

1870
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND
CHAPTER
of
Royal Arch Masons
of
ALABAMA



A.D. 1870 / A.I. 2400

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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,

1870.



MONTGOMERY, ALA. :

BARRETT & BROWN, PRINTERS AND BINDERS.

1871.

PROCEEDINGS.



The M. Ex. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama held its Forty-fourth Annual Grand Convocation at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Montgomery, on Tuesday, the 6th day of December, A. D., 1870, A. L. 5870, A. Inv. 2400.

PRESENT:

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	Grand High Priest.
JAMES B. LUCKIE.....	Deputy G. H. Priest.
JAMES M. DEDMAN.....	Grand King.
MYLES J. GREENE.....	Grand Scribe.
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY.....	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE.....	Grand Secretary.
MARTIN G. SLAUGHTER.....	Grand Chaplain
WILLIAM W. HARDER.....	Grand C. of the Host
JAMES MILTON.....	Grand P. Sojourner.
MATTHEW D. MOORE.....	Grand R. A. C.
LEE W. BATTLE, <i>pro tem</i>	Grand M. 3 V.
WILLIAM S. FORD <i>pro tem</i>	Grand M. 2 V.
REUBEN L. KAY.....	Grand M. 1 V.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....	Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

WILLIAM P. CHILTON.....	Grand High Priest.
DAVID CLOPTON.....	Grand High Priest.
PELEG BROWN.....	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.
EUGENE V. LE VERT.....	Grand Scribe.
STEPHEN C. WILLIAMS.....	Grand Scribe.

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

No. 1	Tuskaloosa	William A. Cochran	S.
" 9	Clinton	Augustus F. Evans	H. P.
" 10	Tusculumbia	William W. Weatherford*	"
" 11	Phenix	John A. Steele	S.
" 17	Wetumpka	William T. Trice	K.
" 19	Mount Moriah	William C. Penick	H. P.
" 20	Livingston	Isaac W. Suttle	K.
" 21	Mobile	Isaiah B. Smaw	H. P.
" 22	Montgomery	Israel G. Smith	S.
" 23	Talladega	Robert D. Webb	H. P.
" 24	Eufaula	John M. Taylor	K.
" 25	Courtland	Daniel Sayre	H. P.
" 26	Union	Walter C. Jackson	K.
" 27	Dayton	James Davidson	S.
" 28	St. Johns	Joseph H. Johnson	H. P.
" 30	James Penn	James H. Joiner	K.
" 32	Fulton	James Milton	H. P.
" 34	Hermon	Edward F. Comegys*	"
" 35	James L. Daniel	Philip P. Gilchrist*	K.
" 36	Pickensville	William V. Chardavoyne*	S.
" 40	Camden	Robert Christian	H. P.
" 43	Tuskegee	Foster B. Terrell	"
" 44	Choctaw	James Kent	"
" 53	Uchee	William T. Daughtrey*	K.
" 54	Tyrian	Reuben L. Kay	S.
" 55	Suggsville	James F. Grant*	K.
" 56	Zerubbabel	William E. Beard	H. P.
" 62	Rockford	Richard H. Powell	"
" 63	Clayton	Sowell C. Woolfolk*	"
" 64	Central	Humphrey S. Shelton	"
" 66	Alabama	John C. Moorhead*	K.
		Luckie W. Jenkins	H. P.
		J. Eades Gullett	K.
		Sidney B. Paine	H. P.
		James E. Cobb	K.
		G. Frank Smith	H. P.
		Malichi L. Long*	"
		Joseph C. Avent	"
		Henry C. Wiley*	K.
		James Odom*	H. P.
		Henry P. Smith	"
		Andrew F. M. Garrett	S.
		Matthew D. Moore*	H. P.
		Alto Velo Lee*	"
		John R. Barr*	K.
		William M. M. Math*	H. P.
		Peleg Brown	"
		Oliver S. Beers	K.

* Proxies.

No. 67	Farriorville.....	{ John McCreless H. P.
		{ Alexander Youngblood* K.
		{ Malichi Ethheridge S.
" 68	Cherokee	{ Shadrach H. Sedbury * H. P.
		{ James A. Reeves* S.
		{ John F. Pate H. P.
" 70	Choctaw Corner.....	{ Horatio C. Grayson K.
		{ Benjamin L. Smith* S.
" 71	Landmark.....	{ James M. Bridges H. P.
" 72	Midway	{ John W. L. Daniel "
		{ Lee W. Battle..... "
" 75	Pine Level	{ Anthony H. Sellers..... K.
		{ Henry W. Clark..... S.
" 76	Elyton	{ George W. Smith..... K.
" 77	Smedley.....	{ Zachariah H. Williams..... H. P.
" 79	Hillabee.....	{ Martin G. Slaughter..... "
		{ Myles J. Greene..... "
" 80	Loachapoka	{ George P. Harrison Jr* K.
		{ Wiley W. Bloodworth* S.
		{ William W. Harder..... H. P.
" 81	Jefferson.....	{ Lewis B. McCarty S.
" 83	Bell.....	{ John W. Garrison..... H. P.
" 84	Carrollton.....	{ John T. Terry..... K.
		{ Thomas G. Williams* S.
		{ Robert L. Seale* H. P.
" 85	Gaston.....	{ Edward H. Ward* K.
		{ John Wesley Johnston* S.
		{ Daniel C. Turrentine H. P.
" 86	Coosa	{ Rodolphus O. Randall* K.
		{ Joseph H. Francis* S.
		{ DeWitt C. White H. P.
" 87	Moulton.....	{ Christopher C. Harris..... K.
" 88	Roslin	{ Thaddeus L. Robertson..... K.
" 89	Somerville.....	{ John M. Simpson..... H. P.
" 90	Greenville.....	{ Thomas M. Bragg K.
" 92	Notasulga	{ William S. Ford..... H. P.
" 93	Columbus	{ Benjamin Dowd "
		{ Samuel F. Fain* S.

*Proxies.

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

Prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Martin G. Slaughter.

The M. Ex. Grand High Priest delivered his Annual Address, and on motion of Companion Joseph H. Johnson, it was referred to a Special Committee of three; and the Deputy Grand High Priest, Companion James B. Luckie, appointed the Committee as follows:

Companions Joseph H. Johnson, Richard H. Powell, and Luckie W. Jenkins.

Grand High Priest's Annual Address.

Companions of the Grand Chapter :

Another masonic cycle has been added to "the years beyond the flood ;" and through the providence of God we are permitted to assemble once again in Grand Annual Convocation. To Him, who is the Giver of every good, let our acknowledgements be rendered in thanksgiving and praise, for his abundant mercies, and fatherly protection.

It is a pleasure inestimable, and a source of congratulation, to meet so many familiar faces—to greet, in this brotherly re-union, so many whose hearts are still aglow with love for the cause which we are here to promote. But these emotions are not without alloy. Some who were with us afore time, have finished their labors upon earth, and have passed to their final reward.

Among this number is one whom this Grand Body has heretofore delighted to honor. R. Ex. Companion E. M. Hastings, who for so many years, and in such an acceptable manner filled the office of Grand Treasurer, is no more. He died at his residence in the city of Montgomery on the 20th day of May last.

Companion Hastings was long known to us all. No eulogy from me can increase your estimate of his excellencies of "mind and heart." Amiable and kind in deportment—earnest and energetic in the discharge of every duty imposed upon him—possessing a mind invigorated and accomplished by varied learning, and a heart quickly responsive, at all times, to the wants and claims of others—the loss caused by his death

can not be easily supplied. He was pre-eminently a mason, devoted to the interests of the craft, and illustrating in his daily walk and conversation every masonic virtue. His was a zeal for our order which increased through the years of a long life, knowing no abatement until the summons, "Come up higher" came to him. His prudent counsel, matured wisdom, and bright example, are no longer ours—let us cherish his memory, and by careful imitation of his virtues, severally strive to be found worthy when called hence, to bear the "Signet" which admitted him into the Sanctuary above.

To fill the vacancy caused by the death of Companion Hastings, I appointed Companion W. H. Dingley to be Grand Treasurer.

It affords me much pleasure to state, that as far as my observation has extended, Capitular masonry, in this jurisdiction, is in a flourishing condition. Peace, prosperity and harmony prevail, and the lights are burning brightly upon our altars.

It has not been my privilege to visit as many Chapters as it was my intention and wish to do. I regret this, but circumstances beyond my control prevented.

My correspondence during the past masonic year has been comparatively light—a fact attributable, no doubt, in a large measure, to the valuable assistance afforded to presiding officers of subordinate chapters in the discharge of their duties by the Code of the Chapter.

The decisions and instructions given by me, during the year, are herewith submitted for your consideration :

In January last I received a communication from the H. P. of Eufaula Chapter No. 24 to the effect, that several worthy master masons residing in the State of Georgia, but nearer to his chapter than to a chapter of their State, desired to petition Eufaula Chapter for the degrees; that being uncertain as to the propriety of receiving such petitions, he declined to do so; and that he desired to be instructed in the matter.

In response I advised that the petitions might be received and acted upon by Eufaula Chapter, after consent obtained from the Georgia Chapter under whose jurisdiction the petitioners resided,—accompanied, of course, by satisfactory evidence that they possessed the qualifications required by the Grand Chapter of Alabama.—(See Art. III, Sec. 6.)

Whereupon, application for consent was made to the H. P. of this Georgia Chapter—La Fayette, No. 12—to which he replied that when the application was presented to his chapter, as would be done at its next convocation, consent would, doubtless, be cheerfully given; remarking, however, that a similar request preferred formerly by a Georgia to an Alabama Chapter had been refused, the H. P. of the latter deciding that an edict of this Grand Chapter existed prohibiting subordinate chapters of this jurisdiction from giving consent to any chapter of another State to confer the chapter degrees. After statement of this correspondence, the H. P. of Enfaula Chapter submitted the following questions:

1st. Would it be in violation of any edict of the Grand Chapter of Alabama to receive and act upon a petition presented by a party residing in another State?

2d. In the absence of such edict, could such petition be received and acted upon, and the degrees conferred by a chapter within this jurisdiction?

Not being advised of the existence of such edict, and failing upon careful investigation to find it, I answered the first of the above questions in the negative.

My answer to the second question was a repetition of the views expressed by me in my first communication above alluded to, viz: that by the consent of the subordinate chapter, even of another State, in whose jurisdiction a party resided, his petition for the degrees might be entertained by a chapter of this jurisdiction.

The considerations which controlled me in this decision, were—that to subordinate chapters belongs the right to determine questions of jurisdiction over individuals—that such a chapter so possessing the right of jurisdiction over a particular party may, without impropriety, or the violation of any rule, yield its claim in favor of a chapter even of another State; and that the jurisdiction so being yielded, the latter chapter can assume it, and confer the degrees upon the party, if properly qualified to receive them.

The following was submitted:

“After a chapter has been regularly opened, and called to refreshment,

can labor therein be resumed with a less number present than nine companions?

It can not. No business can be transacted in a chapter without the presence of nine regular royal arch masons.—(See Art. IV, Sec. 2, Grand Constitution.)

In April last an application was made to me by the H. P. of Jefferson Chapter No. 81, for dispensation to authorize balloting upon petitions of two candidates for the degrees, at the convocation at which the petitions were to be presented. The reasons assigned were, that one of the intended petitioners contemplated a removal from the jurisdiction of Jefferson Chapter before the usual reference could be had upon his petition, and that he exceedingly desired to receive the degrees before such removal.

Not deeming this a case for the exercise of dispensing power, I declined to grant the request.

The power to grant dispensations is a prerogative not to be lightly exercised—certainly not merely for the convenience of individuals, but only in cases of necessity clearly made out, and when it is made manifest that the good of the craft would be promoted thereby.

Without special reference to this particular case, I may be permitted, in this connection to urge upon companions—as has been urged by my predecessors—caution in conferring the chapter degrees. Those only whose qualifications will bear the test of strictest scrutiny should be, permitted to pass the veils of our sanctuary; and to such scrutiny should the character of every one seeking admission among us, be submitted.

Not in numbers, but in the high intellectual and moral worth of its membership, does the strength of our order consist. It is to be feared that we sometimes forget this truth, and, in such forgetfulness, fail to use the black ball, when our true interests as a fraternity require such use. Who can estimate the injury to an institution such as ours, by the admission of one unworthy member? Then, let us with jealous care guard our portals, demanding that all who would pass shall first trace clearly their genealogy, and establish their merits. Thus will we preserve in strength the bonds which should bind together the hearts of masons, and they will indeed be, “a three fold cord not easily broken.” And not only in receiving candidates into the chapter but in advancing them

through its several degrees, should caution be exercised. No degree should be conferred until the applicant therefor has exhibited, upon examination, proficiency in the degrees below.

I would call the especial attention of presiding officers of subordinate chapters to an edict of this Grand Chapter in reference to examination of candidates as to their proficiency in each degree before advancement.

In July last I received a circular letter from the R. Ex. Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, informing me, that Czar Jones, Past Grand H. P. of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, had been by Peninsular Chapter No. 16, (a subordinate chapter of that jurisdiction) indefinitely suspended from the rights and privileges of R. A. Masonry, on account of the violation by him of an edict of the Grand Chapter of Michigan against the circulation of keys.

We commend highly the action of this subordinate chapter—indicating as it does a determination on the part of its members to suppress, as far as in their power lies, a crime, not against the Grand Chapter of Michigan only, but against R. A. Masonry everywhere.

During the past year I have been repeatedly advised of the reception by secretaries of subordinate chapters in this jurisdiction, of advertising letters, proposing, for a consideration, to furnish keys, and setting forth in glowing terms the advantages to be derived from them. I have, of course, forbidden their circulation and use. These letters in the instances brought to my knowledge, were from Michigan. It is to be hoped, that companions throughout that jurisdiction, and particularly those to whom are especially committed the interests of the craft, will become more vigilant than heretofore in tracing out, and bringing such offenders to condign punishment. We think they should be expelled.

In August last I granted a dispensation to a number of companions, (compliance with the Constitution having been made by them) to organize and open a chapter at Prattville, Alabama, to be known as Daniel Pratt Chapter No. 96. Should suitable specimens of work be presented, it will, doubtless, be your pleasure to grant a charter to this chapter.

I also granted a dispensation to Wetumpka Chapter No. 17, to hold an election for officers, adverse circumstances having prevented an election at the prescribed time.

I have appointed M. Ex. Companion John W. Simons, representative of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of New York ; and Companion R. P. Earhart, as our representative near the Grand Chapter of Oregon.

Thus, companions, have I attempted the discharge of the duties imposed upon me by your kind partiality. Assuming the position as your presiding officer with diffidence, I have endeavored to exhibit, at least faithfulness in all things required at my hands, and I am gratified that fewer difficulties have presented themselves than I was inclined to anticipate.

I thank you for the honor conferred upon me, and my earnest hope and prayer is, that this convocation may be conducted in harmony—that the prosperity of R. A. Masonry may be promoted by our labors—and that re-animated by communion with each other, we may go hence to our several homes, feeling that it was good to have been here.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG,
Grand High Priest.

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

Grand Secretary's Annual Report.

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, December 6th, 1870.

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.

I have the melancholy duty to perform of giving you official information of the death of our late Grand Treasurer, Companion Edmund M. Hastings. He died at his residence in this city on the 21st of May last, highly esteemed by all the fraternity in this jurisdiction.

He had been Grand Treasurer of this Grand Chapter for the space of twenty years, having been elected in 1850, on the death of Companion Nimrod E. Benson. He filled the station of Grand Treasurer for a longer time than any masonic office has ever been held by any one in this jurisdiction, and how acceptably to the fraternity is witnessed by his successive annual elections.

Since the last annual Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter, forty-eight copies of the Chapter Code have been sold, and the money paid over to the Grand Treasurer; leaving on hand and undisposed of three hundred and eighty-six (386) copies.

Fraternally,

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

[A.]

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,

*In account with DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.*

1869.

CR.

Dec'r 7. By dues received at Annual Convocation of 1869—(See printed proceeding of 1869, pp. 81 and 82.)..... \$591 50

DR.

Dec'r 17. To amount paid to Grand Treasurer..... \$591 50

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

MONTGOMERY, December 6, 1870.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,

*In account with DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.*

1869.

CR.

Dec'r 17. By Contingent Fund..... \$478 90

1870.

DISPENSATIONS.

Aug. 5. " Daniel Pratt, No. 96..... 90 00
" Cash for 48 Chapter Codes..... 48 00

\$616 90

1869.

DR.

Dec'r 10. To back dues refunded to Cyrus Chapter

No. 6,—See proceedings 1869, p. 33.....\$100 00

" 11. " James Davidson, Grand Sentinel..... 20 00

" 23. " paid for office seal..... 20 00

1870.

Mch. 31. " " postage stamps..... 20 00

Aprl 11. " " Barrett & Brown..... 317 00

June 1. " " Express charges..... 50

Oct. 7. " " " "..... 25

Dec'r 1. " " Grand Treasurer.....\$139 15-\$616 90

DANIEL SAYRE,

Grand Secretary.

MONTGOMERY, December 6, 1870.

The Grand Treasurer made his Annual Report, and also presented the books, and accounts, and vouchers of the late Grand Treasurer, Companion Edmund M. Hastings, and they were referred to the Committee on Finance.

Grand Treasurer's Annual Report.

EDMUND M. HASTINGS, (LATE) GRAND TREASURER,

In account with the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

1869.

DR.

Dec'r 7.	To balance.....	\$673 15
" 17.	" Cash from Grand Secretary.....	591 50
		<u>\$1264 65</u>

CONTRA.

1869.

Dec'r 10.	By J. H. Johnson, Committee on Work 1....	50 50
	" H. C. Armstrong, " " 2....	35 25
	" P. J. Pillans, Com. on Correspond. 3....	100 00
	" Geo. D. Norris, Appropriation, ... 4....	100 00
" 16.	" E. M. Hastings, Gr. Tr. salary..... 5....	100 00
" 17.	" D. Sayre, Grand Secretary..... 6....	400 00
" "	" " Contingent Fund..... 7....	478 90
		<u>\$1264 65</u>

WILLIAM H. DINGLEY, GRAND TREASURER,

In account with the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

1870.

Dec'r 1.	To cash from Grand Secretary.....	\$ 139 15
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The M. Ex. Grand High Priest announced the following
STANDING COMMITTEES :

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS, No. 1.—William E. Beaird, William S. Ford, Foster B. Terrell.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS, No. 2.—James Kent, Augustus F. Evans, John C. Moorhead.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS, No. 3.—Matthew D. Moore, Benjamin Dowd, Richard H. Powell.

ON DISPENSATIONS.—James E. Cobb, Joseph C. Avent, John M. Taylor.

ON FINANCE.—Oliver S. Beers, George P. Harrison Jr, Rodolphus O. Randall.

ON BY-LAWS, SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND APPEALS.—William A. Cochran, John McCreless, Sowell C. Woolfolk.

ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.—Henry W. Clark, Humphrey S. Shelton, John T. Terry.

The Grand Secretary presented the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, (the Chairman not being in attendance on the Grand Chapter,) and it was received, and ordered to be spread upon the minutes, and printed with the proceedings.—(*See Appendix.*)

The following Companions were received and welcomed as the representatives of the several Grand Chapters opposite their names :

PELEG BROWN.....	Indiana.
PALMER J. PILLANS.....	Louisiana.
RICHARD F. KNOTT.....	Minnesota.
DANIEL SAYRE.....	Oregon.

Companion Myles J. Greene, Chairman of the Committee on Work, made report on the M. M. and P. M. Degrees, and the report was received and concurred in.

And then after prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Martin G. Slaughter, the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

In Grand Chapter.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, Dec. 7th, 1870.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 8 o'clock, the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, H. Clay Armstrong, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Martin G. Slaughter.

The minutes were read and approved.

Companion Myles J. Greene, from the Committee on the Death of Companion Thomas McDougal, late Grand Sentinel, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

ON THE DEATH OF COMPANION THOMAS McDUGAL, LATE GRAND SENTINEL.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

We, the committee appointed at the last Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, on the death of Companion Thomas McDougal, beg leave to submit the following report:

To perpetuate the memory, and record the virtues of their loved and honored dead, is a duty which Free Masons universally recognize, and a privilege which they delight to exercise.

In accordance with this time-honored custom, we would commit to his posterity, a brief record of some of the principal features in the life and character of our lamented Companion, Thomas McDougal. He was born in the State of Maine, A. D., 1800. He was educated at Bowdoin College.

In early manhood he removed to the city of Montgomery, where for many years, he was engaged as a teacher of youth, and the citizens of that city bear testimony to the fact, that he was much esteemed in that profession.

He was a dispensation member of Montgomery Lodge No. 11 in 1840, and its first W. Master.

He was elected Tiler of the Grand Masonic Bodies in Alabama in 1849, and annually thereafter, until a few months prior to his death, which occurred on 27th day of May, 1869. His faithful and efficient discharge of every duty arising out of the many official positions to which the partiality of his brethren exalted him, sufficiently attest his zeal in, and devotion to, the principals and cause of masonry.

