

1880
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND
CHAPTER
of
Royal Arch Masons
of
ALABAMA



A.D. 1880 / A.I. 2410

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A.D.2017, A.L.6017

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,

AT THE

ANNUAL CONVOCATION

HELD IN THE

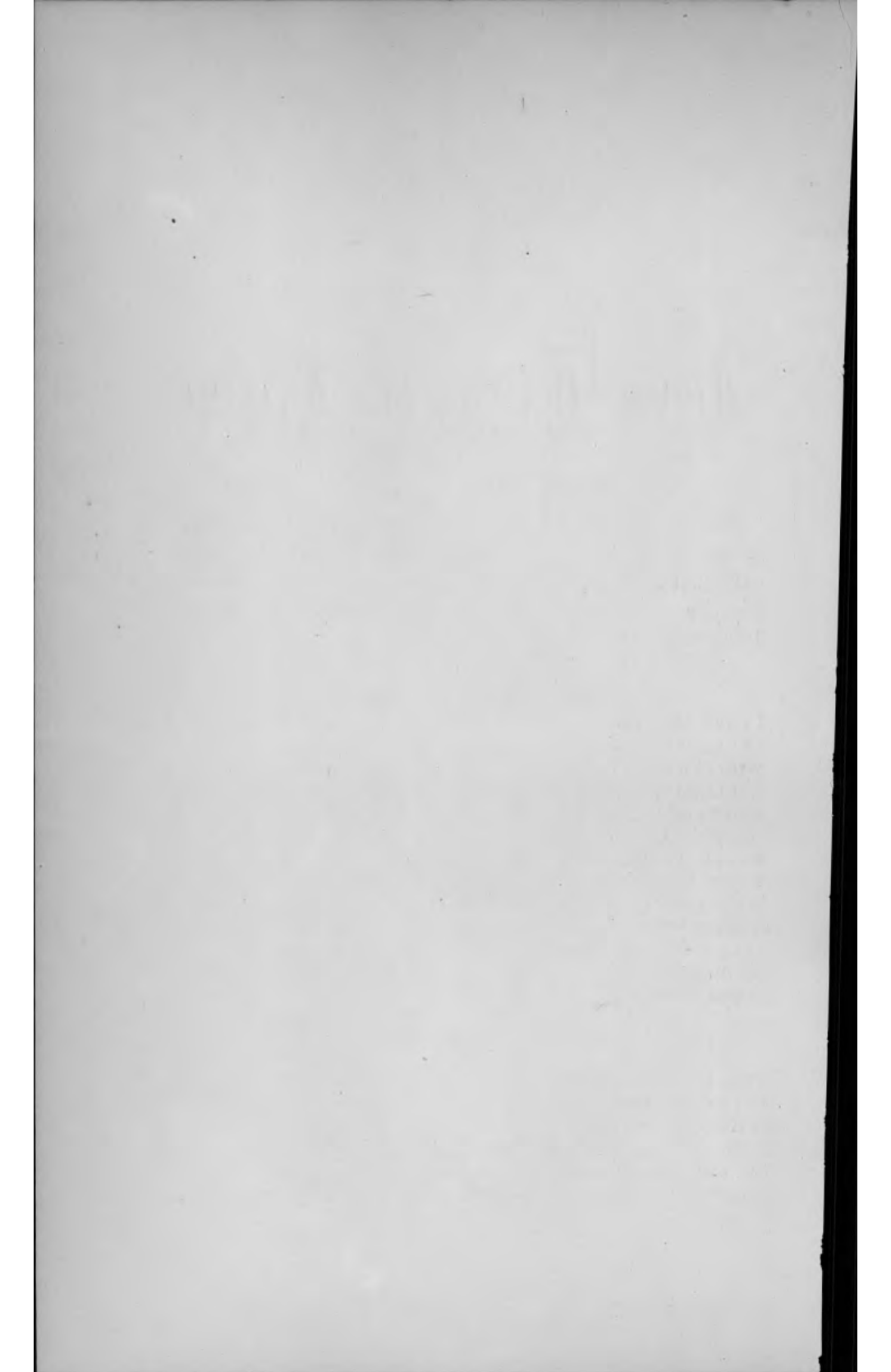
CITY OF MONTGOMERY,

1880.

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA:

BARRETT & BROWN, STEAM PRINTERS AND BOOK BINDERS.

1881.



PROCEEDINGS.

The M. Ex. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama held its Fifty-fourth Annual Grand Convocation at the New Masonic Temple, in the City of Montgomery, on Tuesday, the 7th day of December, A. D. 1880, A. L. 5880, Anno Inv. 2410.

PRESENT:

JAMES HERVEY JOINER.....	Grand High Priest.
LUCKY WALKER JENKINS.....	Deputy G. H. Priest.
WILLIAM STARY FOSTER.....	Grand King.
WILLIAM DWIGHT WADSWORTH.....	Grand Scribe.
WILLIAM HENRY DINGLEY.....	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE.....	Grand Secretary.
MYLES JEFFERSON GREENE, <i>as</i>	Grand C. of H.
WILEY WASHINGTON BLOODWORTH.....	Grand P. Sojourner.
WILLIAM WALLACE MCCOLLUM, <i>as</i>	Grand R. A. C.
JOSEPH HENRY JOHNSON, <i>as</i>	Grand M. of 3 V.
JULIUS CAHN ADLER, <i>as</i>	Grand M. of 2 V.
GEORGE PEACOCK, <i>as</i>	Grand M. of 1 V.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....	Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	Grand High Priest.
MYLES JEFFERSON GREENE.....	Grand High Priest.
JAMES MILTON.....	Deputy G. H. Priest.
JAMES MCGINNIS BRUNDIDGE.....	Grand King.
PALMER JOB PILLANS.....	Grand Scribe.
STEPHEN COLEMAN WILLIAMS.....	Grand Scribe.

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

JOSEPH H. JOHNSON, M. D.	Canada.
MYLES J. GREENE, M. D.	Iowa.
JOHN G. HARRIS.	Kansas.
PALMER J. PILLANS.	Louisiana.
WILEY W. BLOODWORTH, M. D.	Nebraska.
JAMES H. JOINER	New Jersey.
HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG	Nova Scotia.
DANIEL SAYRE.	Oregon.

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

No.	1.	Tuscaloosa	William G. Cochrane*	H. P.
"	13.	Gainesville	Edward N. Kring	"
"	17.	Wetumpka	{ William S. Penick*.....	"
			{ Thomas P. Whitby*.....	K.
"	20.	Livingston	{ John G. Harris*.....	H. P.
			{ George C. Gowdey*.....	K.
"	21.	Mobile..	William S. Foster.....	H. P.
"	22.	Montgomery.	{ Edmund R. Hastings.....	"
			{ Archibald L. R. Thompson.....	K.
			{ Emil Kulman.....	S.
"	23.	Talladega.....	{ Joseph H. Johnson.....	H. P.
			{ James H. Joiner*.....	K.
			{ Myles J. Greene*.....	S.
"	24.	Eufaula	James Milton*.....	H. P.
"	26.	Union.....	John W. Bush.....	"
			{ George Peacock.....	"
"	28.	Saint Johns.....	{ William W. McCollum*.....	K.
			{ Julius C. Adler*.....	S.
"	34.	Herman.....	Isaiah A. Wilson.....	H. P.
"	38.	Decatur.....	James M. Brundidge.....	K.
"	40.	Camden..	{ James T. Beck*.....	H. P.
			{ Lucky W. Jenkins.....	K.
"	54.	Tyrian	Samuel R. Cotton.....	"
"	64.	Central.....	Thomas B. McClusky.....	"
"	66.	Alabama.....	Daniel Smith.....	H. P.
"	71.	Landmark	Angus M. Scott*.....	"
"	73.	Gordon.....	Newell M. Thornton.....	"
"	85.	Gaston.....	John N. Gilmore.....	"
"	86.	Coosa.....	{ Benjamin F. Pope.....	"
			{ Joseph L. Cunningham*.....	K.
"	87.	Moulton	Noble G. Deleshaw.....	H. P.
"	88.	Roslin.....	Andrew J. Nunnelley.....	"
"	96.	Daniel Pratt.....	George L. Smith.....	K.
"	98.	Oxford.....	{ Stephen C. Williams.....	H. P.
			{ Daniel P. Gunnells*.....	K.

Proxies.

No. 100.	Mineral City.....	Francis H. Britton.....	H. P.
" 102.	Cross Plains.	Andrew J. Sitton.....	"
		Josiah W. Whiteside..	K.
		Benjamin F. Savage*	S
" 104.	Weogufka	John A. Sears.....	H. P.
		Thomas S. McDonald*.....	K.

Proxies.

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

The M. Ex. Grand High Priest delivered his Annual Address, and on motion of Companion George Peacock, it was referred to a special

COMMITTEE ON GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

Joseph H. Johnson, of Talladega No. 23.

Henry Clay Armstrong, P. G. H. P.

Palmer J. Pillans, P. G. S.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Companions of the Grand Chapter :

Since our last Annual Convocation the history of another year has been written in unchangeable characters. It would not be unprofitable for each one of us to examine his conduct critically, in the light of truth, that he may not only be able to discover, but to shun, the errors into which he may have fallen.

CAUSE FOR THANKFULNESS.

In reviewing the history of the year just closed, we find nothing that calls for serious regret, so far as the material interest of the Royal Craft is concerned, yet in many parts of our Jurisdiction the husbandman has not been as liberally rewarded for his labors as in former ones. While this is true, we have reason to rejoice that our whole people have been mercifully preserved from any devastating scourge, as well as from any influence calculated to disorganize our ancient and beloved institution, or impair its usefulness. Our history for ages past will convince every reflecting mind that the principles of our Order are written as on Tables of Stone, and cannot be effaced by time or circumstances; and when inscribed upon true and honest hearts, will control the motives and direct the steps of all good men in the paths of virtue, as well in adversity as in prosperity. But I apprehend that it is not necessary that I should descant upon the past, or call the attention of my Companions to their Masonic privileges, duties, and obligations. It is for the future that we are now engaged, and hoping and believing, as I do, that all *Masons* are alive to their individual responsibilities in this regard, I shall proceed at once to give account of my stewardship for the past Masonic year.

DECISIONS.

I received a communication, dated the 10th of February, 1880, from

the High Priest of Mineral City Chapter, written in a truly Masonic spirit. It is of considerable length, and cannot be well understood by a synopsis. It has been placed in the hands of the Right Excellent Grand Secretary, that all who feel interested can have access to it.

Among other things, the writer says: "Please inform me of a resolution ordering Mineral City Chapter to pay over to Elyton Chapter certain fees, passed by the Grand Chapter, and if our Chapter has not the right to re-open the case, and present our side of it, with fair prospects of reversing the report of the committee. A garnishment having been served on our Chapter to satisfy a judgment against Elyton Chapter, I await your decision in the matter before paying over the amount."

This has reference to a report made by the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence at the last Grand Convocation in regard to a charge preferred by Elyton Chapter, against Mineral City Chapter, for a violation of jurisdiction, in that they conferred the degrees upon a candidate living within the jurisdiction of Elyton Chapter, without the consent of said Chapter. The report is on page 20 of the proceedings of the last Grand Chapter.

In the matter above stated I did not interfere. So far as my knowledge extends, there is no law, fundamental or statutory, to authorize such a proceeding.

It was a misfortune to Mineral City Chapter that its representative was not present when the charge was made, to attend to the interests of his chapter; and the fact of his absence affords no excuse for the Grand High Priest, either by Dispensation or otherwise, to attempt to stop the force of the enactment of the Grand Chapter, based as it is on a plain provision of the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter. (*See Sec. 8, Art. III.*)

The communication further says: "Your decision is also requested in the following case: A brother living within the jurisdiction of Elyton Chapter applied to Mineral City Chapter for the capitular degrees. We applied to Elyton Chapter, asking if they knew any reason why the capitular degrees should not be conferred on him, and asked their consent to confer them.

It appears that at a Convocation of Elyton Chapter, the High Priest refused to put the question upon a motion made and seconded, (which

he declared to be out of order,) to grant permission, until the fee for the degrees was paid over to Elyton Chapter, although it was manifest that the members present were unanimous in favor of granting the permission. Please inform me, if under the circumstances a Dispensation, authorizing us to confer the degrees, cannot be granted."

Held, that a Dispensation could not be granted for the purpose stated. The Grand Chapter has prescribed the mode by which jurisdictional rights may be transferred. (*See Sec. 8, Art. III of the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter.*) It will be seen that the law is positive in its requirements, and has the same force upon the Grand High Priest as upon subordinate Chapters; and the mere circumstances as stated are not sufficient to justify a non-compliance with its demands.

The following question has been asked: "Has the High Priest of a subordinate Chapter the right and authority to issue a penal summons, when he may deem the good of his Chapter requires it?"

Ans.—He has. Every Mason solemnly agrees to obey all due signs and summons. This is one of the first lessons impressed upon him, and certainly implies the right in some one to issue a summons, and to decide when it is necessary for the good of the craft. This power has always been vested in the head, either of a Chapter or a Lodge, and it is the prerogative of these officers to decide this question for themselves, and act in conformity with their convictions in the premises.

In Mitchell's Common Law of Masonry, pages 352-3, it is said: "We hold that neither a lodge nor the Grand Lodge has the power to withhold from the Master of a Lodge the right to summon the members to meet him in their Lodge room at any time he may designate, provided a reasonable time is allowed for obedience to the summons. Of course we must be understood as holding that, while the right to summon at all times is clearly in the hands of the Master, he has no legal or moral right to abuse that power." This we believe to be universally acknowledged as the Common Law of Masonry, and applies as well to Chapters as to Lodges. But it should be distinctly understood that the High Priest is always amenable to the Grand Chapter for any abuse of this high power.

Again: What course would you advise when an applicant for the Chapter degrees—elected eight or ten years ago—who has failed, until

the lapse of that time, to come up for the degrees, and then demands them?

Ans.—I would not confer the Degrees without another ballot.

REMOVAL OF A CHAPTER.

On the 2d day of January last I granted a dispensation, authorizing the removal of Gaston Chapter No. 85 from Gaston, in Sumter county, to Desotenville, in Choctaw county. It will be seen by reference to the proceedings, page 17, of the last Grand Chapter, that this question was before it. A motion was made and carried that the whole matter be left to the discretion of the Grand High Priest. The evidence before me was of such a character as to leave no doubt on my mind that Capitular Masonry would suffer in that part of our jurisdiction if the prayer of the petitioners was not granted. I therefore authorized the removal as stated above.

REPRESENTATIVES.

On different dates during the year I was officially informed of the appointment of Companion Joseph H. Johnson, of Talladega, P. G. M. of Alabama, as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada near the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

Also of the appointment of Companion William S. Foster, of Mobile, present Grand King, as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, near the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

And also of the appointment of Companion John W. Bush, of Uniontown, present Grand R. A. C., as the representative of the Grand Chapter of New York, near the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

These are known to be able and highly cultivated Companions, and will not fail to represent these Grand Bodies "with credit to themselves and honor to the Fraternity." Two of them are in attendance, and in due time the Grand Chapter of Alabama will take pleasure in extending to them a cordial welcome and a suitable recognition.

To represent the Grand Chapter of Alabama, near the Grand Chapter of Canada, I have commissioned Companion Isaac F. Toms, of Goderich, Huron, Canada.

To represent the Grand Chapter of Alabama, near the Grand Chapter of Maryland, Companion Joseph E. Tyler, of Baltimore.

To represent the Grand Chapter of Alabama, near the Grand Chapter of New York, Companion William Sherer, of Brooklyn.

It is with pleasure that I am able to state that our representative in the Grand Chapter of Canada has been received and accepted as such, and we have reason to believe that our representatives in the other Grand Bodies named have been, or will be, properly recognized.

DISPENSATIONS.

