
10	Tuscumbia	25	12 50	3	3	3	3	..	..	..
11	Phenix	45	11 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12	Marion	60	15 00	3	3	3	3	1	1	9
17	Wetumpka	35	8 75	3	3	4	3	..	2	3
19	Mount Moriah	52	13 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20	Livingston	45	11 25	2	2	2	3	..	..	1
21	Mobile	112	28 00	3	4	4	1	..	..	13
22	Montgomery	59	14 75	2	1	1	6	..	1	3
23	Talladega	49	12 25	..	..	..	..	2	1	4
24	Eufaula	59	14 75	4	4	3	3	1	..	..
25	Courtland	51	12 75	4	4	3	3	1	..	4
26	Union	21	5 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
27	Dayton	15	3 75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
28	Saint Johns	78	19 50	16	16	15	15	4	1	4
30	James Penn	93	23 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
32	Fulton	26	6 50	1	1	1	3	1	..	4
34	Hermon	61	15 25	2	1	..	..	1	..	..
35	James L. Daniel	34	8 50	3	3	3	3	..	..	5
36	Pickensville	31	..	3	3	3	3	..	..	4
37	Concord	34	8 50	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
40	Camden	36	9 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
43	Tuskegee	22	5 50	..	..	..	..	2	..	3
44	Choctaw	50	12 50	..	..	3	3	1	..	8
54	Tyrian	41	10 25	..	1	1	..	..	..	3
55	Suggsville	37	9 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
56	Zerubbabel	17	4 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
57	Lebanon	45	11 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
62	Rockford	68	16 50	5	5	5	6	1	..	10
63	Clayton	38	9 50	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
64	Central	20	5 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65	Russell	30	7 50	1	1	1	..	..	..	..

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES—CONTINUED.

NUMBER.	NAMES OF CHAPTERS.	NO. OF MEMBERS.	AMOUNT OF DUES.	ADVANCED.	PRESIDED.	RECEIVED & AGR'D	EXALTED.	AFFILIATED.	REJECTED.	DUPLICATED.
66	Alabama.....	67	16 75	2	2	3	2	1	.	7
67	Farriorville.....	25	6 25	1	1	1	.	.	.	1
68	Cherokee.....	37	9 25	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
69	Lower Peach Tree.....	22	4 50	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
70	Choctaw Corner.....	12	3 00	5	5	3	3	.	.	1
71	Landmark.....	55	13 75	.	.	.	.	.	.	5
72	Midway.....	24	6 00	3	3	3	3	.	.	7
75	Pine Level.....	47	11 75	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
76	Elyton.....	72	18 00	6	6	6	6	.	.	8
78	Danville.....	34	8 50	3	3	3	3	1	.	1
79	Hillabee.....	26	6 50	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
80	Loachapoka.....	30	7 50	2	3	3	3	1	1	1
81	Jefferson.....	36	9 00	4	4	3	3	1	1	1
83	Bell.....	20	5 00	2	2	2	3	.	.	1
84	Carrollton.....	23	5 75	1	1	.	.	.	.	4
85	Gaston.....	31	7 75	3	3	3	3	1	.	.
86	Coosa.....	31	14 00	7	7	7	6	6	2	.
87	Moulton.....	16	4 00	7	6	6	6	1	.	2
88	Roslin.....	29	13 75	6	6	4	3	2	.	.
89	Somerville.....	18	4 25	4	4	4	3	1	1	.
90	Greenville.....	25	6 25	3	3	3	3	3	.	2
91	George D. Norris.....	19	9 50	6	6	6	6	.	.	2
92	Notasulga.....	19	4 75	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
93	Columbus.....	27	6 75	9	9	9	9	2	.	1
94	Cowikee.....	15	3 75	3	3	3	3	.	.	1
95	Daviston.....	20		7	7	6	6	2	2	4

AT REST.