He took great pride in his office of Tiler, acting in that capacity for all the masonic bodies, Grand and Subordinate, that meet in Montgomery.

He was never known to be absent from the funeral of a brother, if he could possibly attend.

He delighted in "contributing to the relief" of his distressed worthy companions, and particularly to their destitute widows and orphans; his active benevolence being limited only by his want of ability.

But our loved companion is gone,—translated, we would fain hope, to the Grand Chapter above, where,

"There is no more occasion for level or plumb-line,
For trowel or gavel, for compass or square."

In our annual re-unions, we will sadly miss the genial smile and fraternal greeting of our long-time faithful Sentinel at the door of the Grand Chapter.

But, companions, let us "who survive him, anticipate our approaching fate," and so live as to be in a state of constant readiness to meet, and joyfully respond, to the solemn summons that sooner or later must come to us all.

In conclusion we submit the following :

Resolved 1st, That we deeply lament the death of Companion Thomas McDougal, and tender our sympathy and condolence to the relatives and friends of the deceased in this, their sore bereavement.

Resolved 2d, That a memorial page, inscribed to his memory, be inserted in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, containing his name, and the name of the office he filled so long.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

MYLES J. GREENE,	}	Committee.
WILLIAM W. HARDER,		
WILLIAM P. CHILTON,		

Companion Myles J. Greene, Chairman of Committee on Work, made report on the M. Ex. M. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

Companion Richard H. Powell, from the Committee on Grand High Priest's Address, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT ON GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

The committee to whom was referred the Address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, have had the same under consideration—and beg leave to submit the following report :

The Address of the Most Ex. Grand High Priest, is an able, eloquent and comprehensive document, evincing a most praise-worthy interest in the prosperity of Capitulary Masonry, and a thorough acquaintance with the laws and usages of our venerated institution.

It also contains many valuable and timely suggestions and recommendations, which we earnestly hope will receive, at the hands of our companions, that calm consideration and thorough investigation which their importance demands.

We, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following :

1. That so much of the address as relates to the death of the Rt. Ex. Companion E. M. Hastings, late Grand Treasurer of this Grand Chapter, be referred to a special committee of three to report at this Grand Convocation.

2. That so much as refers to the decisions and recommendations of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

3. That so much as relates to the granting of Dispensations, be referred to the Committee on Dispensations.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. H. POWELL, Chairman.

The Grand Chapter proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing masonic year, Companions James E. Cobb and William S. Ford 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 to-morrow afternoon.

And then after solemn prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Martin G. Slaughter, the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow afternoon at 3 o'clock.

In Grand Chapter.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, December 8, 1870.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 3 o'clock, the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, H. Clay Armstrong, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Martin G. Slaughter.

The minutes were read and approved.

Companion James E. Cobb, from the Committee on Dispensations, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON DISPENSATIONS.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

Your Committee on Dispensations, beg leave to report, as follows:

We have had submitted to us the original minutes of Daniel Pratt Chapter, No. 96, under dispensation, and upon examination we find that the same have been kept with neatness and accuracy.

We recommend that a Charter be granted to this Chapter.

Fraternally submitted.

J. E. COBB,
Chairman.

Companion Benjamin Dowd, from the Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 3, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS NO. 3.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 3, have examined the returns submitted to them, and beg leave to report, as follows :

CORRECT.

Pine Level.....	No. 75.	Moulton.....	No. 87.
Danville.....	" 78.	Roslin.....	" 88.
Hillabee	" 79.	Somerville.....	" 89.
Loachapoka.	" 80.	Greenville.....	" 90.
Jefferson	" 81.	Columbus.....	" 93.
Carrollton	" 84.	Cowikee....	" 94.
Gaston.....	" 85.	Daniel Pratt.....	" 96.
Coosa	" 86.		

INCORRECT.

LOWER PEACH TREE No. 63.—Blanks not filled out.
 CHOCTAW CORNER No. 70.—Returns not signed by High Priest.
 LANDMARK No. 71.—Date of R. A. M. incorrect.
 MIDWAY No. 72.—Date of R. A. M. not given.
 ELYTON No. 76.—King's name signed as High Priest *pro tem*.
 SMEDLEY No. 77.—Same as No. 71.
 BELL No. 83.—Same as No. 71.
 NOTASULGA No. 92.—Blanks not filled out.
 GEORGE D. NORRIS No. 95.—Returns not signed by H. P.

Fraternally,

BEN DOWD,
 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 by 39 yeas to 10 nays.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

The Committee on Finance, beg leave respectfully to report, that they have examined the reports and vouchers of the R. Ex. Grand Treasurer and of the R. Ex. Grand Secretary and find them correct and satisfactory.

The balance of cash in the Treasury of the Grand Chapter 1st

December, 1870 is.....	139 15
The contributions to this Grand Convocation estimated at	1200 00

Producing.....	\$1,339 15
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as the fund in possession of this Grand Chapter, and subject to appropriations, which your Committee recommend be appropriated to the following necessary annual expenses of the Grand Chapter 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 of Committee on Foreign Correspondence for services and expenses.....	100 00
To rent of Grand Secretary's office for 1870 and 1871.....	300 00
And as a Contingent Fund in the hands of R. Ex. Grand Secretary for defraying incidental expenses, including printing, expenses of Committee on work, &c.....	400 00

\$1300 00

Your Committee beg leave to state in reference to the condition of the Treasury indicated by the above statement of receipts and proposed necessary expenditure, that the Grand Chapter of Alabama is embarrassed by the inadequacy of its revenue to meet its ordinary annual expenses ; and to remove the difficulty and provide sufficient revenue, we present and recommend the adoption of the annexed resolution to amend the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter, so that Section three (3) of Article three (III) of said By-Laws shall require seventy five cents instead of fifty cents, as the annual dues from members of subordinate charters.

AMENDMENT TO BY-LAWS.

Resolved, That Section three (3) Article three (III), be so amended as to read seventy-five cents instead of fifty cents.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

OLIVER S. BEERS,
Chairman.

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

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON BY-LAWS.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

The Committee on By-laws, Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals, have had under consideration the By-Laws of Courtland Chapter No. 25, which they find correct, and in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Chapter, with the exception of Section 4 of Article V. ; in which it is proposed to confer the Mark Master's degree, without reference to the succeeding degrees. Inasmuch as it is the opinion of your Committee that this Grand Chapter does not permit business of any kind except the conferring the respective degrees, to be done in the Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master Lodges, they recommend that Courtland Chapter No. 25, be required to strike out in Section 4, Article V., all words between Mark Master and Past Master, so as to require that all the lower degrees shall not be conferred except as preparatory to Royal Arch Degree.

The Committee have also had under consideration the By-Laws of Daniel Pratt Chapter No. 96, now working under Dispensation ; and they find that the said By-Laws are in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Chapter.

Respectfully submitted.

W. A. COCHRAN,
Chairman.

Companion William E. Beaird, 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 submitted to them, and respectfully report the following

CORRECT.

Clinton.....	No. 9.	Montgomery.....	No. 22.
Tuscumbia.....	" 10.	Talladega.....	" 23.
Phoenix.....	" 11.	Courtland.....	" 25.
Wetumpka.....	" 17.	Union.....	" 26.
Mount Moriah.....	" 19.	Dayton.....	" 27.
Livingston.....	" 20.	St. Johns.....	" 28.
Mobile.....	" 21.		

INCORRECT.

TUSCALOOSA No. 1.—No Seal; but under the head of "remarks," Secretary reports—"Seal lost."

EUNOMIA No. 5.—Date of R. A. M., incorrect.

EUPAULA No. 24.—Same as No. 5.

Fraternally submitted.

W. E. BEAIRD, Chairman.

The Grand Chapter proceeded with the election of 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	Montgomery	<i>D. Grand High Priest.</i>
JAMES M. DEDMAN	Selma	<i>Grand King.</i>
MYLES J. GREENE	Loachapoka	<i>Grand Scribe.</i>
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY	Montgomery	<i>Grand Treasurer.</i>
DANIEL SAYRE	Montgomery	<i>Grand Secretary.</i>
MARTIN G. SLAUGHTER	Pinckneyville	<i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
WILLIAM W. HARDER	Demopolis	<i>Grand C. Host.</i>

Companion Martin G. Slaughter, offered the following preamble and resolution; and the preamble was concurred in, and the resolution adopted.

DISPENSATION TO DAVISTON CHAPTER.

WHEREAS, the constitutional number of companions did, upon proper application, obtain a Dispensation for constituting Daviston Chapter during the year 1868, for which they paid the constitutional amount: and whereas the said Chapter at the Grand Annual Convocation in 1868 asked for a continuance of the dispensation, which was granted; and whereas, the said Daviston Chapter sent up returns, &c., to the Grand Annual Convocation of 1869, asking for a charter, but owing to a defective transcript of the minutes, a charter was not granted, and the Dispensation forfeited by limitation of the Constitution. Be it therefore

Resolved by the Grand Chapter of Alabama, That upon application in accordance with the Constitution, the Grand Secretary be authorized to issue a Dispensation to the companions composing Daviston Chapter free of charge.

Companion William E. Beaird offered the following re-

solution, and it was adopted, and the Grand Secretary appointed Companion William E. Beard.

HARTWELL CHAPTER NO. 58.

Resolved, That as Hartwell Chapter No. 58 has forfeited its Charter, the Grand Secretary be instructed to appoint some suitable person to take possession of the Charter, Jewels, Books, and other property belonging to said chapter, and hold the same as the property of the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

Companion P. G. H. P. William P. Chilton, Chairman of the Committee on Question from Mobile Chapter No. 21, (concerning which see the report of Companion Mortimer M. Cooke, on page 38 of the proceedings of 1869,) made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT ON QUESTION FROM MOBILE CHAPTER NO. 21.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

The Special Committee to whom was referred the inquiry, "Has the Grand Chapter either the right or the power to compel the observance of any ceremony in conflict with any conscientious scruples of any party against whom it is proposed to be enforced," begs leave to report :

The committee will not consider this as an abstraction, but practically as connected with the case upon which the inquiry is predicated, and out of which it arises.

It would be ruinous to our masonic organization, and introduce anarchy and confusion, to allow subordinate officers to disregard the work and ceremonies established by the Grand Body to which such officer, when he becomes a mason, as well as at the period of his installation, pledges cheerful obedience. The distinction between the principal officer or body, and the subordinate, must be preserved, or the organization must fail. If a party in conforming to the behests of the Grand Chapter under which he is working, imagines that it involves a matter of principle to which he is conscientiously opposed, he may refuse to conform to it at the peril of being tried for recusancy ; and if the chapter to which he belongs allows its officers, respectively, to be the judges of the work, and whether it squares with their respective conscientious scruples, thus disregarding the work of the Grand Chapter, which alone has the right to declare what the work shall be, when in session, and the enforcement of which during the vacation between its convocations it entrusts to the

Most Ex. Grand High Priest, the Chapter itself becomes recusant, and is liable to be dealt with by the Grand Chapter.

Your committee deem this a sufficient response to the inquiry presented to them. Only adding, that masonry, when properly understood, in none of its departments makes any requisition which contravenes the enlightened consciences of men.

W. P. CHILTON, Chairman.

Companion Henry W. Clark, from the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred so much of the address of the M. Ex. G. H. Priest as refers to the decisions and recommendations made by him, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report, that they deem it unnecessary to refer to the same in detail, but take pleasure in stating that they find his rulings to have been in accordance with the Constitution, rules, and edicts, of the Grand Chapter, and that his recommendations evince a true masonic zeal for the prosperity of the craft ; and especially in his correspondence with the H. P. of Eufaula Chapter, is courtesy and fraternal regard for our sister jurisdiction manifest. Your committee would recommend that the same courtesy be extended to subordinate chapters of other jurisdictions situated near the boundary lines of the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, which has been or may be extended by them to our chapters.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

H. W. CLARK, Chairman.

Companion James Kent, 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 submitted to them, and find them as follows :

CORRECT.

Fulton.....	No. 32.	Suggsville	No. 55.
James L. Daniel.....	" 35.	Alabama.....	" 66.
Camden.....	" 40.	Farrierville	" 67.
Uchee.....	" 53.	Cherokee	" 68.
Tyrian.....	" 54.		

INCORRECT.

HERMON No. 34.—Date of R. A. M. wrong. Should be 2400. No. P. O. put down. Several initials given instead of full name.

PICKENSVILLE, No. 36.—Date of R. A. M. wrong, and seal illegible.

CHOCTAW No. 44.—Date of R. A. M. not given. Number of Chapter not on the back of returns. Initials and abbreviations instead of full names. Returns appear to be for eleven years, as the heading purports to commence on the first Monday in November 1859.

ZERUBBABEL No. 56.—Dues not set down opposite each name. Initials and abbreviations used instead of full names. No post office put down. Number of members not set down on the outside, nor amount of dues.

LEBANON No. 57.—Dues not added up. No post office. Year of R. A. M. not filled out. Initials and abbreviations instead of full name. Seal entirely illegible, and the 6th direction on the blanks entirely ignored. Three candidates "Presided," were "Received and Accepted," and "Exalted", all on the 15th of July. Number of candidates *advanced, presided, received and acknowledged*, not noted in the recapitulation.

ROCKFORD, No. 62.—Abbreviations given instead of full name. Date of R. A. M. incorrect. Seal entirely illegible. At three several times all the degrees conferred in one day.

CLAYTON No. 63.—Heading of the returns not filled out. Initials and abbreviations used instead of full name. Date of R. A. M. not given. All the degrees conferred in one day. Seal wrong side up.

CENTRAL No. 64.—One Companion reported as filling two offices. Initials and abbreviations used instead of full names. Seal illegible. Three candidates having received the degrees are reported under all the heads from Mark Master to Royal Arch.

Fraternally submitted.

JAMES KENT,
Chairman.

On motion, Allenton Chapter No. 52, and Lawrenceville Chapter No. 73, had sixty days allowed them to send up their returns and dues.

The following are the appointed Grand Officers and Standing Committees of the Grand Chapter :

APPOINTED GRAND OFFICERS.

JAMES MILTON.....	Grand P. Sojourner
MATTHEW D. MOORE.....	Grand R. A. C.
JAMES E. COBB.....	Grand M. 3 V.
LEE W. BATTLE.....	Grand M. 2 V.
REUBEN L. KAY.....	Grand M. 1 V.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....	Grand Sentinel.

ON WORK.

JOSEPH H. JOHNSON	Talladega.
MYLES J. GREENE.....	Loachapoka.
LUCIE W. JENKINS	Camden.

CUSTODIAN OF THE WORK.

PELEG BROWN	Mobile.
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MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

PALMER J. PILLANS.....	Mobile.
HENRY W. CLARK.....	Pine Level.
JAMES COBB.....	Tuskegee.

ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

PALMER J. PILLANS.....	Mobile.
ROBERT CHRISTIAN.....	Uniontown.
BENJAMIN DOWD.....	Newton.
DE WITT C. WHITE.....	Moulton.
RICHARD H. POWELL.....	Union Springs.

ON GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

(CONTINUED.)

(See report on Grand High Priest's Address, p. 29, 1869.)

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

INSTALLATION.

Companions James E. Cobb and Lee W. Battle (the only new officers elected or appointed) were installed by the Grand High Priest in Ample Form.

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.

REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE WORK DURING THE YEAR 1900

1. General	2. Special	3. Summary
1.1. General	1.1.1. General	1.1.1.1. General
1.2. Special	1.2.1. Special	1.2.1.1. Special
1.3. Summary	1.3.1. Summary	1.3.1.1. Summary
2. General	2.1. General	2.1.1. General
2.2. Special	2.2.1. Special	2.2.1.1. Special
2.3. Summary	2.3.1. Summary	2.3.1.1. Summary
3. General	3.1. General	3.1.1. General
3.2. Special	3.2.1. Special	3.2.1.1. Special
3.3. Summary	3.3.1. Summary	3.3.1.1. Summary

The following table shows the results of the work during the year 1900. The first column shows the number of cases, the second column shows the number of deaths, and the third column shows the number of recoveries.

Number of cases	Number of deaths	Number of recoveries
100	10	90

Report on Foreign Correspondence.

Your Committee on Correspondence again take pleasure in laying before you their examination of the proceedings of thirty-four Grand Chapters as follows :

Arkansas.....	1869	Mississippi.....	1870
California.....	1870	Missouri.....	1869
Connecticut.....	1870	New Hampshire.....	1868, '69 and '70
Delaware.....	1870	New Jersey.....	1869
District of Columbia.....	1869	Nebraska.....	1869
Georgia.....	1870	New York.....	1870
Illinois.....	1869	North Carolina.....	1869
Indiana.....	1869	Ohio.....	1869
Iowa.....	1869	Oregon.....	1869
Kansas.....	1869	Pennsylvania.....	1868, '69
Kentucky.....	1870	Rhode Island.....	1869, '70
Louisiana.....	1870	South Carolina.....	1870
Maine.....	1870	Tennessee.....	1869
Maryland.....	1869	Texas.....	1870
Massachusetts.....	1869	Vermont.....	1869 and '70
Michigan.....	1870	Virginia.....	1869
Minnesota.....	1870	Wisconsin.....	1870

And which we hope may prove agreeable to this Grand Chapter.

ARKANSAS.

Grand Annual Convocation held October 28th, 1869, Most Excellent Companion L. E. Barber, Grand High Priest, with representatives from twenty-one subordinates. The Grand High Priest delivered an address glowing with faith and devotional fervor. In it he says :

“We meet here, not only to consult for the interest of the Order, and to adopt such measures as, in our judgment may seem best calculated to promote that interest, but also to animate and encourage each other in this labor of love.”

We think he is pretty tart in speaking of the E. D. G. H. P., but as we do not know what caused these remarks we ought perhaps not to judge. However, he remarks as follows:

"The companion elected Deputy Grand High Priest, at our last convocation, informed me by letter, that for a cause stated he should perform no act, nor exercise any authority as Deputy Grand High Priest. What act he may have performed, or what authority he may have previously exercised as D. G. H. P. I am not informed. Nor do I know what act the D. G. H. P. had a right to perform, or what authority he had a right to exercise, unless by special direction from the Grand High Priest," &c., &c.

A tempest, perhaps, in a teapot; but, nevertheless, a tempest of hardly sufficient importance to have been allowed to mar harmony, the more so as the constitution of the G. R. A. Chapter of Arkansas defines clearly the duties of that officer.

At this convocation the work was exemplified by the exaltation of three candidates who had been previously elected by one of the subordinates and tendered for the use of the Grand Chapter.

Our Order seems to be in a fair condition and growing, there having been three chapters chartered at this convocation and two withdrawn.

There is no report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. What has become of Companion Williams? We miss him greatly.

Companion E. H. English was made Grand High Priest, and Companion Luke E. Barber, Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA

Held its sixteenth annual Grand Convocation on the 5th day of April, 1870. Companion John W. Harville, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and the representatives of twenty-eight chartered chapters, and those of two under dispensation.

The address of the Most Excellent is short, but pertinent, and so also seems to have been the convocation throughout. From it, and the proceedings generally, the inference is very clear that capitular masonry is working the even tenor of its way without jars or disturbances of any kind, and harmony characterizes our companions there.

Suitable resolutions and a mourning page appear for the loss of P. G. H. P. Isaac Davis.

Companion Owen again presents the report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing in addition to the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter those of thirty Grand Chapters, and many of these for two and even three years.

We are pleased to find that ours for 1868 had reached that far off region, the more so because our nearest neighbors, Mississippi and Georgia, are frequently not in receipt of them so early. We do not mean that this is the only reason for our pleasure, for Companion Owen, though he does twit us somewhat severely at times, he always does it kindly, and we do not object to being ad-

monished when this is done in so kind a spirit. He states the decisions of our Past Grand High Priest summarily and approves them. But we think that our companion had mislaid his glasses (if he uses them) when he read the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, for that committee reported that it was not in their opinion "unmasonic" to lay on the table in the Grand Chapter of Alabama, for Rule VI of the rules of order provided for it, and that committee were unwilling to suppose that their predecessors would either have adopted deliberately an unmasonic rule or continued it.

We have not our proceedings of sixty-five to refer to, and therefore wont attempt longer to gainsay our delinquencies. We thought we had confessed and been contrite, but our companion has "good-naturedly" again pinched us for that old fault. But go on Brother Owen, we deserve it, and we doubt not your strictures have been of no little service.

This report of Companion Owen, like others, which we have had is an admirable epitome of the acts and doings of other Grand Chapters, and while we read it we wished either that we had the time or the ability or both to compile so complete a report.

Companion George T. Grimes was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion L. C. Owen again Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT.

