

1878
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND
CHAPTER
of
Royal Arch Masons
of
ALABAMA



A.D. 1878 / A.I. 2408

This volume digitized by



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC
NATIONAL MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

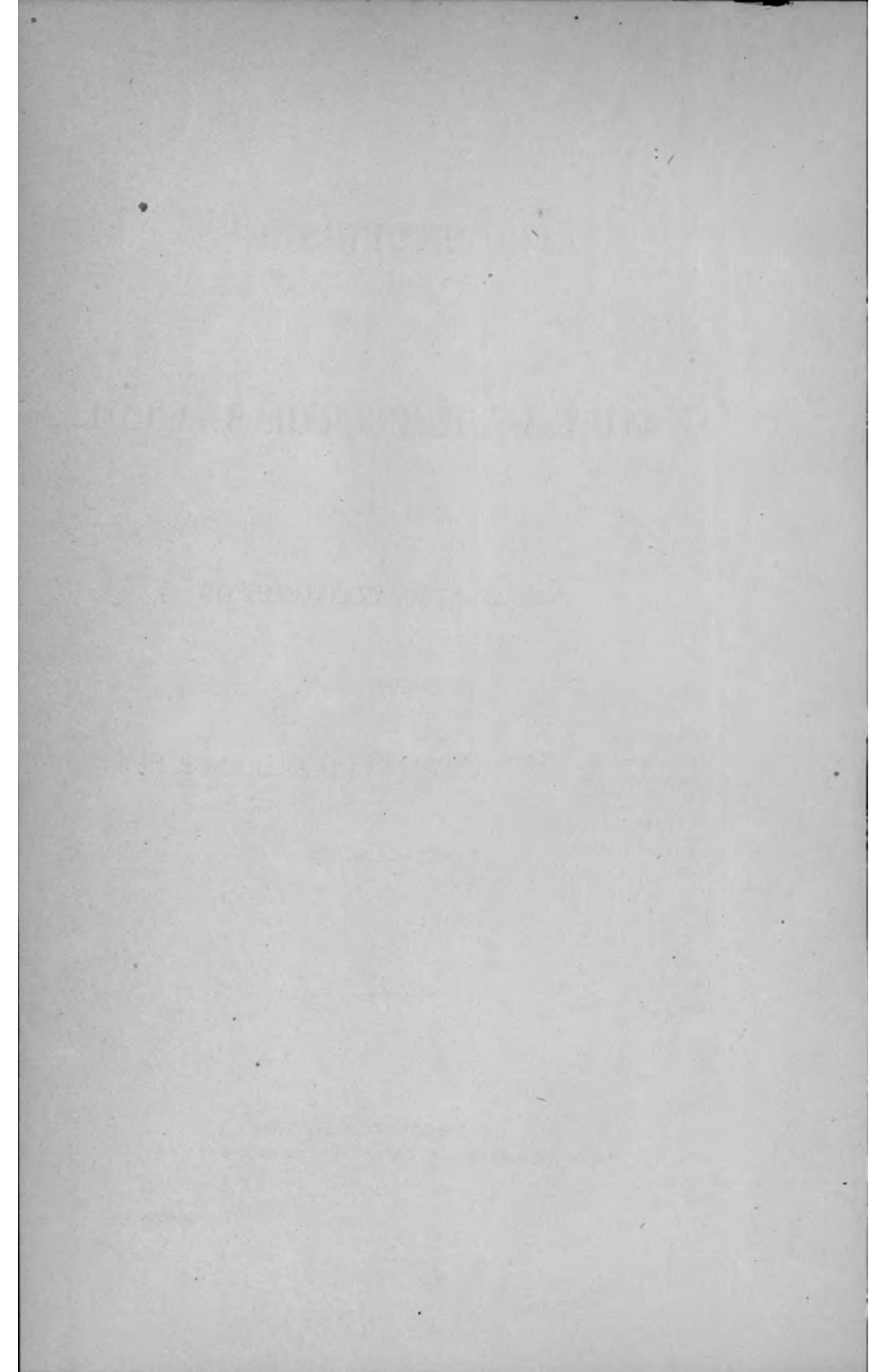
MASONIC DIGITAL ARCHIVES PROJECT

•

A.D.2017, A.L.6017

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,
AT THE
ANNUAL CONVOCATION
HELD IN THE
CITY OF MONTGOMERY.
1878.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
BARRETT & BROWN, STATE PRINTERS.
1879.



PROCEEDINGS.

The M. Ex. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama held its Fifty-second Annual Grand Convocation at the New Masonic Temple, in the City of Montgomery, on Tuesday, the 3rd day of December, A. D. 1878, A. L. 5878, Anno Inv. 2408.

PRESENT:

JAMES MILTON, D. G. H. P. <i>as</i>	Grand High Priest.
HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG, <i>as</i>	Deputy G. H. Priest.
LUCKY W. JENKINS,	Grand King.
WILLIAM S. FOSTER,	Grand Scribe.
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY,	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE,	Grand Secretary.
JAMES H. JOINER,	Grand C. of H.
WILLIAM D. WADSWORTH,	Grand P. Sojourner.
ALEXANDER MCCOLLISTER, <i>as</i>	Grand R. A. C.
PINKNEY M. BRUNER, <i>as</i>	Grand M. 3 V.
NEWELL M. THORNTON,	Grand M. 2 V.
THOMAS T. ROWLAND, <i>as</i>	Grand M. 1 V.
JAMES DAVIDSON,	Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG,	Grand High Priest.
MYLES J. GREENE	Grand High Priest.
JAMES M. BRUNDIDGE	Grand King.
JAMES H. JOINER	Grand King.
PALMER J. PILLANS,	Grand Scribe.

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GRAND CHAPTERS NEAR THE
GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA:

JOHN G. HARRIS.....	Kansas.
HENRY F. MULLEN.....	Kentucky.
PALMER J. PILLANS.....	Louisiana.
WILEY W. BLOODWORTH.....	Nebraska.
JAMES H. JOINER.....	New Jersey.
H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	Nova Scotia.
DANIEL SAYRE.....	Oregon.

And High Priests, Kings, Scribes, and Proxies from
Subordinate Chapters, as follows :

No. 5. Eunomia.....	William H. Tanere*.....	H. P.
" 10. Tusculumbia.....	Thomas T. Rowland.....	"
" 13. Gainesville.....	Edward N. Kring.....	"
" 17. Wetumpka.....	William S. Penick*.....	"
	Thomas P. Whitby.....	K.
" 20. Livingston.....	John Gideon Harris*.....	H. P.
" 21. Mobile.....	Theodore L. Eastburn*.....	"
	William Dwight Wadsworth.....	"
" 22. Montgomery.....	Edmund R. Hastings.....	K.
	Archibald L. R. Thompson.....	S.
	Myles J. Greene.....	H. P.
" 23. Talladega.....	Joseph H. Johnson*.....	K.
	James H. Joiner*.....	S.
" 24. Eufaula.....	James Milton*.....	H. P.
" 26. Union.....	John W. Bush.....	"
" 28. St. John's.....	John A. McKinnon.....	"
" 37. Concord.....	Benjamin J. Foster.....	"
" 40. Camden.....	Lucky W. Jenkins*.....	"
	Daniel W. Block.....	S.
" 44. Choctaw.....	Oliver C. Ulmer*.....	"
" 54. Tyrian.....	John R. Goldthwaite.....	H. P.
	Josiah Jernigan.....	K.
	Daniel Smith.....	H. P.
" 66. Alabama.....	Philip C. Candidus.....	K.
	Oliver S. Beers.....	S.
" 71. Landmark.....	James M. Bridges.....	H. P.
" 72. Midway.....	Haywood Pipkin.....	"
	Newell M. Thornton.....	"
" 73. Gordon.....	Alexander C. Gordon.....	K.
	Edward Blacklidge*.....	S.
" 76. Elyton.....	Sam Thompson.....	H. P.
" 80. Loachapoka.....	Lewis T. Wimberly.....	"
	Wiley W. Bloodworth*.....	K.
" 83. Bell.....	Edmund B. Stephens.....	"

No.	85. Gaston	William R. Horn.....	H. P.
"	87. Moulton.....	DeWitt Clinton White.....	H. P.
"	90. Greenville.....	Pinkney M. Bruner.....	K.
"	93. Columbus	{ Richard A. Ramsey.....	H. P.
		{ William D. Vaughn*.....	K.
		{ Peyton W. Bailey*.....	S.
"	96. Daniel Pratt.....	{ James H. Booth.....	H. P.
		{ Llewelyn Spigener.....	K.
		{ Samuel P. Smith*.....	S.
"	98. Oxford.....	Thaddeus L. Robertson*.....	H. P.
"	101. Mineral City.....	Peter Holzechuher*.....	"
"	102. Cross Plains.....	Alexander McCollister.....	"

*Proxies.

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

Prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The M. Ex. Grand High Priest being absent, his address was read by the Grand Secretary, and, on motion of Companion James H. Joiner, it was referred to a special

COMMITTEE ON GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

James H. Joiner, of Talladega No. 23.

Palmer J. Pillans, Past Grand Scribe.

Newell M. Thornton, of Gordon No. 73.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Companions of the Grand Chapter:

For the first time in several years, I am denied the privilege of meeting with you in Grand Convocation. I need scarcely say that this enforced absence is a matter of sincere regret to me, and that I will esteem the failure to exchange with you brotherly greetings, and to receive wonted benefits from your intercourse and counsel, a loss not easily repaired. But I must, perforce, yield to imperative necessity. A severe wound in the foot, received several weeks ago, confines me to my room, nor is my strength sufficiently restored to enable me to do more than briefly report my official action during the past Masonic year. It is gratifying, however, to believe that an extended address at this time is not demanded by the circumstances surrounding us. It is known to you that the past year whilst offering in many respects a more favorable outlook than the years preceeding, has not been such as to encourage hopes of rapid improvement in the condition of our Order. Difficulties, to which we have had occasion to refer heretofore, have been only partially removed, and the prudent Craftsman looks for the restoration of Chapters to the full strength and efficiency of former and better times, through the process of slow and gradual development. The omens are not unpropitious. In the improvement observable in the country generally, and still more in the firm faith and steady devotion of many faithful ones, we have the earnest of this development, and of assured prosperity in the not distant future.

“They also serve who only stand and wait.”

The exigencies of the times have demanded, and still demand of us, this service of vigilant patience, and readiness to utilize opportunities which a gradually improving condition of things may offer. But whilst

we have cause for hopefulness rather than discouragement, there is much to be done, through the personal exertions of vigilant Craftsmen, in reviving zeal and stimulating activity in subordinate Chapters. "There is work for every man to do," and I would most fraternally urge you, Companions, to a full realization of personal responsibility.

I have had little call, during the past Masonic year, for official action.

Applications for Dispensations were granted as follows:

To Talladega, Eunomia, and Columbus Chapters to elect officers; and to Rock Mills Chapter to use substitutes in exalting a candidate.

I made the following appointments of representatives of this Grand Chapter:

Companion Justus W. Washburn, near the Grand Chapter of Vermont; Companion William Ryan near the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, and Companion James Todd near the Grand Chapter of Louisiana.

Companion Henry F. Mullen has been commissioned as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky near this Grand Chapter, and it will be your pleasure to receive and recognize him as such. I have also received commission as representative of the Grand Chapter of Vermont.

I received official notice of the death of M. Ex. Jonathan W. Jordan, Grand High Priest of Arkansas. To the Companions of that jurisdiction we tender sympathy for the loss they sustain in the decease of their chosen chief.

While, under the blessings of an overruling Providence, we have escaped general disaster from disease, the death-rolls in sister jurisdictions have been lengthened by the "pestilence that walketh in darkness, and the destruction that wasteth at noonday." In portions of our Southern land the pestilence *has*, indeed, walked in darkness, and the destruction *has* wasted at noonday. Numbers have fallen victims to the scourge, and the dark shadow of distress and orphanage envelopes many homes that were erewhile bright and happy. Our sympathies go out to these distressed ones, but let us also remember that the obligation is upon us to continue to respond, to the extent of our ability, to the demands for material aid, until the cry of want, which follows in the wake of the pestilence, shall be hushed, and the sunshine of renewed hope let in upon

those who now sit in the gloom of an affliction, rendered deeper and more oppressive by the helplessness of poverty.

And in this connection, I trust I may be indulged the privilege, without being considered as departing from the demands of this occasion, to recognize, and as your representative, gratefully, the active benevolence of friends and brethren beyond our Southern borders, whose timely and efficient aid brought cheer, and encouragement, and strength to those of the stricken districts. The wail of distress had scarcely arisen ere it touched responsive chords in sympathizing hearts everywhere, and there was an outpouring of sympathy and aid such as the world has scarcely seen before. The rich and the poor alike gave of their substance, while brave men and women, prompted by a noble generosity, hastened into the very midst of pestilence and death, giving their lives as free-will offerings to the cause of humanity. All honor and gratitude to the survivors of this heroic band. And the fallen! let us approach their graves with bared brows and unsandalled feet, to deposit our tribute to their memory! This is becoming to members of a fraternity who are taught to give prompt and honored recognition to generous sentiment and action and to devotion to duty, wherever displayed. I would that strength and ability were mine to offer more extended and worthy recognition of the services of those to whom our gratitude as Masons and Southerners is eminently due. But I must forbear, having written more than I had hoped to do.

My term of office expired, I retire from official station remembering and acknowledging gratefully your kind partiality and indulgence. I would that I had been able to do more to justify your confidence. But we will look not into the past regretfully, but rather that we may learn wisdom from its lessons, and gather strength from its experiences. Its record is made up, whether of opportunities neglected or improved. Around us, in the living present, fields of usefulness lie open, inviting to the diligent craftsman, and into which he may enter assured that his efforts, if properly directed, shall not go unrewarded.

I invoke the blessings of our Heavenly Father upon you and your labors. May these be fruitful of good results; and may the light that

seems to be breaking upon us be no illusion, but may it be the beams of a sun which, ascending to meridian heights, shall soon spread a steady radiance over all parts of the jurisdiction.

JAMES E. COBB,

Grand High Priest.

The Grand Secretary made his Annual Report, and it was received and referred to the Committee on Finance. (*See Appendix.*)

The Grand Treasurer made his Annual Report, and it was received and referred to the Committee on Finance. (*See Appendix.*)

Companion William Dwight Wadsworth offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

TUSCALOOSA CHAPTER NO. 1.

Resolved, That the dues of Tuscaloosa Chapter No. 1 for the year 1877 be remitted, and that said Chapter be allowed sixty days within which to pay its dues for 1878; and that the charter of said Chapter be not forfeited on account of its inability to be represented at the present Grand Convocation.

(Accompanying this resolution was a memorial from Tuscaloosa Chapter giving good and satisfactory reasons why this clemency should be extended to it.)

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Companion Palmer J. Pillans, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, presented his report, and the report was received and ordered to be printed with the proceedings; and the resolutions accompanying the same in regard to the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and also in regard to the GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE, were unanimously adopted.

Companion Thomas T. Rowland offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

AS TO ENDOWMENT.

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to investigate and report upon a plan of Endowment, or Beneficiary Scheme, amounting to \$1000, to be paid to the heirs of all deceased Royal Arch Masons who participate therein.

And the committee was appointed as follows :

COMMITTEE ON BENEFICIARY RESOLUTION :

Palmer J. Pillans,
David Clopton,
Joseph H. Johnson,
Myles J. Greene,
Daniel Sayre,
William S. Foster,
Henry Clay Armstrong.

The Grand High Priest announced the following

STANDING COMMITTEES :

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS No. 1.—Alexander McCollister, Thaddens L. Robertson, Llewelyn Spigener.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS No. 2.—Newell M. Thornton, Haywood Pipkin, John W. Bush.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS No. 3.—John A. McKinnon, Thomas T. Rowland, Thomas P. Whitby.

ON DISPENSATIONS.—Edward N. Kring, Benjamin J. Foster, Daniel W. Block.

ON FINANCE.—Wiley W. Bloodworth, Pinkney M. Bruner, James M. Bridges.

ON BY-LAWS, SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND APPEALS.—DeWitt Clinton White, Edmund B. Stephens, William D. Vaughn.

ON JURISPRUDENCE.—Peleg Brown, Myles J. Greene, Palmer J. Pillans.

REPORT ON M. M. DEGREE.

The Committee on Work, by Companion Henry Clay Armstrong, made report on the M. M. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

And then, after prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock.

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, December 4, 1878.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 8½ o'clock, the R. Ex. Deputy Grand High Priest, James Milton, presiding; the other Grand officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

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

GASTON CHAPTER NO. 85.

Resolved, That Gaston Chapter No. 85 have sixty days in which to pay its dues, and that Companion William R. Horn be allowed to represent said Chapter at this Grand Convocation.

Companion Palmer J. Pillans, from the Committee on the Grand High Priest's Address, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

To the M. Ex. G. H. Priest, Officers, and Members of the M. Ex. G. Chapter of the State of Alabama:

The special committee to whom was submitted the M. Ex. Grand High Priest's address, having duly and carefully considered the same, beg leave to report:

That they but express the unanimous sentiment of this Grand Chapter

when they say, that they deeply sympathize with our respected and esteemed Grand High Priest, in the accident which has befallen him, and by which we have been deprived of his presence and wise counsels at this convocation, and that we sincerely hope that ere long he may be restored to health and usefulness.

The committee recommend the approval by this Grand Chapter of the official acts reported by the G. H. Priest.

The committee would not let this occasion pass without expressing the complete and entire approval of this Grand Chapter, and its indorsement of the truly Masonic sentiments expressed by the Grand High Priest in his declaration of sympathy with those who have been so sorely stricken throughout the plague region, and their prayer that "God, who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb," may so display his mercies to those Companions, and their neighbors and friends, as soon to heal their wounds and give them blessings abundant.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES H. JOINER,
PALMER J. PILLANS,
NEWELL M. THORNTON,
Committee.

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

REPORT ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS NO. 1.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 1 beg leave to report that they have carefully examined all the returns submitted to them, and they find the following

CORRECT :

Gainesville	No. 13	Montgomery	No. 22
Wetumpka	" 17	Talladega	" 23
Livingston	" 20	Eufaula	" 24
Mobile	" 21	Saint Johns	" 28

INCORRECT :

TUSCALOOSA No. 1—Back dues for 1877 reported as \$23 50. Commit-

tee have no Returns for that year, but from remarks on Returns for 1878, it appears that the amount is incorrect—it should be \$28 50.