William N. Preston, Nov. 8.....	Eunomia.....	No. 5
Moses Ingram, Jan'y 25.....	Cyrus.....	" 6
Thomas J. Crow, April 20.....		
Thomas J. Fry, August 23.....	Marion.....	" 12
James Martin, July 22.....		
John M. Mickleboro, Sept. 15.....	Livingston.....	" 20
John S. Smith, Nov. 1.....		
William J. Nichols, Dec. 10, 1868.....	Mobile.....	" 21
Bernard Winfree, March 9.....		
Andrew Green, Nov. 24, 1868.....	Montgomery.....	" 22
Harry Maury, July.....		
Edward Best.....	Talladega.....	" 23
James K. Daggett, Nov. 10.....	Eufaula.....	" 24
Thomas McDougal, May 27.....	Saint John's.....	" 28
William M. Ritchie, Sept. 15.....		
Lewis L. Cato, Dec. 4, 1868.....	Pickensville.....	" 36
Charles D. Laney, April 11.....	Camden.....	" 40
Henry Gatchell, Jan'y 5.....	Tyrian.....	" 54
Abel Hill, Sept. 5.....	Russell.....	" 65
Stephen Boldan, Nov. 7.....	Alabama.....	" 66
Lewis W. Ball, Sep. 15.....	Cherokee.....	" 68
Zack Pulliam, Sept. 4.....	Elyton.....	" 76
George M. Hamner, June 25, 1868.....	Danville.....	" 78
Osborn W. Teate.....	Jefferson.....	" 81
Augustus A. Griffin.....		
William T. Gunter.....	Gaston.....	" 85
Thomas W. Dorman, July 2.....	Moulton.....	" 87
Asberry Randle, Feb.....	Roslin.....	" 88
John W. Trippe, Sept. 11.....		
William H. McDaniel, April 6.....	Somerville.....	" 89
William Gray, June.....		
John Ellis, January 10.....		
Joseph Moore, October 19.....		
J. T. Wood, Aug. 27.....		
Thomas R. McKilroy, Aug. 7.....		
Howell R. Buchanan, Jan'y 18.....		
Stephen B. Murphy, Sept. 20.....		
S. S. Morrow, Aug. 22.....		

Suspended for Non-Payment of Dues.

EUNOMIA, No. 5.—John W. Cooper, Andrew J. Esslinger, Albert R. Erskine, William Gormley, Albert H. Holden, Burwell C. Lanier, John C. Logeman, John R. Slaughter, Benjamin F. Stines, A. L. Wilkinson, James B. White, James J. Venable, Albert A. Baker.

MARION, No. 12.—Thomas Y. Ramsey, H. A. Torbett, Beverly B. Walker.

MOBILE, No. 21.—John D. Turner, Benjamin E. Wilson, Thomas B. Wilson, Frank G. Schelin, William H. Saxon, Thomas Sumerall, Sol H. Solomon, John Spencer, R. H. Slough, Cornelius O'Leary, John Nelson, John O. Cummins Jr., Cade M. Godbold, James L. Abbott, Charles H. Poole, George W. Holt, James Malone, Daniel D. McGregor, Harvey McAdams, William R. Eaton, Zack C. Deas, John C. Butler, George H. Hall, Henry Hamerson, Herman Gans, Louis H. Parks, Henry L. Ash, Antony Antoine, Edwin Armfield, Samuel Lyons, H. C. Havens, William Keyland.

MONTGOMERY, No. 22.—Joseph M. Williams, William F. Teat, J. J. Morgan, William J. Holt, E. Camps, Robert H. Molton, A. C. Barron, J. S. Welborn.

COURTLAND, No. 25.—A. A. Arnott, J. B. Murphy.

SAINT JOHNS, No. 28.—William Connor.

PICKENSVILLE, No. 36.—S. P. Doss Jr.

CONCORD, No. 37.—W. L. Mitchell, William Davis, McC. Hatchford, T. C. Garlington, Charles Huckaby, William H. Barnes, E. H. Muse, William M. Robinson, George W. Allen.

CAMDEN, No. 40.—H. F. Cook, J. F. Fairley, R. S. Parks.

ROCKFORD, No. 62.—J. B. Steely, Robert King, Wash L. Smith B. S. Wilson, B. Thomas Cousins, W. J. Murphy, James Christian, William Moon, B. Harris.