On the 18th and 30th of June respectively, I granted Dispensations to Central Chapter No. 64, and Talladega Chapter No. 23, to confer the several degrees on candidates at one convocation.

On the 18th and 29th of June respectively, I granted Dispensations to Cross Plains Chapter No. 102, to Columbus Chapter No. 93, and to Notasulga Chapter No. 92, to elect officers at some other than the regular time.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

It is, perhaps, known to many of the Companions, that the General Grand Chapter of the United States met in Detroit, Michigan, on the 24th of last August. I desired that the Grand Chapter of Alabama should be ably represented. Accordingly, on the 26th of May last, I forwarded to our able and efficient Chairman on Foreign Correspondence, Companion Palmer J. Pillans, a letter, requesting him to represent the Grand Chapter of Alabama in the General Grand Chapter of the United States. It will, no doubt, be as gratifying to the members of this Grand Body as it is to me to know that Companion Pillans performed the onerous duty, and I have no hesitancy in saying that no one is more willing or competent to give the Grand Chapter an intelligent account of its proceedings.

CONCLUSION.

I have now laid before the Grand Chapter a report of my acts for the past masonic year. They are submitted for your approval or disapproval. But before concluding, permit me to remark, that in my humble judgment, our last Grand Convocation was a very profitable one. It is a high privilege to state that so far as I have been able to discover,

either by official correspondence or otherwise, your legislation has met the approval of the Royal Craft in Alabama. The Committee on Work was allowed to make a full report of the work and lectures of the several degrees. This is an improvement on former Convocations, and I feel safe in saying that those who remained to the close were amply paid for the delay caused by the complete report of the Ritual of our Order, which was so important to the well-being of Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction. The duties and responsibilities of another Convocation are upon us, and it behooves every Companion who helps to make this Grand Body, to ponder well his individual responsibility in all the enactments of the Grand Chapter. It is not merely for ourselves that we have met to legislate in the interests of Freemasonry, but it may be that our children—yea, our children's children, are to be affected by our present deliberations. Let us obey the Divine injunction, and "*mark well* the entering in of the house with every going forth of the sanctuary," that our much-loved masonic edifice may not be marred by stones not fitted for the builders' use.

JAS. H. JOINER,

Grand High Priest.

REPORTS MADE.

The R. Ex. Grand Treasurer and the R. Ex. Grand Secretary made their Annual Reports, and they were referred to the Committee on Finance. (*See Appendix.*)

MIDWAY CHAPTER NO. 72.

A petition was received from the members of Midway Chapter No. 72, setting forth that they had lost their Hall, Jewels, and Records, by fire, and praying the Grand Chapter to remit their dues for the current year, and give them a new charter free of charge. And the prayer of the petition was granted.

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Companion Palmer J. Pillans presented his report on Foreign Correspondence, and it was received, and ordered to be printed with the Proceedings.

The Grand High Priest announced the following

STANDING COMMITTEES :

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS No. 1.—William G. Cochrane, George C. Gowdey, Noble G. Deleshaw.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS No. 2.—Edward N. Kring, Newell M. Thornton, Andrew J. Nunnally.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS No. 3.—James T. Beck, Thomas B. McCluskey, George L. Smith.

ON DISPENSATIONS.—Samuel R. Cotton, John N. Gilmore, Angus M. Scott.

ON FINANCE.—John G. Harris, James Milton, Benjamin F. Pope.

ON BY-LAWS, SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND APPEALS.—George Peacock, Joseph L. Cunningham, Francis H. Britton.

JURISPRUDENCE.—Myles J. Greene, Palmer J. Pillans, Isaiah A. Wilson.

REPORT ON THE M. M. DEGREE.

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

And then the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 8½ o'clock.

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, December 8, 1880.

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

The minutes were read and approved.

Companion Edward N. Kring, 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, beg leave to report, that having carefully examined the Returns submitted to them, they find the following

CORRECT :

Saint Johns.....	No. 28	Tyrian.....	No. 54
Herman.....	" 34	Central.....	" 64
Decatur.....	" 38	Alabama.....	" 66
Camden.....	" 40	Landmark.....	" 71
Choctaw.....	" 44	Elyton.....	" 76

INCORRECT :

ZERUBBABEL No. 56.—No postoffice set down; A. Inv. not filled out; which is simply adding 530—the year B. C. of the building of the second temple by Zerubbabel—to the common Era 1880, equal to 2410.

GORDON No. 73.—Adds a column for inserting the amount of dues opposite each name, which is not required by the blank.

Fraternally submitted,

E. N. KRING,
Chairman.

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

REPORT ON GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

The committee to whom was referred the address of the M. Ex. G. H. Priest, having duly considered the same, beg leave to report, that they congratulate the Grand Chapter upon the beautiful and instructive lessons therein imparted, as well as upon the well grounded hopes of increased interest in Capitular Masonry, of which the M. Ex. G. H. Priest has assured it.

Your committee have carefully considered the several questions of masonic law decided by the G. H. Priest, and are gratified in being able to concur entirely with the G. H. Priest, and recommend that they be approved.

The interchange of representatives your committee believe tends to promote the feeling of community of interest and purposes so very desirable in so extended an association, and recommend that the hour of 10½ A. M., this day, be fixed for the introduction and reception of those who have been appointed to represent other Grand Chapters near this of Alabama, as announced by the G. H. Priest.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

P. J. PILLANS,
J. H. JOHNSON,
H. C. ARMSTRONG,
Committee.

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

NOTASULGA NO. 92 AND RUSSELL NO. 65.

Resolved, That Notasulga Chapter No. 92 and Russell Chapter No. 65 have ninety days in which to make returns and pay dues.

Companion Palmer J. Pillans offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

RESOLUTION OF 1879 RENEWED.

Resolved, That all Chapters the charters of which have been forfeited for the non-payment of Dues, be, and the same are hereby authorized to re-organize, elect officers, and continue to work, until the convocation of the Grand Chapter in 1881, when, if their dues are paid for that year, they shall be fully reinstated.

On motion of Companion Myles J. Greene, the Grand Chapter proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing masonic year, Companions Daniel Smith and Julius C. Adler acting as tellers, and the election resulted as follows:—

ELECTED GRAND OFFICERS.

JAMES HERVEY JOINER.....	Talladega.....	Grand High Priest.
LUCKY WALKER JENKINS.....	Camden.....	Deputy G. H. Priest.
WILLIAM STARY FOSTER.....	Mobile.....	Grand King.
WILLIAM DWIGHT WADSWORTH.....	Montgomery.....	Grand Scribe.
WILLIAM HENRY DINGLEY.....	Montgomery.....	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE.....	Montgomery.....	Grand Secretary.
LEROY RILEY SIMMS (Rev.).....	Abbeville.....	Grand Chaplain.
WILLIAM WALLACE MCCOLLUM.....	Selma.....	Grand C. of H.

And the Grand High Priest *elect* announced the following

APPOINTED GRAND OFFICERS:

STEPHEN C. WILLIAMS.....	Oxford.....	Grand P. Sojourner.
JOHN W. BUSH.....	Uniontown.....	Grand Royal Arch C.
NEWELL M. THORNTON.....	Abbeville.....	Grand M. 3 V.
JOHN T. BECK.....	Camden.....	Grand M. 2 V.
ANDREW J. SITTON.....	Cross Plains.....	Grand M. 1 V.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....	Moutgomery.....	Grand Sentinel.

RECEPTION OF GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

The hour of 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock having arrived, the time fixed for the reception of Representatives of other Grand Chapters, Companion William S. Foster, of Mobile

Chapter No. 21, was presented to the Grand High Priest, and cordially received and welcomed as the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Maryland.

(The Grand Secretary regrets to have to say, that Companion John W. Bush, the representative of the Grand Chapter of New York, who was also a member of the legislature, was unavoidably absent, on account of sickness in his family.)

REPORT ON FINANCE.

Companion Benjamin F. Pope, from the Committee on Finance, made report, and the report was received and concurred in. (*See Appendix.*)

REPORT ON WORK.

Companion Henry Clay Armstrong, from the Committee on Work, made report on the Royal Arch Degree, but before concluding the report, gave way for other business.

Companion William G. Cochrane, 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 the returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT :

Eunomia.....	No. 5	Mobile.....	No. 21
Tuscumbia.....	" 10	Montgomery.....	" 22
Gainesville.....	" 13	Talladega.....	" 23
Wetumpka.....	" 17	Union.....	" 26
Livingston.....	" 20		

INCORRECT :

TUSCALOOSA No. 1.—No seal. Name not indorsed on the back.

EUFULA No. 24 —Name not indorsed on the back, table of Dues not filled out.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

WILLIAM G. COCHRANE,
Chairman.

And then the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until this afternoon at 5 o'clock.

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, December 8, 1880.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 5 o'clock, the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, James H. Joiner, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

The minutes were read and approved.

REPORT ON ROYAL ARCH DEGREE.

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

On motion of Companion William S. Foster, the report on the P. M. and M. E. M. Degrees was postponed until the next Annual Convocation.

Companion William W. McCollum offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

INSTRUCTIONS TO SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

Resolved, That the High Priests of the subordinate chapters in this jurisdiction be required to go through with all the opening and closing ceremonies, except when prevented by very emergent circumstances.

Companion James T. Beck, 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 they have carefully examined the Returns submitted to them and find the following

CORRECT :

Coosa.....	No. 86	Oxford.....	No. 98
George D Norris.....	" 91	Rock Mills.....	" 100
Daniel Pratt.....	" 96	Cross Plains.....	" 102

INCORRECT :

GASTON No. 85.—Not signed by the Secretary.

MOULTON No. 87.—Name not indorsed on the back, names of two Royal Arch Masons appear under all the heads of Past Masters, M. Ex. Masters, and Royal Arch, contrary to instructions in the blanks.

ROSLIN No. 88.—Year A. L. and A. Inv. not filled out, no seal. See Code, page 32, Sec. 4.

MINERAL CITY No. 101.—Quantities in Recapitulation lettered out instead of being in figures, according to instructions, year A. L. not filled out. No seal—see Code, page 32, Sec. 4.

WEOGUFKA No 104.—Names of 3 Royal Arch Masons under all the heads of Mark Masters, Past Masters, M. Ex. Masters, and Royal Arch Masons, contrary to instructions.

Fraternally submitted.

JAMES T. BECK,
GEORGE L. SMITH,
THOMAS B. McCLESKEY,
Committee.

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

CHARTER TO DECATUR NO. 38.

Resolved, That Decatur Chapter No. 38, which has recently been revived and commenced work under and by virtue of a resolution adopted by this Grand Chapter at its last Grand Convocation, be furnished a new charter free of charge, its charter having been destroyed at the time it became dormant.

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

PINE LEVEL CHAPTER NO. 75.

Whereas, Pine Level Royal Arch Chapter No. 75, has forfeited its charter, and this Grand Chapter is informed that its property and effects are in danger of being squandered and going to waste, and that it owes debts that ought to be paid ; therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of two be appointed by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, whose duty it shall be to take charge of and sell all the effects and property of said Chapter, and that they pay out of the proceeds, the expenses, if any, of executing this trust, and the debts of said Chapter, the correctness of which may be duly and properly established by proof, and the balance of proceeds, if any, pay over to the Grand Secretary, and make report to the Grand Chapter at its next Grand Annual Convocation.

INSTALLATION.

The Grand High Priest then proceeded to install the Grand Officers, elect and appointed ; being presented by Past Grand High Priest, Myles J. Greene.

The following were announced as the usual Standing Committees of the Grand Chapter :

ON WORK

Henry Clay Armstrong.....	Montgomery.
Joseph Henry Johnson, M. D.....	Talladega.
Lucky Walker Jenkins, M. D.....	Camden.

CUSTODIAN OF THE WORK.

James Hervey Joiner, <i>virtute officii</i>	Talladega.
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MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Myles Jefferson Greene, M. D.....	Talladega.
Palmer Job Pillans.....	Mobile.
Isaiah Atwater Wilson.....	Union Springs.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Palmer Job Pillans.....	Mobile.
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MINUTES READ.

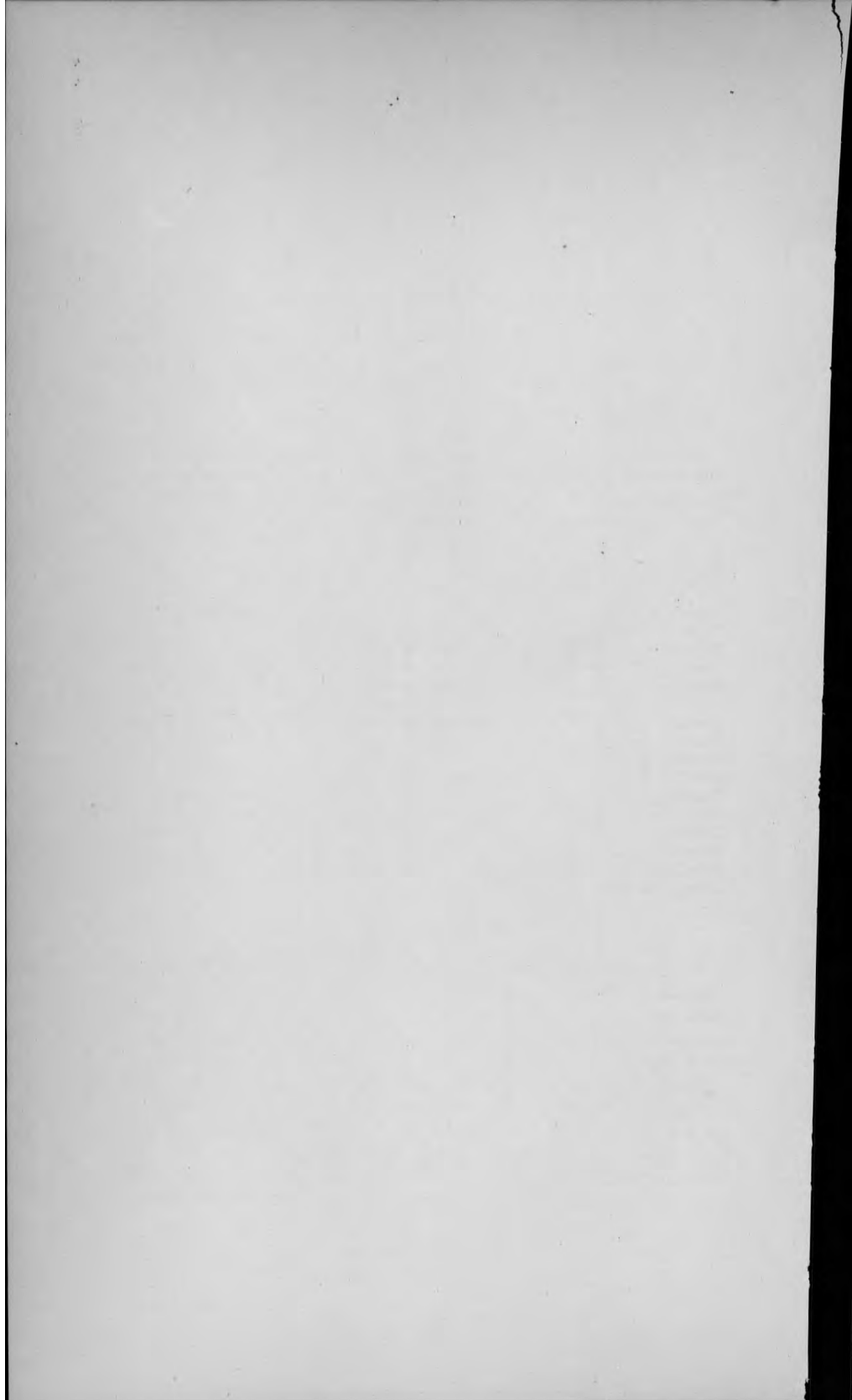
And there being no further business to be brought before the Grand Chapter at this Grand Annual Convocation, the minutes were read and approved.