EUNOMIA No. 5—Returns for 2 years. Initials and abbreviations used in both Returns; no date of attestation in those for 1877; no Postoffice set down, fee for degrees, affiliation, and annual dues not filled up.

CYRUS No. 6—Returns generally unfinished.

TUSCUMBIA No. 10—No Postoffice reported.

UNION No. 26—No seal.

Fraternally submitted.

ALEXANDER MCCOLLISTER,

Chairman.

Companion Newell M. Thornton, from the Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 2, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS NO. 2.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 2 respectfully beg leave to report that they have examined the returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Concord.....	No. 37	Alabama.....	No. 66
Choctaw.....	" 44	Landmark.....	" 71
Tyrian.....	" 54	Elyton.....	" 76
Clayton.....	" 63	Loachapoka.....	" 80

INCORRECT.

CAMDEN No. 40—No date to suspensions for non-payment of dues.

CENTRAL No. 64—Initials and abbreviations used, names under the head of *Degrees Conferred* repeated under all the sub-heads contrary to directions, time of holding convocations not given, year A. L. not set down, no seal.

MIDWAY No. 72—Names not opposite numbers, year A. L. not filled out, seal not plumb.

GORDON No. 73—No Postoffice reported.

Fraternally submitted,

N. M. THORNTON,

Chairman.

Companion John A. McKinnon, from the Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 3, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS NO. 3.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 3 beg leave to report, that having carefully examined the returns submitted to them they find the following

CORRECT:

Gaston.....	No. 85	Oxford.....	No. 98
Greenville.....	" 90	Rock Mills.....	" 100
Daniel Pratt.....	" 93	Cross Plains.....	" 102

INCORRECT:

BELL No. 83—No date to Dimissions, Reinstatements, or Suspensions for non-payment of dues; A. Inv. not filled out.

MOULTON No. 87—Year of commencing the report given as being November 1878, when it should be 1877; seal not plumb.

COLUMBUS No. 93—No date to Suspensions for non-payment of dues, seal not plumb.

MINERAL CITY No. 101—Incorrectly numbered, A. Inv. not filled out, no seal.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

JNO. A. MCKINNON,
Chairman.

Companion Edward N. Kring, from the Committee on Dispensations, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON DISPENSATIONS.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

Your Committee on Dispensations beg leave to report, that no business

having been presented to them for consideration they have nothing to report, and therefore respectfully ask to be discharged.

Faternally,

E. N. KRING,
Chairman.

REPORT ON R. A. DEGREE.

Companion Henry Clay Armstrong, for the Committee on Work, made report on the Royal Arch Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

Companion Wiley W. Bloodworth, from the Committee on Finance, made report, and the report was received and concurred in. (*See Appendix.*)

Companion Joseph H. Johnson, from the select Committee to which was referred the resolution of Companion Thomas T. Rowland, proposing an inquiry into the propriety of an endowment, or beneficiary scheme, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON BENEFICIARY SCHEME.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your Committee, to which was referred the resolution of Companion Thomas T. Rowland—which resolution is as follows, *to wit*: “that a committee of seven be appointed to investigate and report on a plan of endowment, or beneficiary scheme, amounting to \$1000, to be paid to the heirs of all deceased Royal Arch Masons who participate therein”—beg leave to report as follows:

In the short time allowed us after discharging the other duties devolving upon us as members of the Grand Chapter, and other Grand Bodies now in session, we are unable to investigate a subject of so much seeming importance; we would therefore respectfully ask that the Committee, or a committee composed of a like number of Companions, be directed to

take the matter into consideration, and report to the next Convocation of this Grand Chapter.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. JOHNSON,
For the Committee.

The Grand Chapter proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing Masonic year, Companions Newell H. Thornton and William R. Horn acting as tellers; and the election resulted as follows, after the election of Companion James Milton to the office of Grand High Priest, but who declined on account of the uncertainty of his being present at the next Annual Convocation.

ELECTED GRAND OFFICERS.

JAMES HARVEY JOINER.....	Talladega.....	Grand High Priest.
LUCKY W. JENKINS.....	Camden.....	Deputy G. H. Priest.
WILLIAM S. FOSTER.....	Mobile.....	Grand King.
WILLIAM DWIGHT WADSWORTH.....	Montgomery.....	Grand Scribe.
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY.....	Montgomery.....	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE.....	Montgomery.....	Grand Secretary.
WILLIAM B. WOOD.....	Florence.....	Grand Chaplain.
ALEXANDER MCCOLLISTER.....	Cross Plains.....	Grand C. of H.

The Grand High Priest *elect* announced the following

APPOINTED GRAND OFFICERS :

OLIVER C. ULMER	Butler	Grand P. Sojourner.
JOHN W. BUSH.....	Uniontown.....	Grand R. A. C.
BENJAMIN J. FOSTER.....	LaFayette	Grand M. 3 V.
WILEY W. BLOODWORTH.....	Loachapoka.....	Grand M. 2 V.
DEWITT CLINTON WHITE.....	Moulton.....	Grand M. 1 V.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....	Montgomery.....	Grand Sentinel.

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

TRIBUTE TO P. G. H. P. JAMES E. COBB.

Resolved, 1st.—That the thanks of this Grand Chapter are hereby tendered to our retiring Grand High Priest, James E. Cobb, for the able, dignified and courteous manner in which he has, for three successive years, presided over its deliberations.

2nd.—That a committee of three be appointed to procure a suitable testimonial to be presented to him at the next Grand Annual Convocation.

REPRESENTATIVE OF KENTUCKY.

Companion Henry F. Mullen, of Saint John's Chapter No. 28, at Selma, was presented, and cordially welcomed as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky.

And then, after prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, December 4, 1878.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 4 o'clock, the P. M. Ex. Grand High Priest, Henry Clay Armstrong, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

INSTALLATION.

The presiding officer then proceeded to install the Grand officers, elect and appointed, P. G. H. P. Myles J. Greene acting as Grand Marshal.

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

AS TO SUBSTITUTION.

Resolved, That hereafter any Royal Arch Chapter within this Grand Jurisdiction, having a less number of candidates for Exaltation than is required by the Ritual, may substitute from its membership a sufficiency to make up the number.

The M. Ex. Grand High Priest announced the following Standing Committees of the Grand Chapter:

ON WORK.

Henry Clay Armstrong.....	Notasulga.
Joseph H. Johnson.....	Talladega.
Lucky W. Jenkins.....	Camden.

CUSTODIAN OF THE WORK.

James Harvey Joiner, G. H. P., *virtute officii* Talladega.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Peleg Brown Mobile.
 Myles J. Greene Talladega.
 Palmer J. Pillans Mobile.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Palmer J. Pillans Mobile.

COMMITTEE FOR TESTIMONIAL.

Myles J. Greene Talladega.
 Daniel Sayre Montgomery.
 William H. Dingley Montgomery.

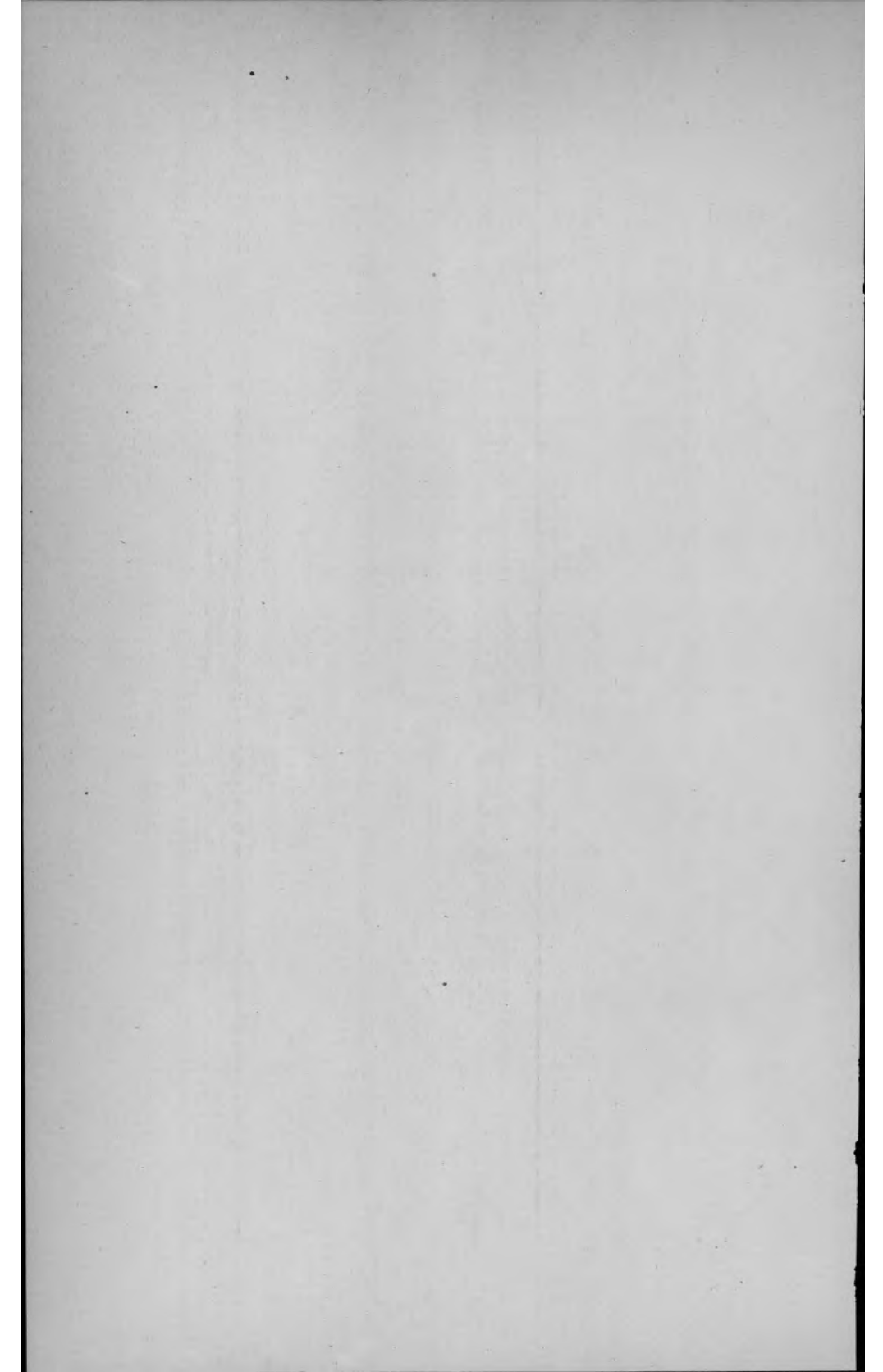
MINUTES READ.

And there being no further business to be brought before the Grand Chapter at this Grand Annual Convocation, the minutes were read and approved.

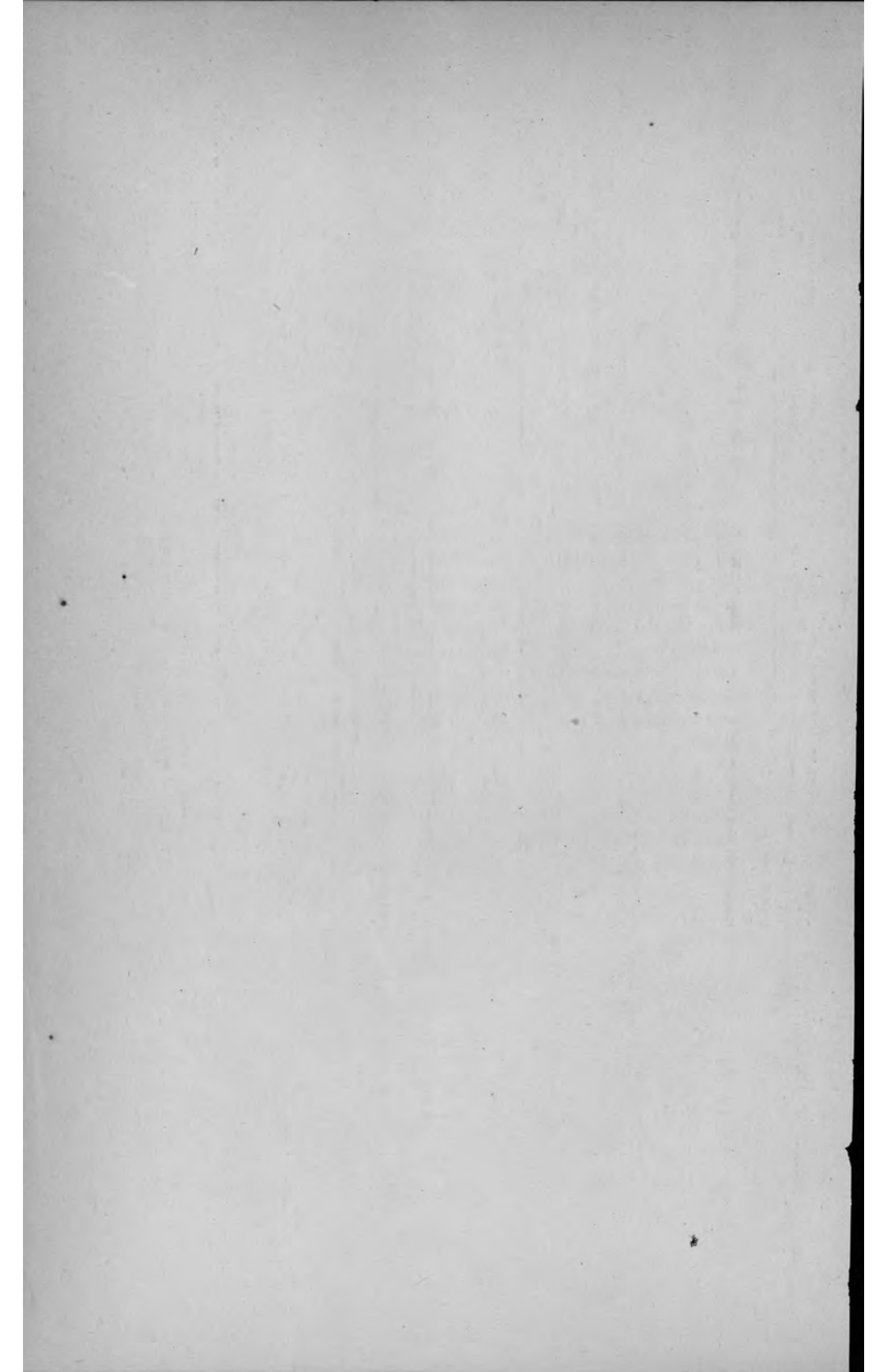
CLOSED.

And then, after solemn prayer to the throne of Grace by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama was closed in AMPLE FORM at 6 o'clock P. M.

DANIEL SAYRE,
 Grand Secretary.



APPENDIX.



REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Officers and Members of the

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama:

We are again permitted to provide refreshments for you, and prepare the feast which annually is offered to you. We know not if you partake of it, or whether you feel strengthened in good purposes thereby; but we do know that the provision is abundant and varied, and calculated to suit the most fastidious taste. If we fail in furnishing pabulum, either of sufficient strength or variety, then the fault is ours, and on us rests the blame. We have received from the Grand Secretary proceedings from the several Grand Chapters which you will find in the following review, and have noted such things as we thought might either interest or instruct.

ARKANSAS FOR 1877

Conveys to us the mournful intelligence that of 64 Chapters only 19 were represented, and only 37 made returns.

Exalted, admitted and reinstated.....83

Died, dimitted, suspended and expelled.....89

Yet the Grand High Priest in his address, read by the D. G. H. P. in consequence of the absence of the G. H. P., says: "The night has passed away, the sun has risen, and the clouds have drifted afar: gloom has ended in sunlight."

Truly, he says—

"To insure continued prosperity, we must not allow ourselves, and those committed to our charge, to dreamily float down the stream of time, unmindful alike of the Order's past glories, its present triumphs, and its future greatness and grandeur. The labors of the faithful and zealous craftsmen, who have wrought so long amid trials and tribulations, will be for naught, if now, instead of continued work, inaction and inattention are to be substituted for it."

The entire contents of the Grand Secretary's office were consumed by

fire, destroying all the records and accumulated library. Sincerely do we sympathise with our companions.

The proceedings were of local interest only, save the action in relation to St. John's College—we mean the appropriation. For, notwithstanding the depression in Masonry in Arkansas; notwithstanding their losses by fire; notwithstanding but little more than half of their chapters made returns, yet we find that our companions there never falter in their determination to build up this college into a lasting monument to their untiring zeal. Press on, companions, and your efforts *will* be crowned with success.

Companion John R. Erskine made the report on correspondence, and a most excellent one it is, too. He need not fear that his Grand Chapter will lose any of its reputation, so well earned by her correspondents heretofore, while he has the report to make. We thought of extracting his thoughts on these reports, but must forego it.

Comp. J. W. Jordan was made Grand High Priest.

Comp. Luke E. Barber remains Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA FOR 1878.

The Grand Chapter of this State held its twenty-fourth annual convocation on the 9th April, 1878, with M. E. Henry Hay Knapp, Grand High Priest, and representatives from 43 Chapters.

The G. H. P. states that a general drought had sorely depressed the people of the State, and calls on R. A. Masons "to look well to the duty we owe to our fellow men." He well says, that it is in times of adversity that the principles of Masonry may be best illustrated, and the institution be made to "command the respect and admiration of the community."

We think he enunciates the true doctrine when he says—

"An objection before the applicant has received the first, or Mark degree, has the effect of a black ball, and cannot be questioned; but if one or more degrees have been conferred before the objection is interposed, it then becomes the subject of investigation."

No. of Chapters.....	48
Number exalted and affiliated.....	283
Dimitted, died, and suspended....	190
Number of members.....	2990

Companion John Mills Brown was elected M. E. G. H. Priest, and Companion Thomas Hubbard Caswell, Grand Secretary.

The committee appointed at the last annual convocation to consider and report upon the propriety of the Grand Chapter exercising a preserv-

ing care over the Cryptic degrees, and having them conferred in a council under the control of the Chapter, made a lengthy report, recommending delay, and that the whole matter be laid before the General Grand Chapter at its next convocation and urged upon it.

Companion Charles Louis Wiggin made the report on correspondence, in his usual vigorous style. We find, however, that it was written when "pain and sickness wrung the brow." In his afflictions we sympathise. We have received the proceedings too late to give more than this notice of the report.