CLAYTON, No. 63.—John C. McNab, Luther W. Walker, William King, J. E. Boker, F. D. Veal, G. W. Harrison, C. LeGrand Brown, James Long, Giles C. Eford, W. J. Peacock, G. W. Boker.

FARRIORVILLE, No. 67.—William Salter.

MIDWAY, No. 72.—Robert D. Thornton, Green B. Turner, Daniel Feagin, R. H. King, Robert H. Griffin, Haywood Pipkin, Phillip Sanders, James R. Mad-dox, A. A. Pearsons, ——— L. Walker, W. T. Coleman, G. Y. Thomaston.

DANVILLE, No. 78.—William W. Orr, James Simpson.

HILLABEE, No. 79.—A. G. Rains, J. W. Carter, R. F. Robertson, Malcolm McMillan, R. G. Young, B. F. Albright, A. S. Smith.

LOCHAPOKA, No. 80.—E. Griffith.

BELL, No. 83.—A. J. Ashcroft, A. A. West, R. A. Simmons, W. F. Robinson.

CARROLLTON, No. 84.—Samuel C. Nabers, N. N. Davis, Thomas Osborne, Joseph Stewart, Dabney Duncan.

GASTON, No. 85.—N. A. Gilmore.

MOULTON, No. 87.—Thomas M. Peters, Joseph W. Srygley, Jacob A. Dukeminier, Frank L. Cramer, John S. Leach, Richard O. Pickett.

GREENVILLE, No. 90.—Anthony W. Turner, John B. Goldsmith, J. D. Stearns, J. W. Sims.

REINSTATED.

TUSCALOOSA, No. 1.—Thomas P. Lewis.

CYRUS, No. 6.—Joseph Ingram, Moses Ingram.

MARION, No. 12.—John J. Nave, Laban S. Redding, John S. Barron, William Cook, Joseph McCombs, Robert B. Crowe, Charles H. Snead.

MOBILE, No. 21.—James B. Hazard, Freeman W. Clayton, Samuel E. Stokes.

TALLADEGA, No. 23.—Andrew J. Ritchie.

SAINT JOHNS, No. 28.—John Weedon, John McGrath.

ROCKFORD, No. 62.—Ben C. Haney, Van Robertson, Thomas U. T. McCain, R. Edwards, Thomas Gilchrist, G. Fuller.

ALABAMA, No. 66.—Charles R. Valliant.

FARRIORVILLE, No. 67.—D. L. Osburne, William A. Walker, Lafayette G. Wilson.

MIDWAY, No. 72.—Samuel Feagin, James Kennedy.

HILLABEE, No. 79.—W. G. Galloway, James Gay.

SUSPENDED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

Charles M. Taylor.....	Pickensville.....	No. 36
Milton Jenkins.....	} Camden.....	“ 40
John McCaskell.....		
F. A. White.....		

EXPELLED.

John W. G. Innerarity.....	Mobile.....	No. 21
Nathan Jester.....	} Rockford.....	“ 62
J. A. McLendon.....		
T. W. Tindsey.....		
Joseph Smart.....		