CLOSED.

And then, after solemn prayer to the Throne of Grace by the R. Ex. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Companion Leroy Riley Simms, the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama was closed in AMPLE FORM at 6 o'clock and 7 minutes, P. M.

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

APPENDIX.



FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Once more we essay to lay before you, Companions, what may prove entertaining or profitable in the proceedings of the companions of other jurisdictions, with which we are in correspondence. On our table we find a large number of them as follows :

Arkansas	1879	Michigan.....	1880
California.....	1880	Minnesota.....	1879
Canada.....	1880	Mississippi.....	1880
Colorado.....	1879	Missouri.....	1880
Connecticut.....	1880	Nebraska.....	1879
Delaware.....	1880	Nevada.....	1879-80
District of Columbia.....	1879	New Hampshire.....	1880
England and Wales.....	1880	New Jersey.....	1879-80
Florida.....	1879-80	North Carolina.....	1880
Georgia.....	1880	Nova Scotia.....	1878-79
Illinois.....	1879	Ohio.....	1879
Indiana.....	1879	Oregon.....	1880
Iowa.....	1879	Pennsylvania.....	1879
Kansas.....	1879	South Carolina.....	1880
Kentucky.....	1879	Tennessee.....	1879
Louisiana.....	1880	Vermont.....	1880
Maine.....	1880	Virginia.....	1879
Maryland.....	1879	Wisconsin.....	1880
Massachusetts.....	1880		

ARKANSAS.

The Annual Convocation of this G. Chapter was opened by R. E. Companion George Thornburgh, D. G. H. P. with representatives from three subordinate Chapters on the 7th Oct., 1879, and was called to refreshment until the 20th Nov., at which time the M. E. G. H. Priest, M. M. McGuire, called it to labor with representatives from 22 Chapters.

The G. H. Priest announced the death of Companion I. P. McCown G. King, and Companion Wm. D. Blocher, P. G. Secretary, with suitable remarks. He says: "We are justified in pronouncing R. A. Masonry in Arkansas to be in a healthy and growing condition. A number of Chapters considered dead, or almost 'so, at our last convocation have been revived and gone to work, with fair prospects for a bright future."

The Cryptic Degrees were taken under the supervision of this G. Chapter at the last convocation, and the G. H. Priest says: "We are not ready to give it up, neither are we ready to pronounce it a success."

Dispensations for 3 new Chapters were granted.

The finances appear to be in a healthy condition: the cash balance on Treasurer's report being \$505—yet we see no correspondence report.

St. John's College needed no appropriation—which gives cause for rejoicing.

Companion McGuire was re-elected M. E. G. H. P., and Companion L. E. Barber G. Secretary.

After business of the G. Chapter was finished, a Grand Council of Select Masters was opened, and proceeded to confer the degrees of Royal and Select Masters on several applicants.

There is no tabular statement of the condition of the craft nor any statistics from which we may derive it.

CALIFORNIA.

This Grand Chapter was opened by M. E. Companion Spaulding, G. H. Priest, on 13th April, 1880, with representatives from 41 chartered Chapters and two U. D.

Of the condition of the craft the G. H. Priest says:

The depression of the times, incident upon a radical change in the organic law of the State, and the disturbed condition of society from other causes, has had its effect upon Masonic work as well as upon all other human interests within our borders; but, as true Masonic growth does not depend entirely upon its numerical force, it is to be hoped that the jarring elements of discord, which have so shaken the foundation of social order throughout the State, may have strengthened the bonds of fraternal union, and united us more closely as brothers and companions in peace, harmony, and brotherly love.

The various questions of Masonic law were decided in accordance with the principles governing under like circumstances in this jurisdiction.

He suggests the propriety of requiring the selection and record of a mark before allowing the R. Arch degree to be given.

We commend the following to our companions. They are applicable everywhere:

It is the duty of every Chapter to entertain its visitors by every mark of courtesy and attention. Yet how often does it occur that a companion, possibly a stranger in a strange land, his heart yearning for fraternal companionship, seeks the Masonic Chapter, where, comparatively unnoticed, he sits silent and alone during the entire session, and is suffered to depart—a stranger still.

This would, indeed, be considered an extreme case, and it is to be hoped that they are few and far between; still, there are too many quite analogous thereto.

One great benefit of Freemasonry is its social, fraternal tendency and teaching—the exercise of that courtesy and kindness due from one Mason to another, and which no true Mason can ever allow himself to withhold. An unsocial Lodge or Chapter is a Masonic deformity; and in it are generally to be found errors that are antagonistic to the very fundamental principles of Masonry. No Chapter can be what Masonry intended it should be, without the warm and genial influence of sociability.

The Lodge or Chapter is, or ought to be, the Mason's Masonic home, where "brotherly love prevails" and where every moral and social virtue cements the fraternal union, and within whose peaceful walls each and every brother or companion receives a fraternal greeting; and, above all, a place where the high and holy name of our Supreme Grand Master is never mentioned, "save with that awe and reverence due from the creature to his Creator."

Companion Wiley James Tinnin was made M. E. G. H. P., and Companion Thos. H. Caswell, Grand Secretary.

Number of Chapters.....	51
Number of members.....	2,904
Lost during the year.....	22

Companion Caswell, Grand Secretary, again presented the report on Correspondence. This time we find a review of the proceedings of Alabama for 1878-79, which are fraternally noticed. We know of no *suspension* of a lodge or chapter, and the term should not have been used. But, in this jurisdiction, if a lodge shall fail to send representatives to the Grand Lodge for a specified period (two years), or shall fail to pay its dues to the Grand Body for the same period, the lodge forfeits its charter. Now a member in good standing in a lodge which has so forfeited its charter becomes simply by the decease of his lodge an unaffiliated mason—his standing in his chapter not being affected thereby. This is what was meant by the term used by our G. H. Priest—nothing more. So we do not "*suspend whole families*," but exercise the acknowledged right of discipline.

Though we think there should be no law requiring continuance of membership in a lodge as requisite to a proper standing in a chapter, yet we like and agree with the sentiments expressed in the following extract, and think them eminently right and proper. Under Iowa as follows:

Our argument is that in the Lodge all the *real* work of Masonry is done; it is there that its charities are dispensed, the sick comforted, and the dead buried. To be a good and consistent mason it is not necessary that a brother should be a member of a Chapter, but it *is* requisite that he be a member of some Lodge, that he may bear his fair share of the burdens incumbent upon all good masons. These duties performed, he may with propriety turn his attention to the Chapter and to the pleasures to be derived from that connection. Let him first provide for the necessities of life before he aspires to the luxuries. The mason who ignores his lodge and clings to the chapter is like the boy who, at

dinner, shirks the corned beef and cabbage, that he may fill himself with the plum-puddings and confections of the dessert.

We find from comments under Kansas that the rule in California in relation to re-instatement in the lodge of one who has been suspended for non-payment of dues is the same as in this jurisdiction, viz : that the suspended must pay "his dues, not only up to the time of suspension, but also the amount that would have accrued against him had he not been suspended."

CANADA.

The 23d annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 16th July, 1880, M. E. Companion Daniel Spry, G. Z., presiding; 53 Chapters of 76 represented.

The prospects of the Royal Craft seem brightening. On the subject of the payment or non-payment of dues, the G. Z. thus speaks :

Companions who possess the means of paying and *will not*, deserve but little consideration; but as to those who are willing to pay, but for want of means *cannot*, it is the refinement of cruelty to cut them off from masonic fellowship with their companions, for an offence that is not a crime, but a misfortune. If as much energy were displayed in quietly ascertaining the ability of our members to meet the demands made upon them, as is sometimes exhibited by companions who possess more zeal than discretion in "touting" for candidates to join the chapters, there would be less suspensions for non-payment of dues, or indeed for any other cause.

He differs with some of his predecessors, who ruled "that suspension by a craft lodge does not affect the standing of the companion in the chapter," and gives good unanswerable reasons for his opinion, and urges the Grand Chapter to a careful consideration of the question. The Grand Chapter in revising their Constitution adopted this clause Sec. XVI :

When the Grand Lodge or any other competent authority shall, for any un-masonic conduct, suspend or expel any brother who is a Royal Arch Mason, such companion shall be suspended or expelled from his Arch Masonic functions for the period whilst such craft suspension or expulsion continues in force.

This settles the question in Canada, and with it Companion Robertson.

The Grand Z. wishes to make Grand Representatives useful and not solely ornamental, and to this end says :

I would suggest that a clause be inserted in the Constitution, which would require every representative of this Grand Chapter to submit an annual report to the Grand Z., prior to the meeting of Grand Chapter, on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the jurisdiction where he re-

sides, and failure to do so for two years to render the position vacant. In this way the Grand Chapter would annually know something of the duties now performed by those esteemed companions. And a companion should not be permitted to represent more than one Grand Chapter.

This, we fear, would be esteemed by the representatives an infringement upon their do-nothing rights—for, as Companion Drummond says—"they don't do any harm, nor anything else so far as we ever knew."

The finances are healthy. Investments \$6,000; cash on hand \$1,335.

During the year there was a slight increase of members. So at the end the whole number of members was 3,455.

M. E. Companion Daniel Spry was re-elected Grand Z., and Companion David McLellan, Grand Scribe E.

The report on Correspondence is again presented by Companion Robertson who, in it, reviews the proceedings of 39 Grand Chapters.

The report is mostly confined to a full view of the condition of the Royal Craft in the several jurisdictions, though on one or two mooted points Companion R. is full and positive. He still adheres to the fallacious idea that a member of a lodge suspended for non-payment of dues from his lodge may be received by his chapter. And, in this connection, thinks that Pennsylvania was guilty of a violation of masonic comity when she required that all visitors to her chapters should swear that they did not at that time "stand suspended or expelled for any cause whatever, nor their names been stricken from the roll of members for non-payment of dues," before they could be received.

The report is a good one.

COLORADO.

M. E. Companion Edward H. Collins, G. H. P., presided over the fifth annual convocation of this Grand Chapter on 18th September, 1879—there being present representatives from 6 of the 7 chapters of this jurisdiction.

The address of the G. H. P. is confined almost exclusively to local matters, and from it we learn that the craft is harmonious and slowly increasing. On the subject of non-payment of dues, which is troubling the craft almost every where, he says:

I am of the opinion that the general depression of business which has prevailed during the last few years, has been the principal cause of this unpardonable evil. Unpardonable, because if the companion is able, he should pay, if he is not able, his dues should be remitted. It is a false pride which prevents a companion from stating in words what the non-payment of dues is an acknowledgment of, and as it is presuming for a body of masons to declare that one of its members is unable to pay a just debt (which a vote to remit dues unasked, is equivalent to)

I think it is plainly the duty of a member to explain why his dues are not paid, and if not able to pay, ask that they be remitted, and that masonic charity, which knows no bounds but a brother's needs, will settle all differences.

Two new chapters were chartered at this convocation.

Total membership, 398.

Companion John R. Hambel was elected M. E. G. H. P., and Companion Edward C. Parmelee, Grand Secretary.

No report on Correspondence.

CONNECTICUT.

The eighty-second annual convocation was held May 11th, 1880, with M. E. Dwight Waugh, G. H. Priest, in the East, and representatives from 30 Chapters, of the 38 in this jurisdiction.

Peace and harmony and zeal are to be found among the Companions of this jurisdiction, and as a natural consequence a corresponding increase in membership. The G. H. P. congratulates the craft in this regard. On the amalgamation of the Capitular and Cryptic Degrees, he thus speaks :

Granting that their origin and formation may have been somewhat irregular and open to criticism, their long existence and the constant recognition they have received from the other bodies of the York Rite, has sufficed to thoroughly establish them as a part of our American system of masonry. To break up this system, established for more than half a century, and to turn over its degrees to another body already possessing degrees amply sufficient to render the learning of their ritual a burden, seems a measure of doubtful expediency, if not the violation of a land-mark. In addition to this, if this plan can be carried to a general consummation, if this precedent can become established, why may not our Grand Chapters, at any time in the future, using this same plea of economy, abdicate their powers and turn over to the Grand Lodges, not only the degrees legitimately their own, but those acquired by this extraordinary bargain, and thus to the confusion already existing be added fresh elements, and the noble superstructure on which our fathers so long labored and builded, by the hands of their recreant posterity be razed to the ground.

Believing that your representatives in the General Grand Chapter may desire some definite expression of your opinion on this important matter for their guidance, and that the time has come when the voice of this Grand Chapter, upon a subject of so much importance, should be authoritatively heard, I have laid this matter before you, my Companions, for such action as you may deem best to take, and bespeak for it your careful consideration.

Membership, 4027 ; increase, 217.

Companion Dwight Phelps was elected M. E. G. H. P. and Companion Jos. K. Wheeler Grand Secretary.

Companion Barlow again brought forward the Report on Correspond-

ence, with his usual pleasantness and fluency. He approves our resolution that a chapter opened without the charter present, is no authorized chapter, and quotes approvingly our remarks in the conclusion of our report for 1879.

On the question of the proper punishment for non-payment of dues, he advocates suspension in its full sense, though Connecticut drops from the roll, only depriving the member of lodge rights, so that one so dropped by his lodge may still sit in his chapter, and if dropped by both "may still parade as a Sir Knight."

On this subject we have heretofore expressed our views, but we would not like to sit in a chapter with any such.

The report is very full and everywhere we think sound.

DELAWARE.

M. E. G. H. P., A. G. Cox, opened in ample form this Grand Chapter on 21st January, 1880, with representatives from all of its 6 subordinates present.

The Grand High Priest speaks as follows of the craft in Delaware, and we fear the same in part may be said of other jurisdictions :

The past year has been a quiet one throughout our jurisdiction, and I regret that I am not able to report Capitular Masonry as in a more flourishing condition. But while it is true, that there has been no great degree of activity among the Royal Craft, and the number of candidates found seeking exaltation at our hands has not been larger, yet, I can report that the year has been marked by concord, harmony, and good feeling; and that not a single case has been brought to my notice for adjudication, in any way calculated to disturb the peace which prevails throughout our borders.

There are, however, in all of our chapters, a large number who are Royal Arch Masons only in name; who, while they have a name to live, are dead and cannot be depended upon in any emergency. Many of these very same members were once active workers, and shared largely in the honors and emoluments of masonry, but now that they have been superceded by others, have lost all interest in the welfare of lodge and chapter, thus demonstrating that their former zeal was only actuated by a desire for the loaves and fishes.

In relation to those who will not pay dues, but prefer to be drones, he says :

I am afraid there are too many among us, who not only believe in a free salvation, but in a *free* masonry as well. Now, this state of things is all wrong, and ought not to be suffered longer, for he who will not pay, ought not to eat. And the sooner we get rid of this class of masons, the better it will be for all concerned.

He recommends that in lieu of a report from a committee on correspondence the representatives of other Grand Chapters near that of Dela-

were be requested "to review the proceedings of the Grand Chapters they represent," and the Grand Chapter so resolved.

Companion John W. Lawson was elected M. E. G. H. P., and Companion H. B. McIntire Grand Secretary.

The returns show a slight decrease in membership. It numbers now 320.

The Report on Correspondence is made by Companion Wm. G. W. Lewis, who, in consequence of a long and tedious illness, is enabled to give us only a glimpse of the good things he claims to have seen.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The thirteenth convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 10th December, 1879, with Companion M. Trimble, M. E. G. H. P., presiding, and representatives from all the chapters.

The G. H. Priest congratulates the Companions on the condition of the craft.

He is an advocate of the usefulness of the Reports on Correspondence, and knows "of nothing that gives a greater pleasure or more concise history of the yearly workings of the craft;" thinks there is no impropriety in inviting master masons to take the chapter degrees.