We find him usually sound on most questions of Masonic law, and eminently correct in relation to negro masonry, which has been so disquieting to our companions in Iowa, Indiana, and Ohio.

CONNECTICUT FOR 1878

Brings us the proceedings of her eightieth grand convocation, having representatives from 33 out of 40 Chapters. The exaltations, admissions and reinstatements amount to 140; while deaths, suspensions, etc., are only 94.

M. Ex. G. H. P. Henry W. Coye delivered an excellent address, and from it we extract what we think the true doctrine in relation to dispensations for the exercise of powers not contemplated in the constitution:

"No question requiring a decision from me has been asked during the year; but, contrary to my hopes and expectations, from the repeated expressions of disapproval of such a course, made by this Grand Chapter, and by my predecessors in office, I have, in two or three instances, been asked for a dispensation to shorten the time specified by the by-laws in which a ballot might be taken, which requests, of course, I refused. It is devoutly hoped that the time will quickly come when the officers and members of *all* our subordinate Chapters will realize the fact that the Grand High Priest should *support and maintain* the laws, rules, and regulations of our Institution, and not break them, or set them aside at will, to accommodate any and every so-called case of emergency."

We cannot see why a Chapter, if it may donate any sum of money to effect a charitable object, may not, if it deems a member who has with difficulty paid his dues deserves such action, refund these dues, or any part of them, to this companion. We do not know what the "Regulations" of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, on this subject, may be, yet we are a little puzzled, we confess, at the action of the Grand Chapter when it—

Resolved, That the return by any Chapter to its members of dues paid is a violation of the regulations of this Grand Chapter.

Comp. Dwight Waugh elected G. H. P., and Comp. J. K. Wheeler, Grand Secretary.

In the correspondence report, from Companion John H. Barlow, we do not find Alabama. Why is this Companion Sayre? * Postal arrangements are now almost perfect, and there should be no absentees.

As the question as to what ought to be the effect of suspension N. P. D. is still an open one, we extract as follows from his notes on California:

"Companion Wiggin earnestly defends the practice of his Grand Chapter in enforcing the penalty of suspension. While we have no apology to make or sympathy to offer for the companion who is able and yet refuses to bear his portion of the burden of carrying on the Masonic work in sustaining his Lodge or Chapter, yet we think the same penalty should not be inflicted as in case of violation of the moral law. We believe, with Companion McGrotty, of the District of Columbia, that when a companion is deprived of membership in a Lodge or Chapter, and all the rights and incidents thereto (including, of course, Masonic burial), he has not much left to boast of. The penalty of dropping from the roll, we deem ample punishment."

He thinks the race question must first be settled by Grand Lodges, and that Grand Chapters should leave it there.

COLORADO FOR 1877.

The third Annual Grand Convocation of this Grand Chapter was opened with representatives from all the subordinates present.

The M. E. G. H. Priest, Companion Stanton, in his address, says:

"A condition of affairs consequent upon continued business depression and general financial embarrassment could not exist without affecting to some extent the prosperity of our Order: but, while accessions to our number have not been so great as in previous years, the character of the material received has been fully up to the standard. The strength of our Order depends not so much in numbers as in the high character, intelligence and moral worth of its membership. Then let us guard well the outer courts, requiring from all who would pass that they clearly establish their claims to the necessary qualifications, and trace with particular care their genealogy. Then shall we preserve in strength and purity our loved and honored institution."

We also extract the reasons assigned by him for changing his opinion as to the utility of the G. G. Chapter, and in comment only say, that if this be all, then we pay too dearly for it. It is indeed astonishing how

NOTE.—Companion Sayre sent the Proceedings, and if they were not at hand when wanted, the Companion should have sent us a P. O. C. for another copy.

SAYRE.

the nerves of the stomach affect the brain, but we know it is so with whisky or wine.

"I am compelled to reverse my opinion of the usefulness of the General Grand Chapter. Heretofore, I have considered it a somewhat useless appendage, and of but little practical benefit. Hereafter, I shall not so regard it. From henceforth I am an advocate of the General Grand Chapter, and for several reasons, but one in particular, which would suffice if there were no other: that is, the opportunity afforded once in three years for the representatives of the State Grand Chapters to meet each other in friendly intercourse, and, as companions and brothers in the true sense of the words, interchange friendly greetings and opinions. Coming from all portions of our common country, learning to know and appreciate each other, recognizing true merit, from whatever point of the compass it may come, the influence exerted by the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America for 'peace and harmony,' and 'good will toward men,' cannot, in my opinion, be overestimated."

The expenses being greater than the income, the *per capita* tax was raised from fifty cents to one dollar.

The Committee was instructed to report at the next Annual Convocation on "the subject of non-affiliates, and members stricken from the rolls for non-payment of dues in Blue Lodges," and we shall be glad to see their report. Every Grand Chapter is troubled with this same "subject;" but so long as the Grand Lodge shall declare that the non-payment of dues cuts the brother off from Masonic intercourse in the Lodge, the Chapter will find it impossible to hold intercourse with them.

Companion Byers verbally apologized for not making the report on correspondence, and the apology was accepted.

Companion Oren H. Henry was elected G. H. P.

Companion Edward C. Parmelee was re-elected Grand Secretary.

The number of Chapters.....	7
Exalted and Affiliated.....	40
Dimitted, died, &c.....	31
Total membership.....	359

DELAWARE FOR 1878.

Paynter Frame, R. E. D. G. H. P as H. P., opened the tenth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter on the 16th of January, 1878.

Besides the officers, were the representatives of five subordinates.

From the address we quote :

"Companions, on this the Tenth Annual Convocation of our Grand Chapter, we meet under auspices of peculiar satisfaction. Harmony pre-

vails, and the *working* Chapters of this jurisdiction are advancing in everything that goes to make up genuine Masonic prosperity; and as the year draws to a close, and I render an account of my stewardship, I know of no cause of dissension. but, on the other hand, the working, living Chapters of this jurisdiction are in the most harmonious relations with each other. Of the non-working, dead Chapters, I shall have something to say further on."

The Grand High Priest made but one decision, as follows: "That the only way that a summons could be answered was by actual attendance on the convocation to which the companion had been summoned; that while the companion might ask the High Priest or the Chapter to excuse him, actual presence in the body of the Chapter is the only way whereby a summons can be answered and obeyed." All of which is right, perhaps, if it be within the length of the companion's cable tow. But suppose a member of his family be very sick—in *extremis*—how then? Would the Grand High Priest require his actual bodily presence while his child or wife was dying, or declare him guilty of the highest Masonic offense, even though he had either seen the High Priest or had written to his Chapter stating these facts?

We understand the Grand High Priest as holding that a companion made in Delaware, by a Chapter working under the Grand Chapter of 1817, cannot be recognized by those which are now working under the present Grand Chapter of 1869. We do not doubt his position that the mere record of his name cannot give him currency; he must prove himself.

With one extract more from this address, we must pass to the rest of the proceedings. But allow us to say that Companion Mynich is one we like; he is candid and fearless, not seeking popularity by tergiversation, but giving blows where he thinks they are deserved, and "speaking right out in meeting." The following extract in reference to the General Grand Chapter is a fair specimen of his style:

"On the 21st of August, 1877, I visited Buffalo, N. Y., for the purpose of attending the twenty-third triennial convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. Too much praise cannot be awarded to the Royal Arch Masons of Buffalo, for the princely manner in which they entertained the General Grand Chapter; the city officials and the citizens generally joining with the craft to do honor to our time-honored institution. From the opening of the General Grand Chapter until its close, there was a constant flow of invitations to banquets, excursions, suppers, drives, reviews, &c., all of which were accepted by the General Grand Chapter as far as it was possible to do so. There were assembled the representative Masons from all parts of our country; the wisdom, the talent, the erudition of Royal Arch Masonry had assembled to *have a good time*; and if you will notice the legislation of that Grand Body, you will

be thankful that so much of their time was taken up in feasting, excursions, and such like. The major part of the legislation enacted was not to elevate Royal Arch Masonry, but to the detriment of the craft, and for the glorification of the General Grand Chapter. Companions, there is a new constitution that will be acted upon at the next convocation of the General Grand Chapter, provided they have time between banquets, excursions, &c., which, if passed, will be but a stepping-stone to the absolute power now desired by the General Grand Chapter. In view of this fact, and that Grand Chapters subordinate to the General Grand Chapter are Grand Chapters now only in name, I charge you to exercise the utmost vigilance. There is but one possible good that can come out of this General Grand Chapter, and that is, so long as it exists there is not the remotest possibility of the Masons of the country being cursed with a General Grand Lodge."

And the Grand Chapter had too high a respect for its aged mother to allow Companion Mynich \$44 for his expenses in attending the General Grand Chapter, though they allowed the payment of \$30 for refreshments. The fact is, that he must have given some terrible blows, for we find the Grand Chapter resolving "That so much of the Grand High Priest's address as refers to his visit to Temple Chapter No. 2 and Hope Chapter No. 3, be omitted from the printed proceedings of this Grand Convocation."

The committee on the address recommended the following, which was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Grand Chapter that a member suspended may be restored to membership at any regular convocation of the Chapter which suspended him, by a motion which may be adopted by a concurring vote, by a ballot of two-thirds of the members present."

Companion A. G. Cox made Grand High Priest.

Companion S. P. Allmond continued Grand Secretary.

Number Chapters.....	6
Exaltations, reinstatements, &c.....	27
Dimissions, deaths, &c.....	15
Total membership.....	320

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR 1877.

We have next the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, with its 8 chapters, 1091 members, 93 exalted, affiliated, &c., and 84 dimitted, died, &c.

At the semi-annual convocation in June the Grand Chapter of Quebec was welcomed. Subsequently, in June, there was convened a Chapter of Sorrow, and afterwards, in September, another special convocation for exemplification of work. And the annual convocation on the 12th December, 1877. There appears of record nothing to interest the companions of this jurisdiction.

Companion N. D. Larner, General Grand Scribe of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, made report on correspondence. Alabama receives abundant notice, quoting liberally, sympathetically and approvingly from Grand High Priest Cobb's address. He, however, thinks that the Grand Chapter of Alabama erred in giving any instructions to her representative to the General Grand Chapter, and that "representatives should be left free to do what may seem to them best for all, after proper discussion, in the General Grand Chapter."

He thinks that no one should be made an High Priest until he has filled one of the subordinate stations, and says such is the rule in the Blue Lodge; then why not adopt it in the Chapter? Now, we don't see the analogy, and would very much like Companion Larner to specify which of the subordinate positions are requisite to have been occupied first. We agree with the companions of Arkansas, where the question arose.

When on New Jersey, in reply to Companion Corson's assertion that the "right of objection" was a very recent innovation by a few Masonic Grand Bodies, he says:

"It is easy enough to say that the right of objection is of recent invention, but prove it. We had occasion, several years since, when this question was under discussion in our Grand Lodge, to investigate it, and by that investigation we were convinced that just the reverse of what Companion Corson claims is the fact. We are convinced that this right has existed for many years back, and is among the oldest rights possessed by an individual member of the fraternity; and judging from the very few followers Companion Corson has in his opinion on this question, a very large majority of the companions of the country agree with us that there exists no right to compel a companion to reveal the reasons he may have for entering an objection. The right is a sacred one, and must be respected."

With *all* of which we fully agree.

We have spent much time pleasantly and profitably over this report, and will give but one extract more, which reiterates our frequently expressed views:

"We are free to admit that the resolution referred to by Companion Elgin is not one that we approve, and that in our opinion no satisfactory reason has been given for its adoption. Neither can we agree with Companion Elgin in the view of the matter he presents. We hold to the doctrine that the act of a Lodge restoring an expelled member to his rights in Masonry should not restore him to his rights in the Chapter, except by the unanimous action of the Chapter. What would be the result of any other course? Why, the destruction of the greatest adhesive principle which underlies the foundation upon which our institution is erected. Destroy the rule requiring unanimous action, and you are at sea at once. The constitution of our Grand Chapter, adopted since the adoption of the

resolution referred to above, provides: 'That the unanimous consent of the members present shall be necessary for the reinstatement of an expelled Royal Arch Mason.' This clause of our constitution necessarily repeals the resolution objected to."

Companion Joseph S. McCoy was made Grand High Priest.

Companion C. W. Hancock was retained Grand Secretary.

FLORIDA FOR 1877 AND 1878.

We have the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for the years 1877 and 1878, not having received them last year. From these we learn that in 1877 the Grand Chapter was attended by representatives from only three subordinates, though seven Chapters made returns; while in 1878 there were representatives from six Chapters—all that made returns.

The addresses of Companion Driggs, Grand High Priest, give but little promise of much awakening among the companions there; but still some altar fires were being rekindled, and hopes were brightening.

We find that every effort is being made to revive the dormant Chapters, and the Grand Secretary, in his report, shows that this will probably produce good fruit. Every Companion R. A. Mason everywhere wishes and prays that this may be so.

Companion Enos Wasgate was elected Grand High Priest.

Companion DeWitt C. Hawkins continued Grand Secretary.

No report on correspondence.

GEORGIA FOR 1878.

Companion Glenn again presided at the opening of this Grand Chapter, at which were the representatives of 35 Chapters.

From the address of the Grand High Priest we take the following:

"Better, far better, that ten craftsmen only, be they good and true, should be engaged in and about the temple, than that it should be filled to overflowing with the idle and unfaithful; as was the Ancient City of the Plains, from which Lot and his wife made their escape, in obedience to the Divine command."

We extract also from same address as follows. After speaking in high terms of the hospitality of our Companions of Buffalo, he says:

"And now, Companions, having presented the bright side of the picture, let us turn, and for a moment view the other.

"I went to Buffalo in search of light, expecting to be profited much by instruction and information to be imparted by the savans of Royal Arch

Masonry, especially in reference to the work and 'means of recognition of the Order.' But alas! I may say, and say truly, *I went, I saw, I failed.* 'Twas 'distance lent enchantment to the view.'

'I know there be those who regard 'uniformity in the work' of the Order as unimportant, because, say they, 'it is only the shell of Masonry—while its principles and teachings constitute the kernel—the food which gives it sustenance, and imparts to it life and vigor.' To this school I do not belong, and with these teachers I cannot agree.

'If it be necessary to have a system of work—a form of ceremonies—then, in my judgment, that work—those ceremonies, in all their essential features, should be uniform—the same in Maine as in Georgia, on the shores of the Atlantic as on the slopes of the Pacific.

'By dint of perseverance, some of us succeeded in having a committee appointed to report on the Ritual, and to exemplify the work and 'means of recognition.' The evening on which that committee reported, and undertook to discharge the duty assigned it, will long be remembered by those present.

'Babel in its prime was a model of order to the confusion of tongues, the discrepancies in genuflections that prevailed on that occasion.

'Each State jurisdiction had its own work, and as a matter of course, superior to any other; and each representative his own 'means of recognition,' as taught by the fathers, and no two were agreed."

No. of Chapters.....	60
Members.....	1484
Exalted, affiliated, etc.....	51
Suspended, died, etc.....	157

Companion William J. Johnson was elected Grand High Priest.

Companion J. Emmett Blackshear, Grand Secretary.

The report on correspondence is by Companion Lawrence, and is, of course, good. He kindly notices Alabama, and quotes from M. Ex. G. H. Priest Cobb's address; and what pleases us most is that he agrees "with nearly all our expressed opinions."

Under Iowa he says:

"Companion Shaffer made report on correspondence, reviewing at some length the proceedings of thirty-nine Grand Chapters, Georgia, 1877, among them. He is a good writer, very capable to prepare a good report, but has a twisted isothermal line on the brain, which frequently leads him astray. At the very name of 'South' the line becomes more twisted, and he is off at a tangent.

"Thus, at the allusion by Companion Cobb, of Alabama, to the ordeal through which the South had passed, he thus—in a Masonic spirit can we say?—'gushed': 'There is a good deal of 'gush' and a heap of nonsense in these two extracts, together or separately: 'Southern land!' We don't know, in this part of the world, that there is any 'Southern land' in Masonry.' Benighted souls! not to know that in Masonry there is a Northern, and a Southern, and an Eastern, and a Western land. To harmonize the interests of all these through its boundless charity is one of the ob-

jects of Masonry. Who are the representative men of Masonry in this country? Pierson and others from the North, Drummond and others from the East, Pike and others from the West, and Mackey and others from the South. These all have rent the veil of prejudice, but do not forget that there is a North, an East, a West, and a South, and can give each due credit for its worth, kindly making allowance for their respective faults."

Having this day received a request from the Grand Secretary to "make it short, funds are low," we must refrain from extracting more. But we will make just this one, anyhow, from Companion Lawrence's conclusion. It was composed while on a bed of serious illness:

THE DYING MASON TO HIS BROTHER.

I.

The Night is thickening, Brother, but the Day
Is just beyond, the gray dawn is at hand,
And we must part, for here I may not stay,
Pilgrim, like our fathers, t' a better land.

The Night is chill, but I am not afraid,
For God, our God, enfolds me in His love;
His Presence, in the pillar o' fire displayed,
Allures to realms of endless bliss above.

I hold thee still, my Brother, in my heart,
But I hear the triumphant palmers call
"Come on!" I must obey, and we must part;
Farewell! I turn my face unto the wall.

II.

We'll meet again, my Brother, on the shore
Where all is Light, and Night is never known;
Where peace enwraps the soul, friends part no more,
And God all pleasures showers on his own.

Brief will be our sev'rance—a little while,
A very little, scarce by minutes told,
And we shall meet again, with happier smile,
'Mid transports ever new, and never cold.

But, Brother, keep thou near thy faithful Guide;
When tried, He will uphold thee, He will bless,
And by His rod and staff with strength supplied,
Thou'lt safely pass through this dark Wilderness.

ILLINOIS FOR 1877.

From the address of Grand High Priest Atkins, we learn that—

"This Grand Chapter numbers 167 Subordinate Chapters, with a membership of over 11,000, and one might naturally expect, with even the restraining influence of Capitular Masonry, troubles and dissensions would arise among so great a number. But, Companions, I am pleased to be able to inform you that, with but two exceptions (to my knowledge), peace and harmony have prevailed within our walls."

And that—

"The past year has not been as prosperous for the Royal Craft as we would have wished. With those that have been dropped from the rolls, dimitted, and died deducted from the aggregate of work done, our number has decreased one hundred and twenty-nine members; yet it has been a year of almost uninterrupted harmony."