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.....	Wm. A. Cochrane.	Elijah M. Burton,	2d Thursday.
4	Monroe.....	Claiborne.....	Monroe.....	Claiborne.....	Rufus C. Torrey,	Noah Alfred Agee,	Friday b f moon.
5	Fanomia.....	Huntsville.....	Madison.....	Huntsville.....	John H. Reedy,	John H. Reedy,	1st Tuesday.
6	Cyrus.....	Florence.....	Lauderdale.....	Florence.....	Henry W. Sample,	Wm. Ragsdale,	Monday of or b f m
9	Clinton.....	Athens.....	Limestone.....	Athens.....	John Turentine,	Sam'l Tanner Jr.,	2d Monday.
10	Tuscumbia.....	Tuscumbia.....	Franklin.....	Tuscumbia.....	Felix G. Norman,	Fred. D. Hodgkins	Monday at 2d Sat.
11	Phenix.....	Greensboro'.....	Hale.....	Greensboro'.....	Nathan T. Lupton,	Oscar F. Casey,	1st Tuesday.
12	Marion.....	Marion.....	Perry.....	Marion.....	George P. L. Reid,	Benj. M. Huey,	3d "
17	Wetumpka.....	Wetumpka.....	Elmore.....	Wetumpka.....	Edmunds Mason,	William S. Penick,	Sat. aft'r full moon
19	M. L. Moriah.....	Eutaw.....	Greene.....	Eutaw.....	Isaiah B. Smaw,	James T. Smith,	3d Friday.
20	Livingston.....	Livingston.....	Sumter.....	Livingston.....	Robert D. Webb,	Josiah L. Scruggs	3d "
21	Mobile.....	Mobile.....	Mobile.....	Mobile.....	Theo. L. Eastburn	Jos. H. Hampshire	1st and 3d Thurs.
22	Montgomery.....	Montgomery.....	Montgomery.....	Montgomery.....	Daniel Sayre,	Calvin W. Sayre,	2d Saturday.
23	Talladega.....	Talladega.....	Talladega.....	Talladega.....	Jos. H. Johnson,	Henry H. Hamill,	3d Friday.
24	Eufaula.....	Eufaula.....	Barbour.....	Eufaula.....	James Milton,	John C. Thomas,	1st Saturday.
25	Courtland.....	Courtland.....	Lawrence.....	Courtland.....	Joseph C. Baker,	George K. Clopper	2d Tuesday.
26	Union.....	Uniontown.....	Perry.....	Uniontown.....	Robert Christian,	Daniel E. Barger,	2d Thursday.
27	Dayton.....	Dayton.....	Marengo.....	Dayton.....	Charles C. Garrett	R. Augustus Jones	2d Tuesday.
28	Saint Johns.....	Selma.....	Dallas.....	Selma.....	James Kent,	M. H. Smith,	4th Monday.
30	James Penn.....	Jacksonville.....	Calhoun.....	Jacksonville.....	John R. Clark,	Daniel P. Forney,	Last Monday.
32	Fulton.....	Orrville.....	Dallas.....	Orrville.....	William E. Beard,	Elijah L. Coleman,	4th Saturday.
34	Hermont.....	Union Springs.....	Bullock.....	Union Springs.....	Rich'd H. Powell,	Thomas Pullum,	3d Friday.
35	James L. Daniel.....	Glennville.....	Russell.....	Glennville.....	Malchi W. Davis,	S. C. Woolfolk,	2d Saturday.
36	Pickensville.....	Pickensville.....	Pickens.....	Pickensville.....	Humpy S. Shelton	John C. Moorhead	2d Friday.
37	Concord.....	Lafayette.....	Chambers.....	Lafayette.....	R. P. Bragaw,	Jas. E. Scarbrough	1st Monday.
40	Camden.....	Camden.....	Wilcox.....	Camden.....	Lucie W. Jenkins	Daniel W. Block,	3d Thursday.
43	Tuskegee.....	Tuskegee.....	Macon.....	Tuskegee.....	Sidney B. Paine	John C. Smith,	4th Monday.
44	Choctaw.....	Butler.....	Choctaw.....	Butler.....	G. Frank Smith,	John C. Chapman,	1st "
54	Tyrian.....	Troy.....	Pike.....	Troy.....	William H. Biggs,	Joel D. Murphree,	Friday bef 3d Sab.
55	Suggsville.....	Suggsville.....	Clarke.....	Suggsville.....	Samuel Coale	Samuel Forward,	2d Saturday.
56	Zerubbabel.....	Waverly.....	Chambers.....	Suggsville.....	John W. Fleming,	D. A. Patrick,	2d and 4th Thurs.
57	Lebanon.....	Lebanon.....	Dekalb.....	Lebanon.....	Wm. J. Roberts,	J. C. Bogle,	3d Friday.
62	Rockford.....	Rockford.....	Coosa.....	Rockford.....	John A. Sears,	Matthew D. Moore	Friday bf 4th Sab.
63	Clayton.....	Clayton.....	Barbour.....	Clayton.....	James S. Paulin,	James J. Winn,	Mon. af 1 & 3 Sab.