Companion Trimble and Companion Hancock were re-elected respectively M. E. G. H. P., and Grand Secretary.

Membership, 1,051; a slight loss.

Companion Larner again made Report on Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of 39 Grand Chapters. Among these we find Alabama for 1878. His report is very full and complete, and we would extract from it, but that the points marked by us enunciate so completely the usages of this jurisdiction that we, upon reflection, concluded not to lengthen our report unnecessarily.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

At the half yearly communication, held December 2d, 1879, M. W. Bro. G. R. Portal, P. G. M., M. M. as G. M., we find in the report of the General Board that a Mark Lodge and recently a province, had been established in the "world-renowned city of Carthage," "rich in so many antiquarian associations."

The Board also announces the recognition of this Grand Lodge by the Supreme G. R. A. Chapter of Scotland.

At the half yearly communication of 1st June, 1880, M. W. Bro. W. B. Beach, P. G. M., presided as G. M.

The investments of this Grand Lodge are under three heads:

General Fund.....	£1,500.
Benevolent Fund.....	£1,200.
Education Fund.....	£ 300.

Lord Skelmersdale was again elected M. W. G. M. M.

The subordinates number 274, and are to be found in England and Wales, in the East Indies, in South Africa, in Australia, and in Jamaica.

FLORIDA.

We have the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for the years 1879 and 1880.

The convocation for 1879 was presided over by M. E. G. H. P. Enos Wasgate, and was opened January 21st, there being present representatives from 8 chapters. From the address of the G. H. Priest we find that there is somewhat of an increase of life among our Companions there, and the abstract of returns shows quite an encouraging increase of membership. One dispensation for a new chapter was granted.

Companion Robert J. Perry was elected M. E. G. H. P., while Companion Dawkins was continued Grand Secretary.

The convocation for 1880 was held on 20th January, Companion Perry presiding, with representatives from nine subordinates. The G. H. Priest urges upon the Companions the exemplification of the beautiful teachings of the several degrees, as the surest method of enlarging both the usefulness and the membership of their Chapters—a truth that cannot be too often or too powerfully impressed upon the minds of Masons generally.

Membership slightly diminished, being now 233.

Companions Perry and Dawkins were severally re-elected to their offices.

No report on correspondence.

GEORGIA.

The fifty-eighth annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 28th April, 1880—M. E. J. W. Oslin, G. H. Priest, with 31 chapters represented.

We copy, with pleasure, the remarks of the G. H. Priest on the mission of Masonry, commending them to the thoughtful consideration of the companions :

But the lines have fallen upon us in evil and perilous times. Excuse me, Companions, if on this occasion, I use plain speech. A Mason from conviction, and long identified with the fortunes of the Order, my chief ambition is such as to aid in raising the scale of virtue among us. There are evils growing in our Masonic fields which need to be uprooted—habits and practices requiring stern and faithful rebuke. Honesty is at a discount—integrity below par. Corruption stalks abroad in the land, with brazen front and defiant mien. Men to whom have been committed sacred public trusts have, within our recent memory, been guilty of the most flagrant abuse of their power. Practices

subversive of morality and destructive of the purity of the young, are often exemplified in the conduct of those whose position should put a restraint upon vicious inclinations. Our children have hardly crossed the threshold of home, on their way to take their places among the world's workers, ere they are corrupted with the vices of the day. Bribery, malfeasance, defalcations, intemperance, profanity, cheating, swindling—these are some of the manifestations of middle social life which threatens subversion of Church and State. Our civil war, as it swept over this beautiful Southland like a furious cyclone, left its track marked not only by desolated fields and ruined cities, but also by the moral wrecks of many who were regarded as sturdy as the oak, and as immovable as adamant in public and private virtue. The material loss may be repaired by energetic labor; deserted fields may be made to blossom again, as the rose; great cities, like the fabled Phoenix, may spring again from their ashes; commerce may be reinstated, and prosperity resume her sway; the whirl of spindles may keep time to the music of our waterfalls—all this *has been* accomplished. But who, O! who shall reanimate the moral "dry bones" hecatombed in the wake of war—who plant again the seeds of virtue and religion in soil sodden with brothers' blood, and wasted by the blight of internecine conflict?

Masonry is eminently a conservative institution. The "mystic tie" of our sublime Order makes a brotherhood of mankind. We bind men in the bonds of friendship, love, and truth, and we inculcate the noblest virtues. If aught of moral value has been rescued from the general ruin, it is that which was deposited in the Ark of the Covenant of Masonry.

In view of prevailing evils, Masons should lift high their ancient banner, and bring their lives up to its requirements. Our conduct, in all things, should be squared by the unbending rule of right. In the universal desert of corruption, let there be a green spot—a moral oasis where the weary may find repose. While all around us lie the debris of ruined fanes, let our temple rise clear, strong, and beautiful—the joy of the whole earth.

"All are architects of fate,
Working in the walls of time;
Some with massive deeds and great,
Some with ornaments of rhyme."

Companion Oslin was re-elected G. H. P., and Companion J. Emmett Blackshear Grand Secretary.

No report on correspondence.

ILLINOIS.

Companion John D. Hamilton, M. E. G. H. P., opened in ample form the thirtieth Convocation of this Grand Chapter, on 30th October, 1879, there being present representatives from 147 Chapters. The address deals only with matters of local interest, and the question of greatest importance seems to be deficiency of funds. Year after year, to supply this deficiency, a loan is resorted to, and a consequent increase of expenditure by the accumulated interest. Yet the receipts of this Grand Chapter reach the grand total of near \$8,000. But a pay

roll, footing up near \$4,000, has to be paid, and the Grand Chapter, at this session, authorized another loan, but rejected the proposition to diminish the mileage and per diem.

Companion S. W. Waddle was elected G. H. P., and Companion Gil W. Barnard G. Secretary.

The membership has decreased, and now stands 9,779.

Companion Gurney made the report on correspondence, and says it is his second and last—business of a pressing character preventing his properly attending to the duties. Companion G. was a pleasant reporter, and we greatly regret his retirement.

In his review, we find Alabama for 1878 kindly noticed. In reference to the question of some "plan of endowment," which was before us then, but died out at the next Convocation, he advises us "to correspond with Companion D. C. Cregier, of Chicago, who has a large experience in this direction."

Under Canada, in answer to Companion Robertson's position, and also the quondam position of his G. Chapter on the effect of suspension for N. P. D., he says:

We have never read a volume, emanating from a Grand Chapter, that so persistently conveyed the thought that the degrees of that body were a section of a *Masonic* system. Comp. Robertson speaks of "Royal Arch Masonry," "Capitular Masonry," and employs other modes of expression to impress a claim to Masonic parentage. *Masonry* means the Symbolic Lodge, and when we speak of Capitular Masonry, Cryptic Masonry, or Templar Masonry, we are understood to say that we are from the *parent* body. Now, we will assent to the position of Comp. Robertson, when the Chapter ceases to enforce these peculiar claims; but just so long as it insists upon a usurpation, and goes so far as to employ the esoteric work of the Lodge in furtherance of its pretensions, we assert, without any fear of successful controversion, that a Master Mason in good standing, member of Chapter, who will be present in the latter body with a suspended or expelled member of the Lodge, lives in violation of his obligations, and should be disciplined for the *offense*. We call the attention of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Canada to this subject. We do not agree to the proposition of our distinguished Companion that the Chapter and Lodge are so distinct in their organizations that the former can be converted into a "city of refuge" for the *debris* of the latter. We believe that they should be distinct, separate, and apart, as held by the Lodge, and for this reason, raised the questions, so intimately associated with the subject, in our review of California of last year. We regret to find that he is not orthodox on the position of Michigan, which holds, with Illinois, that non-payment of dues is a Masonic offense. Again, he speaks, under New Jersey, of the R. A. Degree as the climax of *Ancient Craft* Masonry; and would still insist, we suppose, that expulsion from the third degree was no bar to associations with brethren *exalted*. Come, Bro. Robertson, please renew your investigations in this important matter.

The following is so admirable an expression of our own views that we are constrained to reproduce it, and it were well for mankind and

for Masonry if such thoughts were deeply graven upon the mind of every brother. Then would we no longer complain of lack of membership funds or material on which to work :

Just so. The chief error of the period is the belief that *Masonry* is represented by ceremonial, legal dictums and ostentatious display. Vanity too often throws its unprepossessing shadows over the sacred character and humanitarian thought of the institution. When Masons become influenced by the idea that the externals of ritual and jurisprudence are primary, then the moment that *work* languishes, they abandon the Chapter. It is rare that drapery touches the heart or utilizes the forces upon which the organization rests. The only design of ritual is to develop these forces, and bring man into harmonious relations with his Creator, and the necessities of his race. *Masonry* means manhood. To be a *Mason* is to be a reputable citizen, a good father, husband, son, and brother. We cannot impress men with the importance of a higher life, strengthen benevolent and fraternal sentiment, and disregard or make secondary the principles we represent, by devoting a life to the elaboration and perfection of *dress*.

But Companion Gurney, we must bid you adieu, though with regret for we cannot *afford* more space. May your days be long in the land and be happy.

INDIANA.

The Thirty-Fourth Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 22d Oct., 1879, there being present representatives from 71 Chapters. Companion Martin H. Rice, M. E. G. H. Priest presiding. The address of the G. H. Priest might well be taken as a model for the originality of its introduction and as a straightforward business document. Its introduction we give entire.

Companions of the Grand Chapter of Indiana :

It gives me much pleasure to greet so full a representation of the subordinate Chapters of this Grand Jurisdiction at this the thirty-fourth annual convocation of this Grand Chapter. Your presence bespeaks a laudable interest in the welfare of the Royal Craft in your respective Chapters. I greet you as the representatives of Capitular Masonry, which occupies so important a position in our grand fraternal association. Capitular Masonry is built upon, or is rather a continuation of Ancient Craft Masonry and may be regarded as the link between the freemasonry of the prehistoric ages and the grand system that now encompasses the entire world.

When the Temple of Solomon, which was erected by Divine Command in all its wondrous splendor, was destroyed by the victorious hosts of an invading army, many of those devoted craftsmen, who had labored so hard in its construction, fell victims to the slaughter, and a remnant of them that escaped the sword were carried away as captives into bondage. Inspired by the noble lessons taught them as they had wrought in the quarries of Zaredatha, and in the forests upon the mountains of Lebanon, during a long captivity of seventy years they remained true to themselves, true to their love and devotion to the pre-

cepts of their fathers, and to those fraternal relations assumed at the building of the first temple. When, at last, their liberation from bondage was effected they set out at once to return to the land of their fathers to engage in the noble work of rebuilding their city and temple. To regain what they had lost animated them to heroic action that overcame every obstacle as they journeyed on their way, and as they entered upon the work of removing the rubbish of the old temple to lay the foundation of the new, there were none among them who were not ready and willing to undertake any task, however difficult or dangerous, to carry forward the work in which they were engaged. By their perseverance, knowledge, industry and skill they discovered and brought to light hidden treasures of incalculable value to the craft, and by which the world has been benefited even to the present day.

Companions: We are here assembled as the representatives of those ancient worthy brethren, and let it ever be our pleasure to exhibit the same devotion, the same unflinching zeal and fidelity in the prosecution of our work as Royal Arch Masons. As we enter upon the business of this annual convocation let it be our earnest desire to do only those things that will promote the happiness of each other, and the best interest of the Royal Craft in this grand jurisdiction. Relying not alone upon our own efforts, but seeking wisdom from on high, ever remembering that upon the crown of every Royal Arch Mason is inscribed "Holiness to the Lord."

"The present rate of dues from subordinate Chapters does not more than one-half furnish a sufficient amount to meet the expenses of the Grand Chapter," says the G. H. Priest, and he recommended an increase of dues, which the Grand Chapter promptly did by raising the per capita tax to fifty cents. This G. Chapter also pays largely annually on a pay-roll of mileage and per diem.

The G. H. P. purposely made no review of the proceedings of other Grand Chapters because of the state of the Treasury.

Companion Thos. B. Long was made M. E. G. H. P., and Companion Bramwell continued G. Secretary.

IOWA.

Held its Twenty-Sixth Convocation on 21st October, 1879, Companion A. W. Daugherty, M. E. G. H. Priest, and representatives from fifty-four out of eighty seven Chartered Chapters. G. H. Priest states that—

The growth of our Order has for the past two years suffered, perhaps, to some extent, from the organization of many secret societies designed as institutions of assurance, guaranteeing benefits by issuing policies on the lives of their members, and it is not at all strange that many are naturally diverted from seeking admission into an Order founded purely upon faith in the "Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man," but as the *strength* of Masonry is not measured by *numbers* alone, we need have no fears for the future growth of an Order whose principles are as enduring and as unchangeable as the oracles written by the finger of Jehovah, and transmitted by him to Moses upon the summit of Mount Sinai. Having faith in God and the sublime principles of our

Order, we will have strength in the future, as in the past, to overcome every obstacle, and, being bound together, as we are, by ties that can never be sundered, we shall be one people and one eternal brotherhood.

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported that the resolution requiring representatives of Grand Chapters near that of Iowa, be required to report the proceedings of the G. Chapters they represent in lieu of a report on correspondence, was in violation of the Constitution and recommended its repeal—which was done.

Companion Almon R. Dewey, was elected M. E. G. H. Priest, and Companion Langridge, G. Secretary. Total membership 4,149, being an increase over the year previous.

Companions Baugh, Langridge, Guilbert, Dewey, Luse and Varnum, reported the proceedings of the Chapters they represent. Companion Baugh, representing Alabama, stated "that all was well with the companions of that jurisdiction, and that their message to the companions of Iowa was—"Let us have peace." This and nothing more.

We are inclined to think if the representatives of any G. Chapter were to report the proceedings carefully of the G. Chapters to which they were accredited, and whose convocations they most probably attend, a very full and complete report of the state of the craft might be had. But the Iowa method got but a meagre account of only 16 of the G. Chapters.

KANSAS.

Daniel W. Coxe, M. E. G. H. Priest, opened the Fifteenth Convocation of this G. Chapter on 14th October, 1879, with the representatives of 31 subordinate Chapters present out of a total of 41.

We have rarely ever read a more beautiful or more impressive address than that of Companion Coxe, and we know that the companions of Alabama will pardon us if we make *copious* extracts with the hope that the lessons therein taught will be heeded, and we may more properly appreciate the beautiful in our capitular degrees.

This idea that the lessons of our Royal Craft teach an internal, as well as an external truth, is as important as it is beautiful. Its great importance may be better appreciated by considering that the natural influence of these internal truths has a direct tendency to lift our thoughts through the symbols which embody them, up to the Divine source of all truth. By encouraging this tendency we will often be preserved from the vexation of doubt and the debasing influence of error, since our minds will be so preoccupied by the heaven-aspiring influence of Divine truth, that doubt and error can find no lodging place in it. This is a conservative influence which we all need in these days of unsettled moral conviction. If, now, the teaching of our Royal Craft can do this, they will form an important work for the nobler aspiration of our higher nature. Let us see how this result may be attained.

Thus a knowledge of the interior beauty and truth, which the symbols of our Royal Craft contain, will develop in us a more profound and fitting regard for that God whom we, as Masons, are taught to reverence and serve; and, by leading the mind to the contemplation of the *spiritual* realities of our existence, it will induce us to aspire after the higher life which these results set before us. By this two-fold influence we will be effectually preserved from that debasing error which has a marked tendency to reduce every thing to bald materialism and to deny the existence of God. No true Mason can be a materialist; nor can he deny the existence of God without completely subverting the entire foundation and destroying the symmetrical superstructure of Masonry. As long, therefore, as he adheres to the internal teachings of his profession which relate to this subject, he must continue to *put his trust in God and believe in the immortality of the soul*. This train of reflections might be indefinitely continued; but we must hasten to the consideration of other important matters.