M. Ex Companion Atkins favors the consolidation of the Chapter and Council.

There seems to be a disinclination on the part of the G. H. Priest, the Committee on Jurisprudence, and the Committee on Grievances, to settle some difficulty between two Chapters, which has been now for three years before the Grand Chapter. This ought not to be, but promptly all matters of dispute should be settled.

The formation of Chapters to work in the German language was discountenanced.

A step towards the union of the Council and Chapter was taken.

Companion James C. McMurtree was made G. H. Priest, and Companion J. H. Miles continued Grand Secretary.

Companion Miles presented the report on correspondence, quoting liberally from the address of M. Ex. G. H. P. Cobb. He has made a report which conveys to the minds of our Illinois Companions rather what others do and say than what he thinks.

INDIANA FOR 1877.

At the thirty-second grand annual convocation of this Grand Chapter, M. E. Companion Reuben Peden opened his address with the following well uttered sentences:

"Companions of the Grand Chapter:

"We are assembled here to-day to enter upon the duties and privileges and to perform the labors of the thirty-second annual convocation as the Grand Chapter of Indiana, as the officers and representatives of ninety-

one chartered Chapters, with an aggregate membership of nearly or quite five thousand Royal Arch Masons. In assuming the performance of these duties we cannot be unmindful of the responsibilities which rest upon us, as we remember that for the time being these companions have intrusted us with the sacred commission of thinking and acting for them; and though not permitted to meet with us, they are looking on and expecting from us a good report. In this expectation I trust they may not be disappointed."

The address contains only matters of local interest, and is a business-like and concise document.

The Grand Chapter of Quebec was fraternally recognized.

Chapters.....	95
Exalted, reinstated, etc.....	226
Died, suspended, expelled, etc.....	316
Membership.....	4875

Companion William H. Hacker, P. G. H. P., gives us an "Annual Capitular Review," which being interpreted means "Report on Foreign Correspondence." Of these reports he says, they are "somewhat like the Indian's gun, 'they cost more than they come to.'" However this may be, he gives a lengthy notice to Alabama, expressing great satisfaction at the action of our Grand Chapter in instructing her representatives to the General Grand Chapter to oppose any and all efforts to enlarge the powers of that Grand Body.

Companion Hacker tells us that his first Annual Capitular Review was written in 1854, and afterwards he continued to write an Annual Capitular Review for twelve years, and has again resumed the pen after an interval of rest. This, perhaps, accounts for the interesting and readable review which he has now given us.

Companion Simeon S. Johnson was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion John M. Bramwell continued Grand Secretary.

IOWA.

Out of 81 chartered Chapters in this jurisdiction 43 convened at the twenty-fourth annual convocation, when the Grand Chapter was opened by M. E. Companion Horace S. Winslow, G. H. P.

The Grand High Priest truly says, "a weakly, sickly Chapter, one that lives dying, and dies living, is a sorry Masonic spectacle."

He is very determined that we shall, without a wry face, swallow negro Masonry; and although bound by the strongest bonds to recognize no clandestine Masons, yet greets all such, if only their complexion be black, and their previous condition that of servitude.

Of the General Grand Chapter he says: "The session will be noted rather for what it did not do, than for what it did," although "many subjects of interest were discussed."

Companion Abel W. Daugherty elected Grand High Priest.

Companion W. B. Langridge, Grand Secretary.

Companion J. M. Shaffer made the report on correspondence, reviewing Alabama with spirit, but whether in the right or wrong spirit who shall say? After quoting two equally eloquent and truthful passages from the address of G. H. P. Cobb, he says:

"There is a good deal of 'gush' and a heap of nonsense in these two extracts, together or separately. 'Southern' land! We don't know, in this part of the world, that there is any 'Southern land' in Masonry. Write all the history you want. What is true will remain true; what is false will fall—truth only survives. A false fact may enchain the soul for years, but not for eternity; and truth only is for eternity."

Now, although Masonry knows no geographical divisions or race distinctions, yet we fancy; yea, we believe, that our companion has known and now feels, that there is and has been a Southern land. Why rant and roar at the mere mention of the fact that "the past decade has been a severe trial to every interest of our Southern land?" Why stigmatize this enunciation of our esteemed Grand High Priest as a "*false fact*?" The very heat displayed by our companion, which has hurried him into so great a discourtesy, not to class it as an unmasonic expression, shows that the writer at least felt that there is a Southern land, and that the companions of this land are, or ought to be allowed to love this land. Can he or any other companion truly say "the past decade has *not* been a time of supreme trial to every interest of our Southern land?" To have the cherished hopes of a lifetime disappointed; to have four-fifths of the capital invested destroyed; to have the labor of a land demoralized; to be denied the usual rights of freemen; to witness poverty and distress in all its shapes; and amid all these to have to rebuild not only one's individual but one's country's fortunes, methinks would produce "a time of supreme trial to every interest." And shall it not be mentioned lest it offend some hypercritical companion?

"To be good and true is the first lesson we are taught in Masonry. Hence, while influenced by this principle, * * * sincerity and plain dealing distinguish us, etc."

The report is racy, and displays ability and fluency as a writer. We, however, do not like the taste displayed in many passages; witness under Illinois: "The frontispiece which graces (or disgraces) this volume," etc., and we are satisfied that Companion Shaffer did not re-read his bantling,

else he would very much have reduced its quantity while greatly improving its quality.

We will make, however, one extract more, which will prove him an enthusiast in Masonry:

"We undertake to say that Masonry is a divine institution. We always so regarded it, as much so as Yale college, Harvard University, the several State governments, the Christian church, Buddhism, Brahminism, or any other association of men, or proclamation of principle by men that lead on to the good, the beautiful, and the true. 'Every believer in the Christian religion' regards his church the exponent of his belief, as a divine institution. And so it is. We as a Mason regard the institution of Masonry as likewise a divine institution, as proceeding from God. If we for a moment thought it was not divine, God-like, excellent in the highest degree, one of the institutions which God regards with favor and preserves and blesses and honors every day, we would drop our pen, demand a dimit, and forswear all allegiance to it. If this be heresy, 'Make the most of it. If this be blasphemy, let the Lord, the righteous judge, decide by the words of His own inspiration. If this degrades the institution, let it sink down and be lost among those things which are not divine.

Exaltations, etc.....	406
Deaths, etc.....	296
Membership.....	4253

KANSAS FOR 1877.

Again we hail the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, which held its thirteenth annual convocation on the 16th October, 1877, under the direction of Companion Dwight Byington, G. H. P., with representatives from 23 Chapters.

The Grand High Priest thinks that some of the Chapters which are becoming drowsy might be stimulated to activity by visitations from the grand officers. At least he says "I am of opinion it would be productive of much good."

The Grand Chapter appointed a committee of three, "to act with a similar committee from the Grand Lodge," to devise means for raising a suitable monument over the grave of their first Grand High Priest, Richard R. Rees.

There are 31 active chapters.

Exaltations	120
Deaths, &c.....	91
Membership	1149

Companion E. T. Carr made the correspondence report, reviewing Alabama for 1876.

KENTUCKY FOR 1877.

The sixty-second convocation was held on the 15th October, 1877, there being present representatives from eighty-two chapters.

Companion James W. Staton, G. H. Priest, gave a short historical account of this Grand Chapter. In it he says: "We have now enrolled one hundred and seven Chapters and nearly four thousand affiliated members, or about one to every six affiliated Master Masons." He congratulates the Grand Chapter that no dispensation for the formation of a new Chapter had been asked for, and thinks there are already too many small, weak Chapters.

Companion Rob Morris, at the request of the Grand Chapter, "delivered a brief and instructive address in relation to his visit to the Holy Land, and his observations therein, with special reference to the Mark Master's Degree."

Companion James B. Blue was elected Grand High Priest, Companion Joseph H. Branham Grand Secretary.

Companion H. A. M. Henderson gives a flowing and excellent report on correspondence. He is a ready writer, sound thinker, and careful counsellor. We will give two extracts—one from the beginning of his report, and the other from the end. What is in the middle we don't know, though we suppose it has a middle, as such things ought to; but we confess to too great indolence to cut the pages, they not having been cut in the copy sent us. If we should see the whole of it, we might be tempted to extract more, very much against our Grand Secretary's admonition to "be short—funds are low."

Here, then, is the first:

OF GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.

"Grand High Priests remind us of a penny kaleidoscope. As the few bits of broken glass, colored beads and artificial flowers yield a new pattern every time the instrument is turned over, so the same triteisms, moral cant, and hackneyed phrases are made to do annual service, no matter who reflects them. There is a change of arrangement and of the mental angles of reflection, but the same old fragmentary material. Now and then, "like angel's visits," etc., some one gives us a diorama of new and pleasing views, and such men are hailed by reviewers as the discoverers of continents by kings avaricious of wealth and dominion. The committees on foreign correspondence are the true gold-washers of Masonry, separating the shining particles from the worthless tale and sand. Some of them, too, are mint-masters, giving the mental gold new coinage and currency, and sending it into the world stamped with their own image and superscription.

And here the second:

OF WOMEN.

"But woman's exclusion from our retreats is the living compliment of Masonry to her exalted worth. One great reason why we do not admit her to our Order is, she is too good to require the rigorous restraints of Masonry. Man is prone to evil as the sparks to fly upward. He needs to be bound in the stronger than adamant chains of obligation. Woman cherishes the principles and performs the deeds of virtue and charity as the flowers bud, and blow, and fill the air with sweetest fragrance. The light that shines on woman's soul breaks not out in the Masonic East, but pours down upon her in sheets of shining splendor from the face of the Sun of Righteousness. When we attempt to dress the lily in a surplice of white and ordain it priest of the flowers by canonical forms; when we attempt to brighten the sunbeam with the brazier's art; when, with artificial odors, we essay to sweeten the aroma of the rose; when we attempt a flight to the sun on wings of wax, on the foolish errand of ornamenting its golden face by tying ribbons to its shining disc;—then will we attempt to improve woman by the arts of Freemasonry.

"If, in a stretch of gallantry, we were to admit ladies, we could have no assurance that Miss Susan Smith, in less than a month after being raised, wouldn't become Mrs. John Jones, and, if it be true that when a man and woman marry they twain become one flesh, then every time a brother Mason married a sister Mason we would lose a member. At any rate the change of names would cause confusion in calling the roll of the *workmen*. Then, if we admitted the ladies to our lodge rooms, we would become so engaged with their charms that we would forget our work.

'The light that lies
In woman's eyes'

would eclipse the great lights that burn about our altar, and her musical voice so charm the sense, entrance the soul, and thrill and transfix the heart, that we would be deaf to the Master's coarse call to Masonic duties. And so, while the ladies may not join us, they may know that about our altars we plight their chastity and protection, and that our gallant hearts and strong arms will ever be ready to defend them from all that can harm or hurt.

Exalted.....	211
Dimitted, died, &c.....	400
Membership	3509

LOUISIANA FOR 1878.

On the 12th February, 1878, Companion Joseph H. DeGrange, G. H. P., opened this Grand Chapter, with representatives from 16 subordinates. The address was confined to matters of local interest, but we will give one of the decisions, because it is in concert with our own views, and of

many learned Masons, but differs from the expressed opinion of the G. H. Priest of Delaware:

"Query 2.—A companion was summoned to a convocation of his Chapter but, being unable to attend, sent a respectful note (which was read to the Chapter), asking to be excused for non-attendance, but giving no reason of the cause of his absence. Should a reason have been given?

"Answer.—No. No specific reason is necessary, nor should any be required. The fact of sending a respectful note excusing himself from attendance, was, in reality, answering the summons, and was an acknowledgment of the authority of the Chapter, fully showing no intention of disrespect to the body.

The usual routine business was transacted, and the following resolutions, reported by the committee on correspondence, adopted:

RESOLUTIONS.

"Whereas, on the 12th day of December, 1876, The M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec was regularly established in and for the Province of Quebec, Dominion of Canada, and the same having met the approbation and recognition of the Mother Grand Chapter of Canada, therefore be it

"Resolved, That the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Louisiana extends to the said M. E. Grand Chapter of Quebec fraternal recognition and hearty welcome to the family of Grand Chapters; and that the Grand Secretary be and is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the M. E. Grand Chapter of Quebec, with our best wishes for its future welfare and success.

"Whereas, in 1839, there was established in New Orleans a so-called Supreme Council 33d, and that the said Supreme Council was declared illegal and spurious by the Supreme Councils, Northern and Southern, of the United States of America, and the Supreme Council of France, and the Supreme Council of the Grand Orient of France; and, the fact of its illegality becoming incontestably proven to the said so-called Supreme Council itself, it, of its own volition, in 1855, closed the Supreme Council *sine die*, turned over its paraphernalia to, and acknowledged the jurisdiction of, the Supreme Council for the Southern jurisdiction of the United States of America, sitting at Charleston, South Carolina; and whereas, one James Foulhouse, a 33d of the Grand Orient of France, and the former head of the above mentioned illegal Supreme Council at New Orleans, was directed by the Grand Orient of France to disband his illegal and spurious bodies, and to pay allegiance to the constituted Masonic authorities of the State of Louisiana, and on his refusal or neglect to do so, had cited him to trial before that body, and had at its sitting of February 4th, 1859, expelled him, erased his name from its Book of Gold, and declared his patent of S. G. I. G. void and of no effect, and directed the bodies of its obedience to refuse admission into their temples of all Masons bearing diplomas issued by the self-styled power of which James Foulhouse calls himself the chief," and the same was promulgated to the Masonic

bodies of the world—(a translation of which decree will be found in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana for 1860, page 75). With a full knowledge of all these facts before it, the Grand Orient of France, in 1868, did officially recognize as legal a pretended resuscitation of this so-called S. C. at New Orleans, and entered into friendly relations with it. This caused the Grand Masonic Bodies of Louisiana to refuse to recognize the Masons of the G. O. of France in this jurisdiction. Further: it becoming notorious that the said G. O., during the year 1877, did, by solemn decree, remove from its constitution the acknowledgment of the existence of God, and belief in the immortality of the soul, directing its rituals to be changed to accord with said decree—thereby making an unwarrantable change in the body of Masonry;—thereby, in the opinion of your committee, have, by this violation of the body of Masonry (in the removal of this landmark and dogma), violated the laws and usages of the Ancient Craft, and forfeited to itself the right to claim to be any part or parcel of Ancient Craft Masonry, or to be recognized by the bodies thereof as such: therefore, be it

“*Resolved*, That the G. C. of R. A. Masons of the State of Louisiana refuse to acknowledge the Grand Orient of France as a Masonic body, and interdict all Masonic communication with it, the bodies subordinate thereto, or with the Masons of its obedience, by the Masons of this Royal Arch jurisdiction.”

Companion Batchelor made the correspondence report on the proceedings of the several Grand Chapters for two years, and on many for three years. He apologizes for a good report. We have read it with great pleasure, and would extract liberally but for Companion Sayre's admonition.

There are Chapters.....	29
Exalted, affiliated, &c.....	58
Died, dimitted, &c.....	138
Membership.....	1424

Companion William Robson was elected Grand High Priest;

Companion J. C. Batchelor, M. D., Grand Secretary.

MAINE FOR 1877.

We have the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for the years 1877 and 1878. Companion Henry L. Payne, M. Ex. Grand High Priest, presided at the convocation held on May 1st, 1877, and 40 Chapters out of 42 were represented.

The Grand High Priest feelingly alludes to the loss by fire which the Grand Chapter sustained on the 22d December, 1876. He attributes the decrease in work to the “depressed condition of the business interests of the country.” Wonder if Companion Shaffer won't berate him soundly for having a country. The craft, however, are “in good condition.” He

says: "From an experience of six years as a visiting officer of this Grand Chapter, I am fully convinced that the system of visitation to subordinate chapters is productive of salutary results."

The Grand Chapter of Quebec was recognized and fraternally greeted. The usual business was transacted.

Chapters	42
Exaltations, affiliations, &c.	194
Deaths, dismissions, &c.	100

Companion Drummond made his usual interesting report on correspondence.

Under Kansas, alluding to the regulation that five members of a Chapter, with four visitors, may open the Chapter, transact business, and work, he says:

"We have heard of the use of 'substitutes,' or dummies, to make up a class of candidates, but this is the first time we have ever heard of having 'substitutes' for members to make up a quorum in a Chapter. As no vote can be passed in which all the five members do not concur, the others are, in reality, mere dummies. We think this is carrying the 'substitute' doctrine too far. But it illustrates the truth, that when we depart at all from a correct rule, we are involved in error at once."

On the declaration of the committee on correspondence of Maryland, that one must have served as King or Scribe before being eligible to the office of High Priest, he properly says:

"He several times advocates strongly the doctrine that a High Priest must have been a King or Scribe, and founds his argument mainly upon the proposition that in the absence of express law, the Chapter is governed by the law of the Lodge. We agree to this, if we add the words 'when applicable;' but we hold that the law that a Master must have served as Warden is *not* applicable. The Master and Wardens have several and not joint duties; while in the Chapter the theory is, that the three officers act jointly as a council, especially in all ritualistic duties, and not individually. No good reason can be given for this law in the Lodge; and as its real tendency is to make promotion depend on position rather than on merit, we would not extend its scope."

Companion Arlington B. Marston was made M. Ex. Grand High Priest; Companion Ira Berry continued Grand Secretary.

MAINE FOR 1878.

At this convocation M. Ex. G. H. P. Marston presided, there being present representatives from 41 out of 42 Chapters.

The G. H. P. represents the craft as being in a healthy and zealous

condition, though but little work had been done; and the reports of others of the Grand Council, as well as the D. D. G. H. Priest's, confirm him. He recommends the amending of the constitution of the Grand Chapter so that P. H. Priests may become permanent members, which was referred to Committee on Amendments.

The Grand Lodge of Mark Masons of England and Wales was recognized.

Number of Chapters.....	42
Exalted, affiliated, &c.....	14
Died, dimitted, &c.....	149
Membership	4129

The report on correspondence is the joint effort of Companions Drummond and John S. Derby, and in it we find Alabama; and if we had not Maine last year in our report, we have two Maines this year.

From this report we learn that—

“Portland Lodge, organized in 1769, in its early proceedings, uniformly dropped the names from the list of members of those who failed to pay quarterages; and the records plainly show that the idea was never entertained that a lodge could impose any greater penalty. From this long usage, our law limiting punishment for non-payment of dues to deprivation of membership, undoubtedly arose.”