64	Central.....	Montevallo.....	Shelby.....	Montevallo.....	Edward G. Walker	Sylvester Steele..	Monday at Lodge.
65	Russell.....	Stevenson.....	Jackson.....	Stevenson.....	T. Boyd Foster..	William M. Cowan	2d Friday.
66	Alabama.....	Mobile.....	Mobile.....	Mobile.....	Jesse J. Melton..	James F. Foster..	2d and 4th Friday.
67	Fariorville.....	Fariorville.....	Bullock.....	Fariorville.....	John McCreless..	Alex. Youngblood,	1st and 3d Saturday.
68	Cherokee.....	Centre.....	Cherokee.....	Centre.....	S. K. McSpadden.	James A. Reeves,	2d Tuesday.
69	Lower Peach Tree	Lo'r Peach Tree,	Wilcox.....	Lo'r Peach Tree,	C. C. Curtis.....	Jacob Mayer.....	2d Saturday.
70	Choctaw Corner..	Choctaw Corner.	Clarke.....	Choctaw Corner.	John F. Pate.....	Steph. M. Gilmore	3d "
71	Landmark.....	Barnes' & Roads	Dale.....	Shipperville.....	James M. Bridges,	J. A. F. Campbell,	3d "
72	Midway.....	Midway.....	Bullock.....	Midway.....	John W. L. Daniel,	William C. Smith,	1st Thursday.
73	Pine Level.....	Pine Level.....	Montgomery	Pine Level.....	Wm. G. Jackson,	Nathan D. Wright	1st Wednesday.
74	Elyton.....	Elyton.....	Jefferson.....	Elyton.....	Goldstn W. Hewitt	James M. Ware,	2d Monday.
75	Danville.....	Danville.....	Morgan.....	Danville.....	And. G. Copeland.	John Y. Ferguson,	4th Saturday.
76	Hillabee.....	Pinckneyville..	Tallapoosa..	Pinckneyville..	Mart. G. Slaughter	George M. Gamble	2d "
77	Loachapoka.....	Loachapoka.....	Lee.....	Loachapoka.....	Myles J. Greene.	Jno. W. Williams,	1st Tuesday.
78	Jefferson.....	Demopolis.....	Marengo.....	Demopolis.....	Wm. W. Harder..	Edward A. Taylor,	4th Wednesday.
79	Bell.....	Lineville.....	Clay.....	Lineville.....	John W. Garrison,	James L. Williams	3d Saturday.
80	Carrollton.....	Carrollton.....	Pickens.....	Carrollton.....	Samuel F. Hill..	Wm. G. Robertson	Saturday bef 2d Sab.
81	Gaston.....	Gaston.....	Sumter.....	Gaston.....	Simeon Walton..	Marion E. Tarvin,	2d Thursday.
82	Coosa.....	Gadsden.....	Etowah.....	Gadsden.....	Dan. C. Turrentine	Lemuel E. Hamlin,	1st Monday.
83	Moulton.....	Moulton.....	Lawrence.....	Moulton.....	Chris. C. Harris.	William H. Hill..	2d Saturday.
84	Roslin.....	Springville.....	Saint Clair.	Springville.....	Littleberry Clayton,	A. W. Woodall....	3d Friday.
85	Somerville.....	Somerville.....	Morgan.....	Somerville.....	Harrison M. Welch	Peter Binford....	3d Saturday.
86	Greenville.....	Greenville.....	Butler.....	Greenville.....	Thomas M. Bragg,	Geo. W. Thigpen.	1st and 3d Tuesday
87	George D. Norris,	New Market.....	Madison.....	New Market.....	Morris K. Taylor,	W. R. Whitman.	4th Friday.
88	Notasulga.....	Notasulga.....	Macon.....	Notasulga.....	Benj. F. Johnson,	William S. Ford.	2d Saturday.
89	Columbus.....	Newton.....	Dale.....	Newton.....	Ransom Dowd....	Ransom Deal....	1st "
90	Cowikee.....	Spring Hill.....	Barbour.....	Cowikee.....	Solomon G. Burke	J. Wallace Comer.	1st Friday.
91	Daviston.....	Daviston.....	Tallapoosa..	Daviston.....	J. C. Taylor.....	W. L. Williams..	1st and 3d Friday.