And again in relation to our responsibility for our acts, whether they be the result of thoughtlessness or design.

This is equally true of our individual work. What we have done to beautify and adorn the temple of our inner life, or to deface or defile it, as well as what we have done or neglected to do for the good of others, has now been submitted to the accurate test of the Grand Overseer of the Universe to be approved or condemned. The record of our words, and deeds has been made up; the book is closed and hermetically sealed. We can not now change one line or syllable, however much we may desire to do so. This is the great law of human actions. Think of this for a moment. Have you spoken a harsh, unkind word to one you truly love? Have you failed to extend a helping hand to a brother in need? Have you withheld your sympathy from a brother in distress? Have you coldly looked on the suffering humanity about you? Have you given your love in stinted measure to the members of your own family? Have you neglected to speak a word of warning to the erring brother over whom you have an influence for good? Has the helpless orphan been allowed to tread life's rugged path unaided and alone? Has the broken-hearted widow been permitted to weep bitter tears of sorrow without exciting your benevolence and charity? Then these opportunities of doing good to others and the personal benefits which might have been derived from them will return no more forever. They are gone. They belong to the irreparable past. You can not now recall them to improve them. Other and similar opportunities may present themselves in the future; but those of the past will never come again, except in our memories to reproach us for having neglected them. We may improve the future; but the past is gone beyond recovery. We never can change one deed which we have done, one word which we have spoken, or one thought which we have entertained. There is in fact no power in earth or heaven that can undo what has been done. This is the eternity of human actions. "We must, therefore, turn to the great unsealed future which is unfolding to us day by day, and on its bright, unsullied leaves stamp our history; and endeavoring to avoid the errors of the past, let us have no blot upon its pages."

During the year for which Companion Cox was elected and installed he removed from the jurisdiction. Did this act vacate the office? This question he considers but thinks the weight of authorities is ad-

verse to the proposition. It was, however, referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who *dodged* the question, as we will until we shall have had time to examine and determine.

Companion E. T. Carr was made M. E. G. H. Priest, Companion John H. Brown being continued as G. Secretary.

Companion John M. Price presented an excellent report on correspondence reviewing Alabama for 1878, but we have given so much space already to Kansas that we are compelled to pass it by—only replying to him thus far to set him right. In this jurisdiction, so long as the G. Lodge was silent as to the effect of suspension for non-payment of dues, the Grand Chapter determined that when occurring in a lodge it did not affect the standing of the member in his Chapter, but so soon as the G. Lodge declared that it cut the brother off from all masonic rights and benefits, the G. Chapter declared that it also deprived him during such suspension of all chapter rights.

KENTUCKY.

The proceedings of this Grand Chapter for its sixty-fourth annual convocation, held on 22d October, 1879, M. E. Companion G. D. Buckner, G. H. Priest, presiding, with representatives from 73 chapters.

This Grand Chapter the year previous had accepted control of the Cryptic degrees, and of the working of these degrees in the chapter the G. H. Priest speaks encouragingly, and thinks by this method they will be preserved. On the power of the G. G. Chapter in this matter, he says :

The General Grand Chapter has no authority to act in the matter, on the contrary such action is clearly interdicted. The powers not delegated to General Grand Chapter by its Constitution, nor prohibited thereby, are reserved to the State Grand Chapters respectively. That I may not be misunderstood I will add that in my opinion the new Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, reported at the last meeting, is a good one, and ought, with some slight modifications, to be adopted at the next meeting of that Grand Body. I do not consider that further legislation on the subject of the Council degrees is advisable until time shall have shown that the steps already taken are advantageous to our Order.

And the G. G. Chapter at its convocation in Detroit held the same doctrine.

The membership is 2,810.

Companion John H. Leathers was made M. E. G. H. Priest, and Companion Joseph H. Branham, Grand Secretary.

Companion Henderson presented this, his final report on Correspondence. He was about to remove to California, and we will have lost one

of our best *mutuals*, but we send with him our best wishes for health and prosperity. We know that, go when he will, his influence for good, great as it is, will always be felt, and we congratulate the craft of California on such an accession. Hear with what sweet music he sings of the charms of his future home:

With what a quiver of heart do we pay our respects to our sister at the "golden gate" of the West! What visions of our near future rise, when we reflect, too, that our ears shall soon hear the Pacific's evening hymn, and that its surges will one day chant our requiem as we dreamless sleep on its shores! Henceforth, California is our own. When this report is read we say *vale*, and turn Westward to work and fight until disease lifts our burden and lays us down, and death unbuckles our harness. But when we know that while we leave hearts to treasure our memory in our native State, we shall be hailed by hospitable hands to the land of gold and grain. There, too, we will lift the Royal Arch and breathe the grand omnific word. There our breast shall touch breasts in which beat the same music of brotherly love we've so often heard in every quarter of our beloved Kentucky. An unseen shuttle has been weaving the web of our destiny, flying so fast that we could not see the threads it dashed into the woof. How true,

"There's a divinity that shapes our ends
Rough-hew them as we may."

A concatenation of unforeseen circumstances, not of our own forecasting, has ordered our steps beyond the barriers of the Rocky Mountains. Soon we will be flying by rail toward our new home, and are loitering now only to say "farewell" to the Royal Craftsmen with whom for so long we have walked in company, and taken sweet counsel together. We come, companions, to work. Soon we will be in your retreats ready to obey the gavel whenever it calls to labor or refreshment.

The report is thus introduced:

Before essaying our task we took an evening and shut out the world, and sat down under the Royal Arch to our letters from the Grand Correspondents. We were not in the best of moods, but soon the pleasant things dissolved before our eyes like a diorama of love, and we forgot that Carlyle ever said, "mankind is a damned rascal," and that Cynicus, from his pessimistic standpoint, had growled, "this is a sad, wicked world." The right parallax in life, as well as in science, is a great helper to an optimistic view of existence, and so, ere long, we found that our heart-harp had turned up to the major key, and that all minors and *misereres* had no string upon our lyre. When Ulysses sailed the shores of the Syrenes he put wax in his ears, and bound himself to his mast, to escape the sorcery of their songs, but when Orpheus voyaged the same straits he played so enchantingly on his harp that his crew was deaf to the strains of the bewitching wreckers, and they ceased to chant their illusive lays, that they might listen to the divine music which was making all the airs of Scylla and Charybdis blossom with sweet sounds. And so, if a man will only key his heart to celestial melodies, he may sail the voyage of life enchanted and enchanting, and at last slip cable and drop anchor in the golden sands of the Evergreen shore. * * * * *

The clock of time is wreathed with flowers, its dial sparkles with stars, and its pendulum swings to music's measure as it beats off the march of humanity toward a universal brotherhood. There are no grinning skulls in the rose-bushes, no cross-bones in the sky. No skeleton presides at the feast of life. The board groans with richest viands, and the beakers brim with choicest nectar. After awhile the festival-master will call us up to feed on celestial food, and to drink a vintage sweeter than ever the grapes of Eschol brewed. We are sending our Elijahs up in chariots of flame, drawn by fiery steeds. We see their tracks of light athwart the sky. We witness, with joy, the flash of the ascending wheels, and the flying sparks from the hoofs of the Promethean steeds, and anon, hear the roll of their chariots on the streets of gold as they go "sweeping through the gates."

And now, with death's pale shadow falling over us, and yet with life's immemorial sunburst making it glow with transfiguring glory, we break the grey seal of

ALABAMA,

Which receives full and fraternal notice.

We congratulate our companion that his Grand Chapter had learned "that low-priced work is not always cheap," and that this most excellent report comes to us in proper shape, with leaves all cut, &c. We cheerfully excuse him for "billious" remarks, and congratulate him that his "stay so long with *Pill-ans*" did "work off some of the bile," and purge him of his faults if he has any.

Under Colorado he says "Xerxes, sated with all known delights, offered a reward to any one who would invent a new pleasure. In like manner we would be pleased to offer a copy of our report, or of the Land Office for a new exordium to a G. H. Priest's address. Then let the companion send it to Indiana and Kentucky.

Under Michigan we find the following noble sentiments expressed in a poet's fervor:

Like gold in the crucible is such an expression as this from Michigan's High Priest:

It ought to be additional cause of thankfulness that God in his great mercy, has given us the desire and ability to extend freely and promptly the helping hand of charity to those in affliction, and to practice that virtue which projects its life beyond the grave.

How duty and death, done and met, glorified Companion Wheeler! As the spice-gatherers of the East leave in the train of their caravans the aroma of their traffic, so that for days after their camels have passed, the desert air is loaded with fragrance, so a good great spirit leaves behind on the arid wastes of time the sweet smell of its noble deeds: "They rest from their labors; and their *works* do follow them."

In allusion to the Masonic Home of Kentucky, he makes this appeal to his companions. Would that we had so noble a charity:

Many are now in, whose parents once basked in the sunshine of prosperity, but whom death has deprived of their natural protectors. Names

that have been given to the historic muse, and that will go "sounding down the ages," are represented in the roll-call of our wards. We know not but in time our offspring will need its shelter from the "cold charity of the world."

See how he links human suffering and human sympathy—how he deduces good, the highest good, "the brotherhood of man from his misfortunes:"

Mr. Ingersoll, the noted Infidel lecturer, says if he had "had the making of the world he would have made health catching instead of disease." Yes, and he would have had no sympathy, relief, and brotherly love; no patience, meekness, long-suffering, and resignation—the brightest graces that adorn human character. Man is tried in the crucible of affliction as ores in the furnace. Men are taught the noblest lessons they can learn by that faithful instructor, *pain*. The Asiatic cholera, the granular plague, the yellow fever, and the small-pox were born amid the feculent filths of oriental ignorance and depravity, and now the leprosy has landed upon our shores, and bids fair to become domiciled. We say when we hear of the ravages of the pestilence in the orient, what brook we? But soon it travels westward, and spreads a pall over every nation in its track, and when it reaches our own shores we say, then, "well, we were interested in those semi-barbarians of Asia; we must send them the antiseptic powers of western civilization or pay the death penalty for indifference to their wants and woes." What emphasis does a plague give to the statement of Paul, "If one member suffer thou *all* suffer together." To the cry, "Am I my brother's keeper?" comes a wailing response from every distant den of vice and filth, "thou art, and keep him or die." The miseries of some are allowed that the sympathies of others may be elicited. The Ethiopian infects the Asiatic, the Mongolian the Caucasian, the Pale Face the Red Man, and so the plague says, "God hath made of one blood the men who dwell upon the earth," but do we ever hear of men spreading the pestilence among a community of monkeys. The highest *anthropoid* don't have human disease.

Though we have occupied so much space with extracts from this most excellent and eloquent report, yet we cannot bid our companion farewell until we have made one extract more:

We are more persuaded than ever of the value of these reviews. They give a cosmopolitan character to our Royal Craft, bringing the most distant jurisdictions into correspondence and a neighborhood community of thought; they hold the institution to its ancient landmarks, and make homogeneous our liturgy; they protest innovation, and have helped, incalculably, to crystalize our jurisprudence; they encourage faltering chapters to renewed effort, and inspire hope when signs of failing are apparent; they reveal the masonic heart as beating with a common pulse amid the rigors of the North and the fervors of the South; they cable countries, and bind with bands of steel remote States in a unity of thought, feeling and purpose; they moderate the bigotry of sects, the rage of partisans, the insolence of rank, the haughtiness of wealth, the exclusiveness of race, the prejudice of sections, and the passion of rival interests; they help to hand over to oblivion

the distracting and disturbing memories born of fratricidal strife, and to cement the fabric of liberty; they serve grandly to promote reverence for God, respect for responsibility, and the brotherhood of men; they lift the mind of masonry out of the ruts of routine, and prevent the crystallization of the gross and groveling elements.

LOUISIANA.

These proceedings come to us without a report on correspondence—this we the more regret, because of yore it sparkled with wit, and was filled with sound Masonic law, as well as Masonic charitable feeling and lofty aspirations for the Royal Craft. But that “which makes the mare go” is also necessary for the Grand Chapter.

The Thirty-third Annual Convocation was held on the 10th February, 1880, and presided over by M. E. G. H. Priest, Wm. S. Benedict, there being present representatives from 11 chapters.

The financial condition is “such as to require your serious consideration,” says the G. H. Priest.

This is one of the Grand Chapters that pays for attendance of representatives, and is in want of funds to do more than meet the expenditures necessary for a bare routine of its business. Take our plan, Companions, and cut off the mileage and per diem—at any rate, the per diem.

The membership is 996.

Companion Edwin H. Fay was elected M. E. G. H. Priest, Companion James C. Batchelor, M. D., remaining G. Secretary.

MAINE.

With pleasure we take hold of the proceedings of Maine, the Fifty-fifth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of which was opened on May 4th, 1880, by the M. E. G. H. Priest, Joseph M. Hayes—there being present representatives from 37 out of 43 chapters within the jurisdiction.

The first decision of the G. H. P., that “the relations of a companion in a chapter are not affected by his having been suspended from membership in a lodge for non-payment of dues,” is an enunciation of a principle for which Companion Drummond stoutly contends, and which is combated by so many of the Masonic writers. This fact taken by itself, and as the edict of the Grand Chapter, without an announcement of what the Grand Lodge may declare to be the effect of such suspension, is without doubt the cause of the whole difference on this point. It may be properly affirmed that any action of a lodge in relation to its members not depriving him of Masonic rights, ought not to affect his standing in his Chapter. But the effect of compliance on the part of a

lodge with the rulings of its Grand Lodge, can only be judged of by a knowledge of the effect that the Grand Lodge itself gives to the punishment inflicted. We have always thought, with Companion D., that the non-payment of dues is an offense, not to the body of Masonry, but only to the particular body of which the delinquent was a member, and that the effect of this should reach no further than it appears to do in Maine—i. e., make him an unaffiliated Mason. But at the very time when our Grand Chapter so declared, our G. Lodge declared that suspension for whatever cause, whether for gross unmasonic conduct, affecting the well being of the entire fraternity, and after a full trial, and a fair hearing on the operation of a constitutional provision, deprived the one so suspended of all the rights and privileges of Masonry. Since then, suspensions for non-payment of dues in this jurisdiction, when made from a lodge, necessarily suspends from the Chapter. We have said this much because we see that the position of Alabama in relation to this question is not understood.

The G. H. P., as almost all of the Grand High Priests are now doing, strives to impress upon the Companions that the conduct of the several Companions out of the Chapter should be such as to display the value of the doctrines inculcated in it. In the conclusion of his address, we find the following :

The great end and aim of our exertions as Masons should be to place the Masonic Institution upon that moral eminence where it may be viewed with admiration by all mankind. Founded, as it was, on the best attributes of human nature—calculated, as it is, to bring into activity the most noble impulses of the human heart—we, who are now responsible not only for its safety, but, if possible, for its improvement, shall have a startling account to settle with Deity hereafter, if we are false to our trusts—if we suffer it to become less important to humanity, less efficient in the great cause of benevolence, less respected and less revered by the great human family, than it was when it came into our keeping. If our daily actions do not correspond with our professions, then, indeed, have we labored for naught; if we are not found laboring to disseminate true Masonic light and knowledge, by precept and example, then we are but poor and shallow pretenders, and wofully do we fail in our duties.

Companions Joseph M. Hayes and Ira Berry were re-elected to their several offices.

From the table of statistics in the report on correspondence, we find that the membership of this jurisdiction is 4136.

Companion Drummond again made the report on correspondence, in which we find Alabama for 1879.

On the necessity for the presence of the charter when a chapter is open, Companion D. has, as we anticipated he would, *modified* his views.

In reference to the position of the G. H. Priest of District of Colum-

bia, that it was not unmasonic for a chapter to drum for candidates, he uses the following appropriate language :

We have always been of the opinion that when a man becomes a Mason, and learns that there are other degrees, if he has not interest enough to inquire about them, he has not interest enough to make it desirable to have him receive them, and, therefore, that it is not wise to *invite* him to receive them.