This coincides with our ideas of what effect suspension for non-payment of dues should have; but our Grand Lodge has declared that it shall serve the purpose of suspension from all the rights and privileges of Masonry.

Companion Marston was re-elected Grand High Priest;

Companion Ira Berry, Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS FOR 1877.

The annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 11th of December, 1877. M. Ex. Companion Smith B. Harrington in the East, and the representatives of 53 Chapters present.

Says the G. H. P.: “Masonry does not exist simply in its ritual, but also in the knowledge and information which the members can impart to the less informed.”

To read is to think. Reading Masons cannot very well be drones in the hives of the institution.

In consequence of the Grand Orient of France having eliminated the belief in God from among the fundamental principles of Masonry, this

Grand Chapter refuses to "hold any Masonic intercourse with that body, or with any organizations or Masons of its obedience."

Companion Harrington was again made Grand High Priest;

Companion Zephaniah H. Thomas, Grand Secretary.

Number of Chapters.....	68
Exalted, &c.....	337
Died, dimitted, &c.....	324
Membership.....	9237

We thank Companion Dadmun, who made the correspondence report, for his kind words, and exhibition of true Masonic feeling, when speaking of "the supreme trials of the last decade," alluded to by our G. H. P. We feel the more thankful because they had not met with the same spirit elsewhere, and because, if we may not look for sympathy from a Brother, where are we to go for it? The acrimonious feelings engendered by the late conflict between parties in this country have been destroyed, and to Masonry and its teachings do we owe much. This summer has proven that we of this whole country are brethren; not in name only, but in sympathy and friendship—that sympathy which has prompted to personal sacrifice, as well as liberal aid to our poor, plague-stricken region. Who can read of the unlimited generosity of the North, East and West to our people, and not feel that we are all one people, bound together by ligaments more lasting than brass, and more firm than any mere mechanical ones could be.

Under Indiana is a sentence which tersely and sententiously expresses, to our mind, the whole religious character of our institution: "The religion that Masonry teaches is as broad as the universe, as deep as man's innate aspirations for immortality, and as high as the ineffable glories of the Eternal World."

In this jurisdiction the convention of High Priests is not a "qualifying order," nor is it so in Alabama, but every High Priest, and all Past High Priests, may take it if they choose.

MARYLAND FOR 1878.

The proceedings of the annual convocation of November 13, 1877, come to us showing Companion Charles F. Achey, G. H. P., presiding, and representatives from 11 Chapters present.

The Grand High Priest announces that "the condition of the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction, with one exception, is the same as last year."

He enforces the edict requiring proficiency in one degree before allowing the applicant to receive another.

He thinks the Grand Chapter should avail itself of the permission of the G. G. Chapter to make all P. H. P. permanent members of the Grand Chapter, and regrets that the G. G. Chapter did not act on the proposition to incorporate the Council degrees with the Chapter.

Number of Chapters.....	12
Exalted and Affiliated.....	55
Dimitted, died, &c.....	67
Membership	1258

Companion John S. Tyson was elected M. Ex. G. H. P.;

Companion William A. Wentz re-elected Grand Secretary.

Companion Edward T. Schultz submitted the report on correspondence, in which we find Alabama most kindly reviewed. We differ from him as to the effect of restoration of a charter to a dormant chapter, and think our G. H. P. was right when he enunciated the opinion, that when a charter was ordered to be restored it revived the Chapter as an entirety, that in whatever condition it was when it went to sleep, it was in the same condition when awakened.

We coincide with Companion Schultz in this:

"We may be wrong in our opinion, but we have the most decided conviction that the system of restoration, and the constant changes in officers of the various Masonic bodies that now almost universally prevail, is of the most hurtful character."

We find he agrees with us that "a dimit should be withheld from a companion against whom charges are pending in a lodge," for he is not "under the tongue of good report."

We dare not quote more, or give this report more extended notice; for has not Companion Grand Secretary——hist!

MICHIGAN FOR 1878.

The twenty-ninth convocation of the above Grand Chapter was held on the 15th January, 1878, Companion Oliver L. Spaulding: M. E. G. H. P., with representatives from 99 Chapters.

We like very much the position of the G. H. P. on the subjects of dimits granted when the companion shall be clear of the books. Like him, we think that no High Priest should allow an application for a dimit to be brought before the Chapter unless it be fully "in order;" that is, unless the companion be at the time clear of the books. His decisions are in keeping with the rules in this jurisdiction. He says:

"The candidate should be well known—his character and fitness estab-

lished. In a word, he should be a *man*, to receive your suffrages;—not perfect, for then he would be more than man; but he should have positive good qualities. He should be a man striving to go up; not a man actively or passively going down. If a man so commend himself, take him, be he rich or poor, high or low. Even though you and he may have personal differences, put them behind you. Reject no man because you and he do not agree. He may be right and you wrong. If you believe he would make a good Mason, you have no right to consult your little preferences or petty dislikes. Conquer yourself. You will be a better man and a better Mason. Remember that he who does this is greater than he who takes a city."

Number of Chapters.....	102
Exalted, affiliated, &c.....	501
Dimitted, Died, &c.....	462
Membership.....	7385

Companion Charles J. Kruger was elected M. E. Grand High Priest,
Companion William P. Innes re-elected Grand Secretary.

Companion Innes submitted the report on correspondence, reviewing Alabama for 1876, among the others.

He does not like our action in seating representatives from a Chapter, and at the same time granting time for the payment of its dues.

At his instance we call the attention of Companion Sayre, Grand Secretary, to the fact that his "form" of Chapters failed to show Companion Innes as Grand Secretary in 1876, though Companion Innes will find that it was "korrect" in 1877.

This report is full of valuable information, and just such as we think one ought to be; but we must forbear: we can't imitate our companion in his fullness because of the treasury.

MINNESOTA FOR 1877.

Companion Richard J. Marvin, M. E. G. H. P., with representatives of 29 Chapters, opened this Grand Chapter on October 9, 1877.

M. E. Companion Marvin holds that one objecting after ballot should state the cause of objection to the H. P., who, if he thinks the objection good should sustain it; but if he does not so think he should proceed to confer the degrees, leaving the objector the right of appeal to the Grand Chapter.

He recommends the adoption of a limitation of the time wherein one who had been elected should present himself for the degrees; which, by vote of Grand Chapter was put at six months.

Companion Marvin was elected Grand High Priest.

Companion A. T. C. Pierson, Grand Secretary.

Number of Chapters.....	31
Exalted, affiliated, etc.	125
Dimitted, died, etc.....	84
Membership.....	1623

Though we do not see how, if there were 1647 members in 1876, there should only be the above number in 1877, as to those in 1876 should be added 41, making 1692 for this last year.

Companion Pierson, who always makes a first-rate report, submitted that on correspondence, noticing Alabama in a kind and friendly manner. And we may say to Companion Pierson that, through the beneficence of an all-wise Providence, we could now omit a few lines from our report of 1876, though at the time when written they were true, and are historically so now. The past few months have demonstrated that there is a feeling of brotherhood among all the inhabitants of this land. How much of this is due to Masonry?

Under Iowa, in relation to the address of the Grand High Priest, and report of committee thereon, on the subject of a negro Chapter, noticed by us last year, he says, among other things, as follows, and we commend it for its soundness:

"It is strange that men will permit the pursuit of a chimera to run away with their brains. The doors of Masonry are open wide enough, and the avenues leading thereto are broad enough to admit all that are worthy. Let us rest there."

Under Oregon, hear what he says on the effect non-payment of dues in the Lodge should have in the Chapter:

"A companion pays his dues regularly to Chapter, but for some cause does not to the Lodge, and is dropped from the roll of membership. The Chapter drops him also! Why not inquire if his grocery bills are paid, or his subscription to the church, and cut him off from Chapter membership? To our notion there is no justice in it."

We missed these proceedings last year, but hope to obtain those for 1878 before closing this report

MINNESOTA FOR 1878.

We have indeed received the proceedings for this year, the same Grand High Priest presiding, and with representatives from 20 Chapters.

From address of Grand High Priest we take the following. We are satisfied it is a true picture of the officers in this jurisdiction:

"I fear that many of the officers of our subordinate Chapters, particularly the newly elect, do not sufficiently acquaint themselves with the laws, regulations and usages which govern us; and that they also neglect familiarizing themselves with the decisions of other Grand Chapters, together with the wholesome criticisms found in the reports of the Committees on Foreign Correspondence."

He thinks that, in the absence of positive enactment, the principle and practice of the Grand Lodge in similar cases should not be the guide, because—

"Our institution is an entirely different thing in these respects, for ours is a modern system, scarcely a century old, and made up of parts of other rites which never had any connection with the old system, therefore our constitutions are the fundamental law, and there is nothing behind them. In view of these facts and many other reasons, we should not be governed whatever by the practice that prevails in Grand Lodges, for, as I think I have shown, we must be controlled by our own constitution and regulations only, and when these fail to throw any light on some vexed point, then by the common law of Masonry, which is simply the application of the abstract principles of justice and right, that do not interfere with the written law."

This is new doctrine. We have always supposed that the "principles and practice" of the Grand Lodge were derived from "the application of the abstract principles of justice and right."

Companion Edward A. Hotchkiss was made Grand High Priest.

Companion A. T. C. Pierson continued Grand Secretary.

Number of Chapters	33
Exalted, etc.	141
Dimitted, died, etc.	89
Membership.	1756

Companion Pierson again made the correspondence report. Under District of Columbia, he gave the views of his Grand Chapter on objection after ballot, thus:

"The position of Minnesota on the question of objection to advancement may be stated thusly:

"The candidate being a Master Mason in good standing, petitions to be made a Royal Arch Mason, he desires further and more specific information on subjects that appear dark to him. The Chapter by ballot agrees to give him that information, gradually, by a series of steps, the candidate agreeing to conform to all the requirements made of him, in the pursuit of the information. We regard the petition and acceptance as a contract by which both parties are bound, and that it should be completed unless there is a departure from its terms by one of the parties. Hence with us the simple 'I object' is not sufficient to debar advancement.

"A violation of the contract on the part of the candidate must be shown to either the Chapter or the High Priest, a sufficient reason must be given;

the sufficiency is decided by the Chapter when communicated to it. But there may be cases where an injury might be done to the objector, to a member of the Chapter, or to the cause of Masonry, if the matter was stated in open Chapter; the matter in such a case is stated privately to the High Priest, who decides. The High Priest is 'more than any other companion,' he has in charge the administration of the laws, is responsible to the Grand Chapter, and if his discretion is not to be trusted in a delicate case, or has not the ability to decide, he has no business to be a High Priest, the Chapter is at fault for having elevated him to the position and must suffer the consequences."

On suspension for non-payment of dues he is with us:

"As the laws stand, Masons cannot legally 'go behind the returns,' when a Masonic body certifies to suspension or expulsion. But, believing as we do, that suspension for non-payment of dues *only*, is at war with the spirit of Masonry—and a new departure—we believe that a Chapter should have the right to exercise discretion relative to the recognition of such parties. New practices, when they become customs, create the necessity for new laws, or a change of old ones."

But for want of space we must desist.

MISSOURI.

When we wrote our last report we had no heart to notice the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for 1876, which were then at hand, for we were forcibly reminded of the terrible death of the eminent and sterling Mason who had so well and honorably filled the position of Grand Secretary, and for whose reports we looked with so much interest and anxiety. The pamphlet for 1877 is now before us, and now for the first time we look upon the pictured lineaments of one whom we had learned to love and respect—George Frank Gouley, whose likeness embellishes this work.

Companion Joseph S. Browne, M. E. G. H. Priest, opened the Grand Chapter on 4th October, 1877, with representatives from sixty-five out of eighty-nine Chapters.

Among the decisions, we find that the G. H. Priest ruled—"In all cases where it is necessary to take the ballot, the ballot box may be placed upon the altar, *or* handed to each member present, that he may deposit his ballot therein, as the High Priest may deem expedient." This alternative we deem improper and tending to destroy the sanctity of the ballot, as the officer handing the same may easily become apprised of who those are who cast the negative ballots.

The Committee on the Address recommended the approval, and the Grand Chapter did so approve it.

He recommends the publication, with the proceedings, annually of the standing orders and regulations in force at the time. This we think an excellent suggestion.

We find nothing to interest other jurisdictions in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, the actions being of local interest only.

Number of Chapters.....	89
Exalted, affiliated, etc.....	276
Died, expelled, dismissed, etc.....	274
Number of members.....	4289

Companion W. R. Stubblefield elected Grand High Priest.

Companion J. W. Luke, Grand Secretary.

We find in the report on correspondence, submitted by Companion Luke as partly the production of the lamented Gouley and partly his own, Alabama for 1876. From it we take—

“His selections from the proceedings of other Grand Chapters are very interesting, and his comments on same are usually good. He appears to be sensitive on the subject of suspension for non-payment of dues affecting Chapter membership, and is also opposed to Dispensations to confer degrees out of time, and to heal other irregularities. In this we agree with him, but in his views as to nine members being requisite as a quorum to transact business, we are compelled to differ from him, on the ground that the theory, though correct, cannot be put in practice in the present condition of Capitular Masonry.

This is in reference to our report for 1876. We rather think that the Companion will now change his tune, for in the address of the Grand High Priest we find the following:

“The General Grand Chapter having adopted the rule that *nine* members must be present to constitute a quorum for business or work, it will be necessary to change section nine of article three of the constitution to correspond. This will prove a serious detriment to many of our Chapters, especially those having a small and scattered membership, and even many of those having a large but lukewarm membership will be often put to trouble to get a quorum. But owing allegiance to the General Grand Chapter, our laws should be made to conform with its laws instead of being in conflict.”

Now Companion Luke knows we were not at the General Grand Convocation, and could have exercised no influence in producing the result. But we find the Grand Chapter of Alabama generally right.

Under Iowa, when noticing the declaration of the G. H. Priest that a Chapter of colored R. A. M. existed in that State, after quoting the resolutions adopted—which we gave last year—and taking similar grounds to ours, our late Companion Gouley says:

"The centennial year produced some good fruits and some very bad ones, and unfortunately for those who went into hysterics over the affair, and wanted to get a good deal of cheap notoriety on account of a national matter, they overlooked the great and one important fact, viz: that Freemasonry has no 'centennial' years: she was born and lived, flourished and had fixed principles before the United States were ever dreamed about. Like everlasting truth, 'THE ETERNAL YEARS OF GOD ARE HERS.'"

The report throughout is unmistakeably good.

We will here state that we have on our table the proceedings of this Grand Chapter which held its convocation on October 10, 1878—quick work, but we have not time to review it, and must leave this for our successor.

MISSISSIPPI FOR 1878.

We have the proceedings of the thirtieth convocation of this Grand Chapter, held on February 5, 1878, R. E. George De Lap, D. G. H. P, as G. H. P., and representatives of 43 Chapters out of 73.

The address of the Grand High Priest, who was necessarily prevented from attending, contains this paragraph devoted to the G. G. Chapter, and the only notice taken of it:

"Our General Grand Chapter has held its Triennial Assemblage. Its attendance was large, and its members possessed of more than ordinary ability. So much of sound philosophy obtained that the Grand Body respected the wisdom of not legislating too much. It virtually decided nothing—enacted nothing—postponed everything."

Companion John S. Jones was made G. H. P.

Companion J. L. Power, Grand Secretary.

Number of active Chapters.....	73
Exalted, affiliated, etc.....	126
Dimitted, suspended, etc.....	189
Members.....	1630

We find no deaths reported, but the next returns will strain every sympathetic chord in Masonic hearts.

NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR 1877.

This Grand Chapter was held on the 15th of May, 1877, and we are at a loss to conceive of any good reason why we had it not for our report last year; but so it is, and we console ourselves with the reflection that it is "better late than never."

There were 18 Chapters represented, and Companion Andrew J. Thomp-

son, M. E. G. H. P., in his address, assures us that "during the past year most of the Chapters in this State have had a steady and healthy growth."

Local business alone engaged the attention of the Grand Chapter.

Number of Chapters.....	19
Number exalted.....	103
Members.....	2157

Companion John J. Bell elected Grand High Priest;

Companion John A. Harris, Grand Secretary.

Companion Albert S. Waite submitted the correspondence report, in which he gives a concise epitome of the proceedings of the Grand Chapters reviewed, with little or no comment, because, like ourselves, he had been "reminded by the Grand Secretary that the finances" were low.

NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR 1878.

We also have the proceedings for 1878, M. E. Companion J. J. Bell, G. H. P., opening the Chapter, on the 14th May, with representatives from 19 Chapters present.

He announced the death of Companion Harris, Grand Secretary, paying fitting tribute to his memory; and also of Jonas Livingston, D. G. H. P., and Lewis Woodman, P. G. S.

We find the finances in a bad plight, and that authority was given to borrow money. This is unfortunate, for no Masonic body should ever be in this position.

Companion John J. Bell was continued Grand High Priest;

Companion George P. Cleaves was elected Grand Secretary.

Number of Chapters.....	20
Exalted. &c.....	140
Died, dimitted, &c.....	106
Members.....	2123

Last year the number reported was 2157, to which add 34, the difference between the gains and loss, and we ought to have 2191. How is this, Companion Cleaves?

Companion Waite again made the report on correspondence, but we do not see Alabama among the Grand Chapters reviewed.

NEW YORK FOR 1878.

Companion Van Vliet, M. E. G. H. P., and representatives from 188 chapters, opened the eighty-first convocation February 5th, 1878.

Companion Van Vliet announced the death of Companion John O. Cole, who had been the Grand Secretary for forty-two consecutive years.

It seems very odd to us that so learned and respectable a body as this Grand Chapter, and more particularly its committee on jurisprudence, many of whom are the most profound R. A. Masons of the country, should hold that a charter in the keeping of the High Priest need not be in the chapter when it is open, because, forsooth, "in case of necessity he could produce it." "and no clandestine assembly could have availed itself of its protection." All this might with equal propriety be said if the same were in the office safe of the High Priest. But to constitute a lodge, there must not only be present "a sufficient number of brethren," but also the three great lights, and the warrant empowering them to work. As well might a lodge be without one as the other; the requirement is equally binding in one particular as another, and if we can dispense with one portion, why not with all? Yet, we find that in New York "the actual presence of the charter was not requisite to the regularity of the convocation." Then what is necessary?