At the semi-annual convocation there were seventeen chapters represented, nine not represented. No business whatever seems to have been transacted, and the Grand Chapter was closed in the evening. The annual Grand Convocation was held May 10th, 1870, when there were twenty-nine Chapters represented, M. Ex. J. H. Barlow, Grand High Priest presiding. From his address we learn that Royal Arch masonry is progressing, and that the material is good. We also learn that the semi-annual convocation is held for instruction in the work and lectures, but the records do not otherwise show that any progress was made therein. Our companions in this jurisdiction are by him congratulated on their "zealous earnestness," which is indicated by their travelling six and eight miles to attend the Chapter. He well implores the Companion High Priests to purge their Chapters of intemperance and profanity, the former of which he says is "far too prevalent, even in Connecticut."

The Grand Chapter adopted the "abridgement of masonic law and practice, prepared by Companion Luke A. Lockwood," "as the standard authority within this jurisdiction"—a work which we have not had the good fortune yet to see.

The Committee on grievances, we are pleased to say, found themselves without work—the best evidence of harmony and unity among our companions.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is again from the pen of our venerable and esteemed companion, W. Storer, who, by reason of sickness and infirmity, was unable to present it at the convocation, but was

allowed to finish it for the printer. For nineteen years has he performed this arduous duty, and it is not surprising that there should be "delay caused by physical infirmity" now. In taking leave of the position as chairman of this committee, after regretting that it will sever intercourse with esteemed companions, he says: "But so it must be. The fire of our youthful vigor is becoming reduced to embers; the ardor of middle life, with which we commenced the duties of our office, is succeeded by the languor of approaching age; the firm step with which we began our masonic journey is fast giving place to the tottering gait of decrepitude; the 'almond tree' has long since begun to blossom, and 'the grasshopper has become a burden.'" Notwithstanding, he reviews the proceedings of twenty-six bodies, among which are those from Alabama. He notices at length the details of the misconduct of one of our chapters, as made by P. G. H. P. Brown, and gives the report of the committee to whom the whole matter was referred; and we infer from his subsequent comments that he thinks the recalcitrant companion should have been summarily and in a condign manner punished, notwithstanding the Grand Chapter itself thought the requirement wrong. We are happy to learn that our inference in relation to the too generous use of spirituous liquors was wrong, but the Grand High Priest deems the evil sufficiently threatening again to call the attention of the Grand Chapter to it.

Before leaving our Companion Storer, we desire to say to him, and it is with the profoundest sincerity we say it, we part with him most regretfully; his pen has ever flowed with christian as well as masonic charity, and we always felt that whenever he reprimanded there was justice, and we always knew there was kindness.

We think he correctly states the proper rule when, in answer to the question whether a Royal Arch Mason can sit in a lodge with a member suspended or expelled from a chapter, he says: "I may *not* sit in a *Chapter* with one who has been expelled therefrom; but I violate no principle of masonry by associating with him in a *lodge* any more than by communing with him in a church."

The last request of this venerable reporter is as follows: "To our respective companions the Grand Secretaries of the several Grand Chapters, we would prefer this request (if it is not asking too great a favor): That they send to the writer hereof their annual publications, during the remaining brief years of his pilgrimage. We have lived so long in the enjoyment of the pleasure of perusing the printed proceedings of masonic bodies that we shall feel lost without them hereafter. Companions, it will be but a short time at best."

Companion J. H. Barlow was re-elected M. E. Grand High Priest.

Companion J. K. Wheeler was re-elected Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE.

We have the proceedings of the second annual Grand Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held on January 19th, 1870, Most Excellent Companion D. C. Godwin, Grand High Priest, with the representatives of four subordinates

The Grand High Priest thinks "the returns from the several subordinate chapters exhibit an amount of work that show the Craft have not been idle, and afford much encouragement for the future."

There were forty-seven exaltations during the year; so substitutes are used in that jurisdiction.

There is no report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, or rather there is only an acknowledgment of the receipt of several proceedings which the committee say they have not had time to examine. "We," say the committee, "would gladly eliminate all that is worth knowing, if for no other reason than that we might be the wiser; but we cannot, and therefore must reserve to other occasions the various confections and compliments which it appears in these latter days, to be the peculiar duty of committees on correspondence to prepare for mutual delectation and advancement in knowledge." Virginia committees must need look to their laurels or they will be plucked from their brows by our friends in Delaware.

Companion D. C. Godwin was re-elected Grand High Priest, and Companion W. F. Godwin, was elected Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The third annual report from the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, a special convocation, was held on December 12th, 1868, Right Excellent Companion H. A. Whallen as Grand High Priest, at which was adopted a system of work and lectures for the M. M. and P. M. degrees which had been reported to the Grand Body.

A "resumed" convocation was held on December 29th, 1868, with the same officers, when the work and lecture of the M. E. Master's degree was adopted.

A semi-annual convocation was also held on May 10th, 1869, to enable the Most Excellent Grand High Priest to give information of the contumacy of Potomac Chapter, and the captiousness of the General Grand High Priest; thus much we infer from his address.

After this there was a special convocation, and three resumed convocations to install the officers of a newly chartered chapter, &c., when we at last reach the annual convocation, on November 8th, 1869, Most Excellent Companion B. B. French, Grand High Priest; six chapters being represented.

The Grand High Priest says: "There are now in this jurisdiction 696 affiliated R. A. Masons, making a gain since November, 1867 of 198, and our members are steadily increasing."

The Grand Chapter disapproves the use of substitutes.

We are rejoiced to see that entire harmony now prevails within the territorial limits of the Grand Chapter of the District, as well as between it and the Grand Chapter of Maryland, and we may now hope that the anathemas and excommunications which were so readily thrown about in that region will be heard of no more. Had our companions of Maryland and those of the District been actuated by the same spirit, that seems now so active in their breasts,

we opine the world might have been saved the mortifying spectacle which our Royal Craft have exhibited.

Potomac Chapter is now a component part of the Grand Chapter, and the officers of the Grand Chapter honored themselves and the body they represented by the manner of bestowing the charter on Potomac Chapter.

Companion J. Edwin Mason submitted the report on Foreign Correspondence; reviewing the proceedings of 33 Grand Chapters, among which we find those of Alabama. His notice of these is full—quoting very largely from the address of our Most Excellent Grand High Priest P. Brown—and giving us a complimentary notice. We will quote a part of these to show that “a soft word turneth away wrath,” is no idle expression, but possesses that significance and truth that all which we find in the *great light* has. Speaking of our report he says: “That fraternal and charitable spirit that should ever characterize such reports he evinces to a remarkable degree, and in this respect is in contrast to the fiery and unmasonic spirit sometimes shown by such compilers of reports on Foreign Correspondence.” * * * * “We note the fact after two years’ careful perusal of the proceedings of Grand Chapters in Southern States, with a degree of pleasure and satisfaction that words cannot describe. This chivalrous and truly masonic conduct has won for our Southern companions an exalted esteem in the hearts of masons everywhere.” * * * * “The tender emotions of our hearts make us feel the deep realities of a mason’s obligation.” We feel gratified at these expressions of regard, not for ourself individually, but because we think the time not far distant when we who live in the lower latitudes will be fully understood, and credited with acting upon convictions honestly and without hope of gain.

We have read this report perhaps more carefully, and with more mingled feelings of pleasure and pain, than any other. The writer is fluent, generally sound, always full, but sometimes very bitter. We would have extracted from it, but feared to do him injustice without perhaps proving tiresome to the companions.

Companion B. B. French was again made Grand High Priest, and Companion Larner Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA.

We have before us a pamphlet containing the report of Companion Blackshear, from the Committee on Correspondence for 1869, we presume, and regret exceedingly that he should not have had the proceedings from Alabama before him. Reviewing Arkansas, he says: “If by suspension is meant only the dropping of the delinquent’s name from the rolls, the decision is clearly erroneous; for under such circumstances he could only be regarded in the light of a non-affiliated mason, and could not therefor be denied the privilege of visiting even a Blue Lodge. But if for non-payment of dues, charges of *unmasonic conduct* have been preferred and he has been brought regularly to trial and suspended from all the rights and privileges of the Order, then

Companion Barber is right. We hold that a mason cannot be suspended except after a regular and fair trial, as above stated." These have been our expressed views, and they were sustained by a decree of the Grand Chapter, at its last convocation.

The report is written *currente calamo*, and under the influence of masonic inspiration; but dear companion, next time order the binder to cut the leaves, for while cutting these we sometimes cut "the thread of our discourse."

The Grand Chapter held its annual convocation on April 27th, 1870, M. E. Companion M. P. Kellogg, Grand High Priest, with forty Chapters represented, the M. E. Grand High Priest of North Carolina, Companion W. B. Murdock, also being present.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest is replete with useful advice, conveyed in a most eloquent manner. It seems in great part to have been addressed particularly to High Priests, reminding them of their duties and urging them to their performance. But who is the High Priest such as he requires, or what mortal can be "physically, a man without spot or blemish; intellectually, a scholar of no ordinary attainments; and spiritually, one who can truly respond with the Psalmist, 'Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy temple? He that hath clean hands and a clean heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.'" Yet it were well if every chapter had such a character in view when making their selections, that the best stone might be raised to so elevated and responsible a position.

Again he says: "If there ever was a time when it behooved a *Mason to be a good and true man—to practice* the tenets of our Order, that necessity is now upon us. In these days of sudden revolutions, when the old order of things has been broken up; when the very dregs of society are thrown to the surface; when ideas and usages which had become familiar are suddenly discarded; when new men, new customs, new theories are in the ascendant; when the low have become exalted, and followers leaders; when beggars of yesterday become the millionaires of to-day, thrusting their unrefined fashions upon society; when there has been developed such an insane struggle for wealth, such ruinous extravagance, such a delirium for vain show; when taste, refinement, purity, and piety have suffered such terrible shocks; when honesty, the only reliable support of social and business relations, has given way before the constant sapping and mining of immoral practices and false ambition; when reckless speculation is taking the proper place of legitimate business, destroying the vitality of honorable enterprise; when frauds and villainies are perpetrated openly, or confessed without shame; when intemperance holds its hideous revels in the halls of legislation, penetrates with its subtle poison the purity of the judicial ermine, leaves its spot of pollution upon the sacerdotal robes, and sweeps like a besom of destruction over the earth, slaying strong men and flushing the cheek of women and children; when vulgarity vitiates our public amusements, and profanity mars the soul; when our highways are mined with pitfalls of vice, and the domestic relations are no longer considered sacred; when crimes are so frequent that they cease to shock our sensitive

natures; when ignorance, with its accustomed brazen assurance, rushes in where angels dare not tread; when the wicked bear rule and the people mourn; when all the vices of the black catalogue appear in the ascendant—it is with just pride that the mason can point to the hoary locks of our ancient landmarks, and boldly exclaim, 'Since the fathers slept these have changed not!' While such is the situation, all masons, but the order of High Priesthood in particular, should stand forth like an irresistible breakwater, in opposition to the flood of vice and immorality that threatens to overwhelm society, State, and church."

At this convocation it was resolved that the recommendation to prohibit the use of substitutes "is contrary to long established usage of the subordinate chapters, and detrimental to the prosperity of Capitulary Masonry," and the prohibition of the previous convocation repealed.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence report on only sixteen Grand Chapters, among which we do not find Alabama. Indeed, we have found our State in all the reports except those of our next and nearest neighbors, Georgia and Mississippi. While reviewing the proceedings from Kentucky, the committee says: "We believe that the bugbear of uniformity, got up and fostered by ritual tinkers, menders and venders, in some degree responsible for what diversities in the work do exist, is fast falling into disrepute;" and much more in like strain, to all of which we do most heartily subscribe and would copy, but for the fear of being esteemed prolix.

At this convocation the propriety of expunging the Past Master's degree from among those of the chapter was referred to a committee, who reported at some length, and the following resolution, which the Grand Chapter very properly and prudently "laid on the table until the next annual Grand Convocation."

"That the Past Master's degree be expunged from the list of capitulary degrees in this jurisdiction."

Companion M. P. Kellogg was re-elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Companion J. Emmett Blackshear was re-elected Grand Secretary.

IOWA

Held her Grand Convocation on October 20th, 1869, Companion P. C. Wright M. E. Grand High Priest, with representatives from thirty-one chapters and four under dispensation.

The High Priest in his address displays that he has the good of the Craft at heart, and that he is desirous of purging the chapters from all unworthiness and the minds of the companions from erroneous ideas. His advice in every particular is good, but on subjects rarely seen alluded to by Grand Officers, especially so. Among others, he recommends the proper furnishing and adornment of the halls, as tending to induce attendance and fellowship; punctuality in the time of meeting, as tending to diminish bickering and "hard feeling."

Companion Langridge presented the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-two Grand Bodies, among which we are pleased to find ours. He epitomizes well. In the report in relation to the General Grand Chapter, its uselessness and inefficiency are dwelt upon; yet he urges our companions in Iowa and within the other States, not now giving in their adherence to this General Grand Body, to repeal their former action and send delegates, "instructed to labor and vote unreservedly and without intermission for its disbandment." He is afraid that "if we stay out, those inside will 'run the machine' to our annoyance, and to the disturbance of the peace of the Craft," and submitted resolutions to this end. These were referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who reported favorably and they were adopted, so that we outsiders have grown smaller by two since the last triennial convocation.

He very ably and boldly endorses the doctrine of California, that an officer of any grade in the chapter can resign, and we think justly characterizes the contrary doctrine as having no foundation in "common sense." The doctrine that neither of the Grand Council can withdraw, or that the position once filled must still be filled until the next period for an election, notwithstanding the incumbent will not attend or cannot, because of a thousand or so miles intervening, does indeed smack of what he has thought proper to name it.

The same companions were re-elected M. E. Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS

Held the Grand Annual Convocation on October 8th, 1869, Most Excellent James H. Miles, Grand High Priest, with representatives from 114 chapters.

We would that we could utter the words of the Grand High Priest in sincerity and truth, that "The labor of the husbandman has again been rewarded with a plenteous increase, and the granaries of the land are filled with abundance, so that want and famine are far removed from us, and the poor may have bread. The various trades and professions have been equally successful, so that all may rejoice together." This is in part the case, but the "pestilence that walketh at noonday" has been upon a portion of our territory, and while we write the wail of the mourner may be heard near at hand. Still the reflective mind can find much to be thankful for, and indeed we rejoice that our blessings have been so numerous.

"Finding," says the Grand High Priest "that much complaint was made by chapters in regard to the expense of a Grand Lecturer to teach the work I revoked this authority soon after the published work was ready for distribution, and have since appointed no lecturers, believing them to be an unnecessary and expensive appendage; the published work being in the hands of the several High Priests throughout the jurisdiction, who were thus enabled to constitute themselves as lecturers of their own chapters, if they desired to do so." There can hardly, by possibility, be any future complaint in Illinois of

want of uniformity in work among the several chapters. No frail memory shall excuse—no substitution of language to suit the several tastes can arise—no contests about the decree of the Grand Chapter, or as to what or which work was adopted can ensue; but absolute uniformity in ideas and language, the medium through which ideas, sentiments and morals are conveyed, must necessarily result or can be required.

On the subject of dimitts, which appears to have been pregnant with difficulties as well in Illinois as here, the Grand High Priest says: "Now it has been a law, from time immemorial, that a brother could not dimit from a lodge, but for one of three reasons, viz: To form a new lodge, to connect himself with some other lodge, or for the purpose of removing without the jurisdiction of his lodge. In the absence of all law, so far as I know with regard to the chapter, the same law may govern here; still it has always been my opinion, that as a brother enters masonry of his own free will and accord, that same free will should govern his exit, if he desires to cut himself off from all its rights and privileges; that of visiting not excepted." Our Grand Lodge required that dimitts should only be granted for the reasons above given, and that the certificate should express that he was dimitted on these conditions which dimit was to take effect and be of force as soon as the brother had fulfilled the conditions, and that dues should be paid by the dimitted brother to his old lodge until that time. Now it happened that some brethren dimitted for the purpose of forming a new lodge, but that subsequently the scheme was abandoned. One of them then claimed that he was still a member of his old lodge, but this was denied by the Worshipful Master, who insisted that he had dimitted therefrom, and that to re-enter the family he must do as others in like circumstances are required to do. What is his position? If the views of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest prevailed, there could have been no difference of opinion, and in this manner all difficulties might be obviated. Let a dissatisfied brother or companion go, but place him where our companion the Grand High Priest of Illinois would put him, denied of all the rights and privileges of masonry.

This Grand Chapter "resolved that candidates for promotion be required to pass a thorough examination on the preceding degree, in open lodge or chapter, before being advanced."

Companion H. G. Reynolds, Grand Secretary, presented the seventeenth report on foreign correspondence from his pen—reviewing the proceedings of thirty-one Grand Chapters, Alabama being of the number from which he has extracted pretty much all that could have been of interest to the Craft.

Companion Reynolds retired from his several positions and says: "He came to the duties of Grand Secretary in 1851, in the midst of an increasing practice. He can say that his heart and soul were in them. The duties of masonic positions increased until they became his entire business, and from working as a mason, he became a clerical officer from necessity. Devoted as he is to symbolic masonry, still his fondest and most endearing recollections are connected with his work and associations in Royal Arch Masonry. They will be sacredly

cherished while life remains. Now, at the age of fifty-nine, with a large family dependent upon him, he goes forth penniless to make his way as best he can in the world."

The Grand Chapter in view of his distinguished and laborious services in this Grand Chapter resolved "that the sum of one thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby paid to Companion H. G. Reynolds as a slight testimonial of our appreciation and regard."

Companion John M. Pearson was made Grand High Priest, and Past Grand High Priest James H. Miles, Grand Secretary.

INDIANA.

The Grand Chapter of this State assembled in Annual Communication on October 20th, 1869, M. E. Companion H. G. Hazelrigg Grand High Priest, who delivered one of the most unique and agreeable addresses it has been our lot to peruse. His style is direct and fervent. In it he treats of several subjects of interest, but without copying the whole we could give but a meagre idea of its value. This its length precludes; yet we will make a few extracts for the benefit of our companions. On the subject of work and uniformity he says:

"Let the High Priest of every chapter not only teach the rituals necessary to enable the companion to make himself known and received the world over, but let him unfold the history, beauty and attractions of the order, in language calculated to strengthen and improve the intellect, to arouse and enlist the energies of the Craft to a faithful discharge of every duty. The ritualistic teaching will exhibit not only the outer habiliments of the order, but all the surroundings of its history, symbology, and adaptation to the wants of man. The improvement of society and amelioration of the condition of the human family is required, if we would stimulate the enquiring and arouse the desponding. Enforce by precept and example a searching after knowledge, a laudable ambition to excel in every masonic virtue, and a full appreciation and development of our progression; for he is not a mason who is only one outwardly, but he is a mason who is one inwardly, and whose initiation is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter or formal ceremonies only.

"The correct management of the funds and the punctual payment of dues are among the sacred duties of every member. When there is an inability to pay, they should and would be remitted without a moment's hesitation; but when there is an ability, slight and trivial excuses should not be admitted."

Among the questions submitted to him was as follows:

"The High Priest of a chapter is suspended for the non-payment of dues to the lodge, by the lodge of which he is a member; afterwards pays the dues, thereby, as the law then stood, restoring himself to membership in his lodge; is he by that act restored to membership in the chapter, and to his office of High Priest?

Ans.—"He is neither restored to membership or office in the chapter. Rule 198 for the government of subordinate chapters, says that 'a suspension or expulsion, for any cause, by a lodge of Master Masons, is effectually a suspen-

sion or expulsion from a chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and must be so regarded by every chapter in this jurisdiction.' A suspension or expulsion, while in force, precludes all masonic intercourse whatever. The companion being suspended by the lodge, was *instantly* so situated that no masonic intercourse could be indulged in with him by any companion. Ceasing to be a member of the chapter, he ceased to be an officer, and no act of his toward the lodge, or of the lodge itself, could have any effect in regard to his restoration in the chapter, there being no law in our jurisdiction to that effect. By the action of the lodge he was, by the laws of the Grand Chapter, affected in his membership in the subordinate chapter; but we have no law of the Grand Chapter providing for his restoration to a chapter by any action of or in a lodge. I suggest that this question be settled at this convocation for our government in the future, as like questions may again be presented."

Accordingly, we find that the Grand Chapter adopted the following modifications of the rules:

"Sec. 204. The payment of all dues for which a member may stand suspended, will restore him to the privileges of the Order, as an unaffiliated mason.

"Sec. 205. The payment of all dues for which a member may stand expelled, and a vote of a majority of members present at a stated communication, will restore him to his standing in the Order as an unaffiliated Royal Arch Mason."

"Sec. 104. A vote to reinstate must also be taken by ballot, and it shall require the same vote to remove a penalty that it does to impose it; *Provided*, That it shall require a unanimous vote of a chapter, at a stated communication, to restore to membership any one who may have been suspended or expelled for any cause whatsoever."

M. E. Companion H. G. Hazelrigg was again elected Grand High Priest, and R. E. Companion J. M. Bramwell was again elected Grand Secretary.