Companion D. devotes a great deal of space to the defense of the usage of Maine in relation to deprivation of membership in the Lodge. The weight of opinion is, however, opposed to this position, and Grand Lodges are ruling pretty generally as ours, the result of which is to make suspension uniform in its punishment. If the suspension be from lodge association, is this not from Masonic association? Then how can one who is so suspended and refused Masonic communication by the immediate members of his family, expect that others will be more kind than his own family? If he is esteemed unworthy to be received in his lodge, how is it to be expected that he is to be esteemed worthy by the members of other lodges?

He dwells at some length in opposition to the subordination of the Cryptic Degrees to the Chapter, and if the Councils in the several States were only sure of a continuation of independent existence, this position might be all well. But we are satisfied that in many jurisdictions they are dying out. Then how may they best be preserved? There may be jurisdictions within which this can only be accomplished in the method suggested and adopted by them. The creation of a G. Grand Council can hardly be the *sovereign* remedy for the evil. Yet this was supposed to be, and such an one was provided for by the few who were in Detroit in August. We fear, whatever may have been the representations made or the hopes entertained by the Companions who were engaged in this work, that the remedy, though perhaps heroic, will hardly save them in Alabama.

MARYLAND.

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held 11th November, 1879, with M. E. Edwin L. Parker, G. H. P., in the East, and representatives from ten Chapters present.

The G. H. Priest reports the Craft in general harmonious and in a healthy condition. He fears the future embarrassment of the Grand Chapter, and recommends an increase of the dues from Chapters; but the committee to whom this part of the address was referred differed from his views, and say that if raised it will prove detrimental to the Chapters, and, if made any lower, detrimental to the interest of the Grand Chapter.

Companion Edmund J. Oppelt was elected G. H. P., and Companion G. L. McCahan G. Secretary.

Companion Edmund T. Schultz made the report on correspondence, and therein we find the proceedings from Alabama for 1878. He adheres to the opinion formerly enunciated by him, that the restoration of a charter to a dormant chapter does not revive it in its entirety. We yield that a G. Chapter may limit the exercise of its clemency to such members of a chapter it revives as it pleases, but the views we expressed, and also those of our Most Ex. P. G. H. Priest Cobb, were based upon a general restoration of a charter.

We are pleased to find that he agrees with us as to the necessity of "the bodily presence of the charter to constitute a legal chapter when at work. The position that suspension for non-payment of dues in the Lodge ought not to affect the member's standing in his Chapter, is to be found scattered throughout his report. He thinks, however, that the effect of such suspension or dropping from the roll, or what not, for not paying dues, must result from the opinion of the Grand Lodge on the subject.

MASSACHUSETTS.

On December 9, 1879, the Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held—M. E. Thomas Waterman, G. H. Priest.

At one of the quarterly convocations, the G. H. Priest advised the adoption of a provision requiring a candidate for the degrees to state whether he had been previously rejected, and by what chapter and when, and that after a rejection no application should be received by any other chapter until after the expiration of six months, and that then the consent of the chapter which rejected him shall first be obtained before any action can be had on his petition. These provisions were subsequently adopted at the Annual Convocation.

Fifty-six chapters were represented.

Companions Waterman and Zeph. H. Thomas were respectively re-elected M. E. G. H. P. and G. Secretary.

Companion Dadmun again offered the report on correspondence, in his usual kind and fraternal style. In reviewing the proceedings of Alabama for 1878, we find that he, like most others, felt aggrieved at the proposition to provide an endowment plan in connection with Craft Masonry. But we think that long ere this he, as well as the others, have dismissed any fears they may have entertained that the G. Chapter of Alabama would sanction "any change in the body of Masonry.

We give below his summary of the opinions as to the effect of an objection after ballot, because we think he has therein stated them all.

He thinks, however, that it should be made the subject of an investigation :

Now, Companion Barlow, who disputes the *right* of objection? No one that we know of in all our wide-spread Fraternity. What, then is the point on which we differ, in relation to the objection question? It is simply this: What *force* shall an objection have? One says, "to stop the advancement of a candidate until the objection is withdrawn;" another says, "it should simply have the force of a black-ball;" others say, "it should have the force of a black-ball on the fourth degree (or first of the Chapter), but not on the other three degrees, unless it is investigated and sustained by vote of the Chapter;" and still others say, "any member has a *right* to object to the advancement of a candidate; but, in *all cases*, after a clear ballot, an objection should be investigated, and the body having charge of the investigation should decide upon its *validity*." This last has always been the position of Massachusetts as well as some other jurisdictions. It sustains the *right* of a member to object, after a clear ballot, and the *right* of the body to investigate the grounds of the objection, and pass upon its validity.

We are surprised to find one with so "level a head," masonically agreeing with Companion Drummond that a charter need not be present to constitute the Chapter a legal one. Companion D. this year does not agree with himself of last year. He did *modify*, as we anticipated he would.

Under New York we find him uttering what we in this far off jurisdiction hold to be sound masonic doctrine, that a petition once received and referred to a committee, though the committee report unfavorably, can only be got rid of by the ballot.

MICHIGAN.

We have the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for the thirty-first annual convocation, held on 20th January, 1880, M. E. David G. Spaulding, G. H. Priest, with representatives from 99 Chapters.

In introducing his decision, the G. H. Priest very pertinently remarks: "It were better, my companions, that more reading be done, and the decision of the presiding officer only asked when the 'books' do not cover the cases referred to."

Another very "singular case" is related by him, that of one claiming to be a companion after the lapse of fifty years, in mean time none knowing him as such.

Companion Samuel H. Norton was elected M. E. G. H. Priest, and Companion Innes continued Grand Secretary.

Companion Innes made the report on Correspondence, which gave to the Companions of Michigan a very complete synopsis of the acts and sentiments of the companions in other jurisdictions. We were at Detroit at the convocation of the G. G. Chapter in August, and there en-

joyed the pleasure of meeting many of the warm-hearted companions of Michigan. Their courtesies were as beautiful as their country, and as full of warmth and zeal as any could be. Prosperity and happiness to companions there.

MINNESOTA.

The eighteenth annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 14th October, 1879, with the R. E. Dep. G. H. Priest, Thomas Montgomery, presiding, with representatives from 23 Chapters.

The G. H. P. was detained from attendance in consequence of being "sorely afflicted." His address was read by the Grand Secretary.

Companion Thos. Montgomery was elected M. E. G. H. P., and Companion A. T. C. Pierson Grand Secretary.

Companion Pierson made the Report on Correspondence in his usual pleasant style. As in striking contrast with the tardiness usual in getting out our proceedings, see the following :

In conclusion, we say : Comp. Wheeler, we object to your putting such a scare on our Grand Secretary ; he supposed that getting the proceedings of the Grand Chapter printed and mailed within a week from the close of the session could not be beat ; when yours were received so soon after the meeting he was scared ; thought that Connecticut had beat Minnesota, but with pencil and paper has finally figured that he was still ahead about thirty-four minutes.

Companion P. thinks that suspension or expulsion by a lodge does not *ipso facto* suspend or expel in the Chapter, just as Companion Drummond, of Maine, thinks. We are astonished at this, but there is no accounting for all the vagaries of age, &c. We would like to know if such an one were to be admitted to his Chapter what he would do about it.

The opinion enunciated under Indiana, that all the powers of a G. H. P. are derived from the constitution, has ever been our opinion, though we seem to have been misapprehended.

Under Canada, we find he says : "We do agree with the following which we find under the head of Maine, &c." He then quotes from Companion Robertson that *suspension* or *expulsion* by the lodge does not *ipso facto* carry the same result, in so far as the chapter is concerned. Yet, under Iowa, hear him on the same subject :

The Royal Arch is but the completion of the Master's degree. If a Master Mason is expelled or suspended by his lodge he is, of necessity, cut off from everything that is built up on that degree—deprived of its roots the tree must fall. While under such sentence the party has no masonic rights whatever ; he is, to all intents, a profane.

Membership in a masonic body can only be had through the ordeal of the ballot box.

A mason non-affiliated is deprived only of masonic rights dependent upon lodge membership. Expulsion is masonic death, so also suspension for the time.

While a lodge cannot make chapter membership, it has the power to deprive, by depriving the party of that upon which chapter membership is based—being a Master Mason.

He says he makes few comments because the printer must be paid, so he does that by talking, which cost nothing. Well, we know him to be a good talker, full, round and happy. Good-bye.

MISSISSIPPI.

The thirty-second annual convocation was held on 2d February, 1880, M. E. Companion R. B. Brannin, G. H. P., with representatives from 37 subordinates.

In the address of the G. H. P. we find :

The condition of all branches of masonry in this State must be painful to every zealous member of the Order. The financial embarrassments of the past few years have left their impress on our chapters, but the outlook is beginning to brighten, and we trust that the return of prosperity and thrift, which characterize the various pursuits of life, will not be without their good effects upon the institution.

Most sincerely do we hope for a brighter day in Capitular Masonry.

The G. H. P. thinks the cause of the present apathy lies in the improper material introduced, too much profanity among the members, and too little regard to the practice of temperance, and thus exhorts his companions :

Companions, "these things ought not so to be." Let our voices be heard to-day in condemnation of the practice of these vices. Let our influence be felt throughout this Grand Jurisdiction, as a corrective. If there be no remedy in moral suasion, then apply the law, compel the performance of obligations, and cleanse the Sanctuary, and let us, by our example, make Freemasonry what it should be, a power in the land for good.

An amendment was submitted for action of the subordinates, looking to the repeal of the mileage and per diem provision.

Companion Frederick Speed was elected M. E. G. H. Priest, and Companion J. L. Power retained as Grand Secretary.

Companion P. M. Savery made the Report on Correspondence.

Under California he very properly says :

He also decided that if a companion owed the chapter fees for degrees and refused to pay, that charges should be preferred against him, and if persistent in non-payment, he should be expelled for dishonesty. If this was the law in Mississippi, and it was enforced, there would be more funds in the treasury of some of the chapters, or a considerable decrease of membership. We hold that no chapter has a right to con-

fer the degrees unless the fees are paid ; that the Secretary is personally responsible for the fees being paid in advance ; and that if a Companion receives the degrees on a credit, the Secretary being responsible to the chapter, the amount of fees unpaid is a debt due the Secretary, and not the chapter, and is no more binding than any other honest debt.

He thinks the California rule requiring certificate of qualification before installment, if universally adopted, would increase interest in Capitular Masonry.

MISSOURI.

The thirty-third annual convocation was held on 6th May, 1880. M. E. Noah M. Givan, G. H. P., with representatives from 60 chapters.

Referring to the review by Companion Byers, of Colorado, of an African Grand Chapter hailing from Missouri, the G. H. Priest uses the following language, and the recommendation herein contained was complied with :

My attention has been called to the fact that Companion William N. Byers, Representative of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of Colorado, and author of the Report on Foreign Correspondence made to the Grand Chapter of Colorado in 1878, after very briefly reviewing our proceedings in 1876 and 1877, devoted about as much space, in the same connection, to a spurious organization which he calls the "First Independent African Grand Royal Arch Chapter," and which he recognizes as another Grand Chapter belonging to Missouri. As stated by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, this "is an insult to every regular Grand Chapter in this country." It is especially an insult to this Grand Chapter which should not go unrebuked. The organization of which our Colorado Representative speaks, is not recognized by this or any other Grand Chapter as a legitimate body. Its existence was unknown to us until the Colorado Committee published it to the world. It does not claim even to be a Missouri institution, but has subordinates in Kentucky, Texas, Kansas, and may ere this have some in Colorado.

Our Colorado Representative must have been grossly ignorant, or else his review of that clandestine body in connection with this Grand Chapter was intended as an insult to the Grand Chapter of Missouri. In either event he is unworthy to longer represent us, and I recommend that his commission as our representative near the Grand Chapter of Colorado be revoked.

The committee on this address use the following language in relation to this subject :

Your committee recommend that this Grand Chapter approve of the suggestion made by the Grand High Priest as to revoking the commission of Companion W. N. Byers, as representative of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of Colorado, and the appointment of some companion whose masonry is of a different *complexion and odor* in his place.

Companion J. E. Cadle, G. H. P. ; Companion Wm. H. Mayo, Grand Secretary.

Companion Mayo made the Report on Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of 41 Grand Chapters. His review of the "intimate connection," which should ever exist between the Sublime Degree and Ancient Craft Masonry, is thus given :

The Blue Lodge is the foundation stone, or mud sill, of all other masonry—all depends on it—and whenever a mason's standing becomes impaired or affected in his lodge, it should at once debar him from the rights and privileges of all other masonic bodies. Nay, even more : should a Chapter Mason become a non-affiliated Master Mason, and remain so for any considerable time voluntarily, that should work as a severance from his chapter or any other masonic body.

We agree entirely with the following :

It is a very objectionable custom that most masonic grand bodies have gotten into during the past few years, to allow members of the Fraternity to be present, mix among delegates and members of the grand body, and frequently, if the sessions are held in large cities, an undue influence is exerted over the members composing the body. We see no objection to masons in good standing being present as spectators, occupying the lobby, entirely separate and distinct from the component parts of the grand body, as is the imperative rule of all State and national conventions or legislative bodies, whether political, religious or otherwise.

NEBRASKA.

The thirteenth annual convocation was held December 16th, 1879, Companion F. E. White, M. E. G. H. Priest, presiding, with representatives from eight chapters.

On the subject of the merger of the Council into the Chapter, the G. H. Priest says :

The year that has just closed has been an important one to Royal Arch Masonry in Nebraska, the most important event being the merging of the Chapter and Council degrees. This has passed from an experiment to an absolute fact, and so far as I can learn is giving general satisfaction throughout the State. Many of the subordinate chapters are conferring these beautiful and instructive degrees in a manner creditable to themselves and beneficial to the companions receiving them. Since witnessing these degrees regularly and properly conferred, I am strongly of the opinion the consolidation will not work an injury to the Royal Craft of Nebraska, and as long as they are under the charge and control of the Grand Chapter, their lessons, symbols and secrets will not be lost to the world.

This Grand Chapter adopted the following resolutions :

Resolved, That all commissions that may have been heretofore, or shall hereafter be granted, to representatives of this Grand Chapter near

sister Grand Chapters, shall, unless sooner revoked, expire with the meeting of the annual convocation of this Grand Body succeeding each triennial convocation of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States : *Provided*, however, that should no appointment be made, the commission will continue in force until a successor is appointed.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Body be and he is hereby directed to notify sister Grand Bodies of the adoption of this resolution ; that being informed thereof, they may govern themselves accordingly, by recommending some suitable companion to be commissioned as representatives near their respective Grand Bodies.

And also the following recommendation of the Committee to whom they were referred :

And your committee would recommend, as the sense of this Grand Chapter, that it is contrary to our views of propriety that any companion who declines or neglects to share the burdens should not wear the honors of Royal Arch Masonry, and we therefore request the Grand Secretaries of other jurisdictions to report at their earliest convenience whether any companion holding a commission as Grand Representative of this Grand Chapter near their own is a non-affiliate Royal Arch Mason, that his commission, in such case, may be revoked.

Companion Alfred G. Hastings made G. H. Priest, and Companion William R. Bowen continuing Grand Secretary.

Companion Warren made the report on Correspondence.

He objects to any endowment plan in connection with Masonry. Right there.

He likens the various degrees in Masonry to a building on one floor. Having gained admittance to the Lodge, through it you reach the Chapter and so on, so that when the door of the Lodge is closed on a brother for any cause, he cannot get into the other bodies.