Companion David F. Day was elected Grand High Priest;

Companion Christopher G. Fox, Grand Secretary.

Number of chapters making returns.....	191
Exalted	946
Dimitted, died, &c.....	1727
Members	17,642

Companion Ogden, at the head of the committee, presented the report on correspondence, and we find Alabama in front of the list. It is, as heretofore, full and complete, and we regret our inability to do more than give this passing notice; but we hope for "better luck next time."

NEBRASKA FOR 1877.

M. E. Companion Edwin F. Warren, G. H. P., opened this Grand Chapter on the 19th of December, 1877, there being present representatives from nine chapters.

The Grand High Priest thinks one who is blind, being a Master Mason, should be allowed to receive the Chapter degrees, though he ruled differently. He cites the opinions of many of the learned members of the G. G. Chapter, which, however, are conflicting. Our opinion, decidedly, is that "two wrongs cannot make a right;" and though a Lodge should have erred in conferring degrees on him, the Chapter would have been placed in no better position thereby.

He favors the transferring the Cryptic degrees to the Chapter; and upon application by the Grand Council asking that this be allowed, it was resolved to submit the question to the Chapters for a vote.

Companion Warren was re-elected Grand High Priest;

Companion William R. Bowen, Grand Secretary.

No. of Chapters.....	15
Number exalted and affiliated.....	111
Dimitted, died, and suspended.....	63
Number of members.....	683

There is no report on correspondence.

NEVADA FOR 1878.

On the 10th June, 1878, this Grand Chapter held its fifth annual convocation, presided over by Companion DeWitt C. McKinney, M. E. G. H. P., with representatives from six subordinates.

The Grand High Priest informs us that capitular Masonry "is in a prosperous and healthy condition" in that jurisdiction. He well says:

"However humble may be the position of any brother or companion, he may still be useful in the Masonic vineyard; he may whisper good counsel in the ear of an erring brother; he may supplicate a Throne of Divine Grace in behalf of one who has fallen; or he may go on foot, if need be, to the relief of one who is in distress. But the great and paramount duty of every Mason, be he humble or exalted, is to serve with zeal and fidelity the Supreme High Priest, that he may be enabled, at the last day, to present such work as will be accepted by the Overseers, and passed on to the Chief Architect, to become a portion of that "spiritual building, not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens."

The finances are in a healthy condition, with a good cash balance.

Number of Chapters.....	8
Exalted, affiliated, &c.....	47
Died, dimitted, &c ..	43
Membership	391

Companion Phillip Seldner elected M. E. Grand High Priest;

Companion John D. Hammond, Grand Secretary.

Companion Hammond submitted the report on correspondence, wherein we find Alabama, and the following is from it:

"Nevada is kindly reviewed, but he ventures to turn prophet so far as to say, concerning our action in reference to non-affiliates, that we 'will succeed as badly as all others who have run counter to the principle that as one becomes a Mason by his own free will, so 'also ought he to be al-

lowed to sever his connection of his own free will.' So be it. But, if you please, we are not hunting that sort of ducks. The non-affiliate we are after thinks highly of Masonry, sports an emblem on his watch-chain, is lavish with grips and signs, eats a 'square meal' at every Masonic spread, wears the lambskin on the outside of his coat at funerals, and is in every way a good dress-parade Mason. He believes that Charity *ought* to suffer long and be kind, so he never puts in his dimit, *thereby saving an honest pennycorth of dues*. That is the kind of game we are after, and, notwithstanding Companion Pillans' prophesy, we are bound to bag it."

To all of which we say, "so mote it be."

Under Georgia, in reference to Companion Lawrence's opinion that visitors should be allowed to ballot on petitions, he goes off thus:

"Well put, although we shall have to dissent from the doctrine advanced. If a man can vote, he *ought* to vote, and if a chance visitor has this duty, then has every Royal Arch Mason the same vested right, *ergo*, it is not proper to receive a candidate without the consent of the entire Masonic world. Certainly, every positive and prominent man would then be shut out, there would be less friction, and the hissing bird that saved Rome would have considerable altitude. Such a doctrine, in the classic language of a well known character in this State, is 'too absurd to be superfluous.' Q. E. D."

We heartily greet Companion Hammond, and are only sorry that we have not the time to expend a larger sum on this report; but we copy the dying song of it:

"To him that overcometh,
Who spotless is and pure;
To him that overcometh,
The promise is secure.

"His food shall be of Heaven,
And in his hand a stone,
In which is clearly written
The holy word alone.

"Who fights against the hosts of wrong,
Though only God may see,
Shall one day swell the angels' song
Of glorious victory."

NORTH CAROLINA FOR 1878.

On the 4th of June, 1878, was held the thirtieth convocation of this Grand Chapter, M. E. Charles W. Alexander, G. H. P., with representatives from 13 chapters.

We learn from the address of the Grand High Priest that the fires which

have not been entirely extinguished upon the altars are burning brighter giving promise of greater usefulness.

He is averse to granting dispensations in cases of so-called emergency, because he thinks the constitution would be violated thereby. Right.

He recommended that P. H. Priests be made members of the Grand Chapter, but the Grand Chapter differed from him, and refused to allow it.

He states what we have always believed in the following extract:

"During the darkness and gloom of the middle ages, the lights of knowledge and learning were kept burning in the Lodges of Freemasonry, and the knowledge of many a truth in science and art was, by their care and fidelity, preserved, which would otherwise have been lost to the world; and, on the coming of brighter days, our noble order shone forth as the propagator of science and learning, and diffused the rays of enlightenment among the benighted nations. Ever true to her principles, she never allied herself with schisms, with rebellion or superstition, but, in public and private, taught her disciples, as she continues to teach them to-day, submission to the laws, brotherhood to their fellow-man, and reverential awe for the Great Being in whose name they meet and work."

The finances of this Grand Chapter have at last been brought into a healthy condition, and we are no longer called upon to sympathize, but rejoice.

Companion C. W. Alexander was again elected Grand High Priest, and Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

Number of Chapters.....	19
Exalted, &c.....	14
Dimitted, died, &c.....	27
Members returned	783

We find none suspended for non-payment of dues, or expelled. Truly, a good record.

The report on correspondence is by Companion Southgate, reviewing, among others, Alabama. We find that he entertains some "queer notions about Chapters and Lodges U. D." We infer that he thinks they have no power to make Masons. Then what is the object of their organization? If one made an M. M. in a Lodge U. D. is not after all a Master Mason, what is he? If he is a M. M. then why can he not visit a Lodge? To have been regularly made is to have been made in a body recognized by the constitution of the Grand Lodge, and known to the customs and usages of the Fraternity. A Lodge U. D. is an emergent Lodge, clothed with all the powers of the Grand Master, and at this date the constitution of all Grand Lodges recognizes the ancient prerogative, but limits it

as to the manner in which it shall be exercised. As to fully answer this position would necessarily occupy a "large field" we must desist or go "beyond the limits of this report."

He is averse to suspension for non-payment of dues having other effect than mere dismemberment, not extending to deprivation of "the rights and benefits of Masonry."

We rather like his reply to Drummond, of Maine, on the maimed question, and so give it entire. Says Drummond in speaking of Colorado :

"Inquiry being made whether a Master Mason, who had lost his right arm, but was Master of his Lodge, can be made a Royal Arch Mason, the Grand Chapter decided it in the negative. We are inclined to think that the extending of the '*physical* qualification' doctrine to the Chapter is needless, and without sound reason or authority."

Now says Southgate :

"How Companions can come to the deliberate conclusion that a man not qualified to be made an Entered Apprentice can go through with the ceremonies of the Chapter degrees is beyond our ken. We maintain the reason is sound and the authority good. Why is there not a separate system of common law for the government of the Chapter, as there is for the symbolic degrees? Simply, we answer, because by common consent the Code for the one will do for the other, and rightly so—Blue Lodge Masonry being the foundation of Capitular Masonry, as the Companion admits just above, when he says, 'It seems to us that the second or higher story of a house can stand in its place after the first story has been taken away from under it, as well as a man can be a Royal Arch Mason after he has ceased to be a Master Mason.' If that doctrine be true (and we accept it as such), how intimate must be the relation between the two orders of Masonry. Now, if a man must have certain qualifications to enter the first story, it is preposterous to say that he need not have those same qualifications to enter the second story. It may be asked, but suppose after he enters below he is unfortunate, and loses a foot or an arm? We answer, he must remain below, for the same reason that if he had been so maimed at first he could never have entered. The authority, then, is found in the oldest regulations, and if not a landmark, it has been adhered to from time immemorial, that a man must be sound in body and mind before he can pass our portals."

But with that injunction of our Grand Secretary ringing in our ears, of scarcity of greenbacks, we must desist.

OHIO FOR 1877.

Companion R. C. Lemmon, M. E. G. H. P., with representatives from 127 Chapters, on the 29th August, 1877, opened this Grand Chapter.

The Grand High Priest's address was concise, to the point, and a document devoted to business solely.

Number of Chapters.....	137
Exaltations, reinstatements, &c.....	534

Dismissions, deaths, &c.....	649
Members.....	8464
Loss during the year.....	115

Companion James W. Underhill was elected M. E. G. H. P.

Companion James Nesbitt, Grand Secretary.

Companion Beuchner again presented the report from the Correspondence Committee—presenting Alabama, which gets quite an extended notice. We are glad to find him indorsing our views as far as he does, though we find him in the ranks of the majority, who think that if a brother fails to pay his dues to his Lodge, notwithstanding he pays punctually to his Chapter, he should be punished in his Chapter for his neglect of his Lodge.

Under New York, after quoting the recommendation of the Grand High Priest to the High Priests of Chapters to read carefully the correspondence reports, he says:

“It is gratifying to reporters to see once in a great while their work appreciated. We do not believe there is a laborer in the Masonic quarries who receives less reward for his work than a reporter; after spending weeks of hard labor on his report it is presented to his Grand Chapter and ordered printed with the proceedings. How many will read it? Not one out of fifty. That is encouraging indeed.

“Seldom he ever receives any thanks for it, and after having been in harness a few years, he is turned loose, to make room for another docile animal to fill his place.

Companion Beuchner does not believe in paying representatives mileage and per diem.

He and we entertain the same opinion of the prerogative of the Grand High Priest in cases of so-called emergency, and that the Grand High Priest should not violate the rules and regulations of his Grand Chapter.

We sincerely regret that this is the last report we are to have from him, but may his labors be as fruitful in that “other field of labor” as doubtless they have been in this.

OREGON FOR 1878.

The eighteenth convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State was held on June 7, 1878, M. E. J. B. Lee, G. H. P., with representatives from 12 Chapters.

The Grand High Priest declares the Craft prosperous, with peace and harmony prevailing. He says, “I have been called on to render no decisions, and no questions of law or grievance have been asked.”

He recommends “that all candidates be required to pass satisfactory

examinations in the several degrees before advancing, to which the Grand Chapter says:

"That the High Priest should be the one that should have control of the same, and not confer the degrees unless he be satisfied that the candidate has or will learn the work sufficient to procure admission into any Chapter without a voucher.

The Grand Chapter of Nevada was recognized.

Companion John B. Congle was elected G. H. P.

Companion Rockey P. Earhart, Grand Secretary.

Number of Chapters.....	13
Exalted and affiliated.....	64
Dimitted, suspended, etc.....	12
Members.....	460

Again we find that none have died.

* Companion Patton again comes forward with his usually excellent report on correspondence, but we do not find there Alabama.

He, when on California, favors the view that officers of Chapters be allowed to resign.

He thinks objection before the degrees have been conferred should have the effect of a black ball. "But after a degree has been conferred he certainly has rights which must be respected, or we must cease our oratory on the Four Cardinal Virtues."

When on Delaware, he says:

"A motion to allow a bill for \$44 for expenses of the G. H. P. attending the General Grand Chapter *was lost*, while a bill of \$25 was allowed for *refreshments* one year hence, also \$10 for *kitchen furniture*. Our Delaware Companions, in their action in this matter, recognize the well-established principle, that the 'internal qualifications of man' are by no means to be ignored.

He is in favor of allowing visitors to vote on application for the degrees, as shown under Georgia.

Under Vermont, alluding to the festivities and entertainments of the General Grand Chapter at Buffalo, we find him saying:

"We have no objection to feasting and parades and free entertainments simply because we cannot attend or have no invitation. We like to see everybody enjoy themselves wherever they are, but when this body meets so seldom and such important matters are submitted for consideration, we think less parade and more work would give general satisfaction to the rank and file, at least.

PENNSYLVANIA FOR 1877.

The annual grand convocation was held on 27th December, 1877, Companion Alfred R. Potter, M. E. G. H. P., presiding.

At a quarterly convocation the Grand Chapter declined action on the application of the Grand Chapter of Quebec for recognition, because it was not authenticated by any signature, because it was not under seal, and because there was no evidence of the concurrence of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

At the annual convocation Companion Potter, who had been elected at the preceding quarterly convocation, was duly installed.

"The Most Excellent Grand High Priest made a brief and pertinent address, which was received by the Grand Chapter with satisfaction, after which he was pleased to make the following appointments."

Companion Edward R. Worrell presented the report on correspondence and introduces it as follows:

"No one who has not undertaken the duty, can comprehend the magnitude of the task of reading and digesting some five or six thousand pages of printed matter. To have the labor performed in the most efficient and satisfactory manner, it should be committed to one whose ordinary pursuits and business engagements make but small drafts upon his time."

He has succeeded well in conveying to the companions of Pennsylvania a complete idea of the doings and habits of thought of the companions elsewhere, but we have been unable to gather, either from the proceedings of the Grand Chapter or this report, what are the governing rules of that Grand Body, or its opinions on the several mooted questions of the day.

Exaltations	681
Deaths, &c.	548
Membership	11,138

QUEBEC FOR 1877.

At the first annual convocation Companion J. H. Graham, M. E. Grand Z. presiding, there were representatives from seven Chapters.

The address of the G. Z. congratulates the companions on the formation of the Grand Chapter and its fraternal reception by other Grand Bodies.

Companion Graham was continued Grand Z.

Companion James T. McMinn, Grand Secretary.

There are in this jurisdiction--

Chapters.....	9
Exalted.....	37
Dimitted, died, &c.....	62
Membership.....	439

Companion McMinn gives us the report on correspondence, reviewing fifteen Chapters. He approaches the duty imposed with much fear and trembling. We know how it is ourself.

The "supreme and mysterious authority," the G. G. Chapter, has given an "oracular response" to the question of how many constitute a quorum in a Chapter, and their declaration is in accordance with our expressed views. It declares that nine members of a Chapter are necessary for attending to any business except opening and closing the Chapter and working the several degrees, when visitors may be included in the nine.

We find him with Corson, an anti-objection advocate.

The report is a good one, but we cannot *afford* to quote further, but we hope to possess greater facility next year.

RHODE ISLAND FOR 1878.

At a special convocation, January 22, 1878, the Grand Chapter of Quebec was recognized, and the work in the several degrees exemplified; and the annual convocation of March 12th, 1878, was presided over by William T. C. Waddell, M. E. Grand High Priest, there being present representatives from all the Chapters, ten in number.

The Grand High Priest accounted for the paucity of work by "the continued stagnation in business."

He announced the death of M. E. P. G. H. P. Joseph Belcher, and R. E. P. G. S. Stephen A. Robinson.

This Grand Chapter has an efficient organ, the "Freemason's Repository," and it prohibits information in relation to any of its subordinates from being furnished to any other publication. See:

"*Resolved*, That the practice of furnishing information concerning the doings of any Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, for the purpose of publication in any newspaper or magazine other than the official organ of this Grand Chapter, be, and the same is hereby prohibited.

"The Grand Secretary is directed to cause notice of the same to be communicated to the several Chapters, with directions that the resolution be read at the first two convocations after its receipt."

Companion William N. Ackley was elected M. E. G. H. P.;

Companion William R. Greene, Grand Secretary.

Number of Chapters.....	10
Exalted, &c.....	20
Died, dimitted, &c.....	17
Membership	1620

The committee on correspondence was composed of Companions Burnham and Carpenter, who do not think that a brother must have been a Warden before he can become a Master. What, then, becomes of the ancient charges—those of 1722?

Under Iowa we find, in relation to colored chapters, the following, which we indorse entirely; it is in full accord with our utterances last year:

“The color or race question is mildly alluded to by the M. E. Companion, he thinking the time near at hand when it must be considered.—What have we to do as Masons with color or race, anyhow? The matter is here. It is not a question of color or race; it is a question of whether a body of men who have chosen to call themselves Masons, but without proper authority—as universally recognized in this country, at least—shall be allowed to come in among us and bring their organization with them. We say no. It matters not what their color or race; still we say no. Such organizations are by no means confined to colored men. If a body of white men should occupy the same position as these organizations of colored men, who would for a moment suppose they had any claim to Masonic recognition? Nobody; the man would be laughed at who should advocate it. Then why should the others? can anybody tell? Leave out the natural sympathy for the race, and put the case solely upon its merits, and it ‘has not a leg to stand upon.’”

SOUTH CAROLINA FOR 1878

Sends the proceedings of her sixty-seventh annual convocation, held on the 12th February, 1878, Companion William R. Blake being M. E. G. H. P., with representatives present from 23 Chapters.

The Grand High Priest, though hopeful, yet gives rather a depressing view of Capitular Masonry.

He urges Chapters to establish and collect a library, and recommends that some attention be paid to Masonic literature.

“In conclusion, Companions, I again invoke your vigilance and circumspection in every part of the Masonic Temple. Guard well its avenues; maintain your own rights, while you respect the rights of others; and with a Mason's devotion preserve and keep inviolate the ancient landmarks and institutions of our fathers.”

Companion W. G. DeSaussure was made M. E. G. H. P.;

Companion J. E. Burke continued Grand Secretary.

There are Chapters.....	29
Exalted, affiliated, &c.....	46
Died, dimitted, &c.....	75
Membership.....	902

Alabama finds a place in the report on correspondence by Companion Burke, who gives us an invitation to come and see him, and he will explain the stars in the system on work. If we had seen this before we left Charleston this summer, we would have called and been enlightened. We thought of the visit, but somehow found the time too much occupied.