We notice that some circumspection marks the course of our companions in Indiana, for of five chapters under dispensation, two only received charters, the dispensation being continued as to the others, because of bad work on the part of one, and the shortness of time during which the others had worked not giving sufficient assurance of ability to do good work.

KANSAS.

Convocation held October 19th, 1869, Companion Owen A. Bassett M. E. Grand High Priest presiding, who states that "unprecedented prosperity has attended the Royal Craft since last we met. Yet our growth seems to be a healthy and vigorous one—the result of increase in population, and rapid development of the State. It may be that we are expanding too much, that chapters are becoming too numerous, that good material cannot be found in sufficient quantities to authorize the employment of so many workmen, and that skillful craftsmen do not exist in numbers adequate to the proper super-

intendence of their labors; but to the close observer who travels throughout our jurisdiction, it will readily appear that no less than twenty-five of our most populous counties are capable of sustaining one chapter each."

The Grand High Priest devotes a great portion of his address to *uniformity of work*, hoping that this very desirable object may at least be obtained in that jurisdiction, yet noting the fact that it is not yet attained. He regrets the diversity to be found in various and different jurisdictions, and solaces the companions with the statement that their work is "systematic and harmonious, and also conformable, in every particular, to the theories and principles which are the foundation and support of Capitulary Masonry." He expresses the hope, however, that the Grand Chapter will adopt whatever work the General Grand Chapter may recommend, that "national uniformity" may result.

The Grand Chapter adopted the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That whenever a chapter is convened in regular or special convocations, it should always be opened in the Royal Arch degree, and if work is to be done in an inferior degree, the Royal Arch Chapter should be called off, to open in the degree to be conferred, then closed in that degree and the Royal Arch Chapter called on, and always closed in the Royal Arch degree on the same day.

"*Resolved*, That it is not proper to confer the Royal Arch degree upon either more or less than three actual candidates at one and the same time."

There was also offered a resolution declaring the practice of demanding an "affiliation fee" unmasonic. This, however, was ordered to be printed, and deferred until the next annual convocation.

Companion E. T. Carr makes the report of the Committee on Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings from Alabama among the others. His report is concise and judicious.

Nine chapters were represented at this convocation, and five charters were ordered.

Companion O. A. Bassett was re-elected Grand High Priest, and Companion E. T. Carr was re-elected Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY.

The annual convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State was held on October 20th, 1870, and was placed in our hands a few days before the convocation of the Grand Chapter of Alabama. Companion E. B. Jones, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, presided, and seventy-nine chartered chapters with five under dispensation were represented.

The Grand High Priest says: "The past year has been one of prosperity—both material and masonic."

He granted dispensations for the formation of two additional chapters, and he says that "in numberless instances I have been constrained to refuse to grant dispensations to confer degrees in less time than our laws and usages

require. There is apparently a great desire to break down the ancient walls—this tendency I have steadily and firmly resisted."

"In answer to questions from chapters, among others, I have decided: It is not necessary, at a *special* meeting for work in the Mark, Past, or Most Excellent Master's Degree, to open in the Royal Arch Degree, and then call off and open in the degree to be conferred."

"Our jurisdiction has been flooded during the past year with circulars from a neighboring State, in which it is claimed that the whole work of the chapter can be learned by the use of cipher. It is the subterfuge of some unscrupulous speculator to replenish his empty pockets; and in all instances I have instructed inquirers 'to touch not the unclean thing.'"

Companion Henry Bostwick was made Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion P. Swigert again elected Grand Secretary.

Companion H. A. M. Henderson presented the report from Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviewing the proceedings from Alabama for 1869, courteously and fraternally. His report is lengthy and complete—giving an excellent resume of the opinions of the different Grand Chapters on mooted questions.

LOUISIANA.

The annual Grand Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in the city of New Orleans, on February 15th, 1870. Most Excellent Companion Samuel M. Todd, Grand High Priest, with Companion J. C. Batchelor, M. D., Past Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand Secretary, with representatives from nineteen subordinates. The address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, is a short business-like document. From it we learn that "from every portion of our jurisdiction come tidings of the continued prosperity and harmonious workings of our beloved order."

The Special Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the resolution reported by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, looking to the dissolution of the General Grand Chapter or the withdrawal of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana therefrom, presented two reports—a majority and minority report. The majority say: "We can perceive no detriment to the Craft by its perpetual existence. We believe that all fears of such a result are groundless, while on the other hand we see much good every way to result from keeping alive the General Grand Chapter, if for nothing more, for the purpose of having a place or point at which the chiefs of Royal Arch Masonry may triennially meet to hold social, if not masonic intercourse with each other," and therefore report adversely to the passage of the resolution. The minority on the other hand say they "are satisfied that the General Grand Chapter has long ceased to have a mission; that it is incompetent for good and yet still dangerous; that State Grand Chapters should be supreme in name as well as in fact; that the time must soon arrive when additional taxation of State Grand Chapters will be necessary for the support of the useless national body; and finally that the nearer the government of Royal Arch

Masonry is assimilated to that of the Blue Lodges in this country, the greater will be its peace and prosperity, and therefore recommend the adoption of the resolution." The report of the majority was adopted by thirty-three to twenty upon a call of the chapters.

R. E. Companion J. H. Horner, who by the way was at this convocation made Grand Scribe, again presented his review of the proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Chapters—some for two years. It is in his usual fluent style, and if we did not know Companion Horner would induce the belief that he liked the flow of ink better than anything else. His notice of Alabama is perhaps fuller than is merited. He quotes liberally from the address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest and for the most part approvingly, noticing Companion Sayre's report on codification. Companion H. thinks that the Committee on the District of Columbia erred, or will find itself "rather mistaken about all differences having been healed by a recent action on the part of the General Grand Chapter." How now, Companion H.? What do you say to it now? Our committee were making easy deductions when they arrived at their conclusion. Companion H. does not like the report on the resolution declaring the motion to lay on the table unmasonic, who reported adversely. We having been the chairman of that committee did not deem it of importance to detail all the reasons for our conclusion, but among others we hold that Grand Bodies are legislative only in their powers, and that the Grand Master or Grand High Priest, &c., have no powers other than those belonging to the presiding officer of any legislative body, unless expressly given to them by the constitution or rules, or such as by common consent are conceded to be extraordinary powers. The rules adopted by any Grand Body, not interfering with these extraordinary powers, are proper. The one alluded to we do not think interferes in any way with these, but is allowed, as in all other legislative bodies, to cut short debate and rid the Grand Chapter of useless discussion—thereby saving valuable time.

The rule of Louisiana in regard to petitions once received being the property of the chapter, and no longer subject to the will of the petitioner, prevails here.

Our companion states the fact that was unnoticed by us, when upon Delaware, that Companion Gen. A. T. A. Torbert was elected Grand Secretary, and says: "Now let Brother Scott and Companion Gouley, and all the rest of the 'corps' that make it part of their creed to say 'from all unmasonic titles, Good Grand Secretaries deliver us,' pale their ineffectual fires, and let 'thirty-thirds' and 'M. D's' reign triumphant." This last new phase, General, beats the "flour inspector" "all hollow." Recurring to the profane world for an explanation of what to us, masonically, is an hieroglyphic, we are constrained to think that "Gen." stands for "General," and wonder to what army or to what species, legal, military or otherwise, our companion belongs, with a slight suspicion that it may be "horse marines." We did think, that enough masonic modesty existed to have spared us this last infliction; it is impossible to make it more ridiculous, however, than to show to our brethren how it looks exactly as it appears in the printed proceedings before us—first in the *signature*:

"Attest, Gen. A. T. A. Torbert, Grand Secretary," and again in the returns of the subordinate chapter, thus: "Companion Gen. A. T. A. Torbert, R. A. C. Let our other titular dignitaries of rites and learned professions take back seats." Hit them again, companion, they have no friends!

The whole report is piquant and vigorous, notwithstanding Companion H. was delayed in its completion by sickness in his family.

MAINE.

This Grand Chapter convened on May 3d, 1870, with M. E. Jos. Pearson Gill Grand High Priest, and "the representatives from the subordinate chapters in this jurisdiction." The number is thirty-two, all of which were represented. This is not often the case, and most unmistakably shows the zeal of our companions and their interest in the welfare and prosperity of the Craft.

The Grand High Priest says that "uninterrupted prosperity and harmony have characterized the year now closing. Scarcely a ripple has occurred to mar the surface of the stream on the tranquil bosom of which we have been safely carried, amid the dangers and difficulties we are subject to while travelling the rough and rugged path of life, and the promise for the future is no less hopeful and cheering than has been the experience of the past."

We note among his decisions that "a candidate having received a part of the degrees, the objections must be made known to the chapter, and the case decided by a majority vote." Companion Drummond, a Past Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, and one who is well skilled in masonic learning and jurisprudence, the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in his review of Iowa so states the ruling of the Grand High Priest, without comment, as to lead to the inference that his opinions were the same, and says of the Grand High Priest: "He holds that an objection by a member in good standing to a candidate, at any time before he received the Royal Arch degree, must be respected, and that his reasons need not be given." We think, however, that Companion Drummond's views heretofore expressed are at variance with this position. This we take to be the rule in this our jurisdiction, though it is mooted, and requires to be settled by definite action, and it were well if that action should be the same in each and every Grand Chapter.

We find the Grand High Priest's views and our own are in unison, when he says, "To be deprived of membership in his chapter, in such a case, charges must be preferred against him, and a trial had in the usual way," alluding to suspension only from membership of a lodge.

Companion Drummond presented the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-three Grand Bodies, among which we find those of Alabama, in which much more space perhaps than they deserve is devoted to our views in relation to the resolutions of the General Grand Chapter on the subject of allegiance. Our companion we know is a firm friend of this General Grand Body, and as we have had our say, we are satisfied that he should not be interrupted in his. Of this subject we have

had enough, and we think that more harmony would prevail and better feelings result, if it were left to slumber, at least for the present. Perhaps a time may come when we shall be approached, not as menials, but equals; when the General Grand family shall be harmonious, and then we may desire to form a part of it. But while there is so much discord and strife—while the contest for the enlargement or restriction of its powers continues, we think it better to remain “in the cold,” though by this course we do fail to enjoy the pleasant bacchanalian reunions of that most potent, grave, and reverend body. For Companion Drummond’s edification, however, we will inform him that we have a wife, and also some of the concomitants of this State, and that already one has left her parents, and another may perhaps soon go, and others follow, to mould their own fortunes and manage their affairs as they think more for their own benefit. Just come down here, Companion, to Mobile, and take a whiff of our Gulf air, and I’ll show them all to you, and warrant you a hearty welcome, such as a brother should give and a brother is entitled to.

The report, like all those from so experienced and clear a head, is admirable and thorough, which necessarily makes it lengthy.

Companion Stephen J. Young was installed M. E. Grand High Priest, and Companion Ira Berry again installed Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND AND D. C.

The annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held November 8th, 1869, Companion C. H. Ohr, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and the representatives of nine chapters.

The Grand High Priest after thanks to Providence for His protecting care, states that “the peace and harmony of our jurisdiction during the past year has been undisturbed.” He cautions against hasty admissions; is greatly puzzled to know how uniformity in the work can be effected—uniformity within the United States—unless the General Grand Chapter would seriously address itself to that object, or a general congregation of representatives from State Grand Chapters should meet and arrange this matter; entertains no apprehension from persons claiming masonic rights who are black.

At this convocation were adopted resolutions completely and finally settling the difficulty heretofore existing in regard to the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia. Which action for this reason gives us unalloyed delight, and for another reason which is that masonry, with its teachings is triumphant.

Companion Ohr was re-elected M. E. G. H. P., and Companion Wentz was re-elected Grand Secretary.

Companion E. L. Stephens reports for the Committee on Foreign Correspondence on the proceeding of thirty-three Grand Chapters. His notice of Alabama is sufficiently full, and that of the report on Foreign Correspondence betokens a return to the influence of the instructions taught in every degree in masonry.

MASSACHUSETTS.

There were quarterly convocations as well as the annual Grand Convocation, at each of which Most Excellent Grand High Priest Chickering presided. At one of them the communication from the Grand Chapter of Louisiana was presented and referred to a committee. At the second the Most Excellent Grand High Priest made some statements in relation to the subordinates, which shows a very improper feeling among some of them. In one case he suspended the High Priest of a chapter for contempt towards the Grand Chapter, in the disobedience of a summons which was fully endorsed and approved by the Grand Chapter. At the third a committee, to whom the matter had been referred, reported adversely to appointing representatives to the other Grand Chapters, "inasmuch as all the State Grand Chapters are subordinate to the General Grand Chapter of the United States."

The Grand High Priest in his address at the annual convocation in December, says that—"In view of what I have seen, I can speak with confidence and of my own knowledge, when I say, that almost without exception, the chapters are in a flourishing condition; harmonious and prosperous."

Companion H. Chickering was again elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest.

Companion J. W. Dadmun furnishes the report on correspondence in a style as ready and agreeable as if this was his only business. Of Alabama he speaks approvingly, and finds our report in 1868 "breathing the right spirit." This is more agreeable to us than the most dainty dish of compliment or flattery. To be esteemed one who is imbued with the true principles of our Order, whose acts and words are evidently under the inspiration of a truly masonic spirit, is far more pleasant than any other praise to be bestowed.

Speaking of visitors, who may apply for admission to our chapters, he very properly and justly remarks: "We do not concede that *any* free mason in *any* grade, has the *right* to be examined and admitted. *No visitor has a right to unseat a member.*"

Companion Dadmun stands up right boldly and forcibly for the use of substitutes in exaltation. Everywhere in his report he meets the issue, but gives us his reasons *in extenso* in his review of Tennessee. We copy them in full for the information of the Craft.

"Are we not becoming a little more 'nice than wise' on this subject? The committees of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee say, 'the practice of substituting has always been in vogue in this Grand Jurisdiction, till within the past few years, and under such practice the cause of R. A. Masonry prospered.' We want to say in behalf of Massachusetts that substitution is an *old landmark*, as old as R. A. Masonry in this country. It has been practiced in St. Andrew's R. A. Chapter from its commencement, in 1769, to the present time. The practice of a *hundred years* gives it the sanction of an *old masonic landmark*. The fact is, this opposition to substitution is a new notion, but not a Boston notion."

"But it is said the practice of employing substitutes is a violation of the charges and obligation. We admit that it is a violation of the strict *letter* of them, but not the *spirit* of either. The companion who becomes a substitute consents to be re-exalted; and many times it is done for the express purpose of becoming posted in the work of the degree. Now, if we carry out the '*spirit* of the law' in this practice, we may argue its importance on the ground of *convenience*, not so much the convenience of the candidate as that of the chapter. During the anti-masonic excitement, St. Andrew's Chapter had to employ substitutes or do no work, because they were not candidates enough in a whole year to meet the *letter* of the requirement. When General Joseph Warren, of revolutionary memory, received his R. A. degree in St. Andrew's Chapter he was the only real candidate. To obtain one or two candidates a year at that time, was doing well. In the country it often facilitates the work, to be permitted to use substitutes, especially where they have only four or five candidates a year. It is better for the chapters to work but *one* real candidate at a time, than to do no work at all—there is more inspiration in it than in the dry rehearsal of the lectures. Then why this 'tenacity' in opposition to the practice of the fathers in masonry? Have our companions discovered any *new* light? Is the cause of R. A. Masonry retrograding? Let the glorious tidings from the Royal Craft in all parts of the world answer."

MICHIGAN.

Companion William L. Webber, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, opened the annual convocation of this Grand Chapter on January 10th, 1870, with the representatives from sixty-eight chapters present. The Grand High Priest in his address says: "So far as I am advised, no disturbing element exists within our borders. The Craft are pursuing their labors with assiduity, and vie with each other as to who can best work and best agree."

The several decisions of the Most Excellent on questions submitted to him agree with the rules of this jurisdiction in such matters. He is averse to the appointment of representatives, as he entertains "serious doubts as to the value or necessity" of the system. And we find that Companion J. Eastman Johnson, Grand Secretary and Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, entertains the same views, entering into a lengthy statement of his reasons therefor. The committee to whom this portion of the address was referred also agree with the above, and the Grand Chapter of Michigan arrive at the same conclusion.

"Masonry," says the address, "is not a reformatory institution. We do not intend to take the vicious into membership to reclaim them. But all men are liable to err, and masons are but men. Masons sometimes forget the right, and pursue the wrong. To them, to our brethren and companions, we owe a double duty—the duty which every man owes to his brother man, and also the duty which one mason owes to another. We must give him good counsel; if he is in want we must supply those wants, and thus remove temptation; we

must in every possible way seek to aid his reformation. This is our duty to him—one that is too often forgotten or ‘shirked’ on the shoulders of others.”

The proceedings of twenty-three Grand Chapters are reviewed by the Committee of Correspondence, where we find our own for 1868. From the Grand High Priest’s address many extracts are made. The committee find fault with ourself for having been “surprised and bewildered” at the action of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, in having the report on the esoteric work “*read*,” “*adopted*,” and “*deposited*,” because the Grand Chapter of Alabama received and adopted a work. We were not surprised that a committee should have reported on work or that the report should have been adopted and ordered to be used in that jurisdiction, but that it should have been “*read*,” and ordered to be “*deposited*” with the Grand Secretary, did produce a little amazement. By examination of our proceedings we think Companion Eastman will find neither “*read*” or “*deposited*” therein.

This is an excellent report showing well the condition and thought of the Craft.

MINNESOTA.

The Grand Chapter of Minnesota held its annual convocation at St. Paul, on January 12th, 1870, with M. E. M. W. Getchell, Grand High Priest presiding, and the representatives of seventeen chapters, the whole being represented, as in the case of Maine. The Grand High Priest says: “I am happy to inform you that no questions of grievances have come to my knowledge during the past year; all is harmony within our borders; the only sound of strife is that noble strife of who ‘best can work and best agree.’”

He decides, we think very properly, that no other suspension from a lodge but such as succeeds “*legal trial and conviction*” can properly affect the standing of a companion in his chapter. Suspension on this basis deprives the brother from all rights and privileges of masonry, and no masonic intercourse can be had with such an one. But the question recurs whether suspensions for non-payment of dues ought to have the same significance? When the brother has been tried and suspended, we are assured that the conviction is because of some moral turpitude or masonic dereliction, which ought to render him unworthy of confidence; but non-payment of dues suggests absence, or inability, as readily as design, and there is no enquiry, no investigation before his court—in short, no step taken to which every mason is entitled, that he may be fairly heard before he is condemned. The punishment denominated suspension, when dues are unpaid, is incorrectly named, and this gives rise to gross error. Can a brother, when properly suspended by any act of his own, and requiring no vote of his lodge, reinstate himself? And yet he who is suspended for non-payment can exercise his own discretion and select his own time when he will re-establish himself in *good standing* in the various masonic bodies to which he may belong. This is a question about which the minds of brethren and companions are greatly confused, and ought

everywhere to be distinctly settled. This Grand Chapter, at its last convocation, promulgated the same doctrine as the Grand High Priest of Minnesota; yet companions fear the violation of their obligations.

Companion A. T. C. Pierson presented the report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing among others the proceedings of Alabama for 1868. He notices at large the address of our Past Grand High Priest Brown, quoting the various questions of jurisprudence contained therein approvingly.

Please, Companion, look more carefully at our name, for though a "rose by any other name might smell as sweet," yet we doubt if the same were called onion if you would smell it at all. Now, we protest that our name when printed is easily pronounced and as easily spelled.

We thank him for the compliment to ourself, for brevity is said to be the soul of something—brevity, however, is a virtue.

In reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, Companion Pierson pertinently says: "The idea of independence appears to permeate organizations as well as individuals, constant efforts are being made to change the old order of things; rituals must be fixed up to suit the fancy of the merest tyro in masonry; this word is not sufficiently expressive, and that is obsolete; you must not say oblong square, but parallelogram; and then, for fear that the new fixins might be forgotten, they are printed and circulated. One just made gets a copy, after a few hours application he knows all about the institution, and must have the 'highest seat in the synagogue;' history, customs, usages, symbolism, and even written laws, must all give way to the new fixins—to the parrot prattle learned from the printed ritual by this new beginner."

This is a very excellent report, and cannot be read without instruction, notwithstanding the apology of our companion for its deficiencies.

M. E. Companion E. W. B. Porter was made Grand High Priest, and R. E. Companion William S. Combs was continued Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI.

The annual convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State for 1870, was held on January 20th, M. E. Robert B. Mayes, Deputy Grand High Priest, acting as Grand High Priest, in consequence of the death of the M. E. Grand High Priest, George D. Fee, which occurred within two months of his elevation to that honorable position. Sixty chapters were represented, and a very respectable list of Past Grand officers.

The address of the Grand High Priest is in many respects a very excellent one, compact and direct. He recommends favorable consideration of the "Orphans' Home," "which gives shelter and protection to ninety bereaved children of our departed brothers. * * * This cause is worthy the best efforts of every lodge and chapter, and every mason."