Indeed, there is so much good, honest, vigorous putting of sound thought in this report, we don't know what to extract. On points of masonic law discussed, we find ourselves agreeing with him generally. We take from his conclusion what he says about the merging of the Council degrees :

Aside from some interesting questions of Masonic law and practice now being discussed and settled, the most important matter now engaging the attention of the Capitular Bodies is the merging of the Councils, R. and S. M., with the subordinate Chapters. In the South and West the movement seems to have become almost general, while the more "conservative" East resists, and predicts confusion and disaster to Royal Arch Masonry. We have studied the problem somewhat, and have favored the merger because otherwise the Councils would soon die. If, then, the preservation of those degrees be deemed desirable, a union must be effected—at least no one in any quarter has ever suggested any other, or better or equally satisfactory course. Those who consider them useless will of course resist the union on the ground of detriment

to the Chapters, but the opponents thus far have contented themselves with prophesying its failure. Next summer, at the convocation of the General Grand Chapter at Detroit, some measure will doubtless be perfected; at least we believe that the bugbear of *unconstitutionality* will not thereafter be raised to affright those who have favored the union.

NEVADA.

The sixth annual convocation was held on 9th June, 1879, Companion Phillip Seldner, M. E. G. H. Priest, and representatives from all the Chapters being present.

The G. H. Priest recommended a Committee on Work to produce uniformity.

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported that it was "contrary to the spirit, usages and teachings of Masonry," to levy an assessment on members of a Chapter other than the regular dues.

Companion David E. Bailey was elected G. H. Priest, and Companion John D. Hammond, Grand Secretary.

Companion Hammond made the report on Correspondence. He introduces it thus :

The beginning of a Correspondence Report is very like getting married, in that it is beyond human ken to foresee how long the affair may last, or, until the end shall come, whether the better or the worse shall predominate. In spite, however, of this dreadful uncertainty, matrimony and reports will doubtless continue. We are told that it is not good for man to dwell alone.

He seems as much puzzled as we over the action of Connecticut in refusing to allow a Chapter to refund dues to a brother.

In Nevada when a Chapter Mason ceases to be an affiliated Master Mason, he also ceases to be a Chapter member, or, as he says, "an Arch, though it be Royal and Holy, isn't good for much unless it have rock foundation."

On non-payment of dues and its effect, he says: "1. Every Mason is in duty bound to pay dues. 2. If unable, let his dues be forgiven. 3. If he can pay and won't, then he is guilty to all intents and purposes of contempt, which is a Masonic offence of grave character."

The seventh annual convocation was held on 7th June, 1880, Companion Bailey, G. H. Priest—seven Chapters being represented.

The G. H. Priest deprecates all levity in conferring the degrees. Thinks that when a companion from abroad visits a Chapter he should be made to feel that he is among friends and brothers.

The business of the Grand Chapter was entirely of local interest.

Companion Frank Bell was elected G. H. Priest, and Companion Hammond, Grand Secretary.

The last again made report on Correspondence. In it in relation to

the resolution adopted by our Grand Chapter requiring the presence of the charter when the Chapter is opened, he says :

“ Companion P.
We agree
So let it be.”

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

We have the proceedings of the sixty-second annual convocation, held on 18th May, 1880, Companion George W. Currier, G. H. Priest, presiding, with representatives from 18 Chapters.

The address says that the growth in Capitalar Masonry, though not large, has been healthful.

The Grand Chapter is somewhat cramped in its finances, but the committee to whom this subject was referred were of opinion that the increase of business prosperity would relieve the treasury without any action.

The Committee on Correspondence were granted time to complete their report that it might be printed with the proceedings ; but, alas ! we have it not.

Companion Albert S. Wait was elected G. H. Priest, and Companion George P. Cleaves, Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY.

These proceedings come to us clothed in mourning for the loss of their Grand Secretary, Companion Corson—and well may they—may all of us mourn, for a brighter jewel is not to be found in the Chaplet of any Grand Chapter. But he is no more, and it behooves us who are living to be mindful that we ere long must, like him, pass away, and that we must “work while it is yet day, for the night cometh wherein no man can work.”

The twenty-third annual convocation was held on 10th September, 1879, Companion George H. Jones, G. H. Priest, and representatives from 27 Chapters.

The address of the M. E. G. H. Priest was truly eloquent, when alluding to our late Companion, Thomas J. Corson.

The general business of the Grand Chapter was entirely of local interest, save the report of the committee on the death of the late Grand Secretary. This we would copy in full, but our space forbids.

Companion James H. Durand was elected M. E. G. H. Priest, and Companion George B. Edwards was made Grand Secretary.

No report on Correspondence.

The proceedings of the twenty-fourth annual convocation, held on 8th September, 1880, are also before us. It was presided over by Com-

panion James H. Durand, G. H. Priest—26 Chapters being represented.

We find the Grand King strangely using the following language: "We need not hesitate to ask or to suggest, and even to urge *worthy* brethren to apply for the Capitular degrees." Then why not urge a worthy E. A. to proceed farther? We fully agree with him that the punctual attendance of the officers of a Chapter is absolutely necessary for its success and efficiency, and that when a companion accepts an office he impliedly contracts to perform all its duties to the best of his ability, and the punctual attendance is within the power of every companion, or may readily be arranged for.

Companion Charles Bechtel was made G. H. Priest, and Companion George B. Edwards, Grand Secretary.

Companion Edwards made the report on Correspondence, and among the proceedings we find Alabama for 1878-79.

We take pleasure in transferring to our pages a part of his views of suspension for non-payment of dues:

In the Drummond statistics of May, 1879, the number of Royal Arch Masons recorded in the column "Suspended for non-payment of dues," is 4,257. Of this number, what would be a fair estimate to place in the category, *suspended because they were too poor to pay*? Founded upon a somewhat extensive experience, we would dare to answer, "NOT ONE!" And to this we would add: "Nor have we ever heard of a Mason being disciplined in this relation who was known to be *too poor to pay*."

Masonic claims upon a member are as binding as are his claims upon the Craft. We class the Mason who disregards the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations (or any part of these), that he has covenanted to support and maintain, and who lives the days of his Masonic life outside the circle of the Code, yet claims the name of Mason, to be upon a par with the religious (?) man whose religion consisted solely of the epitaph upon his tombstone.

The right to define crime and offence, and award discipline therefor, in each Masonic jurisdiction, is inalienable, and one of the very foundation-stones of the fabric.

There is much that we would like to extract from this truly admirable report, but we are now on the eve of our Convocation, and cannot.

NEW YORK.

We have the proceedings of the Eighty-third Convocation of this G. Chapter, held on 3d February, 1880—Companion David F. Day, G. H. P., and representatives from 188 subordinate chapters. From the address, we take the following aptly expressed thought:

We meet not to consider any of the absorbing problems of trade or commerce, nor to inquire how any one in his worldly wealth may be advantaged. We meet not to deliberate upon any question of the State, nor to endeavor to discover how political power may be perpetuated or obtained. We seek for no man the wreath of civic honor or authority.

We meet not in the interest of any creed or sect. It is not for us even to consider how those who worship God upon Mt. Gherizim may be brought to Zion's holier hill. None of the purposes for which men are accustomed to assemble in convention are ours.

The duty which calls us together is beyond self, beyond sect, beyond party. It is for us in our deliberations to ignore the distinctions which have so often divided men into jealous and contending factions, and look alone to the common interests of humanity. Within our charge is one of the most important departments of Masonry. To that extent Providence has committed to our care the oldest and most venerable institution in which the benevolence of man has taken form and organization—an institution whose origin is shadowed in doubt, but whose gentle and humanizing influences encircle the globe.

We learn that the growth of Capitular Masonry has been cheering, and that the "utmost harmony and good feeling have prevailed."

Companion William T. Woodruff was elected G. H. P., and Companion Christopher G. Fox was elected G. Secretary.

Companion Ogden again presented the report on correspondence, prefacing it with a short notice of the Eighty-second Convocation. Alabama receives fraternal notice. Our views in relation to the necessity of the presence of the charter, he neither indorses nor objects to, but quotes the views of his Grand Chapter. Right.

NORTH CAROLINA.

We find that from the thirty-second annual convocation of this Grand Chapter, held on June 1st, 1880, the G. H. Priest, C. M. Van Orsdell, was absent until the second day of the session, and that the Grand Chapter was opened by Companion S. H. Smith, G. K. as G. H. P.

Upon the arrival of the G. H. Priest, he delivered his address, in which we find the following sentiments, to which we call the attention of Companions generally :

Now we have promised in the most solemn manner, that we would redouble our endeavors to correct the vices, purify the morals, and promote the happiness of our companions. We have promised to be good men and true, and strictly to obey the moral law. We have pledged ourselves to guard against intemperance and excess. Notwithstanding these solemn pledges, it is a lamentable fact, that the intemperate use of spirituous liquors is the cause of more injury and trouble than all others combined. Now, while we do not presume to dictate to a craftsman what he may eat, drink or wear, yet we should insist that he be temperate in all things. Then, my companions, let us all, with one accord, use every endeavor to exterminate the curse of intemperance, profanity and excesses from our beloved Institution, and that we may practice before the world what our beautiful tenets and principles teach us within our Sacred Tabernacle, that the world may know that, when a man is said to be a mason, he is one to whom distress may prefer its suit, whose hand is guided by charity, and whose heart is expanded by benevolence.

We find nothing of general interest in the proceedings.

Companion Van Orsdell was again elected G. H. Priest, and Donald W. Bain Grand Secretary.

In the body of the proceedings we find that Companion Southgate made a Report on Correspondence, which was ordered to be printed, and a reference made by Grand Secretary to Appendix, for which we look in vain, but instead a note from Grand Secretary that the funds of the Grand Chapter were insufficient for the publication. We are left then only to regret, but are somewhat consoled by the reflection that what was lost to us seems to have been gain to him, as he was made D. G. H. P.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The Tenth Annual Convocation was held on June 2d, 1879, the G. H. P., W. A. Hesson, presiding, ten Chapters being represented.

The G. H. P. contemplated with satisfaction the growth of the Royal Craft since the establishment of a grand governing body for that Province, and from it augurs well for the future.

The proceedings were of local interest only, but we regret to find that the state of the treasury prevented a report on correspondence.

Companion William Taylor was made G. H. P., and Companion James Gossip G. Secretary.

OHIO.

The Sixty-third Convocation was held on October 16, 1879. A Chapter of R. A. Masons was opened by the M. E. G. H. Priest, James W. Underhill, there being present various Past Grand Officers and the representatives of 112 chapters, and, after prayer, the G. H. Priest declared the G. Chapter opened—by a sort of sliding system, we suppose.

The G. H. Priest says that many chapters are active, but that also many "have but a sickly existence," and thinks that those which he terms drones are more injurious to the institution than profanes. He thinks "that a R. A. Mason who remains unaffiliated from choice for an undue length of time should be treated as a profane." Doubtless the continually increasing number of non-affiliates will ere long attract the attention of Grand Chapters, and some efficient method be devised of dealing with them.

The business of the Grand Chapter was of local interest only.

Companion James B. Hovey was made G. H. P., and Companion James Nesbitt G. Secretary.

Companion Melish presented the report on correspondence, and in it we find Alabama.

With his opinions about the P. M. Degree we most fully agree, and as they embody our own views, we give them entire :

But as to the connection of the Past Master's degree with the Chapter, we would say that we sentimentally believe it has no proper connection with it at all, and if we could we would abolish it. Companion Wait says : "The Chapter Past Master rests upon a fiction, assumed for the purpose of qualifying a candidate for the Royal Arch." This "fiction," the charge to the candidate says, rests on this, that anciently no one could be exalted to the Royal Arch degree unless he were a Past Master, hence in recasting the degrees into the Capitular system it was thought best to retain it. "Fiction" all the way through ! *Causa pro non causa !* The Royal Arch was originally an essential part of the Master Mason's degree, and has no necessary connection with an Official Past Master. But even if such had been an ancient prerequisite, there was no wisdom in getting up a fictitious installation to get over the imaginary difficulty. If the Council degrees should be incorporated with the Capitular, as seems to be eminent at present, it will afford an excellent opportunity to recast our Capitular degrees; drop out the Past Master altogether, and in its place insert the Council degrees. We commend the suggestion to our Chapters generally.

OREGON.

Companion J. B. Congle, M. E. G. H. P., opened the Twentieth Annual Convocation in ample form on June 11th, 1880, 15 Chapters being represented.

After the usual introductory remarks, the G. H. P. proceeds :

It is my painful duty to inform you that during the year I have received official notice of the suspension by the symbolic lodges, to which they belong, of two of our Grand Officers, to-wit : Our Deputy Grand High Priest and our Past Grand Scribe, the first definite, the latter indefinite, and as provided by standing resolution No. 7 of our Grand Chapter, I declared those offices vacant.

Companions, it is no pleasant task to have to make such a report of two of our companions from whom we had expected better things, but nevertheless I deem it my duty to report it to you for your consideration.

I have been appealed to by companions during the year to discipline companions for violation of Masonic duties, but believing my authority doubtful, have refrained from inflicting any punishment whatever.

It is generally understood by Royal Arch Masons that the Grand High Priest has the same powers as the Grand Master in Symbolic Masonry; but I hold this to be a mistake, for the following reason :

The office of Grand Master preceded the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Master possesses prerogatives that the Grand Lodge did not, and could not, deprive him of.

But it is different with the Grand High Priest, because he is the creature of the Grand Chapter, and did not exist until created by the Grand Chapter; consequently, all the authority he has is derived from it, and we have no law in our Grand Constitution giving him the power to suspend, no matter what the offense.

I would recommend that this Convocation add a section to the Grand

Constitution, giving the Grand High Priest powers similar to a Grand Master in Symbolic Masonry—being well satisfied that if the Grand High Priest should be clothed with such authority it would be a benefit to the craft in cases requiring prompt action.

I would also recommend that standing resolution No. 7 be amended so as to read: That being suspended by a symbolic lodge, for any cause, operates in like manner in the Chapter, and it shall be the duty of the High Priest of such Chapter to cause the proper entries to be made on the Chapter records, and that no companion, having been suspended by a symbolic lodge and reinstated by said lodge, *shall* be reinstated in the Chapter by less than a two-third vote of all the members present.

I make the recommendation for this reason, that our law provides how a companion may get out of the Chapter, but does not say how he may get back. It has been our custom to take back into the Chapter suspended Masons, when they were reinstated by the symbolic lodge, without action on the part of the Chapter. But this custom has been all wrong. It is true that Symbolic Masonry is the foundation of Masonry, but it does not follow that Symbolic Masons shall say who we Royal Arch Masons shall admit into our Chapters, and it is conceded by all Masons that a suspended Mason is no more to Masonry than a profane; hence, a suspended Royal Arch Mason cannot get back into his Chapter without the action of his Chapter.

He thinks the "ties of brotherhood are not merely theoretical, but to be carried into practice in our daily walk through life,"—a sentiment that ought to be graven upon the mind of every Mason as though by the edge of a chisel under the pressure of a mallet. If this were so, there would be no flickering altar fires, no gloomy and desponding chapters. We would that every companion could be infused with his views.

The G. Chapter, on the recommendation of the G. H. P. above quoted, so amended the Constitution as to give the G. H. P. the powers contained in the following:

SECTION 35. The Grand High Priest shall, in all cases of urgent necessity, discipline any Royal Arch Mason in the jurisdiction for all unmasonic conduct, but not longer than the next annual convocation of the Grand Chapter, and he shall have the power to suspend any High Priest, or to revoke a charter, for the repeated failure and refusal to enforce the Masonic law—

Notwithstanding an able and, we think, unanswerable minority report from the committee.

Companion D. P. Mason was elected G. H. P., and Companion R. P. Earhart continued G. Secretary.

Companion T. McF. Patton again made such a report on correspondence as few can equal, none excel.