1869.

RECAPITULATION.



Chapters that were represented.....	55
Members reported at this convocation.....	2,327
Dues received at this convocation.....	\$591 50

WORK OF THE YEAR.

Advanced.....	155
Presided.....	155
Received and Acknowledged.....	149
Exalted.....	148
Affiliated.....	41
Rejected.....	13
Dimitted.....	148
Died.....	38
Suspended for unmasonic conduct.....	4
Expelled.....	5
Suspended for non-payment of dues.....	135
Reinstated.....	30

STATE OF THE CHAPTERS.

Chapters square upon the books.....	56
Chapters delinquent.....	10
Charters forfeited.....	29
Whole number at the 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 the Grand Chapter for three years successively, or failing for two successive years to make its 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 1869.

EBLINQUENT IN DUES FOR ONE YEAR.

No. 52.....	Allenton.
" 73.....	Lawrenceville.
" 74.....	Opelika.
" 77.....	Smedley.

DELINQUENT IN DUES FOR TWO YEARS.

No. 49.....	Hope.
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DELINQUENT IN REPRESENTATION ONE YEAR.

No. 37.....	Concord.
" 52.....	Allenton
" 63.....	Clayton.
" 72.....	Midway.
" 73.....	Lawrenceville.
" 74.....	Opelika.
" 77.....	Smedley.
" 84.....	Carrollton.
" 91.....	George D. Norris.

DELINQUENT IN REPRESENTATION TWO YEARS.

No. 10.....	Tuscumbia.
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CHARTERS FORFEITED.

Numbers 2, 3, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 29, 31, 33, 38, 39, 41, 42, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 58, 59, 60, 61, 82, 95.

Address of Grand Secretaries.

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|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Alabama..... | Daniel Sayre..... | Montgomery. |
| 2. Arkansas..... | Luke E. Barber..... | 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 City. |
| 7. Delaware..... | Alfred T. A. Torbert..... | Milford. |
| 8. Florida..... | Edward Bradford, Jr..... | Tallahassee. |
| 9. Georgia..... | Charles R. Armstrong..... | Macon. |
| 10. Illinois..... | Harman G. Reynolds..... | Springfield. |
| 11. Indiana..... | John M. Bramwell..... | Indianapolis. |
| 12. Iowa..... | William B. Langridge..... | Muscatine. |
| 13. Kansas..... | E. T. Carr..... | Leavenworth. |
| 14. Kentucky..... | Philip Swigert..... | Frankfort. |
| 15. Louisiana..... | James C. Batchelor..... | New Orleans. |
| 16. Maine..... | Ira Berry..... | Portland. |
| 17. Maryland..... | William A. Wentz..... | Baltimore. |
| 18. Massachusetts..... | Thomas Waterman..... | Boston. |
| 19. Michigan..... | J. Eastman Johnson..... | Centreville. |
| 20. Minnesota..... | William S. Combs..... | Saint Paul. |
| 21. Mississippi..... | Oscar T. Keeler..... | Columbus. |
| 22. Missouri..... | Geo. Frank Gouley..... | Saint Louis. |
| 23. Nebraska..... | Robert W. Furnas..... | Brownville. |
| 24. New Hampshire..... | Horace Chase..... | Hopkinton. |
| 25. New Jersey..... | John Woolverton..... | Trenton. |
| 26. New York..... | Christopher G. Fox..... | Buffalo. |
| 27. North Carolina..... | Thomas B. Carr..... | Wilmington. |
| 28. Nova Scotia..... | James Gossip..... | Halifax. |
| 29. Ohio..... | John D. Caldwell..... | Cincinnati. |
| 30. Oregon..... | R. P. Earhart..... | Salem. |
| 31. Pennsylvania..... | John Thomson..... | Philadelphia. |
| 32. Rhode Island..... | George H. Burnham..... | Providence. |
| 33. South Carolina..... | Ebenezer Thayer..... | Charleston. |
| 34. Tennessee..... | John Frizzell..... | Nashville. |
| 35. Texas..... | Robert Brewster..... | Houston. |
| 36. Vermont..... | John B. Hollenbeck..... | Burlington. |
| 37. Virginia..... | John Dove..... | Richmond. |
| 38. Wisconsin..... | William T. Palmer..... | Milwaukee. |
| 39. United States..... | John D. Caldwell..... | Cincinnati. |