Again he says: "In the investigation of the questions presented for my

consideration, I was much embarrassed by the very dim and scanty light cast upon Capitular Masonry by the works devoted to masonic law and jurisprudence. * * * The valuable reports of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence were more hopeful. * * * In general, the opinions contained in them recommend themselves to my judgment, yet their value to me would have been greatly enhanced if they had been acted on by the Grand Chapters, and I would respectfully suggest that they be referred to a special committee hereafter, so far as they relate to masonic law and usage, and that they be carefully considered at the convocation next succeeding their publication."

We have thought with our M. E. Companion, that if this course were pursued High Priests would be much more confident in their decisions, and not be left to erroneous conclusions or improper inferences. There would be a recognized law to guide them, and not the perhaps fanciful effort of the correspondent. It was for this reason that we applauded the requirement of Wisconsin, which places a printed copy of the report in the hands of every member of the Grand Chapter at its session. These reports go out frequently unheard by the Grand Chapter, or unread by the companions generally; yet the *ipse dixit* of the chairman is by some mistaken for the decree of that body.

Companion William S. Patton again makes the report of the Committee on Correspondence, in his usual easy and graceful style, reviewing among others the proceedings from Alabama for 1868. In speaking of the address of M. E. Grand High Priest Brown he says: "We know Companion Brown, and, so far as ability is concerned, he may have equals, but few, if any, can surpass him.

* * The address is good throughout; we can endorse every word." Thank you, Companion, for this and your words of cheer and encouragement to us individually. In his review of Texas he says: "The golden chain of brotherly love ever should bind the entire Craft—a chain whose links should not become worn or broken by time, but which every wave of adversity brightens and strengthens. * * *

To our companions of Texas and throughout the world we would say, as the murmuring brooks that course their way from the mountain side, soon unite and mingle their waters and lose themselves in the ocean, so may we, in the performance of our various duties, be lost to all personal considerations in recognizing that moral obligation which unites us into a common brotherhood."

The report closes as follows: "Masonry alone, by her silent but powerful word, can subdue the passions and keep them in due bounds. It is under her teachings that eternal peace sways an undisturbed sceptre, and passion lies a conquered, prostrate victim at her feet. Our building is yet perfect, its walls strong, its pillars upright, its *sanctum sanctorum* unprofaned; but the mosque of Omer stands where the masterpiece of our brethren stood, and Tyre and her sister cities exist but in name. Kingdoms and empires have risen, gained glory, and have fallen again into ruin and nothingness; new lands have been discovered and peopled, but amid all this changing scene our glorious and time honored Order has stood firmly, and yet stands, a monument of the otherwise unrelenting past. But think of Jerusalem as she was, and as she is at

the present time. *Then* the rising sun gilded the lofty pinnacles of the Temple which, by divine command, was erected upon Mount Moriah to the Great I Am, and his setting rays kissed them as he passed down and disappeared behind the western skies. The Priests swayed their censors and chanted the praise of the Most High God, and exhorted the people to Holiness to the Lord.

"The only tangible relic of the glory of the first Temple is our beloved Order. It has stood the test of time, and quietly overcome the efforts of fanaticism to destroy it, and is yet vigorous, although three thousand years have passed since it first assumed shape and comeliness. It now stands a glorious monument of the past, and an ornament of the present."

Companion Robert B. Mayes was made M. E. Grand High Priest.

Companion Oscar T. Keeler was made Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI.

Companion Orren Root Jr., M. E. Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, opened the same on October 6th, 1869. We note the fact that no less than eight of the Grand officers were not present to fill their proper chairs. Thirty-six subordinates, however, were represented.

From the address of the Grand High Priest we extract: "To the God who has guided us through the twelve months past in safe and pleasant ways, who hath brought us here together with such auspicious omens, who hath so abundantly blessed our Order, we owe most reverent and earnest thanks. Join we all in earnest prayer that His loving favor and watchful guidance may be with us here, and follow us through the months or years to come.

"We have come up hither from widely separated homes and various walks in life, to consult for the good of our Order, and to renew for ourselves and our companions our vows of devotion to the principles and purposes of Royal Arch Masonry.

"The days of pilgrimage are not yet over. Though the children of the Abrahamic covenant no longer throng the mountain paths and valleys of Judea to worship at the mount of vision of the Lord; though cross-bearing myriads no longer by the thousand press to kneel at the sepulchre of Jesus; though saintly shrines, Saxon, and Frank, and German, are no more enriched by the votive offerings of pious visitants; yet even in our day there are ideas which we revere, and centres of influence to which we turn, to renew our strength and revive our zeal, as pilgrims erst journeyed to hallowed shrines. As we stand here to-day, pilgrims at the central source of our Order, let us not forget the dignity, and power, and reality of our profession."

There were nine dispensations issued during the year, for the organization of new chapters. The Grand High Priest very justly reflects upon the officers of chapters who give recommendations for new chapters without inquiry into the proficiency of the applicants, or their ability to do work. He recommends a salaried Grand Lecturer, as the quickest and most efficient method of distributing the work of the Grand Chapter. He decides that an applicant for

chapter degrees, being rejected, must wait twelve months before renewal of petition.

He decides that a Master Mason made in an army lodge, but exalted in a regular chapter, could not be recognized as a Royal Arch Mason until healed as Master Mason.

The committee on the address say, "It is the pleasing conviction of your committee that active and earnest Grand officers give vitality, energy, and power to the subordinates"—thus confirming the sentiments of our companions of Pennsylvania.

The committee further say, "Non-payment of dues is certainly a masonic offense, and when the delinquent companion is presumably able to pay, should be followed by masonic discipline." This is right.

Companion John F. Houston was made Grand High Priest.

Companion George Frank Gouley was made Grand Secretary.

Companion Gouley, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, "read his report," which was upon motion adopted and ordered to be printed with the proceedings." He reviewed the proceedings of thirty-one Grand Chapters, and among them we find our own for 1868, in his usual terse and masterly style. Among his closing remarks we find: "In our review we have written with this one impulse of 'Brethren.' If we thought for one moment that we could not write and talk as we pleased among those we love, we would tear this manuscript into shreds, and leave the job of correspondence to somebody who measures words as clerks do tape—by the inch. If our friends enjoy our work, it is all we ask; if they get mad at it, it is not our fault, for we did not intend it; as the joker has it, "If we have said anything we are sorry for, we are glad of it."

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1868.

The annual convocation was held on Tuesday, June 9th, 1868.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Nathaniel W. Cumner, in his address says: "The past has been a year of peace and prosperity within our entire jurisdiction." * * * "I am of opinion that conferring the degrees in cases of "emergency," as they are termed, will soon be known among us no more, forever." Efforts are made in this jurisdiction to visit the several chapters, by the Grand High Priest or other grand officers at his instance. That good must result from these visits none can doubt, and we think that our zeal would be increased, if the same effort were made here in this regard.

The usual business of the Grand Chapter was performed and Companion N. W. Cumner re-elected Grand High Priest and Companion Horace Chase Grand Secretary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1869.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter assembled on June 8th, 1869, and was opened in ample form by Most Excellent Grand High Priest Nathaniel W. Cumner.

The address says: "The past year has been one of peace, and the Order has continued to increase in strength and numbers. During the year not one complaint has reached me of want of masonic courtesy, on the part of any companion or subordinate chapter in this or any other jurisdiction."

From the reports of the several officers of the Grand Council and visitors of the several chapters, "good work, true work, and square work" is being done among them. There we hear no cry for uniformity, for none differ from the others, but all work together harmoniously and in accordance with the decree of the M. E. G. R. A. Chapter. We presume that there has been no change in the work there.

At this convocation Companion John J. Bell furnishes the report on correspondence; reviewing the proceedings of most of the Grand Chapters for two years. These our companion classes as "Grand Chapters owing allegiance to the General Grand Chapter," "Grand Chapters seceded from the General Grand Chapter," and Independent Grand Chapters." As ours is to be found under the second head we will take that up first. A fair synopsis of our acts is given, but in neither of our reports for '67 or '68 are the proceedings from New Hampshire to be found. This year, however, our companion will find that we have received the proceedings of his Grand Chapter noticed. We have before us two volumes, embracing the years '68, '69, and '70.

When reviewing the proceedings of Iowa, and speaking in relation to the report of Companion Guilbert against the repeal of the resolution which severed Iowa from the General Grand Chapter, Companion Bell says:

"Granting the facts to be as stated (and the writer of this report was a member of the General Grand Chapter in 1859, thinks they are so,) we still fail to see, how we are absolved, so long as a majority of the Grand Chapters think it worth while to retain the form, and what is of more importance, the good dinners and high titles which go with the General Grand Chapter.

The report is lengthy and full but we must refrain from making further extracts.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1870.

Grand Convocation held May 17th, 1870, Most Excellent D. R. Marshall presiding, with representatives from twelve chapters.

This Grand Chapter resolved, "That the action of the Grand Orient of France in acknowledging the existence and approving the acts of a body which has violated the well known masonic law, and which is doing much to disturb the harmony of the Craft on this continent, has shown an unfriendly spirit toward the fraternity of the United States, and we earnestly and fraternally protest against this course of the Grand Orient, and call upon that body to reconsider and repeal this unfriendly action." This was in relation to the interference by the Grand Orient with the jurisdiction of the Grand Bodies of Louisiana in recognizing a spurious masonic body, not organized under the warrant of any of these Grand Bodies.

The report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence is by Companion J. J.

Bell and is ingenious and unique. In it he says: "The latest *new* 'Ancient Landmark' which we have seen, makes its appearance in several Grand Chapters this year, in the shape of a decision that lodges of the preparatory degrees can not be opened until after the chapter has first been opened, and that when the work is done the chapter must be again called on and closed." "This doctrine is contrary to the uniform practice in this part of the country, nor do we see that it has the least show of reason in its support."

It is this "tinkering" which led an officer of one of our chapters to refuse to conform to a requirement of the Grand High Priest, because he felt conscientious scruples in changing the work which he had received, and accepting one which he thought had not "the least show of reason in its support," and this, his view, was subsequently sustained by the action of the Grand Chapter.

We rather like the plan of the report, but object to its not containing more matter. In it we find no decisions of masonic law. We grant that to cull from all the proceedings all that would be valuable and interesting, would require much reflection and an infinite amount of labor.

Companion J. A. Harris was made Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion A. Hutchins made Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY.

The thirtieth annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on September 8th, 1869, and was opened by Companion Jesse P. Case, Grand High Priest, after which a very beautiful ode was sung to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne." We are not informed whether the companions were *standing* or not. From the address of the Grand High Priest we extract:

"*Companions:*

"The scythe of time, with its ever glittering blade, has claimed another year. Its blessings, privileges, and pleasures is the obituary left us. The records of the past, whatever they may have been, are now matters of history. Of the three stages of time we own but one brief moment—the present. The past can never be recalled, the future is unknown. We have not an eye like the Infinite, to pierce its dark veil and mystic lore, for no eye can penetrate the dark labyrinth of unseen time, save that All-Seeing Eye, which has safely conducted us thus far over the rough and rugged road of life.

"It is meet for us as creatures and beings of one ever loving God, while the moment is ours, to send out from the heart such acknowledgments of thanks as shall be acceptable to our creator and preserver. Through His goodness we have been gathered together an unbroken band, and permitted to assemble in annual convocation under circumstances seldom vouchsafed us. The hand of affliction has been laid heavily upon some, while the burden of life's toil has visited all; still the Grand chain remains unbroken. Let each link send forth an anthem of praise to the "Great I Am," and our hearts be made to feel that in His strength we are mighty, but without Him, in our best estate, we are but frail and erring creatures."

The decisions on masonic law and usage are such as prevail here.

The Grand Council, in their several reports, show harmony and prosperity among the Craft.

M. E. Companion D. S. Battey was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion John Woolverton was again elected Grand Secretary.

Companion Corson, after calling the roll of the chapters in correspondence, says: "Thus it will be seen that every member of the family is present (and a 'happy family' it truly is) except Nebraska, and from her we have news through our Michigan friends. Such a goodly representation, each singing songs of joy and praise, gladdens our hearts and fills us with pleasure supreme, as from every quarter comes the soul gladdening salutation that with the Royal Craft from east to west, from pole to pole, from sea-bound coast to woodland wilderness, peace, harmony, and prosperity reign in our temples.

"In entering upon our work of reviewing, as we usually do it, in alphabetical order, it is rather singular that the first State which comes under our notice should signify 'Here we Rest' (Alabama), whereas in fact it is here we begin our labors." The report notices approvingly the opinions of M. E. Grand High Priest Brown, save that Companion C. believes that substitutes may be used.

He thinks the money paid to the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence "well expended—as those who have labored in this branch of masonry know that the money was well earned." With this we agree; yet the labor was performed without any wish or hope of fee or reward, but we were willing to give our mite toward the rebuilding of this our Masonic Temple, as our brethren of old did.

Companion C. says: "Even at the risk of being considered an 'old fogey,' we would declare our belief that it is improper to use any sign, symbol, or allusion which does not directly appertain to the particular degree of masonry directly in question." All this is because of the use of the numerals attached to the names of some members of chapters. Again: "We notice with much solicitation, not unmixed with alarm, that after the election of Companion Peleg Brown as Grand High Priest, the Grand Chapter became so much exhausted that an adjournment until the morrow had to take place," "*Mons parturiens*," my companions, nothing more; for the Grand Chapter survived, as you saw by the continuation of the proceedings.

When speaking of the Grand Chapter of Delaware, he most irreverently discourses thus: "We will feed this little babe on the softest pap that we can find, until it can bear the 'strong meat' provided for men. * * * As far as we have been able to learn up to this date, 'mother and infant are doing well;' which is due to the skill of the *accoucheur* and the vigor of the child."

We would close this notice of New Jersey, or of Companion Corson (for he is New Jersey), by quoting his defense of himself and the whole corps "repertorial" who perchance ventures a little humor, but we fear it is too long. It has, however, provoked a merry laugh in us, even now, when sickness is in almost every household, and death holds high revel in our midst. We cannot refrain, however, from the following:

"May we not all of us be urged to a more faithful performance of duty and

a greater exercise of that sympathy for suffering which causes the great heart of humanity to throb with tumultuous joy, and be incited to more constant deeds of charity, by these lines, written, by the broad brimmed, large brained, and warm hearted Quaker Poet of America :

“Who, looking backward from his manhood’s prime,
Sees not the spectre of his misspent time ;
And through the shade
Of funeral cypress, planted thick behind,
Hears no reproachful whisper on the wind
From his loved dead ?

“Who bears no trace of passion’s evil force ?
Who shuns thy sting, O, terrible remorse ?
Who does not cast
On the thronged pages of his memory’s book,
At times a sad and half regretful look,
Regretful of the past ?

“Alas ! the evil which we fain would shun
We do, and leave the wished for good undone ;
Our strength to-day
Is but to-morrow’s weakness, prone to fall ;
Poor, blind, unprofitable servants all
Are we alway.

“Yet who thus looking backward o’er the years,
Feels not his eyelids wet with grateful tears,
If he hath been
Permitted, weak and sinful as he was,
To cheer and aid in some ennobling cause
His fellow men ?

“If he hath hidden the outcast, or let in
A ray of sunshine to the cell of sin,—
If he hath lent
Strength to the weak, and in an hour of need
Over the suffering, mindless of his creed,
Or home, hath bent—

“He hath not lived in vain, and while he gives
The praise to Him in whom he moves and lives,
With thankful heart,
He gazes backward, and with hope before,
Knowing that from his works he nevermore
Can henceforth part.”

NEBRASKA.

We have the proceedings of the third annual convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State held on October 25th, 1869, Most Excellent D. H. Wheeler, Grand High Priest.

Most Excellent Grand High Priest Wheeler says in his address: "As we enter this, the 'sanctum sanctorum' we should leave all worldly care and strife behind, and meet upon the broad level plain, where we consult as to the greatest good that can be accomplished for the whole. Some of us may have wrought long and diligently, and 'borne the heat and burden of the day,' yet, we say to those that come in at the eleventh hour, you shall share equally unto us, if your work is accepted."

He granted one dispensation for organizing a new chapter.

The Grand High Priest thinks the Grand Chapter of Louisiana discharged nothing but its duty in denying all communication with masons "holding allegiance" to the Grand Orient of France,

He suggests the appointment of a committee of five, who shall seek out the true work, and whenever the decision shall have been made, then report to a special convocation of the Grand Chapter for adoption. For "the importance in the uniformity of work in our jurisdiction, while we are young," cannot be over estimated.

He goes in for an enlargement of the powers of the General Grand Chapter, for none can estimate the benefits to result from so fraternal, successful, and eminently satisfactory a manner in which the hospitalities of the brethren of St. Louis were dispensed.

A committee of three was appointed "to act in conjunction with a like committee to be appointed by the Grand Lodge of this State, to prepare and report at the next meeting of this Grand Chapter proper ceremonies for the installation of officers, laying of corner-stones, *funeral services* for the burial of *companions*, &c. So it is probable that we will not plead ignorance of a peculiar ritual of burial service for Companion R. A. Masons.

Companion George B. Graff submitted the report from Committee on Correspondence: reviewing the proceedings of twenty-nine Grand Chapters, among which we find those from Alabama for 1868. He says: "The address of the Grand High Priest abounds in sterling good sense, and evinces masonic zeal, joined with excellent advice and suggestions. His urgent advice relative to uniformity of work should be read and heeded by all."

Companion R. C. Jordan was made Grand High Priest, and Companion R. W. Furnas was made Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK.

The seventy-third annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was opened in "*due and ancient form*" by Most Excellent John W. Simons, Grand High Priest, on February 1st, 1870; one hundred and fifty-four subordinates being

represented. Twelve dispensations for new chapters were issued during the year.

After cautioning the companions to beware lest they legislate too much, the Grand High Priest says: "We need rather to cultivate the spirit of harmony in our chapters, and among our companions, to be not hasty in fault finding and patient with the erring; to increase the interest in our meetings by an increase of the spirit of the institution; by greater love toward each other, and greater reverence to the Eternal, without whose blessing all our efforts will be vain and fruitless; to the end that the companions shall look forward to the convocations of their chapters as a traveler in the desert looks to his arrival at some oasis, where he may rest from his toil and gather new energy for the journey before him; to educate ourselves in the sublime principles of our art, and make our progress manifest in our daily walk and conversation; being assured that for every step of progress thus made, there will be need for one step less in the way of legislation."

There were registered membership on December 27th, 1868.....	13,016
Add for exaltations, &c., during the year.....	1,385
Making total membership.....	14,401

The Grand Lecturer in the discharge of his duty traveled 12,353 miles.

Among the appropriations we find \$250 to Companion White for his services as Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, which we think properly bestowed and fully earned.

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

The correspondence report embraces the proceedings from Alabama for 1868, and in it he says in reply to the position of the Grand High Priest on the subject of the Order of High Priests: "Your committee would ask, why the presiding officer of a duly constituted chapter is termed a High Priest, if it is not necessary that he should be anointed and set apart to that office; and can he be a High Priest until he is consecrated? Can that body be called a *Grand Body*, that is dependent upon an outside organization to qualify its officers for their several duties? We view the High Priesthood as the head of the chapter."

This is a very full and complete report.

NORTH CAROLINA.

This Grand Chapter was convened on December 1st, 1869, Companion W. G. Hill, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, with representatives from ten chapters.

The Grand High Priest again bewails the deplorable condition of the Craft within that jurisdiction, a condition for which we grieved last year, and which now again excites our warmest sympathies—such as a mason may feel, and a mason may expect.

"If we have been true to our views and the noble principles we advocate; if no stain of wrong, or even of unfeeling justice is before us; if our hearts are warm towards each other, and towards all men, then will our work be profitable to the times in which we live, and we will be approved by our Supreme High Priest, who is in that temple which is eternal in the heavens. It is not my fortunate privilege to tell you of progress in R. A. Masonry during the past year. Through all our borders we have felt that apathy, neglect and indifference still overshadowed us; so far from advancing, we have scarcely maintained our position in members and effective influence. In some places the light seems to have gone out; in others all is dimness and uncertainty; and very few seem to have that full, rich life which animated our ancient companions. We have painfully felt this condition for the last few years, and at each convocation we have hoped that before the next, the shadows would leave and the morning dawn; but still our prospects are not visibly better than in the past. We are sure, however, that these gloomy days will cease; we know that the truth will live through all time, and we have no fear that our fraternity will cease to be. I have issued no dispensations for new chapters, nor have the accession to our numbers been as great as in former years; but I am pleased to state that so far as I am informed, peace and harmony prevail among our companions, and both officers and members have striven to regulate their lives, and work according to the constitution and laws of this Grand Chapter."