Under District of Columbia, after stating his position to be, that suspension by a Lodge also suspends in the Chapter, and that the Chapter cannot rescind the action of the Lodge, he says:

"On the other hand, if the Lodge, by its suspension, does not thereby adjudge that a Masonic offense has been committed, the Chapter is not bound to suspend for the reason before stated, but has a right to apply to the case its own regulations concerning non-affiliates; and if the Chapter admits non-affiliated Blue Lodge Masons, a brother so suspended by a Lodge under its rule, but for no Masonic offense, may with all propriety be admitted to the Chapter."

How can any such contingency arise? Except for non-payment of dues, we can imagine no case where, after trial, the judgment of a Lodge could be for suspension unless the brother had been guilty of unmasonic conduct; nor would the Grand Lodge allow any such judgment to stand. It appears to us that Companion Burke has got a little mixed.

TENNESSEE FOR 1877.

We have the proceedings of the convocation of the 15th November, 1877, Companion John S. Pride, M. E. G. H. P., with representatives of 73 Chapters.

"We are told that, in the days of her pride and her power, none were permitted to enlarge the city of Rome except those who had rendered some important service to the Empire.

"So let us suffer none to extend the circle of our Order except those who, by virtuous and upright lives, have bettered the condition of their country and their kind.

"Thus only can we advance the true interests of Masonry, and establish it upon a basis that will withstand destruction and opposition, and carry it down through the ages an honoring and honored institution."

Well uttered, Companion Pride!

The proceedings were of local interest only, save the amendment made

to the constitution admitting all P. H. Priests as members of the Grand Chapter.

Companion Pride was continued Grand High Priest;

Companion John Frizzell, Grand Secretary.

Chapters.....	93
Exalted, reinstated, etc.....	130
Died, dimitted, etc.....	311
Membership.....	3403

No report on correspondence.

TEXAS FOR 1877.

Companion W. F. Swain, M. E. G. H. P., opened this Grand Chapter on the 13th December, 1877, with representatives from 62 Chapters present.

The Grand High Priest introduces his address with a beautiful allusion to the wild condition of society in Texas thirty-six years ago, when this Grand Chapter was formed, and likens it to a "volcanic eruption, the population as diverse as the builders of Babel," and congratulates the craft on the present condition, for "The sound of the gavels of our subordinates is ringing from almost every village and hamlet in this great State."

He gave a history of the formation of the Grand Chapter, and advocated the repeal of the resolution severing the connection with the G. G. Chapter. On this subject, the committee on the G. H. Priest's address "recommend that the subject be referred to a committee to consist of five P. G. H. Priests, to be reported upon at next annual convocation."

Nevada and Quebec were recognized.

Chapters.....	94
Exaltations, affiliations, &c.....	584
Deaths, dismissions, &c.....	560
Members.....	3946

Companion William Bramlette was elected Grand High Priest;

Companion Brewster, Grand Secretary.

Companion Elgin submitted the report on correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of 54 Grand Bodies, and among them Alabama.

He misunderstands us, that "suspension for non-payment of dues is no suspension at all." We think that it is not such a suspension as should deprive one of all Masonic rights, and our Grand Chapter so thinks. But our Grand Lodge having decided that it does, we have no alternative

but in obeying the edict of the Grand Lodge, to cut off all Masonic intercourse with such as are laboring under it. What we say is, that to deprive a Mason of all his rights as such, a verdict of his peers is necessary; and we think the provision of the constitution of the Grand Lodge which absolutely suspends without trial any member of a Lodge on the statement of the Secretary, at a particular time, that he owes dues for two or more years, ought not to be, and is not, the suspension contemplated in the O. B., which is far, far older than the assessment of dues.

We like his remarks, under Iowa, on the G. H. Priest's address, about "a Chapter of colored Masons," but our space forbids copying them. He takes the position taken by us last year, but more *in extenso*.

We quote the following as giving the companions of this jurisdiction a complete knowledge of the history, in brief, of the Grand Chapter of Texas, and the reasons why she is so slow in again becoming a part of the G. G. Chapter. It gives another reason, too, why we should guard jealously the remaining powers of the State Grand Chapter:

"Companion Drummond has cited the case of Texas as deciding the question, and we notice from the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter, which have just reached us, that the General Grand High Priest has also taken occasion to refer to the first organization of a Grand Chapter in Texas in a similar manner. And we will say right here, while we are writing on the subject, and may not refer to it hereafter, that believing, as we do, that most of the members of the General Grand Chapter are earnestly desirous that Texas should reunite with that body, we think it unfortunate that Companion English should have brought up the subject in the manner adopted in his address. It is not always best to reopen old sores. There are some in Texas who are sensitive in regard to the demise of the old Grand Chapter of the Republic of Texas. It was formed by chapters whose authority was as valid as those which formed the Grand Chapter of England, Virginia or Pennsylvania; and we presume the Grand Chapters that formed the General Grand Chapter were formed by chapters having the same, or no better authority. We have no authorities at hand, and no time at present to hunt them, but presume Companion Drummond will not gainsay it.

"A great political wave swept away the Republic, and Texas was incorporated into the Great American Union. Political excitement is often a great promoter of national sentiment. For a time, everything that bore the synonym of the National Union was prized to an unnatural degree; and it was not surprising that then there were Masons who turned from the little Grand Chapter of the Republic, and wished for affiliation with the General Grand Chapter of the United States. Applications were, accordingly, made for charters, and the General Grand Chapter did in Texas what it dared not do in Virginia or Pennsylvania—created chapters within the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Texas.

"Its membership was small, and it saw no way of resisting a powerful organization without, backed by the strong national sentiment existing within its jurisdiction, which, at that time was disposed to favor anything

bearing the name of the 'United States.' The consequence was, that old Grand Chapter, born 'mid the storms of revolution, and composed of pioneers who had endured common dangers, hardships and privations, met in solemn convocation, and, after discussing freely the situation of affairs, determined that they would do nothing to mar the peace and harmony of the Order, and sorrowfully and tearfully dissolved the Grand Chapter, around which clustered so many hallowed associations. Some of the members submitted to the humiliation of being 'healed' and admitted into the new Grand Chapter, formed immediately after; and some, maintaining that they were lawfully made, declined the ordeal, and never again entered a Chapter until the late war broke out, and all intercourse being cut off with the General Grand Chapter, another political government formed, with its rulers, its armies, and its judiciary, prohibiting any communication with the United States, the Grand Chapter of Texas declared its independence.

"If the case of Texas decided the question, it was done, not upon reason or principle, but on the superior logic of strength and power. It was a triumph of the strong over the weak, and, though a bloodless conquest, it was as veritable as any ever made by Caesar, Cortez, or Napoleon. The facts stated are from memory, and from conversation with actors in the scenes. It is more than probable that the Grand Chapter of Texas would ere this have reunited with the General Grand Chapter had it not been for the memory of the manner in which it was forced in at first. In our discussions heretofore we have refrained from any allusion to this early history, because we thought it best to let the unpleasant feelings of the past slumber and die away, and have only been betrayed into it now by the remarks of Companions Drummond and English."

VERMONT FOR 1877.

This Grand Chapter held its sixty-first convocation on September 26, 1877, with M. E. Edward S. Dana, G. H. P., and representatives from 20 out of 25 Chapters.

This is one of the oldest of our Grand Chapters, and seems by no means to give evidence of age. Her energies and zeal are still great, and her subordinates evidently prosperous. *There was no diminution of numbers during the preceeding year.

Number of Chapters.....	25
Exalted, affiliated, &c.....	65
Dimitted, Died, &c.....	52
Membership	1867

The Companion Grand High Priest having been notified by Companion Poland, Chairman of Committee on Correspondence, that owing to protracted illness he would be unable to prepare the report, submitted an excellent condensation of such proceedings as came to his hand, Alabama being there.

Companion Dana was again elected G. H. P.

Companion Whitcomb, Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA FOR 1877.

We have the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, held on December 13, 1877, M. E. William H. Lambert, G. H. P., and representatives from 22 subordinates.

The address of the Grand High Priest is very beautiful. He thinks Virginia is right in requiring one to be eligible to the office of H. P. to have served as K. or S.

"In my experience of nearly a quarter of a century, in both Lodge and Chapter, I have witnessed brilliant Masonic meteors flash in our halls, who were all zeal and eloquence, who, disdaining to fill the humbler positions, aspired to the highest posts of honor, unskilled in the Ritual, ignorant of our laws, and unimbued with the fundamental principles of Masonry, their career was soon ended, they became drones in the hive, and soon passed into obscurity. Not so with those who by regular succession have attained the posts of honor; you see them in your tabernacle to night, old, well-tried veterans, presenting an impenetrable bulwark to all innovations. I make these remarks, having observed in some of our sister jurisdictions a desire to have this regulation so changed as to render any one eligible to the highest position in the Chapter without having filled the other chairs."

He refers the invitation of the General Grand Chapter to occupy one of the reserved seats at the *festive board* to the Grand Chapter, but courteously says that the present position he prefers, and thinks the Grand Chapter of Virginia had better remain where she is—"the equal of all and subordinate to none"—and the Grand Chapter thought so too.

The proposition to transpose the Mark and Past degrees was laid over to next convocation.

Companion A. Stith Lee was made G. H. P.

Companion W. B. Isaacs, Grand Secretary.

Number of Chapters.....	38
Exalted, affiliated, &c.....	107
Died, dimitted, &c.....	144
Membership.....	1601

Companion Isaacs submitted the report on correspondence, only noticing the several decisions of the High Priests that were confirmed by their Grand Chapters.

"Economy! economy!!—not parsimony—is the watchword."

WISCONSIN FOR 1878.

M. E. Companion William C. Swain, G. H. P., opened this Grand

Chapter on 19th February, 1878, there being present representatives from fifty subordinates.

In the Grand High Priest's address is a very interesting case, where a contest between Wisconsin and Illinois as to invasion of jurisdiction turned on the Masonic residence of a party, which was referred to the G. G. H. P. We would like to transfer it to our pages, but it is too lengthy.

The Grand Council of Wisconsin applied to the Grand Chapter to assume control of the Cryptic degrees, and these degrees were incorporated into the Chapter.

The Grand Chapter of Quebec was recognized.

Number of Chapters	53
Exalted, affiliated, etc.	215
Died, Dimitted, etc.	174
Membership	3109

Companion Oliver Libby was elected G. H. P.

Companion J. W. Woodhull, Grand Secretary.

Companion Cottrill again brings forward the report on correspondence, but we fail to find Alabama.

He is in favor of what Drummond calls "rotation in office," that is, requiring the H. P. to have been either K. or S.

He does not admire the plan adopted by Nebraska for obtaining information from sister Grand Chapters, and of the success of which we expressed a doubt. And, indeed, in the proceedings for 1877 we find no correspondence, but among the by-laws of the Grand Chapter we find provision made for a Committee on Correspondence.

We have read this report through, and found it quite interesting, but the sentiments expressed were in such perfect concord with our own, that we could not extract, and we are afraid of violating the Grand Secretary's injunction to "make it short."

MARK MASTER MASONS OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

We have received the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales for the half yearly communication held on June 4, 1878. From it we learn that Mark Lodges, which are not recognized by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England, are numerous, and, we infer, prosperous. They have been established in all the British dependencies, and number 230. We find them in the East and West Indies, in Australia, and in Africa, as well as in the mother country. We have no method by which we can arrive at the number of members, but the financial condition of the Grand Lodge warrants the conclusion that they are strong.

Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, who is also D. G. M. of the Grand Craft Lodge, was at this time installed M. W. G. M. M.

Thus, Companions, we have completed this report, reviewing the proceedings of 37 Grand Chapters, and some for two years, being all that we have received. From them we learn that there is zeal and hope for the future, but we also learn that the number of active working Royal Arch Masons is diminishing; that there are fewer affiliated companions this year than last year. In almost every Grand High Priest's address we find allusion made to the stringency in business circles, and the financial depression under which we have all been laboring, showing that the causes which have produced great shrinkage in values has also produced shrinkage in our membership. To counteract this, it is necessary that we should the more perfectly illustrate in our lives the beautiful teachings of our Order, that we may feel and show that Masonry is more than a name, and in its periods of greatest distress and darkness its light may prove the most brilliant.

We give the following table, from Companion Drummond's report, for the information of our Companions.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

P. J. PILLANS,
Chairman.

CHAPTERS.	Dues for all the degrees.	Dues from members.	Minim'm fee for the de- grees.	REMARKS.
Alabama.....		\$0 75	\$30 00	
Arkansas.....	\$2 00	25		\$1 00 for affiliation.
California.....	4 00	1 50	50 00	
Canada.....	3 00		20 00	\$1 50 for Diploma and 50c for affil'n
Colorado.....	3 00	1 00	50 00	
Connecticut.....		15	20 00	
Delaware.....	3 00	50	20 00	
Dist. of Columbia.	3 00	50	30 00	
Florida.....	3 00	1 00	20 00	
Georgia.....	2 00	1 00	20 00	
Illinois.....		75	30 00	Each Chapter must pay \$10.
Indiana.....	2 00	25	20 00	
Iowa.....	2 00	50	25 00	
Kansas.....	2 00	50	40 00	
Kentucky.....		1 00	25 00	
Louisiana.....	8 00	1 00	40 00	\$50 00 in New Orleans.
Maine.....	2 00		20 00	Each Chapter pays \$9 00 besides.
Maryland.....	2 00	1 00	30 00	
Massachusetts.....	3 00		25 00	Each Chapter pays \$6 00 besides.
Michigan.....	2 00	50	25 00	
Minnesota.....	3 00	50		
Mississippi.....	2 00	1 00	40 00	
Missouri.....	2 00	1 00	30 00	
Nebraska.....	5 00	75	25 00	
Nevada.....	10 00	1 00	50 00	
New Hampshire.....	1 00	20	20 00	
New Jersey.....	2 00	50	20 00	
New York.....	3 00	50	20 00	
North Carolina.....			20 00	Each Chapter pays \$15 00.
Nova Scotia.....	1 00	25	20 00	\$1 50 also for Diploma.
Ohio.....	2 00	50	20 00	
Oregon.....	5 00	1 00	50 00	
Pennsylvania.....	2 00	40	16 00	
Quebec.....	3 00	50	20 00	
Rhode Island.....	3 00	15	30 00	
South Carolina....	4 00	50	25 00	
Tennessee.....	5 00	50	35 00	
Texas.....	2 00	50	30 00	
Vermont.....	3 00		25 00	
Virginia.....		50	20 00	Each Chapter must pay at least \$5.
West Virginia.....		50	20 00	
Wisconsin.....	2 00	75	30 00	

GRAND SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA

IN ACCOUNT WITH DANIEL SAYRE,

GRAND SECRETARY.

1877.

CR.

Dec. 4.	By dues at this Grand Convocation.....	\$ 565 75
" 21.	" Contingent Fund.....	300 00

1878.

BACK DUES.

Jan. 2.	By Rock Mills No. 100.....	\$ 5 00
" 11.	" Hermon No. 34.....	9 75
" 28.	" Clayton No. 63.....	39 00
Feb. 2.	" Cyrus No. 6.....	42 75
	Jefferson No. 81.....	12 50
	* Cowikee No. 94.....	13 50— 122 50
Aug. 20.	By Joseph Dewpriest of Rockford No. 62....	3 50
Oct. 25.	" John T. Glenn of same.....	2 00
Nov. 12.	" William H. Thompson of same.....	2 50— 8 00
		\$996 25

1877.

DR.

Dec. 21.	To paid Grand Treasurer.....	\$577 50
" 1.	" " Barrett & Brown.....	2 75
1878.		
May 1.	" " Barrett & Brown.....	128 80
Sep. 24.	" " G. G. Chapter.....	10 59
Oct. 1.	" " Barrett & Brown.....	4 50
Nov.	To paid Grand Treasurer.....	272 11— \$996 25

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

MONTGOMERY, December 3, 1878.

GRAND TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

WILLIAM H. DINGLEY,

GRAND TREASURER,

IN ACCOUNT WITH THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA.

1877.

DR.

Dec.	4.	To balance.....	\$394 25
	" 21.	" Received from Grand Secretary.....	577 50

1878.

Nov.	26.	" " " "	272 11—\$1,243 86
------	-----	---------------	-------------------

1877.

CR.

Dec.	6.	By Committee on Work—L. W. Jenkins....	35 00
		" " " —J. H. Johnson....	40 00
		" " on Foreign Correspondence..	150 00
		" Grand Sentinel.....	19 00
"	21.	" Grand Secretary.....	400 00
		" Contingent Fund... ..	300 00
		" Grand Treasurer.....	100 00
"	3.	" Balance on hand.....	199 86—\$1,243 86

W. H. DINGLEY,
Grand Treasurer.

December 3, 1878.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

To the Grand Chapter of Alabama:

Your Committee on Finance have examined the reports and vouchers of the Right Excellent Grand Treasurer and Right Excellent Grand Secretary, and ask leave to report that we find them correct.

The balance cash in hand at last Convocation.....\$ 394 25

Amount received from Grand Secretary to Dec. 21, '77 577 50
1878.)

Amount " " " " " Nov. 21, '78 272 11

\$1,243 86

Expended to December 1, 1878.....1,044 00

Leaving balance on hand Dec. 3d, 1878.....\$199 86

Estimated receipts of this Convocation 650 00

Making in all.....\$849 86

Your committee recommend the following appropriations to meet the necessary expenses of the Grand Chapter, to wit:

To Companion Dingley, Grand Treasurer.....\$ 75 00

" " Sayre, Grand Secretary..... 250 00

" " Pillans, Foreign Correspondence..... 100 00

" " Grand Secretary for Contingent Fund..... 250 00

\$675 00

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

WILEY W. BLOODWORTH,

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.

Number.....	Names of Chapters.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues	Advanced.....	Presided	Rec'd and ack'd.	Exalted.	Affiliated.....	Rejected	Dimitted.....
1	Tuscaloosa.....	38								1
5	Eunomia.....	12	25 50							1
6	Cyrus.....	28								1
10	Tuscumbia.....	35	54 00							
13	Gainesville.....	27	20 25							
17	Wetumpka.....	15	11 25					1		
20	Livingston.....	19	14 25							
21	Mobile.....	38	28 50	2	2	2	2	1		3
22	Montgomery.....	43	32 25	3	3	1				3
23	Talladega.....	20	15 00							1
24	Eufaula.....	33	24 75	1						1
26	Union.....	15	11 25							
28	Saint John's.....	35	26 25					1		3
37	Concord.....	14	10 50							
40	Camden.....	17	12 75							
44	Choctaw.....	15	11 25							
54	Tyrian.....	37	27 75	11	11	11	12	6	2	
63	Clayton.....	28	21 00				2	2		
64	Central.....	16			2	2	2	2		1
66	Alabama.....	28	21 00	1	1	1	1	1		3
71	Landmark.....	36	27 00					2		6
72	Midway.....	14	21 00							
73	Gordon.....	25	18 75	1	1					1
76	Elyton.....	17	12 75							
80	Loachapoka.....	11	8 25					1		2
83	Bell.....	13	19 00							1
85	Gaston.....	19						1		1
87	Moulton.....	23	17 25							

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF CHAPTERS—Continued.