Council of High Priests.

MONTGOMERY, December 2, 1869.

On this day Companions George D. Norris, Richard F. Knott, and Harvey G. Hazelrigg, (the last, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Indiana, and Recorder of the Council of High Priests for the Jurisdiction of Indiana,) met and anointed and set apart to the Order of High Priesthood the following companions :

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG,	JOSEPH H. JOHNSON,
PELEG BROWN,	PORTER KING,
JAMES M. BRUNDIDGE,	JAMES B. LUCKIE,
THOMAS CARGILE,	DANIEL SAYRE,
WILLIAM W. HARDER,	J. McCALEB WILEY.

And on this day, December 6th, 1869, the following companions :

WILLIAM H. BIGGS,	PALMER J. PILLANS,
WILLIAM P. CHILTON,	FRANK PRINCE,
HENRY W. CLARK,	GEORGE P. L. REID,
ANDERSON G. COPELAND,	WILLIAM H. SADLER,
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY,	ISAAC W. SUTTLE,
T. BOYD FOSTER,	MARTIN G. SLAUGHTER,
MYLES J. GREENE,	G. FRANK SMITH,
GOLDSMITH W. HEWITT,	SAM THOMPSON,
WILLIAM G. JACKSON,	ROBERT D. WEBB,
JAMES MILTON,	EDWARD G. WALKER.

MONTGOMERY, December 8, 1869.

The companions anointed proceeded to constitute a Council of High Priests for the Jurisdiction of Alabama, for which purpose Companion Joseph H. Johnson was called to the Chair, and Companion G. Frank Smith was appointed Secretary.

On motion of Companion Palmer J. Pillans a committee of three was appointed, consisting of Companions Palmer J. Pillans, William P. Chilton, and G. Frank Smith, to report officers for the ensuing masonic year.

The committee retired, and after consultation reported the following companions as the officers for the ensuing masonic year :

GEORGE D. NORRIS.....	<i>President.</i>
JOSEPH H. JOHNSON.....	<i>Vice-President.</i>
MARTIN G. SLAUGHTER.....	<i>Chaplain.</i>
EDMUND M. HASTINGS.....	<i>Treasurer.</i>
DANIEL SAYRE.....	<i>Recorder.</i>
RICHARD F. KNOTT.....	<i>Master of Ceremonies.</i>
H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	<i>Conductor.</i>
JAMES B. LUCKIE.....	<i>Herald.</i>
MYLES J. GREENE.....	<i>Steward.</i>

And the report of the committee was received and unanimously adopted.

On motion of Companion Richard F. Knott a committee of three was appointed, consisting of Companions Richard F. Knott, William P. Chilton, and Myles J. Greene, to draw up and report a Code of Rules for the government of the Council.

The Council was then called from labor to recess to meet again at the order of the President.

MONTGOMERY, December 10, 1869.

The Council of High Priests of Alabama was called from recess to labor, the officers at their several stations, and a large number of companions present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The following companions, candidates for the Order, were then introduced and anointed, and set apart to the Order of High Priesthood in solemn form :

JAMES M. BRIDGES,	LUCKIE W. JENKINS,
ROBERT CHRISTIAN,	JAMES KENT,
LITTLEBERRY CLAYTON,	NATHANIEL T. LUPTON,
DAVID CLOPTON,	JOHN M ^C CRELESS,
WILLIAM A. COCHRAN,	SAMUEL K. M ^C SPADDEN,
JOHN CORTRIGHT,	WILLIAM A. O'HARA,
CHRISTOPHER C. CURTIS,	JOHN F. PATE,
JAMES M. DEDMAN,	JOHN A. SEARS,
BENJAMIN DOWD,	HUMPHREY S. SHELTON,
JOHN W. GARRISON,	SIMEON WALTON,
WILLIAM R. HORN,	THOMAS R. WARD.