We admire his candor and firmness displayed in discountenancing what he is pleased to term "the new work, and his objection to the use of cyphers—"No written secret can be hid from the world, and no cypher was ever invented that some stranger has not read." "The work which has been used in this jurisdiction for over twenty years," and which he denominates "good work, square work," he says, is "as near perfection as any that can now be obtained."

We find fifteen chapters reported to this Grand Convocation, and upon an examination of the returns, we find that the number affiliated and exalted during the year to have been thirty; while the withdrawals and deaths amount to forty-six.

Companion Alfred Martin presented the report on correspondence, noticing our proceedings for 1868 in a very kind and fraternal manner, quoting freely from our report.

In his review of Arkansas and Companion Williams' report, he says: "We notice that he has a penchant for statistics. Now we regard the possibility of obtaining them in such form and with such accuracy as to render them reliable, and therefore valuable, as equally doubtful with that of obtaining a uniformity of work, and this, if we knew that we should live to the age of Mathusalem, we should not expect to see." We are glad to find some one who like ourselves "has no head for figures."

Of the use of substitutes he says: "The light obtained by the actual candidate from having passed through the ceremonies with one or two substitutes, cannot be diminished thereby, and if a man can learn anything from having traveled the road once in the dark, he can certainly learn much more who makes frequent journeys in the light, over the same ground." This is the

best argument we have seen on this subject, but then what becomes of not more nor less than three at one and the same time?

In another place he says of uniformity of work: "In our own jurisdiction this subject has been for twenty years a disturbing element, producing often much contention and bad feeling. At our last annual meeting a system was adopted, with greater unanimity, perhaps, than any work has ever been heretofore, and we sincerely hope that the question may never again be reopened." How differ the sentiments and wishes of two such distinguished members of the Grand Chapter as the Grand High Priest and the chairman of the Correspondence Committee!

"We notice that some of the Grand Chapters are in the habit of dispensing with the reading of the report on Correspondence." * * * Now, we are not particularly fascinated with the idea of reading our report before the Grand Chapter, nor with spending one hundred dollars or more from the treasury for printing a document, about the contents of which the Grand Chapter knows nothing. To what purpose, we would ask, is all this time, labor, and money expended, if it brings no intelligence to the Grand Chapter; no information as to what is going on in the masonic world; no suggestions of advancement or improvement in the Royal Art?"

On motion, the report was "adopted."

Companion William Murdock was made Grand High Priest, and Companion T. B. Carr was made Grand Secretary.

OHIO.

The fifty-third annual convocation of the Grand Chapter of Ohio was held on October 15th, 1869, Companion C. C. Kiefer, Grand High Priest.

In his address we find: "The past year has been crowned with abundant crops; we have not been visited with 'pestilence that walketh in darkness, nor the destruction that wasteth at noonday.'

"It affords me pleasure to be able to communicate to you that during the past year peace and tranquility have prevailed among the subordinate chapters in our jurisdiction, and that their labors have been abundantly blessed."

He deplores the levity that characterizes the manner in which the degrees are conferred in some chapters.

Six dispensations for the organization of new chapters were granted during the year.

The decisions on points of law are in accordance with the rules prevailing here.

Companion Will M. Cunningham makes the report on correspondence in a very condensed manner. Alabama was received after the rest were in the hands of the printer, and is therefore necessarily only acknowledged.

While reviewing Louisiana the committee detail the grievance there of spurious or clandestine masonry, taking very correct though strong grounds on

this subject. But the Committee on Jurisprudence deemed it unadvisable for the Grand Chapter of Ohio to act at present in the matter, believing that the Grand Orient of France would correct her errors. The committee while on this subject say :

"The most powerful enemies for evil ever brought to bear upon our Ancient and Honorable Institution has ever been the innovating, atheistic radicalism pervading to such an extent in French masonry, with its out-croppings in the United States and elsewhere, and the ritual tinkers who, under the sacred veil of religion, seek through like innovations to undermine the purity and universality of masonry by removing its landmarks and making it sectarian in its character."

The same companions were again elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary.

OREGON.

The ninth convocation was held on June 18th, 1869, Companion James R. Bagley Grand High Priest.

The Grand High Priest's address is wonderfully short. In it he informs the Grand Chapter that he had ordered the High Priest of a chapter to discontinue his work, and to await the session of the Grand body. He granted no dispensations, and made no decisions. Quite easy sailing.

Companion Bagley was made Grand High Priest, and Companion R. P. Earhart was made Grand Secretary.

Companion J. H. Wythe submitted the report on correspondence, only fourteen chapter proceedings having reached him, Alabama not being among them.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The proceedings of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of this State, for 1868 and 1869 come to us in one volume. The Grand Chapter holds quarterly convocations, but the whole routine of Royal Arch Masonry seems so complete and perfect, that but little business seems necessarily to come before the Grand body. Prosperity appears to be found almost everywhere in that jurisdiction. M. E. Grand High Priest George Griscom was industrious in making "grand visitations" to many of the chapters in the State, which must always prove profitable to the interests of the Craft. If the same were done by our Grand High Priest, encouraging the members of the several chapters, and instructing the officers as well as inspecting the records, I fancy that better work would result. Of the effect of these visitations M. E. Companion Griscom says: "In every way they tend to the promotion and strengthening of the Order. The individual chapters are by them animated with new life as it were; while the ties of confraternity between the officers of the Grand Chapter and the companions residing near the official centre, and those of the remote dis-

tricts of our jurisdiction, are drawn closer, and made stronger, by the meeting face to face, and the personal social greetings and near acquaintance.

"While it is thus seen that prosperity, peace and harmony reign throughout our borders, and that in our jurisdiction the advancement of our beloved Order is steadily onward in healthy and satisfactory progress, I have the great pleasure to state that, beyond our borders, the relations of our Grand Chapter with those of other jurisdictions have been of uninterrupted concord and the most fraternal and cordial friendship."

We find that at the quarterly "Communication" held August 5th, 1869, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, in answer to Past Grand High Priest, Companion Wood, decided "That, in all cases, Chapters must open in the Royal Arch degree, before proceeding to work; and after conferring the Mark or Most Excellent degree, the Chapter must be re-opened in the Arch before closing for the evening."

At the "Annual Grand Communication" held December 27th, 1869, Companion Griscom, M. E. Grand High Priest, before retiring from office, to which he had declined re-election at the last "quarterly communication," delivered an address having reference to the general condition of the Order in Pennsylvania, in which we find the following: "During the two years of my administration, the evidences of prosperity and strength in our institution have continued steadily to increase. Sound Masonic principles have everywhere prevailed, and the exalted standard established and required by the sacred character of our holy Order has been well and nobly sustained." Again in relation to his visits to very many of the subordinates, he says: "It was constantly evident that new life and vigor were infused into the Order wherever we went; and the incalculable benefit of this system of intercommunication between the Grand Chapter and the subordinate Chapters was most strikingly evident throughout." But a short time since we asked of a M. E. Grand High Priest if he should visit our Chapter how we should receive him, and his reply betokened his ignorance. These visits ought to be a part of the constitutionally enumerated acquirements of the duties of a Grand High Priest.

He also says: "Uniformity in the work has ever been esteemed by the Grand Chapter a point of the highest importance. * * * * Let it be understood that these labors have not been for the introduction of 'change,' or the establishment of anything in the work. * * * * The proximity to other jurisdictions of the chapters and companions who dwell along our borders, especially subjects them to the difficulty arising from easy introduction of innovations."

At this convocation, Companion M. Nisbet was installed M. E. Grand High Priest, having been elected at the "quarterly communication" preceeding, as is the custom in Pennsylvania. He also delivered an address, in which he speaks in unqualified terms of the good resulting from the Grand Visitations, stating that they "infused new life into many chapters," * * * "caused several new chapters to be formed, * * * and largely increased the revenue of the Grand Chapter."

He also draws a vivid picture of the Masonry in Pennsylvania as such as we

had once supposed it to be everywhere, but which our experience has demonstrated to be rather a sentiment—a theory—than a fact, that “Masonry in Pennsylvania is opposed to all innovation and change, clinging to all that is old, and standing aloof from all that might be termed new.” Our maxim is, that Masonry is as unchangeable as the “laws of the Medes and Persians.” How striking a contrast this is with the sentiment or character of this jurisdiction! We don’t like to tell tales out of school, but we well remember, for it is only a few years since, when we were adorned with the mitre we entered upon the discharge of our duties with a thorough determination to teach what we had been taught, no more, no less, and we had hardly left the place, our installation words had hardly died away before we were arraigned for contempt in not “changing” our ritual and our ceremonies, and for aught we know we may yet be punished by this Grand Chapter for it. Change, change, “tinkering” with the work, seems to have seized our Grand Chapter as with a death grip. We hope time and reflection may release it. We thought we saw evidence of relaxation at the last Grand Convocation. There, we’ve told what we really and conscientiously think, and we believe while doing so we are benefitting the Craft, and we feel better.

Having sometimes been led to think much as our M. E. Companion has, we copy his language, and commend his advice, not only to those of our jurisdiction, but to all Royal Arch Masons. We know that it is but in accordance with our natural proclivities to err, but we also know that it is nobler to correct or control the habit. Have none of us done what is charged?

I would call your attention to a practice, growing too common, which cannot be too strongly condemned by all right-thinking and right-minded Masons, that of speaking in a depreciatory and defamatory way of a companion’s character. That in many instances it is the result of thoughtlessness, or intended to be jocular, I doubt not. That no harm may be intended, does not warrant us in the belief that none has been done,” &c.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is by the M. E. Grand King, Companion Charles E. Meyer, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-four Grand Chapters, all for two years, many for three, and one from 1846 to 1869, inclusive. It must be apparent, then, that it is voluminous, the none the less instructive and interesting. We find Alabama among them, and we would like to make some extracts had we not already copied so much that we esteemed valuable, and if we did not intend to copy from the proceedings of Maine, 1869, an abstract of the inception and organization of the subordinate and Grand Chapters of this State. We do this because we believe that our companions, like ourselves, would like the information. And this we take from the report on Correspondence from Iowa:

“Pennsylvania Royal Arch Masonry is an anomaly. It differs largely, if not essentially, from that of the rest of the United States. The members are large hearted, whole souled men, fully imbued with the spirit of masonry. But yet, as a body, they are exclusive, seeming to think that Pennsylvania masonry is perfect, and everything differing from them is wrong; but they keep it to themselves in its perfection, and allow everybody else to do the same.

They publish but little, and we may defy any one to find out much of their condition from what they do publish. So far as we know they have published abstracts from their proceedings only for 1860-1863 and 1864, previously to the pamphlet now under consideration."

We have taken some pains to obtain some information on this subject, which we shall proceed to give, and if we fall into any error we trust our companions will correct it.

Some time before 1798 a chapter was established in Philadelphia (working only the Royal Arch degree), under the warrant of Lodge No. 3, working by authority from the "Grand Lodge of England," commonly known as the "Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons." In 1786, this, with other lodges, formed the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Other chapters had been established in the same manner. Of all these the Grand Lodge assumed control. But in 1795, for good reasons, a Grand Royal Arch Chapter was opened, under the immediate sanction of the Grand Lodge, composed of "all past and existing officers of the Grand Lodge having duly obtained the degree of Royal Arch," and "all past and existing officers of chapters," duly authorized by the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master, if a Royal Arch Mason, was *ex officio* High Priest, the Grand Chapter having power to elect officers with that exception, to make its by-laws, to decide complaints and appeals, *but not to confer the Royal Arch degree*. In 1798, further rules, &c., were adopted; no chapter could be held save under a warrant "granted by the Grand Lodge, according to the old institutions, and by the consent of such lodges, signified to the Grand Chapter;" that no chapter could be held without the presence of *six* regular Royal Arch Masons; that no brother could take the degree "unless he have taken the first three degrees, and have filled the office of Worshipful Master, or passed the chair by dispensation."

Soon after, Mark Lodges were established in connection with Master's Lodges.

The control of the Grand Lodge being inefficient, efforts, for a time fruitless, were made to separate the Grand Chapter from it; in 1824 they were successful, and the Grand Chapter was made independent of the Grand Lodge, and a constitution, &c., adopted.

The Grand Chapter was "constituted of all the members of the Grand Lodge for the time being, who are Royal Arch Masons and have received the honorary degree of Mark Master, and been accepted and received Most Excellent Masters, and who have passed the chair of a lodge by election, and are contributing members of some subordinate chapter; of all High Priests, Kings, and Scribes for the time being of all subordinate chapters under this jurisdiction, who are qualified as aforesaid; and of all Past High Priests of subordinate chapters under this jurisdiction, who are qualified as aforesaid, continuing members of such subordinate chapters."

[It is stated, in an official document, published in 1863, that the clause making the officers of chapters members of the Grand Chapter, was not in the Constitution of 1824, but was introduced in 1855: but we have taken the fore-

going from the "Ahimén Rezon" published in 1825 by the Grand Secretary, and the presumption is that it is correct.]

Charters were issued by it to all the chapters, and to the Mark Lodges, three of which still exist; but no Mark Lodges, separate from chapters, have been since established.

In 1863, the constitution, &c., were revised, but very many of the peculiar features of that of 1824 were retained. We shall now enumerate some of these.

The Grand Chapter, by the constitution of 1863, is composed of such members of the Grand Lodge as are Royal Arch Masons, and *actual* Past Masters, and are contributing members of a subordinate chapter, and all Past Grand High Priests. It has power to issue warrants for chapters and lodges of Most Excellent or Mark Masters, but a warrant for a chapter includes the authority to hold those lodges. The Grand Chapter has no jurisdiction over the degree of Past Master, and the chapters do not confer it, as we understand the matter. In 1824, it was provided no brother should be exalted "without his having previously become a Past Master, Mark Master, and Most Excellent Master. Under the present constitution, an applicant for the Mark degree must be a Master Mason; an applicant for the Most Excellent Master's degree must be a Master Mason, and must have "duly passed the chair in some regular lodge." The constitution of the Grand Lodge provides that "no brother, unless duly elected Master of a lodge, can pass the chair without a dispensation legally issued." Accordingly, the Grand Master, for a fee of ten dollars, which goes to the Grand Lodge, issues "dispensations to pass the chair," to the number of hundreds every year. The chair "is passed" by the applicant in his lodge. Who are present or whether he pays an additional sum to the lodge, we cannot tell. We presume, however, only Past Masters are present; we presume, also, that such dispensations are issued only to Mark Masters, and upon their petitions as such; but of this we have no certain knowledge.

Chapters are represented only by a proxy to a member of this Grand Chapter, (but no member can be a proxy for more than one chapter at the same time,) except as their own members happen to be members of the Grand Chapter; but that cannot be opened unless three chapters are represented by the members of the Grand Chapter "severally belonging to such chapters."

The dues to the Grand Chapter are fifty per cent higher in Philadelphia than elsewhere. Warrants for chapters are granted to *six* companions; no chapter, lodge, or companion is allowed to publish any matter regarding Royal Arch Masonry without consent of the Grand Chapter, or Grand High Priest; the Royal Arch degree cannot be conferred on a greater or less number than three, at the same time; suspension or expulsion in lower body (including blue lodge,) carries the same effect with it in a higher body, and *vice versa*, except as to Blue Lodge; no one can be a member of a chapter for more than six months after he shall have ceased to be a member of a Blue Lodge, by resignation. No procession or public display of a chapter, &c., is allowed; nor is any one allowed to wear Royal Arch clothing, &c., anywhere save in a chapter. In the charge to a High Priest at his installation, he is obligated not to

open his chapter unless three regular Royal Arch Masons are present, nor to confer the degree unless six are present. In the forms of petitions, the candidate describes himself as a "Geometric Master Mason."

We perceive by an amendment to the constitution, adopted in 1867, "all High Priests, Kings, and Scribes for the time being of subordinate chapters," are made members of the Grand Chapter—an important change.

We hope to be forgiven for dwelling so long on the proceedings of one Grand Chapter, but the matters quoted seemed to us of great moment, and we supposed would interest our companions.

RHODE ISLAND.

There were three special convocations of the Grand Chapter, on two of which occasions new chapters were constituted, and on the third the funeral of a Past Grand High Priest was attended. The annual convocation, however, was held March 8th, 1870. Most Excellent Companion Thomas A. Doyle, Grand High Priest with representatives from eight chapters and one under dispensation. The Most Excellent Grand High Priest is evidently very much dissatisfied with the seventh degree as worked within his jurisdiction, and desires to have it corrected, but no steps are taken to this end. But these companions pursue their business, and proceed to the usual grand annual dinner as the closing exercise of the day; having suspended the election of Grand Officers for that purpose. Having finished they completed their masonic labors and closed in ample form.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence comment on the proceedings of Alabama for 1868, not having received those of 1869. In one portion of the report, when applauding the sentiment that suspension without trial is wrong, they say "Amen!—adding, however, that trials are supposed to be ordered for a crime or misdemeanor, upon charges being preferred. Now, if poverty is a crime or misdemeanor, then we say try the man and punish him; if not let him alone."

In relation to uniformity of work and the inestimable value of committees and their infallibility and constant and unfailing accuracy as custodians of work, they say: "A committee of five might agree upon the work to be adopted, and then separate; but if they met again in three months from that time, it is probable there would be many points about which no two of them would agree, unless they had something other than memory on which to rely; such we believe to be the general experience of such committees." We have quoted these because they endorse our previously uttered views. This committee seem to be somewhat harder on the poor General Grand Body than even we, and it has excited our pity for the same, and you know that "pity is akin to love." So *quien sabe*; but that we, even we, may be found defending it.

Most Excellent Companion Doyle was again elected Grand High Priest.

RHODE ISLAND, 1869.

There was a special convocation of this Grand Chapter on February 18th, 1869, for the purpose of constituting Hope Chapter No. 6, at which a beautiful, appropriate and eloquent address was delivered by Companion Rev. Sydney Dean. And the annual convocation was held on March 9th, 1869, Most Excellent Companion Thomas A. Doyle, Grand High Priest, who delivered an address presenting nothing to the Craft outside that jurisdiction, save that our companions are harmonious and prosperous, and that he denies that Rhode Island either owes *allegiance* to the General Grand Chapter or *seceded* therefrom, but claims that the General Grand Body of to-day is not the General Body to which she acknowledged obedience, that one having died out or been *squelched* by the late war.

The same officers were re-elected.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Convocation held at Charleston on February 15th, 1870. Companion R. S. Bruns, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and representatives of twenty-six subordinates.

As with all the other productions of Companion Bruns, his address is straightforward and eloquent. After thanks to the Supreme Grand High Priest for his loving kindness, and an invocation to the companions to so live as to merit His acceptance of them he thus alludes to the improving condition of the Craft in South Carolina. "If there be trouble still in our homes; if there be still something wanting to our peace and prosperity; we at least are compelled to acknowledge that there hath been a great grace given to us, in our partial recovery from disaster and ruin, with which we have been so long humbled and begirt. We are gradually emerging from our ruins, and our fields begin once more to blossom with the freshness and fertility of former days. The sword of war hath been sheathed, and the scythe of the husbandman takes the place of the murderous weapon of the soldier. With the progress of time; cultivating the arts of peace, under the benign laws of Providence; with our hearts forever conscious of the sublime eye that looks upon us, and searches the secret in our souls; we may reasonably hope that our blessings will all return, and the voice of complaint and sorrow in the land will give place to that dove song of delight which proclaims a new dawn for spring, and the advent of a gracious summer, relief from all hostile or pernicious influences, and the restoration of our homes to the blessings of our better days."

Our reverend Companion E. Thayer retired from the position of Grand Secretary, whereupon an annuity was voted to him, and a highly complimentary resolution was adopted.

Companion Montgomery Moses was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion A. T. Smythe, Grand Secretary.

Companion James Birnie presented the report from the Committee on For-

eign Correspondence reviewing the proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Chapters, some for two years, among which are those of Alabama for 1867, with which he deals courteously.

In relation to the position of the Grand Council of the State of New York, that lodges of Master Masons, Past Masters, and Most Excellent Masters can only be opened and held under the sanction and authority of the chapter, and must be opened as a "*sequence*" to the Royal Arch Chapter and not of themselves, he very aptly and as we think properly says: "This is to us new doctrine. Certainly if candidates have been *previously elected* by the chapter when opened in the Royal Arch degree, it is not necessary to open it again on that degree as far as the work in the inferior degree is concerned. It is a mistake to suppose that the inferior lodges are opened under the *sanction and authority of the chapter*. They are parts of the chapter themselves, and it is only necessary to open the Royal Arch degree because *all business* must be transacted in that degree."

The position taken by our Grand Chapter, and the ruling as to the necessity of always organizing a chapter before proceeding to open or work in any of the inferior degrees are based upon the same arguments as that of New York, but the Carolina practice to us seems the more reasonable.

TENNESSEE

Held the annual convocation on September 29th, 1869. Most Excellent William Maxwell, Grand High Priest with sixty-nine chapters represented. The Grand High Priest states that "harmony prevails in our jurisdiction. Peace is within our borders. No note of discord is heard from within, or cause of unrest from without."