Number.....	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues		Advanced.....	Presided	Rec'd and Ack'd	Exalted	Affiliated	Rejected.....	Dimitted.....
90	Greenville	21	\$15	75	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
93	Columbus	13	9	25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
96	Daniel Pratt	20	15	00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
98	Oxford	17	12	75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
100	Rock Mills	32	24	00	1	1	1	1	..	..	..
101	Mineral City	10	14	25	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
102	Cross Plains	18	13	50	..	..	..	..	..	2	..

AT REST.

"After Life's Fitful Fever, they Sleep well."

John Logeman, March —, 1877.....	} Eunomia.....No.	5
Robert Herstein, September 20.....		
John Huey.....		
Andrew J. Woods.....		
John Walston, January 30.....	} Cyrus.....	6
John A. Portlock, November 13.....		
William W. Weatherford, Dec. 30, 1877..	} Tusculumbia.....	10
Jacob Petree, September 13.....		
Edmunds Mason, December 18, 1877....	} Wetumpka.....	17
Waldo W. Shearer, June 1.....		
John H. Gray, August 15.....	} Livingston.....	20
Robert W. Fort, October 13.....		
Joseph Win Moses, December 20, 1877..	} Mobile.....	21
Jesse J. Cox, September 5.....		
Charles Walker, January 1.....	} Montgomery.....	22
Thomas J. Jeffries, February 13.....		
William M. McMath, November 4.....	} Union.....	26
John R. Lassabe, December 16, 1877....		
John B. Appling, January 10.....	} Saint John's.....	28
John W. Garrison, October 10.....		
Larkins West, December 17, 1877.....	} Central.....	64
John C. Stricklin, March 21.....		
	} Alabama.....	66
	} Gordon.....	73
	} Bell.....	83
	} Rock Mills.....	100

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

EUNOMIA No. 5.—James Ammerman, Harvey Nance, J. A. Willick, J. B. White, Lawrence H. Scruggs, James Hamilton, John J. Dement, Charles A. Johnson, John A. Paul, William Wilson—10.

LIVINGSVON No. 20.—George Dainwood, William Beggs—2.

MOBILE No. 21.—John Craft, James T. McKay—2.

MONTGOMERY No. 22.—Albert Strasburger, James McFarland, James J. Morgan, Jefferson Falkner—4.

TALLADEGA No. 23.—Charles Hendrick, James S. Watson, William C. Patterson, Dempsey B. Oden, Andrew W. Bowie—5.

SAINT JOHN'S No. 28.—George W. Bush, Joseph Gothard, Philip Millhous, John M. Reeder, Mier Rehoeffler, Henry L. Smith, John Scarff, John M. Tillman, James Tracy, James W. Young—10.

CONCORD No. 37.—John A. Rachford, McClelland Rachford, Joseph C. Webb, William H. Denson, William J. Carlisle, Caleb Dean, Washington Smith.—7.

CAMDEN No. 40.—George S. Gullett, Malcom McNeil, Jason Hollomon, Marshall G. Candee, Daniel W. Bythewood—5.

ALABAMA No. 66.—Henry Walter Clayton—1.

BELL No. 83.—James F. Martin, Jacob W. King, Jehu Orr, Lewis S. Simms—4.

COLUMBUS No. 93.—Frank M. Newton—1.

DANIEL PRATT No. 96.—John C. Hearn—1.

OXFORD No. 98.—William J. Borden—1.

MINERAL CITY No. 101.—Samuel H. Day, John A. Milner, Andrew Marr, William T. Parker, Joseph T. Wilson, James W. Butler, James J. Nave, James B. Fonville, John H. L. Wharton, Samuel H. Dupuy—10.

CROSS PLAINS No. 102.—Mathew A. Amberson, Gilbert R. Tracy, Allen Weems, Witson P. Howell, Hugh P. Berry—5.

REINSTATED.

Zachariah Tureman.....	}	Livingston.....	No. 20
George Wilson.....			
Ezekiel S. Gully.....			
James S. Harvey.....	}	Montgomery.....	" 22
I— Z. T. Morris.....			
Richard N. Oakman Jr.....			
William D. Hood.....		Saint John's.....	" 28
		Bell.....	" 83

SUSPENDED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

William H. Evington.....	}	Gaston.....	No. 85
William Y. Petute.....			
Needham W. Cannady.....			
Christopher C. Vaughan.....			
John J. Neilson.....			

RECAPITULATION.

Chapters that made returns.....	35
Chapters that paid dues.....	31
Chapters that were represented.....	29
Members reported at this Convocation.....	802
Dues received at this Convocation.....	\$596 00

WORK OF THE YEAR.

Advanced.....	22
Presided.....	21
Received and Acknowledged.....	20
Exalted.....	20
Affiliated.....	18
Rejected.....	4
Dimitted.....	32
Died.....	22
Expelled.....	0
Suspended for U. M. C.....	5
Suspended for N. P. D.....	68
Reinstated.....	7

STATE OF THE CHAPTERS.

Chapters square upon the books.....	30
Chapters under Dispensation.....	0
Chapters Delinquent.....	13
Charters forfeited.....	60

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 said Chapter shall be forfeited." (*See Section 2, Article III, of the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter.*)

CHAPTERS DELINQUENT IN 1878.

DELINQUENT IN DUES.

Cyrus	No. 1	Jefferson	No. 81
Clinton	" 9	Gaston	" 85
Hermon	" 34	Cowikee	" 94
James L. Daniel	" 35	Thomas M. Bragg	" 99
Tuskegee	" 43	Warrior	" 103
Central	" 64		

DELINQUENT IN REPRESENTATIVES.

Cyrus	No. 6	Central	No. 64
Clinton	" 9	Jefferson	" 81
Hermon	" 34	Cowikee	" 94
James L. Daniel	" 35	Thomas M. Bragg	" 99
Tuskegee	" 43	Rock Mills	" 100
Clayton	" 63	Warrior	" 103

CHARTERS FORFEITED.

Numbers 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 38, 39, 41, 42, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 65, 67, 68, 69, 70, 74, 75, 77, 78, 79, 82, 84, 86, 88, 89, 91, 92, 95, 97

MEMORANDA.

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GRAND CHAPTERS NEAR THE GRAND CHAPTER
OF ALABAMA.

George D. Norris, M. D.	New Market	District of Columbia.
Peleg Brown	Mobile	Indiana.
John G. Harris	Livingston	Kansas.
Henry F. Mullen	Selma	Kentucky.
Palmer J. Pillans	Mobile	Louisiana.
George D. Norris, M. D.	New Market	Massachusetts.
James E. Cobb	Tuskegee	Minnesota.
David Clopton	Montgomery	Mississippi.
Peleg Brown	Mobile	Missouri.
Wiley W. Bloodworth, M. D.	Loachapoka	Nebraska.
James H. Joiner	Talladega	New Jersey.
H. Clay Armstrong	Notasulga	Nova Scotia.
Daniel Sayre	Montgomery	Oregon.
John A. Padgett	Rutledge	Quebec.
George D. Norris, M. D.	New Market	South Carolina.
Peleg Brown	Mobile	Tennessee.
James E. Cobb	Tuskegee	Vermont.
George P. Harrison Jr.	Auburn	Wisconsin.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA NEAR OTHER GRAND
CHAPTERS.

Charles W. Hancock	Washington City	District of Columbia.
Albert D. McConaughey	Atchison	Kansas.
William Ryan	Louisville	Kentucky.
James Todd	Franklin	Louisiana.
Frederick G. Walbridge	Boston	Massachusetts.
Moses W. Getchell	Minneapolis	Minnesota.
Robert L. Saunders	Jackson	Mississippi.
Thomas E. Garrett	Saint Louis	Missouri.
William E. Hill	Nebraska City	Nebraska.

Frederick G. Weise.....	Bordentown.....	New Jersey.
John W. Simons.....	New York.....	New York.
Rocky P. Earhart.....	Salem.....	Oregon.
Angus Grant.....	Montreal.....	Quebec.
Augustine T. Smythe.....	Charleston.....	South Carolina.
Jonathan S. Davis.....	Paris.....	Tennessee.
Justus W. F. Washburn.....	Montpelier.....	Vermont.
Alexander M. Evans.....	Middleway.....	West Virginia.
William C. Swain.....	Milwaukee.....	Wisconsin.

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

N ^o	NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POST OFFICE.	HIGH PRIEST.	SECRETARY.	CONVOCACTIONS.
1	Tuscaloosa.	Tuscaloosa.	Tuscaloosa.	Tuscaloosa.	John M. Martin.	Luther S. Skinner.	Wednesday
5	Eunomia.	Huntsville.	Madison.	Huntsville.	Bernard F. Ludwig.	William H. Tancré.	1 Tuesday
6	Cyrus.	Florence.	Lauderdale.	Florence.	Henry W. Sample.	James R. Price.	1 Monday
10	Tuscombua.	Tuscombua.	Colbert.	Colbert.	Thomas T. Rowland.	John N. Green.	Mon af 2 Sat
13	Gainesville.	Gainesville.	Sumter.	Gainesville.	Edward N. Kring.	Robert G. Neilson.	Thurs afm
17	Wetumpka.	Wetumpka.	Elmore.	Wetumpka.	Isaac W. Suttle.	William S. Penick.	Mon af 3 Sab
20	Livingston.	Livingston.	Sumter.	Livingston.	Robert D. Webb.	Isaiah C. Brown.	3 Friday
21	Mobile.	Mobile.	Mobile.	Mobile.	Thomas A. Boon.	Edward E. England.	1 & 3 Thurs
22	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	William D. Wadsworth.	Calvin W. Sayre.	2 Saturday
23	Talladega.	Talladega.	Talladega.	Talladega.	Myles J. Greene.	Henry H. Hamill.	3 Friday
24	Eufaula.	Eufaula.	Barbour.	Eufaula.	John Gilbert Smith.	John Curtis Thomas.	1 Saturday
26	Union.	Uniontown.	Perry.	Uniontown.	John W. Bush.	Adolph Jacobson.	1 Thursday
28	Saint John's.	Selma.	Dallas.	Selma.	John A. McKinnon.	James E. Scarbrough.	4 Monday
37	Concord.	LaFayette.	Chambers.	LaFayette.	Benjamin J. Foster.	James E. Scarbrough.	1 Monday
40	Canden.	Canden.	Wilcox.	Canden.	John Eades Gullett.	DeForest Richards.	2 Wednesday
44	Choctaw.	Butler.	Choctaw.	Butler.	Alanson J. Gray.	Oliver C. Ulmer.	2 Saturday
54	Tyrann.	Troy.	Pike.	Troy.	John R. Goldthwaite.	Joel D. Murphree.	Fri bf 2 Sab
63	Clayton.	Clayton.	Barbour.	Clayton.	Seth Mabrey.	James J. Winn.	Mon af 1 Sab
64	Central.	Montevallo.	Shelby.	Montevallo.	Edward G. Walker.	Samuel S. Holbrook.	1 & 4 Friday
65	Alabama.	Mobile.	Mobile.	Mobile.	Daniel Smith.	Edward L. Merkel.	3 Saturday
71	Landmark.	Ozark.	Pale.	Ozark.	James M. Bridges.	Mark A. Cook.	1 Thursday
72	Midway.	Midway.	Bullock.	Midway.	Charles H. Jernigan.	Cameron McKinnon.	3 Saturday
73	Gordon.	Abbeville.	Henry.	Midway.	Newell M. Thornton.	James W. Stokes.	2 Monday
76	Elyton.	Elyton.	Jefferson.	Elyton.	Sam Thompson.	Robert A. Terrell.	1 Tuesday
80	Loachapoka.	Loachapoka.	Lee.	Loachapoka.	Lewis T. Whately.	Wiley W. Bloodworth.	3 Saturday
83	Ball.	Lineville.	Clay.	Lineville.	Edmund B. Stephens.	Thomas C. Moon.	2 Thursday
85	Gaston.	Gaston.	Sumter.	Gaston.	William R. Horn.	John N. Gilmore.	2 Saturday
87	Moulton.	Moulton.	Lawrence.	Moulton.	DeWitt Clinton White.	Asa M. Hodges.	2 & 4 Sat
90	Greenville.	Greenville.	Butler.	Greenville.	Joseph M. Thigpen.	Adam B. Dulin Jr.	1 Saturday
93	Columbus.	Newton.	Dale.	Newton.	Richard A. Ramsey.	John R. Kelly.	1 Saturday
96	Daniel Pratt.	Prattville.	Antauga.	Prattville.	James H. Booth.	Mark Hirscher.	Monday afm
98	Oxford.	Oxford.	Calhoun.	Oxford.	Stephen C. Williams.	Thaddeus L. Robertson.	2 Tuesday
100	Rock Mills.	Rock Mills.	Randolph.	Rock Mills.	George W. Taylor.	Charles W. Eichelberger.	Sat bf 1 Sab
101	Mineral City.	Birmingham.	Jefferson.	Birmingham.	William L. Gude.	Peter Holzschuber.	1 & 4 Mon
102	Cross Plains.	Calhoun.	Calhoun.	Cross Plains.	Alexander McCollister.	Francis M. Savage.	Sat bf 2 Sab

GRAND SECRETARIES AND THEIR ADDRESS.

0.	Alabama	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery.
1.	Arkansas	Luke E. Barber	Little Rock.
2.	California	Thomas Hubbard Caswell	San Francisco.
3.	Canada	John J. Mason	Hamilton, Ont.
4.	Colorado	Edward C. Parmelee	Georgetown.
5.	Connecticut	Joseph K. Wheeler	Hartford.
6.	District of Columbia	Charles W. Hancock	Washington.
7.	Delaware	John P. Almond	Wilmington.
8.	Florida	DeWitt Clinton Dawkins	Jacksonville.
9.	Georgia	James Emmett Blackshear	Macon.
10.	Illinois	Gilbert Wordsworth Barnard	Chicago.
11.	Indiana	John M. Bramwell	Indianapolis.
12.	Iowa	William B. Langridge	Muscadine.
13.	Kansas	John M. Price	Atchison.
14.	Kentucky	Joseph H. Branham	Louisville.
15.	Louisiana	James C. Batchelor	New Orleans.
16.	Maine	Ira Berry	Portland.
17.	Maryland	William A. Wentz	Baltimore.
18.	Massachusetts	Zephaniah H. Thomas Jr.	Boston.
19.	Michigan	William P. Innes	Grand Rapids.
20.	Minnesota	Azariah T. C. Pierson	Saint Paul.
21.	Mississippi	John Logan Power	Jackson.
22.	Missouri	William H. Mayo	Saint Louis.
23.	Nebraska	William R. Bowen	Omaha.
24.	Nevada	John D. Hammond	Carson.
25.	New Hampshire	George P. Cleaves	Concord.
26.	New Jersey	Thomas Johnston Corson	Trenton.
27.	New York	Christopher G. Fox	Buffalo.
28.	North Carolina	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh.
29.	Nova Scotia	James Gossip	Halifax.
30.	Ohio	James Nesbitt	Troy.
31.	Oregon	Rocky P. Earhart	Portland.
32.	Pennsylvania	John Thomson	Philadelphia.
33.	Quebec	James T. McMinn	Montreal.
34.	Rhode Island	William R. Greene	Providence.
35.	South Carolina	James E. Burke	Charleston.
36.	Tennessee	John Frizzell	Nashville.
37.	Texas	Robert Brewster	Houston.
38.	Vermont	William H. S. Whitcomb	Burlington.
39.	Virginia	William Bryan Isaacs	Richmond.
40.	West Virginia	Odell S. Long	Wheeling.
41.	Wisconsin	John Wesley Woodhull	Milwaukee.
42.	United States	Christopher G. Fox	Buffalo, N. Y.

Council of High Priests.

TENTH CONVOCAATION.

MONTGOMERY, December 4, 1878.

The Council of High Priests for the State of Alabama met at the Masonic Hall, in the City of Montgomery, on Wednesday at 3 o'clock.

PRESENT.

MYLES J. GREENE.....	President.
NEWELL M. THORNTON, <i>as</i>	Vice President.
MARTIN G. SLAUGHTER.....	Chaplain.
LEWIS T. WIMBERLY.....	Treasurer.
THEODORE L. EASTBURN, <i>as</i>	Recorder.
WILLIAM S. FOSTER.....	Master of C.
JAMES H. JOINER.....	Conductor.
DEWITT CLINTON WHITE.....	Herald.
STEPHEN HENRY BEASLEY.....	Steward.

PRESENT.—Companions Joseph H. Johnson and Alexander McCollister.

The Council of High Priests was opened in Ample Form.

Petitions for the Order of High-Priesthood, accompanied by the proper and necessary vouchers of having been elected and installed to preside over Chapters of

Royal Arch Masons, and the requisite contribution, were recieved from the following Companions :

William H. Tanere, of Eunomia No. 5.
 Thomas T. Rowland, of Tuscumbia No. 10.
 Daniel Smith, of Alabama No. 66.
 Edward Blacklidge, of Gordon No. 73.
 Richard A. Ramsey, of Columbus No. 93.

And were referred to the Committee of the Whole, and a ballot was had, and they were elected.

The applicants were then introduced, set apart, and consecrated, to the Order of High-Priesthood in solemn form.

The Council proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, and the following were duly elected :

OFFICERS :

MYLES J. GREENE.....	President,
HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	Vice President.
MARTIN G. SLAUGHTER.....	Chaplain.
LEWIS T. WIMBERLY.....	Treasurer.
THEODORE L. EASTBURN.....	Recorder.
WILLIAM S. FOSTER	Master of Ceremonies.
DANIEL SMITH.....	Conductor.
THOMAS T. ROWLAND.....	Herald.
WILLIAM DWIGHT WADSWORTH.....	Steward.

And there being no further business to be brought before the Council, 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 the State of Alabama.

THEODORE L. EASTBURN,
 Recorder.