Companion Richard F. Knott, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported the Code of Rules hereto appended, and it was adopted.

On motion of Companion Richard F. Knott the Recorder was authorized and directed to procure a seal for the Council.

The Council of High Priests of Alabama was closed in Solemn Form until the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

DANIEL SAYRE,

Recorder.

CODE OF RULES

OF THE

COUNCIL OF HIGH PRIESTS.

The Council of high Priests of the State of Alabama, for its more perfect organization and government, hereby makes and ordains the following Code of Rules :

SECTION 1. The officers of this Council shall consist of a M. E. President, Vice-President, Chaplain, Treasurer, Recorder, Master of Ceremonies, Conductor, Herald, and Steward, who shall be severally elected at each Annual Communication of the Council by Ballot, or otherwise, as the Council may, from time to time, determine, and then serve until their successors are duly elected.

SEC. 2. The duties of the several Officers of the Council shall, in all things, conform to the rules and regulations governing other Masonic Bodies, so far as they may be applicable.

SEC. 3. The Recorder shall keep true and accurate records of the proceedings of the Council, and prepare a copy of the same for publication with those of the Grand Chapter, from time to time, as they may occur.

SEC. 4. The Council shall hold a Communication, annually, at the same place, and at some suitable time during the week in which the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter may be held.

SEC. 5. The Council may also hold stated Communications at the same place, and at some suitable time, during the Annual Communications of the Grand Commandery and Grand Lodge.

SEC. 6. At each and every Communication of the Council, nine Companion High Priests shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

SEC. 7. At any Communication of the Council, should the President and Vice-President both be absent, the Council may be organized for the dispatch of business by calling any competent Companion High Priest to preside, who will then have the right, for the time being, to fill any other vacancy that may appear; and any business transacted by the Council thus organized, shall be legal.

SEC. 8. The President and Vice-President shall each have the right to call a Council of High Priests at any convenient time and place, for the purpose of

conferring the order upon such as may have been duly elected thereto by the Council at an Annual or Stated Communication, at which time three Companion High Priests (the President or Vice-President being one) shall constitute a quorum for that purpose.

SEC. 9. Should the President or Vice-President, at any time, convene a Council for the purpose as specified in the last preceding section, it shall be his duty to report his proceedings to the Recorder, who shall record the same in the record of proceedings of this Council.

SEC. 10. No Companion shall be eligible to the order of High Priesthood, until he shall have been duly elected High Priest of a subordinate Chapter duly organized under charter.

SEC. 11. All applications for the order of High Priesthood must be made in writing, at an Annual or Stated Communication of the Council, accompanied by a certificate, under seal of the Grand or subordinate Chapter, certifying that the applicant has been duly elected High Priest of a subordinate Chapter, duly organized under charter. Such application must then be referred to a committee for investigation. Upon the report of the committee, a ballot shall be had, when, should one negative vote appear, the applicant will be rejected.

SEC. 12. For the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Council, each applicant, previous to his admission, must pay to the Recorder the sum of one dollar.

SEC. 13. Any Companion High Priest, residing within this jurisdiction, who may have received the order of High Priesthood in another jurisdiction, may become a member of this Council, by making application therefor, and being elected by a unanimous vote of the members present.

SEC. 14. The application of a Companion for the order of High Priesthood, merely because he holds the office of High Priest in a subordinate Chapter, is in strong terms disapproved, and we desire to impress upon the minds of those aspiring to the honor of this order, that proficiency in the Chapter work, and a devoted attachment to, and proficiency in, the duties of the office, combined with an unexceptionable moral character, can alone entitle them to the honors of this order.