He recommends that substitutes be allowed, and the committee to whom the address was referred reported in favor of the same—a minority report however being made adverse to it, which was sustained and substitutes forbidden.

At this convocation a work was adopted and provision made for its dissemination, and the instruction of subordinate chapters.

There were four hundred and twenty-four exaltations, against two hundred and fifty-one lost from all sources; dismissions, expulsions, deaths, &c. Total number R. A. Masons three thousand nine hundred and twelve.

The report on Correspondence is by Companion George S. Blackie, "M. D." Assistant Grand Secretary, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-one Grand Chapters, including those from Alabama for 1868. The report is full and complete.

Companion John W. Hughes, Grand High Priest, and Companion John Frizzell, Grand Secretary.

TEXAS.

The twenty-first annual convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State was held on June 13th, 1870. Companion W. G. Veal, Grand High Priest, with representatives from forty-three subordinates.

In the Grand High Priest's address we find: "The work of the past is sealed and carried up to be reviewed by the Grand Overseer, and is by him to be approved or condemned; and from his decision there can be no appeal. How important, then, that all our work be good, true, and trusty. To gain this point every act should be done with caution and due consideration, and with special reference to its future and final examination by Him who can never be deceived, and who judges without partiality."

Again: "It is a gratifying consideration that society in general, throughout the country, is recovering from the terrible demoralization of the war and revolutions through which we have passed. Let us, as an enlightened body, seize the advantages of this flood tide of reform, to purge our holy tabernacle from all defilements, and clear away from its portals all that moral rubbish which leads the profane to call in question its wisdom, and which impairs its strength and mars its beauty."

He concludes with the following imprecation: "May our hearts be pure as the altar and our labors as acceptable as the offering, so that when our convocation has closed, we may go hence dispensing masonic light and diffusing masonic charity as constantly as the recurring wants of helpless orphanage and destitute widowhood; and when the rough and rugged journey of life is ended, may we all pass through the white veil into the sanctuary, where the great I Am forever presides." So mote it be.

From the reports of the Grand Visitors and the number of applications for charters and dispensations, we are satisfied that very great progress has been made by the Royal Craft within the last four years. Prosperity seems to be taking the place of poverty, and energy and zeal that of depression.

Companion S. S. Munger was made Grand High Priest, and Companion R. Brewster was made Grand Secretary.

We exceedingly regret that there is no report on correspondence.

VERMONT, 1869.

We have the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for 1869, held on June 11th, M. E. Charles A. Miles Grand High Priest, who delivered a succinct account of the condition of the Royal Craft. In it he again urges the "renewing our fraternal relations with the General Grand Chapter of the United States."

Companion Joshua Britton made the report on correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Chapters, many of them for two years. His notice of Alabama is full and fraternal, though he flouts us for the scanty notice we gave of the proceedings of Vermont; but why should we dwell when there are no grievances to redress, and the Craft move harmoniously in their temple, built with so perfect precision. Our companions there are in a highly

prosperous state, and are a large proportion of the fraternity. At this convocation a work was to be selected and adopted, and we sincerely hope that the uniformity so much desired, and apparently so unattainable, may result.

VERMONT

Held its annual convocation at Burlington, on June 17th, 1870, M. E. Charles A. Miles, Grand High Priest presiding, with twenty chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest states that Capitulary Masonry is in a very satisfactory condition in that section, and that the "addition to our numbers, though not brilliant, is yet sure and abiding." "We are recovering slowly from the gigantic efforts we put forth in the late struggle, and in the midst of the stagnation inevitably resulting from that calamity." If our companions in the North feel the depressing effects of their "gigantic efforts," how much more must we, who, after the struggle was over, have been preyed upon by leaches which are drawing the little blood left us after our "gigantic effort." But we assure them that we have an abiding hope that this will not always be, but that he that "tempereth the wind to the shorn lamb" will yet, after our punishment shall have been sufficiently great, so temper the minds of our enemies that we may be allowed to recuperate our fallen fortunes, and that our hearts may be gladdened with the glimpses of that happiness which shall fall to the lot of our posterity, although denied to us.

The committee on relations of the Grand Chapter of Vermont with the General Grand Chapter, reported, confirming the propriety of the action of 1860, in withdrawing from that body, which report was "accepted and adopted."

Companion Squire Marcy submitted the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-one Grand Chapters, among which we are pleased to find those from Alabama.

In the review of the proceedings of Iowa, after quoting the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, who recommended the return of Iowa to the bosom of the General Grand Chapter, because—"first, to galvanize the incapable General Grand Body into some semblance of life, or failing that—which it seems to us would require miraculous powers to perform—second, to assist in procuring a dissolution of the General Grand Body," the committee says: "The argument of the committee (of Iowa) appears to us to be entirely unsound; would they have us join a band of counterfeiters to work their reformation; do evil that good may come? The example of Him who ate with publicans and sinners will not do for us; let us have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them, 'Come ye out of them, and be ye clean.'"

No less than seven pages are devoted to the General Grand Chapter, in which the committee fairly state the views of those who advocate its continuance and those who think that it has outlived its period of usefulness. As stated before, Vermont refused to return to the "allegiance" which, by the General Grand Chapter and some others, is said to be inalienable.

Companion E. A. Jewett was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion W. H. S. Whitcomb Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA,

The Grand Annual Convocation of this Most Excellent Grand Chapter was held on December 16th, 1869. Most Excellent Edward H. Lane, Grand High Priest, and representatives from twenty-nine chapters. At this convocation it was

“*Resolved*, That a candidate for the degrees conferred by and in a chapter should possess the same physical qualifications as are required by the landmarks of masonry, as understood and explained by the Grand Lodge of Virginia in regard to the application of a profane.”

Companion John P. Little was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion John Dove continued Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN

Opened her Grand Annual Convocation on January 18th, 1870, A. V. H. Carpenter, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, with thirty-three chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest seems to think that there is a monster in the “Rite of Memphis.”

He is opposed to so large an element in our day, in masonic circles, of *young America*, but clings to the old men; thinks that if allowed to continue they will destroy or change it. Wishes that “worth and ability” were the *sine qua non* in the selection of officers. Intimates pretty plainly that there is too much *electioneering* for masonic offices in Wisconsin, and remarks “if we want the best men to apply for admission to our Order, we must attract them by placing their peers in the foreground.”

He urges to a proper qualification in every respect for the three first officers, and recommends compulsory attendance on schools of instruction to be established by the Grand Chapter. (This, however, was not done.) Thinks “a voluntary severance of connection with the lodge, should forfeit membership in the chapter, as much as suspension or expulsion does.”

Companion Thomas B. Tyler was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and Companion William T. Palmer elected Grand Secretary.

We find no report on correspondence.

CONCLUSION.

Thus we have concluded our labors which we hope may prove acceptable to the Craft. Our search for the good things has not been amongst rubbish and has therefore been agreeable. Doubtless much that might have proved of interest has not been noted or brought up for inspection, but we feel satisfied

that enough has been preserved to furnish food for thought to the thoughtful for some leisure moments at least. Though laboring at the time of its preparation under no physical infirmities, yet we could not avoid great mental depression. "The pestilence that walketh at noonday" was abroad, and our almost "deserted village" was a vast charnel house, and those who were well were heavily taxed, both physically and mentally, in behalf of the suffering. The calls upon our *active* sympathies were loud and constant. Let this then excuse apparent imperfections.

And now, companions, in our official capacity we bid you farewell—hoping that you may enjoy this salmagundi in its consumption as much as we have in its preparation.

Our business will probably in the future, as it does now at this convocation, prevent our attendance, and we therefore also take a regretful leave of our confreres, with whom we have for a few years past held so agreeable converse, and hope that the balmy airs of this, our queen city, may entice some of them this way that we may give them such *tokens* of our esteem as we would.

Respectfully submitted.

P. J. PILLANS,
Chairman.

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, since last return.

<i>Number,.....</i>	<i>Names of Chapters.</i>	<i>No. Members.</i>	<i>Am't. of Dues.</i>	<i>Advanced...</i>	<i>Presided.</i>	<i>Rec'd & Ack'd</i>	<i>Exalted.</i>	<i>Affiliated.</i>	<i>Rejected.</i>	<i>Dimitted.</i>
1	Tuscaloosa.....	34	17 00	6	6	6	3	1	..	..
5	Eunomia.....	53	26 50	3	3	3	3	4	..	2
6	Cyrus.....	31	15 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9	Clinton.....	31	15 50	2	2	2	3	1	..	2
10	Tuscumbia.....	32	16 00	6	6	6	6	2	..	2
11	Phenix.....	39	19 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12	Marion.....	55	30 00	4	4	3	..	..	..	5
17	Wetumpka.....	30	15 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
19	Mount Moriah.....	51	25 50	6	6	6	6	..	..	3
20	Livingston.....	35	17 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
21	Mobile.....	82	41 00	5	6	9	9	1	1	13
22	Montgomery.....	52	26 00	5	8	8	6	1	3	7
23	Talladega.....	45	22 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
24	Eufaula.....	51	24 50	2	2	3	3	..	1	2
25	Courtland.....	58	29 00	6	5	6	6	4	..	..
26	Union.....	25	12 50	..	..	..	..	3	..	1
27	Dayton.....	15	7 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
28	Saint Johns.....	71	35 50	..	..	..	..	4	1	4
30	James Penn.....	78	39 00	..	..	2	..	..	..	13
32	Enlton.....	24	12 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
34	Hermon.....	57	28 50	2	2	..	..	..	..	..
35	James L. Daniel.....	32	16 00	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
36	Pickensville.....	25	12 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
40	Camden.....	36	18 00	3	3	3	3	2	..	1
43	Tuskegee.....	19	9 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
44	Choctaw.....	38	19 00	3	3	3	3	1	..	2
53	Uchee.....	16	8 00	6	6	6	6	1	..	..
54	Tyrian.....	39	19 50	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
55	Suggsville.....	33	16 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
56	Zerubbabel.....	14	7 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
57	Lebanon.....	49	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	2
62	Rockford.....	54	27 00	11	11	12	12	..	..	..
63	Clayton.....	57	28 50	14	14	15	15	..	..	..
64	Central.....	22	11 00	3	3	3	3	3	..	..
65	Russell.....	20	10 00	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
66	Alabama.....	54	27 00	7	6	6	6	..	1	7
67	Farriorville.....	23	13 50	1	1	4	3	2	..	6
68	Cherokee.....	41	20 50	6	6	6	6	..	..	..

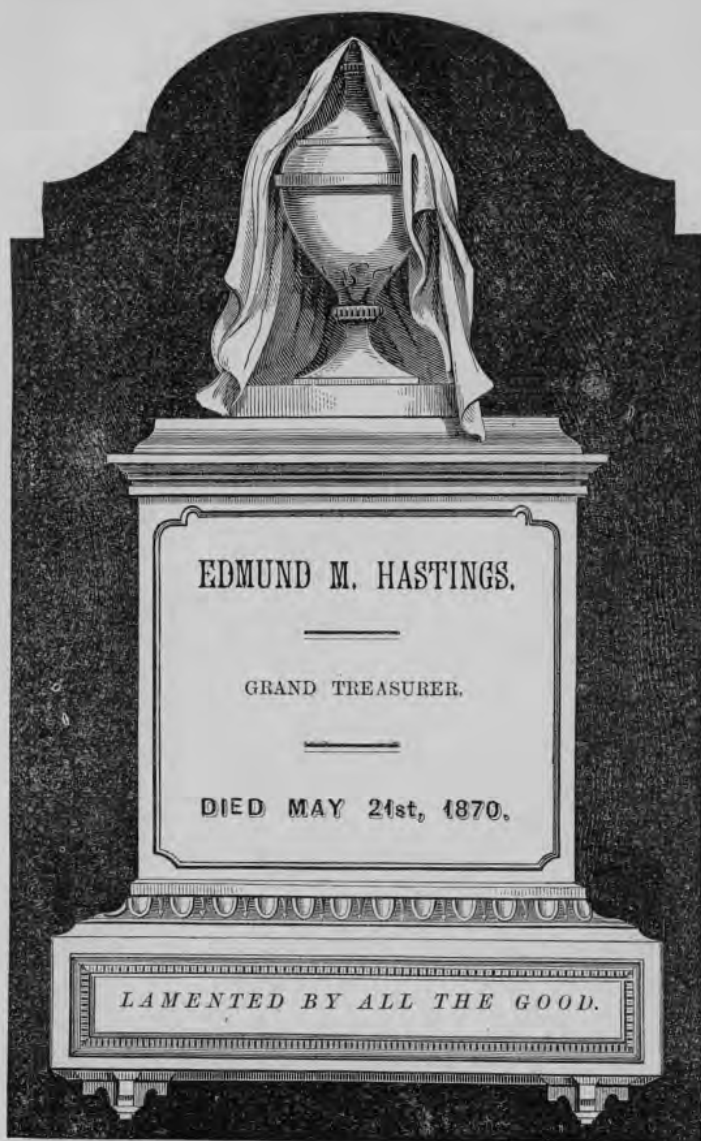
NAMES AND NUMBERS OF CHAPTERS—CONTINUED.

<i>Number,.....</i>	<i>Names of Chapters.</i>	<i>No. Members</i>	<i>Am. of Dues.</i>	<i>Advanced,....</i>	<i>Presided,.....</i>	<i>Rec'd & Acfd.</i>	<i>Exalted,.....</i>	<i>Affiliated,....</i>	<i>Rejected,.....</i>	<i>Dismissed,.....</i>
69	Lower Peach Tree.....	19	9 50	2	2	1	..	..	..	1
70	Choctaw Corner.....	15	7 50	1	1	3	3	..	..	3
71	Landmark.....	51	25 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
72	Midway	32	16 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
75	Pine Level.....	22	11 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
76	Elyton.....	77	38 50	3	3	3	3	..	..	..
77	Snedley.....	18	18 00	..	..	..	..	2	..	3
78	Danville.....	33	16 50	6	6	5	3	..	..	2
79	Hillabee.....	34	17 00	7	7	6	6	2	..	1
80	Loachapoka.....	32	16 00	3	3	3	3	..	..	4
81	Jefferson.....	43	21 50	9	9	6	6	..	..	..
83	Bell.....	21	10 50	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
84	Carrollton.....	17	8 50	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
85	Gaston.....	29	14 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
86	Coosa.....	39	19 50	4	4	4	6	4	..	1
87	Moulton.....	17	8 50	2	2	..	..	..	..	..
88	Roslin.....	33	16 50	2	2	3	3	..	..	1
89	Somerville.....	20	10 00	3	3	3	3	..	..	1
90	Greenville.....	25	12 50	3	3	3	3	1	..	3
91	George D. Norris.....	15	2 75	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
92	Notasulga.....	19	9 50	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
93	Columbus.....	24	12 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
94	Cowikee.....	16	8 00	4	4	3	3	..	..	2
96	Daniel Pratt.....	12		4	4	4	..	3	..	..

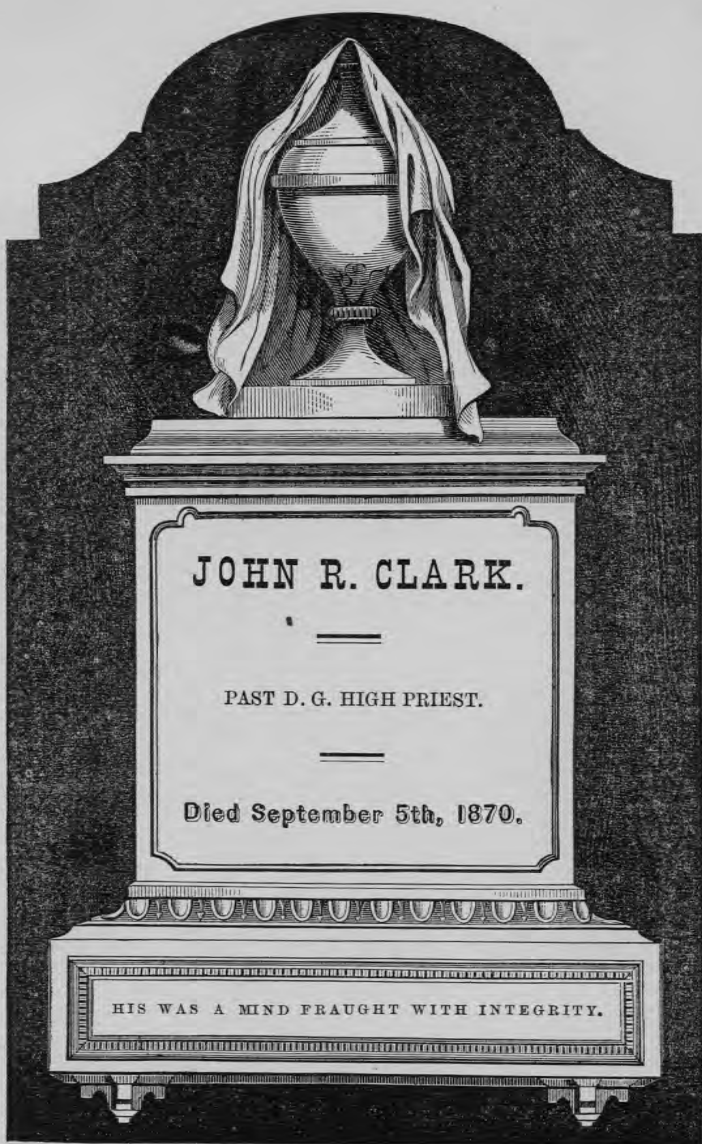
AT REST.

William Kerr, November 16, 1869....	Phenix.....	No. 11
Robert D. England, February 19.....	Marion.....	" 12
Andrew J. Terrell, October 24.....	Wetumpka.....	" 17
Julius P. Haggerty, May 2		
John Q. Loomis, December 4, 1869....	Mount Moriah.....	" 19
Benjamin S. Higginbotham, March....	Livingston.....	" 20
Lynn B. Humphries, April 24.....	Mobile.....	" 21
James McAllister, February 7.....		
John O. Cummins, September 13....	Montgomery.....	" 22
Algernon S. Johnston, September....	Talladega.....	" 23
Jacob G. Mordecai, October 15.	Eufaula.....	" 24
William P. Hammond, October 17....	Courtland.....	" 25
EDMUND M. HASTINGS, May 21.....	Saint Johns.....	" 28
John A. Winbourne, January 13.....	James Penn.....	" 30
William D. Etheridge, June 28	Fulton.....	" 32
Thomas C. Dunovant, January 19....	Hermon.....	" 34
Thomas W. Simmons, April 5.....	James L. Daniel.....	" 35
W. M. Mayes, October 25	Pickensville....	" 36
S. Bolden, November 7, 1869.....	Choctaw.....	" 44
Robert E. W. McAdams, May 31.....	Suggsville.....	" 55
JOHN R. CLARK, September 5.....	Rockford.....	" 62
Josiah E. Irby, November.....	Central.....	" 64
William S. Mabson, July 29.....	Russell.....	" 65
John B. Upshaw, November 9.....	Alabama.....	" 66
Thompson A. Crawford, April.....	Cherokee.....	" 68
Benjamin F. Seale, March 19.....	Lower Peach Tree.....	" 69
Earle Gaines, September 15.....	Midway.....	" 72
Lewis Pope, September.....	Elyton.....	" 76
Rigdon Edwards, July 6.....	Snedley.....	" 77
George B. Gunn, September 3.....	Danville.....	" 78
Robert L. Martin, July 20		
John P. Morgan, December 27, 1869.		
Joshua B. Ragsdale, May 19.....		
William D. Johnston, December 29, '69.		
Patrick Tully, March 11.....		
William B. Riley, August 16		
Frizzle M. Hardwick, Nov. 19, 1869.		
Clark G. Hale, July 7.....		
Edmund G. Bradley, March.....		
William McConnell, July 19.....		
Edward Dinkens, February 10.....		
Phillip Sanders, June 19.....		
James C. Killough, September 6.....		
J. F. Dickinson, March 15.....		
James M. Freeman, August.....		

Elijah M. Clayton, March.....	Hillabee.....	No. 79
John W. Taylor, March 21.....	Carrollton.....	" 84
William D. Young, February 23.....	Coosa.....	" 86
Marcus C. Lane, July 28.....	Greenville.....	" 90
John A. Gipson, July 13.....	George D. Norris.....	" 91







JOHN R. CLARK.

PAST D. G. HIGH PRIEST.

Died September 5th, 1870.

HIS WAS A MIND FRAUGHT WITH INTEGRITY.

Suspended for Non-Payment of Dues.

MARION, No. 12.—Calvin L. Harrell, Joseph McCombes.

LIVINGSTON, No. 20.—John C. Gillespie, E. Troup Sturdevant, Robert Tankersley, Philip G. Edmonds.

MOBILE, No. 21.—Robert McLean, Daniel McGill, Samuel A. Enholm, David W. Hooks Jr., John P. Bacon, Solomon Markstein, William Barnwell Jr., Francis H. Reynolds, Mikel Levi, George F. King, William H. Gasque.

MONTGOMERY, No. 22.—E. A. McWhorter, Charles L. Bulger, George M. Figh, Werner Forss, A. B. McWhorter, F. H. Warren, Coleman B. Ferrell.

EUFULA, No. 24.—Theophilus Spurlock, John W. Johnston, John Cochran, Maurice Lazon, Benjamin F. Price, Henry Thomas, Thomas H. Beauchamp.

SAINT JOHNS, No. 28.—J. W. Davis, E. M. Gantt, J. E. Gholson, J. H. Henry, Thomas J. Jeffries, C. G. Kuhne, B. F. Maxey.

CAMDEN, No. 40.—John D. McArthur, Malcom McNeill, Wesley A. Parks, George W. Ratcliff, John L. Raddish.

ZERUBBABEL, No. 56.—John Gunn, Willis Menefee, John Maddox, Samuel F. Carr, Henry H. Eatman.

ROCKFORD, No. 62.—William J. Nolen, Henry Stoudenmire, Ed. T. Atkins, Hardy Jones, Asa H. Edwards, William D. Saxon, John R. Brooks, Thomas Gillespie, Jacob Nelson.

CLAYTON, No. 63.—V. H. Walker.

RUSSELL, No. 65.—James Cox, Jerry H. J. Williams, James G. Carpenter, James Williams, Flavius J. Graham, James Jordan, Thomas J. Allison, Joshua C. Wall, Bayly Bruce, Harry Ryan.

ALABAMA, No. 66.—Richmond S. Fletcher, James A. Cameron, George W. Davidson, Jabez Mann, Benjamin C. Bennett, William M. Monroe, Adam A. Edgar, James McAdory, John Applegate.

FARRISTOWLE, No. 67.—James L. Williams, William L. May, James W. Hightower.

LOWER PEACH TREE, No. 69.—James L. Godbold.

LANDMARK, No. 71.—James D. Slaughter.

MIDWAY, No. 72.—C. M. Worthington.

PINE LEVEL, No. 75.—A. C. Townsend, Thomas McCullough, H. T. Slaughter, John L. Bunch, J. H. S. Menefee, Robert L. Jackson, G. G. McLendon, J. S. Yarborough, Alfred Bright, W. M. Boswell, James F. Armstrong.

SMEDLEY, No. 77.—J. R. Dickinson, J. M. Andress, R. R. Owens, J. M. Stuart, B. A. Jackson, M. S. Lunsford, J. R. Norris, J. J. Horn, J. W. Seay, William Pritchett, J. J. Malcom, W. B. Colquit, A. W. Brozil, C. C. Colquit.

DANVILLE, No. 78.—Francis M. Callaway, Robert E. C. Pucket, William B. Carter, John Gibson, John C. Norris.

HILLABEE, No. 79.—C. H. Webb, E. P. Horton, D. S. Brown, James W. Porch, Ben Walker.

BELL, No. 83.—L. S. Sims.

CARROLLTON, No. 84.—John Sigman, D. P. Davis, Robert D. Carver, William C. Stewart.

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

COLUMBUS, No. 93.—Marcus B. Hargroves.

REINSTATED.

EUNOMIA, No. 5.—A. A. Baker, Albert R. Erskine, John C. Logeman, B. F. Stiner, A. L. Wilkerson, James J. Venable.
 MARION, No. 12.—Thomas L. Vaughan, J. O. Shumwell.
 LIVINGSTON, No. 20.—Reuben Thom.
 MOBILE, No. 21.—William S. Matthews, William Keyland.
 TALLADEGA, No. 23.—William J. Borden, Dempsey B. Odem, William C. Patterson, T. J. Kent, M. A. Hansard.
 CAMDEN, No. 40.—Henry F. Cook.
 ROCKFORD, No. 62.—Braddock Harris.
 ALABAMA, No. 66.—George W. Toone.
 FARRIORVILLE, No. 67.—Milton C. Tillery, James W. Hicks.
 CHOCTAW CORNER, No. 70.—William H. Slade.
 MIDWAY, No. 72.—John C. Ray, John W. Bledsoe, R. D. Thornton, G. B. Turner, Daniel Feagin, James A. Cobb, A. A. Pearson, William H. Thomas, R. H. King, R. H. Griffin.
 DANVILLE, No. 78.—Henry J. Herring.
 BELL, No. 83.—A. J. Ashcroft.
 CARROLLTON, No. 84.—Samuel C. Nabors.
 MOULTON, No. 87.—Jacob A. Dukeminier.

Suspended for Unmasonic Conduct.

S. N. Ferguson.....	}	Pickensville.....No. 36.
Joseph S. Walker.....	}	
Henry W. Doss.....	}	
Winfield S. Jackson.....	}	Tuskegee.....“ 43.
Lawrence Lewis.....	}	
James G. Slater.....	}	Choctaw.....“ 44.
John A. Russell.....	}	

EXPELLED.

William H. Felts.....	}	Choctaw.....No. 44.
Thomas H. Acree.....	}	Columbus.....“ 33.

1870.

RECAPITULATION.

Chapters that were represented.....	52
Members reported at this convocation.....	2,184
Dues received at this convocation.....	\$1,065 25

WORK OF THE YEAR.

Advanced.....	156
Presided.....	158
Received and Acknowledged.....	160
Exalted.....	147
Affiliated.....	46
Rejected.....	7
Dimitted.....	121
Died.....	50
Suspended for unmasonic conduct.....	7
Expelled.....	2
Suspended for non-payment of dues.....	129
Reinstated.....	36

STATE OF THE CHAPTERS.

Chapters square upon the books.....	53
Chapters delinquent.....	11
Charters forfeited.....	32
Whole number at the end of the year.....	96

Notice to Subordinate Chapters.

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

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

DELINQUENT CHAPTERS FOR 1870.

DELINQUENT IN DUES FOR ONE YEAR.

No. 4.....	Monroe.
" 37.....	Concord.
" 57.....	Lebanon.

DELINQUENT IN REPRESENTATION ONE YEAR.

No. 4.....	Monroe.
" 5.....	Eunomia.
" 6.....	Cyrus.
" 12.....	Marion.
" 57.....	Lebanon.
" 65.....	Russell.
" 69.....	Lower Peach Tree.
" 78.....	Danville.
" 91.....	George D. Norris.
" 94.....	Cowikee.

DELINQUENT IN REPRESENTATION TWO YEARS.

No. 37.....	Concord.
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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, 52, 58, 59, 60, 61, 73, 74, 82, 95.

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

NO.	NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POSTOFFICE.	HIGH PRIEST.	SECRETARY.	CONVOICATIONS.
1	Tuscaloosa...	Tuscaloosa...	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa...	John M. Martin...	Richard C. Parish...	2 Thursday
5	Euromia...	Huntsville...	Madison...	Huntsville...	John J. Dement...	Chur'll G. Spillman...	1 Tuesday
6	Cyrus...	Florence...	Lauderdale...	Florence...	William B. Wood...	William B. Ragsdale...	Wed on or bf f m
9	Clinton...	Athens...	Limestone...	Athens...	Augustus F. Evans...	Sam. Tanner Jr...	2 Monday
10	Tuscumbia...	Tuscumbia...	Colbert...	Tuscumbia...	Felix G. Norman...	Fred. D. Hodgkins...	Mon af 2 Sabbath
11	Phenix...	Greensboro'	Hale...	Greensboro'	Reub. H. Jackson...	Oscar F. Casey...	2 Tuesday
12	Marion...	Marion...	Perry...	Marion...	George P. L. Reid...	Isaac A. Mooser...	3 "
17	Wetumpka...	Wetumpka...	Elmore...	Wetumpka...	William C. Penick...	William S. Penick...	Saturday af f m
18	Mount Moriah...	Eufaula...	Greene...	Eufaula...	Isabel B. Snow...	James T. Smith...	3 Friday
19	Livingston...	Livingston...	Sumter...	Livingston...	Robert D. Webb...	Josiah L. Scruggs...	3 "
20	Mobile...	Mobile...	Mobile...	Mobile...	Theo. L. Eastburn...	Jos. H. Hampshire...	1 & 3 Thursday
21	Montgomery...	Montgomery...	Montgomery...	Montgomery...	Daniel Sayre...	Calvin W. Sayre...	2 Saturday
22	Talladega...	Talladega...	Talladega...	Talladega...	Jos. H. Johnson...	Henry H. Hamill...	3 Friday
23	Eufaula...	Eufaula...	Barbour...	Eufaula...	James Milton...	John C. Thomas...	1 Saturday
24	Courtland...	Courtland...	Lawrence...	Courtland...	Joseph A. Baker...	George K. Clopper...	Tuesday af f moon
25	Union...	Uniontown...	Perry...	Uniontown...	Robert Christian...	John M. Jeffries...	1 Thursday
26	Dayton...	Dayton...	Marengo...	Dayton...	Foster B. Terrell...	Chas. C. Garrett...	2 Tuesday
27	Saint Johns...	Selma...	Dallas...	Selma...	James Kent...	M. H. Smith...	4 Monday
28	James Penn...	Jacksonville...	Calhoun...	Jacksonville...	John K. Nesbit...	Daniel P. Forney...	Last "
30	Fulton...	Orville...	Tallas...	Orville...	William E. Beard...	Elijah S. Coleman...	4 Saturday
32	Hermion...	Union Springs...	Bullock...	Orville...	Richard H. Powell...	Thomas Pullum...	3 Friday
33	James L. Daniel...	Glennville...	Russell...	Glennville...	Malchi W. Davis...	Sowell C. Woolfolk...	2 Saturday
35	Pickensville...	Pickensville...	Pickens...	Pickensville...	Hump. S. Shelton...	John C. Moorhead...	2 "
36	Camden...	Camden...	Wilcox...	Camden...	Lucky W. Jenkins...	Daniel W. Block...	Friday on or bf f m
40	Tuskegee...	Tuskegee...	Macon...	Tuskegee...	Sidney B. Paine...	John C. Smith...	4 Monday
43	Choctaw...	Butler...	Choctaw...	Butler...	G. Frank Smith...	John C. Chapman...	1 "
44	Uchee...	Troy...	Russell...	Uchee...	Marcellus B. Jelts...	Rbt P. Scarbrough...	1 Saturday
53	Tyrian...	Suggsville...	Pike...	Troy...	Joseph C. Avent...	Joel D. Murphree...	Tuesday bf 3 Sab
54	Suggsville...	Zerrubattel...	Chambers...	Gospport...	Thomas B. Creagh...	Samuel Forwood...	2 Saturday
55	Lebanon...	Rockford...	Coosa...	Rockford...	John W. Fleming...	David A. Patrick...	2 "
56	Rockford...	Clayton...	Barbour...	Rockford...	Wm. J. Roberts...	Joseph C. Bogle...	3 Friday
62	Central...	Montevallo...	Shelby...	Montevallo...	John A. Sears...	Matthew D. Moore...	Friday bf 4 Sab
63					Jas. S. Paulin...	Geo. C. Reynolds...	2 Monday
64					Edw. G. Walker...	William McMath...	Mon af Sat bf f m

65	Russell.....	Stevenson.....	Jackson.....	Stevenson.....	Thomas T. Cotnam	William M. Cowan	2 Friday
66	Alabama.....	Mobile.....	Mobile.....	Mobile.....	Peleg Brown.....	William H. Eakins	2 & 4 "
67	Farriville.....	Farriville.....	Bullock.....	Farriville.....	John McCreless.....	Alex. Youngblood	1 & 3 Saturday
68	Cherokee.....	Centre.....	Cherokee.....	Centre.....	S. K. McSpadden.....	James A. Reeves	2 Tuesday
69	Lo'r Peach Tree	Lower P. Tree.....	Wilcox.....	Lo'r Peach Tree	James H. Miller.....	Nan. J. McConnell	2 Saturday
70	Choctaw Corner	Choctaw Corner	Clarke.....	Choctaw Corner	John F. Pate.....	Steph. M. Gilmore	1 "
71	Landmark.....	Barnes' 1/4 Roads	Dale.....	Barnes' 1/4 Roads	James M. Bridges	James M. Williams	3 "
72	Midway.....	Midway.....	Bullock.....	Midway.....	John W. L. Daniel	William C. Smith	1 Thursday
73	Pine Level.....	Pine Level.....	Montgomery	Elyton.....	Lee W. Battle.....	Nathan D. Wright	1 Wednesday
74	Elyton.....	Elyton.....	Jefferson.....	Elyton.....	Goldth W. Hewitt	James M. Ware	1 "
75	Smalley.....	Brundidge.....	Pike.....	Brundidge.....	Zach. H. Williams	DeKalb Williams	Friday bf 2 Sab
76	Danville.....	Danville.....	Morgan.....	Danville.....	And. G. Copeland	John Y. Ferguson	2 Saturday
77	Hillabee.....	Pinckneyville.....	Tallapoosa	Pinckneyville.....	Mari. G. Slaughter	George M. Gamble	Sat bf 2 Sunday
78	Loachapoka.....	Loachapoka.....	Lee.....	Loachapoka.....	Myles J. Greene	Peyton J. Moore	1 Tuesday
79	Demopolis.....	Demopolis.....	Marengo.....	Demopolis.....	Wm. W. Harder.....	Edw. A. Taylor	4 Wednesday
80	Lineville.....	Lineville.....	Clay.....	Lineville.....	John W. Garrison	James L. Williams	3 Saturday P M
81	Bell.....	Carrollton.....	Pickens.....	Carrollton.....	Hansel Shepherd	Wm. G. Robertson	Sat bf 2 Sunday
82	Gaston.....	Gaston.....	Sumter.....	Gaston.....	G. S. White.....	M. S. Tarvin	2 Thursday
83	Coosa.....	Gadsden.....	Etowah.....	Gadsden.....	Dan. C. Turrentine	Lemuel E. Hamlin	1 Monday
84	Monkton.....	Monkton.....	Lawrence.....	Monkton.....	DeWitt C. White	Sat. W. Shackelford	2 Saturday
85	Roslin.....	Springville.....	Saint Clair	Springville.....	Littleber Clayton	A. W. Woodall	Friday bf 3 Sab
86	Somerville.....	Somerville.....	Morgan.....	Somerville.....	John M. Simpson	Ell M. Sams	3 Saturday
87	Greenville.....	Greenville.....	Butler.....	Greenville.....	Erasmus V. Culver	Andrew M. Crum	1 & 3 Tuesday
88	Geo. D. Norris	New Market.....	Madison.....	New Market.....	William B. Jones	Wm. R. Whitman	4 Friday
89	Columbus.....	Notasulga.....	Macon.....	Notasulga.....	William S. Ford	John A. Dubberly	2 Saturday
90	Newton.....	Newton.....	Dale.....	Newton.....	Benjamin Dowd	Benj. F. Cassidy	1 "
91	Spring Hill.....	Spring Hill.....	Barbour.....	Spring Hill.....	James M. Barr	J. Wallace Comer	1 Friday
92	Cowikee.....	Pratville.....	Antauga.....	Cowikee.....	James K. Hazen	Edw. H. Wingate	Monday af f moon
93	Daniel Pratt.....	Pratville.....	Antauga.....	Pratville.....			

GRAND SECRETARIES AND THEIR ADDRESS.

0	Alabama	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery.
1.	Arkansas	Luke E. Barber	Little Rock.
2.	California	Lawrence C. Owen	San Francisco.
3.	Canada	Thomas B. Harris	Hamilton, Ont.
4.	Connecticut	Joseph K. Wheeler	Hartford.
5.	District of Columbia	Noble D. Larner	Washington.
6.	Delaware	William F. Goodwin	Milford.
7.	Florida	Albert J. Russell	Jacksonville.
8.	Georgia	J. Emmett Blackshear	Macon.
9.	Illinois	James H. Miles	Chicago.
10.	Indiana	John M. Bramwell	Indianapolis.
11.	Iowa	William B. Langridge	Muscatine.
12.	Kansas	Erasmus T. Carr	Leavenworth.
13.	Kentucky	Philip Swigert	Frankfort.
14.	Louisiana	James C. Batchelor	New Orleans.
15.	Maine	Ira Berry	Portland.
16.	Maryland	William A. Wentz	Baltimore.
17.	Massachusetts	Thomas Waterman	Boston.
18.	Michigan	J. Eastman Johnson	Centreville.
19.	Minnesota	William S. Combs	Saint Paul.
20.	Mississippi	Joseph L. Power	Jackson.
21.	Missouri	George Frank Gouley	Saint Louis.
22.	Nebraska	Robert W. Furnas	Brownville.
23.	New Hampshire	Abel Hutchins	Concord.
24.	New Jersey	John Woolverton	Trenton.
25.	New York	Christopher G. Fox	Buffalo.
26.	North Carolina	Thomas B. Carr	Wilmington.
27.	Nova Scotia	James Gossip	Halifax.
28.	Ohio	James Nesbitt	Troy.
29.	Oregon	R. P. Earhart	Salem.
30.	Pennsylvania	John Thomson	Philadelphia.
31.	Rhode Island	George H. Burnham	Providence.
32.	South Carolina	Augustine T. Smythe	Charleston.
33.	Tennessee	John Frizzell	Nashville.
34.	Texas	Robert Brewster	Houston.
35.	Vermont	W. H. S. Whitcomb	Burlington.
36.	Virginia	John Dove	Richmond.
37.	Wisconsin	William T. Palmer	Milwaukee.
38.	United States	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati.

Council of High Priests.

MONTGOMERY, December 7, 1870.

The Council of High Priests for the State of Alabama met at its Hall, in the city of Montgomery, at 10 o'clock A. M.

PRESENT.

COMP. JOSEPH H. JOHNSON, V. P. as... *President.*
COMP. JAMES KENT as..... *Vice President.*
COMP. MARTIN G. SLAUGHTER..... *Chaplain.*
COMP. WILLIAM A. COCHRAN as..... *Treasurer.*
COMP. DANIEL SAYRE..... *Recorder.*
COMP. RICHARD F. KNOTT..... *Master of Ceremonies.*
COMP. H. CLAY ARMSTRONG..... *Conductor.*
COMP. JAMES B. LUCKIE..... *Herald.*
COMP. MYLES J. GREENE..... *Steward.*

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Companions James M. Bridges, Robert Christian, James M. Brundidge, William W. Harder, J. McCaleb Wiley, Henry W. Clark, William H. Sadler, G. Frank Smith, Sam Thompson, Robert D. Webb, Luckie W. Jenkins, Humphrey S. Shelton, John W. Garrison.

A council of High Priests was opened in Ample Form, with solemn and appropriate ceremonies.

Petitions for the Order of High Priesthood, accompanied by the proper and necessary vouchers of having been

elected to preside over Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, and the usual contribution, were presented by

Companion Zacheus H. Williams, Smedley Chapter No. 77.

Companion Foster B. Terrell, Dayton Chapter No. 27.

Companion Malichi Etheridge, Farriorville Chapter No. 67.

Companion Joseph C. Avent, Tyrian Chapter No. 54.

Companion Isaiah B. Smaw, Mount Moriah Chapter No. 19.

Companion Lee W. Battle, Pine Level Chapter No. 75.

Companion Daniel C. Turrentine, Coosa Chapter No. 86.

Companion William S. Ford, Notasulga Chapter No. 92.

Companion Benjamin S. Johnson, Notasulga Chapter No. 92.

Companion Eugene V. LeVert, Marion Chapter No. 12.

Companion John M. Simpson, Somerville Chapter No. 89.

Companion William C. Penick, Wetumpka Chapter No. 17.

Companion DeWitt C. White, Moulton Chapter No. 87.

Companion Richard H. Powell, Hermon Chapter No. 34.

Companion John H. Willoughby, Cherokee Chapter No. 68.

Companion Augustus F. Evans, Clinton Chapter No. 9.

Companion John M. Martin, Tuscaloosa Chapter No. 1.

And were referred to a committee of three companions, who recommended that they be admitted to the Order; and a ballot was accordingly had, and they were elected.

The applicants (except Companions Ford, Johnson, and Martin, who were not present,) were then introduced, set apart, and consecrated to the Order of High Priesthood in solemn form.

Companion James B. Luckie offered the following amendment to the Code of Rules, and it was adopted :

"SEC. 15. The President, or Vice President, shall have the power to grant a dispensation to any three companions of the Order of High Priesthood, for the purpose of allowing them to confer the Order on any companion who has been elected thereto at an annual or stated communication."

The Council was then called from labor to recess until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock ; at which time it was again assembled in Ample Form, and proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year ; and the following companions were duly elected :

JOSEPH H. JOHNSON.....	<i>President.</i>
PELEG BROWN.....	<i>Vice President.</i>
MARTIN G. SLAUGHTER.....	<i>Chaplain.</i>
LEE W. BATTLE.....	<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>

The minutes were read and approved.

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

DANIEL SAYRE,
Recorder.

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