Under the caption of "Independent Views," he treats, in a full and complete manner, of several questions which have been before the Companions of late, giving the views of many prominent Masons, as well

as his own. We like the plan, and confess to reading this *hand-book* with extreme pleasure. Considering the question, is the Chapter independent of the Lodge, and replying to Companion Robertson, of Canada, who denies that expulsion from the Lodge necessarily carries with it expulsion from the Chapter, he forcibly says :

From the earliest period of our masonic life up to the present time, we have labored under the impression that when the sentence of expulsion is pronounced by a proper tribunal against a mason, his masonic existence ceases. He is not regarded as a mason. He is absolutely and unconditionally DEAD ; and all communication with him, as a mason, ceases. That is the law, and none knew it better than Companion Henry Robertson ; and yet, he would fain have us and others believe that there is a certain degree of *independence* in the chapter organization, which ignores any lodge action, be it what it may. When a coroner holds an inquest over a body, it is not for the purpose of ascertaining whether the body is actually dead ; or to devise means to resuscitate the same, but simply to enquire into the facts surrounding the death. Should the coroner and his jury return a verdict that the deceased came to his death by foul means through unknown agencies, or, by his own act, the fact thus ascertained would by no means restore the body to life and activity.

So it is with the boasted reserved right of Canada chapters to hold inquests over the bodies of defunct Master Masons. They might exercise their reserved rights until doomsday—view the body with sad and sorrowful hearts, and give full expression, in words of condolence to the few surviving friends, and after all, the body is dead. We have not time nor inclination to pursue this question further, and feel like apologizing to our companions for devoting the space we have to the discussion of a question, which, from our stand-point, is, to say the least, simply absurd.

And on the question, "Is lodge membership necessary to chapter membership?" we find him promulgating what we consider sound doctrine, and what we believe would, if universally acted upon, contribute to the prosperity of the craft :

It seems to us a strange doctrine that requires candidates to have certain specified qualifications for admission, or even to make application for admission, and not require the same standard to maintain that character after they get in. We hold that continued affiliation is absolutely necessary to chapter membership ; and the same in the chapter, to enjoy the privileges and honors of Knighthood.

After reading the whole of this very interesting report, and marking many passages, we concluded that we would give the above only, as to do our Companion Patton full justice would make a report of itself quite as large as the finances of our Grand Chapter would warrant.

PENNSYLVANIA.

At a quarterly communication, held on February 6th, 1879, Companion Wm. C. Hamilton, G. H. P., presiding, the following preamble and

resolution were adopted. They fully explain themselves, and have been pretty fully discussed by many of the corps of correspondents, sometimes, as we believe, with too great asperity. For ourselves, we think that each jurisdiction should provide such rules for the guidance of its subordinates as its wisdom may think necessary, and although we incline to the opinion, that the proper construction to be given to any punishment provided by a Grand Lodge for any offence, is, or ought to be, that placed upon it by the governing Grand Lodge; yet upon this subject—the non-payment of dues—a masonic offence of a very high grade—there seems to be too great leniency in some jurisdictions. A brother has pledged himself to obey the by-laws of his lodge. One of these provides for this payment. He fails and offers no reasonable reason, and is suspended. What ought to be the status of such brother, who wilfully violates his obligations to his lodge and to the fraternity?

WHEREAS, Several of the Grand Chapters of the United States have declared that a Companion suspended by his Lodge of Master Masons for non-payment of dues, is not suspended in his Chapter, but continues a member in good standing of the same, with all the rights and privileges; and

WHEREAS, This Grand Chapter desires emphatically to declare the foregoing to be a violation of masonic law and usage and gives countenance to suspended masons;

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the chapters subordinate to the jurisdiction of the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, be directed to require all visitors for examination from other jurisdictions, prior to admission, a declaration in the following words: I do not stand suspended or expelled for any cause whatever, neither has my name been stricken from the roll of members for non-payment of dues in my Lodge of Master Masons, or my Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

The annual communication was held on December 27th, 1879, with the same presiding officer.

His address is marked by honesty in the discharge of the trusts committed to him, and in it he speaks plainly to his companions what may well be heard and heeded in other jurisdictions as follows:

Truth, whether it be agreeable or unpalatable, must be spoken; therefore we state, with a sense of deprecation, that Royal Arch Masonry, within the circle of my visitations, is not in that growing and flourishing condition which would aid so materially in building and strengthening our Fraternity. It is true there is a certain kind of "*peace and harmony reigning*," but it is of a negative character, and is the result of apathy and neglect; apathy upon the part of the officers of the chapters, and neglect upon the part of the members in attending the meetings thereof. These are the conditions that prevail generally in that portion of the jurisdiction included in my visitations, although there are many honorable exceptions, to whom we extend the meed of praise. It is important to us, as Royal Arch Masons, to arouse ourselves more

keenly to the necessity of adopting measures whereby this evil may be overcome.

Companion Hamilton was continued G. H. P.; Companion John Thomson Grand Secretary.

Companion Chas. E. Meyer made the Report on Correspondence. From this we copy letters from England and Ireland, giving a complete short account of the origin and character of some of the chapter degrees, which we think will prove more instructive and agreeable to our companions than any other matter we can give them; so without apology to them, but with thanks to Companion Meyer, we give them almost in full, fully satisfied that the funds of the Grand Chapter cannot be better employed than in distributing useful information:

THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ENGLAND.

TRURO, ENGLAND, 7th November, 1879.

DEAR M. E. COMPANION MEYER: I shall be pleased to give you a report of our Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England, as the printed proceedings do not reach you. The fact is that the Constitution of the Grand Chapter is different from any other in the world and to be appreciated must be studied in connection with the struggle for supremacy under the "*Moderns*" and "*Ancients*," and *their Union* in December, 1813.

The "Articles of Union" provided for the official recognition of the degree of "*Holy Royal Arch*,"* but in such a way that it was made virtually and actually the *completion* of the Master Mason's, not as a separate and distinct Degree. The Grand Chapter, it is true, is a separate organization, but only so in part, and is not *independent* of the Grand Lodge. It is an *imperium in imperio*, and in reality is the complement of the Grand Lodge, its chief officers being taken from the latter *Body of Royal Arch Masons*, without any election by the Companions whatever.

In the "*Regulations*" no provision is made for the appointment of Representatives, and all is done that can be to render its character as much after the style and character of the Grand Lodge. Suspension or expulsion in the *latter* means the same in the *former*, and in all matters not especially provided for, the Grand Chapter follows the ruling of the Grand Lodge, and every chapter has to be attached to some warranted lodge, and its rank or precedence, number, &c., is determined by that of the lodge to which it is attached. For this reason the latest number of a chapter is not indicative of the total number of the chapters, as the last charter granted is No. 1611, York; but instead of there being so many chapters, the total at home and abroad would not exceed 600. The degrees are thus arranged: 1^o, "E. A.;" 2^o, "F. C.;" 3^o, "M. M.;" 4^o, "R. A." (*really completion* of 3^o); and then, if *Installed* Masters of a Craft Lodge (*actually* of a Lodge, *not* the P. M., as in (except Pennsylvania) the United States), the Companions may be elected and installed as 3d, then as 2d, and then as 1st Principals of a Chapter

* *Vide* Hughan's Masonic Register, page 15.

(known as Joshua, Haggai and Zerrubabel respectively], each having a separate ceremony and secrets, &c., and the *order of communication* must be strictly observed.

The Grand Chapter consists of the *present* and *past* Grand Officers, with the three Principals of every Chapter and their past *First* Principals (only) and associate members. As with the Grand Lodge, all the officers are entirely unremunerated, save the Grand *Scribe* E. (i. e., the *Grand Secretary*), and no "mileage" is ever paid to any one for attendance at any of the meetings of the Body.

This Supreme Chapter was formed in 1817 from the union of the two Grand Chapters under the "Moderns" and "Ancients," H. R. H. the Duke of Sussex being the *first* Grand Principal Z., the Earl of Zetland the next, followed by the Marquis of Ripon, and on the 5th of May, 1875, H. R. H. the Prince of Wales was obligated and installed as "*First Grand Principal of the Order*," being the *Fourth* to occupy that exalted position from 1817. The Earl of Carnarvon being declared and invested as Pro-Grand Z. (being Pro-G. M.), Lord Skelmersdale Grand H. (being Deputy G. M.) and so on, &c. At these Annual Convocations a "*Committee of General Purposes*" is elected, consisting of twelve members, and by that body the ordinary business of the society is managed, by which means a deal of the usual routine never comes before the Grand Chapter at all, save in the way of appeals, if the decisions should not be considered suitable or legal, when the Grand Chapter finally decides.

Four regular meetings of the Grand Chapter are held in each year, viz: on the first Wednesday in the months of February, May, August and November, the one in May following that of the Grand Lodge in April, when the new Grand Officers are appointed.

In the Grand Lodge and subordinate Lodges the jewels of the Craft and Royal Arch Degrees are allowed to be worn, *but no others*, just as in the Grand Chapters and subordinate Chapters those of the Craft and Royal Arch and *no others*.

The Grand Lodge of Mark Masters, the Grand Conclave of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, the Great Priory of the Knights Templar, and the Ancient and Accepted Rite, not being recognized in any way, save that permission is given in the "*Articles of Union*" of 1813 to certain Degrees other than the Craft, to be worked as heretofore, only separate and distinct from the Craft, Grand Lodge and Chapter.

In all other Grand Chapters the *Mark Degree* is recognized and this Degree is moreover worked by authority of the Grand Lodge of Scotland in the Craft Lodges. In England the Mark Degree is very popular, as also the Degrees of the "Ancient and Accepted Rite," there being over 200 Lodges and 80 Chapters of the Rose Croix working under the authority of those two ruling Bodies. The Grand R. A. Chapter of Pennsylvania was the first to recognize the Mark Grand Lodge, and now its certificates are accepted throughout the "wide, wide world."

In the Quarterly Reports of the Grand Chapter there is but little calling for notice in this letter, as they are mainly descriptive of the financial state of the Grand Chapter (which is most healthy) and of the petitions for Warrants, none of which are granted in connection with a Lodge, unless the latter has been in existence two years, save under special circumstances, and the Lodge must consent to the petition before it can be entertained, also no exaltations can occur in England unless the candidates have been Master Masons twelve months at least.

At the Grand Chapter held 6 February, 1868, it was agreed that £2000 (\$10,000) be granted to our Four Great Masonic Charities, to be equally divided between them. The funds of the Chapter, beyond that needed for exigencies, generally exceed £3000 (\$15,000), and are derived from the fees for *Warrants* (5 guineas each), *Exaltations*, *Certificates*, &c. (15 shillings each), *Dispensations*, &c., but no annual dues are exigible, as in the Grand Lodge. Grand Superintendents are appointed to rule over *Provinces* and *Districts* (at home and abroad), as in the Grand Lodge, and by this means a thorough efficiency and supervision are obtained.

Any question I shall be happy to answer at any time, and with best wishes to the Grand High Priest and the members of the Grand Chapter.

Believe me, your Friend and Companion,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN,

Representative of the Grand Chapter of Penna, at the Mark Grand Lodge.

We now follow in with the following by Comp. T. B. Whytehead, Z. of Chapter No. 1611, at York, England.

THE HISTORY OF MARK MASONRY IN ENGLAND.

There can be no doubt that the Mark Degree forms one of the closest links in the chain which connects the present speculative, with the old operative system of Freemasonry. In the old Guild the ceremony of selecting and registering a mark by a newly admitted Craftsman, was only second in importance to that of his first admission into the Society. In using the words Mark Masonry, I must be understood to speak in a general sense, and not of any particular ceremony or ritual, as now carried out in any country. The Degree of Mark Master Mason as now worked, is essentially of modern construction, and some Masonic writers have thought fit to pour contempt upon the Degree in consequence. The whole Masonic system, however, as far as regards its details, is of such comparatively recent construction that any Degree which can claim an origin in the last century must be considered worthy of investigation, and the steady progress of the Mark Degree during the past few years has given it an importance and a prominence which cannot be overlooked.

The wide and interesting subject of Masons' Marks is somewhat beyond the present question, and moreover presents such a large scope as to be quite beyond the limits of a short paper. It is a subject of the deepest interest to Masons and archaeologists, and has been treated of elaborately by writers both inside and outside the pale of the Order. In tracing the history of the building sodalities, the study of Masons' Marks is of inestimable value, and from the very earliest period the custom of the selection of a Mark by each and every builder, has been world-wide. It scarcely needs any argument to prove the great importance for the proper selection, approval and registration of each man's mark in an age when records were sparse and writing but little known, and Mackey and others have sufficiently exemplified this and have given examples and quotations from old writers, showing the antiquity of the use of the private mark as a pledge or guarantee of good faith.

The selection of a mark by every Brother appears to have been insisted on with much greater regularity in the Scotch than in the Eng-

lish Lodges, but this may, I think, easily be accounted for by the fact that the Scotch Lodges retained their operative character long after the English Lodges had ceased to contain any but the speculative element. In the minute books of the oldest Lodges in Scotland, the register of marks is usually kept with the greatest regularity, and the choice seems to have been made by the Brother at the time of initiation and payment of fees. There seems to be no mention of any ceremony, and it is improbable that any special form was observed, still less that any ritual existed until about the end of the last century at the earliest. The mark cypher was early used in England, and in the minute books of the Grand Lodge of *all* England at York, the initials of the titles of the officers present at meetings are sometimes given in this cypher appended to their names. There is no evidence whatever in the York minutes, to show that any ceremony was observed in the conferring of a Mark Degree, nor is any such Degree in any way alluded to as far as I can discover, but that a Mark Degree was in existence in England at the close of the century there is abundant proof. Where then did this Degree come from at the time of its revival as a working Degree? It seems to me probable that it had been re-introduced from Scotland, between which country and the northern counties there was much communication.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland governs the Mark Degree in that country, and it was reported in 1865 by a Committee of the Body appointed to investigate the history of the Mark Degree, that—"In this country from time immemorial and long before the institution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland (in 1736) what is now known as the Mark Master's Degree was wrought by the operative Lodges of St. John's Masonry."

Minutes preserved by some of the older English Lodges, show that the Mark Degree was independently worked under the authority of the blue warrant, before the close of the 18th century, but at the union of the two Grand Lodges in 1813, the Degree was not included in "Pure and Ancient Masonry," unless it was intended that Mark Masonry should form the first step to the Royal Arch (as in Scotland), of which there is no hint. In both Ireland and Scotland the Mark Degree is, and always has been recognized as a part of ancient Masonry, and it is difficult to understand on what ground it was not recognized as such at the union. Many old Masons of high standing have, in my hearing, expressed their regret at the exclusion of the Mark Degree, but a horror of tinkering at the Constitutions has always stood in the way of any alteration, and the danger of interfering with the text of the articles of union would doubtless be very great, although the spirit of them would, I think, not be violated if the 2d Article be considered carefully. To my mind a more liberally devised sentence could scarcely have been constructed.

It is only within a comparatively recent period that any systematic investigation of old Lodge minutes has been made, and even yet these investigations have only been of a very imperfect character. I have no doubt that as time progresses and Brethren see the advantage of careful examination, we shall have unearthed further evidence as to the date at which the Mark Degree came to the front in England.

Here follow many extracts from Lodge records in England which we think needless to quote.

It may be noticed that the "marks" appended to the name of each Brother possess little variety, and in many cases the same mark was chosen by two or more Brethren at the same meeting. Out of a total of 77 marks there are only 9 varieties, there being 22 squares, 21 anchors, 10 compasses, 9 columns, 6 keys, 4 balls (or circles), 2 cross pens, 2 plumb-rules, and 1 hour-glass.

In these minutes there are several features to be particularly regarded, the most important of which are, first, that the mark working consisted of two separate Degrees—Mark Man and Mark Master, a fact that has been long in dispute in England; and second, that these Degrees formed an appendage of the Second or Fellow Craft Degree. (See minute of August 14, 1777.) These are well worth noting.

The earliest North of England minute of any distinct Mark working which I have so far been able to procure is to be found in the minutes of the Imperial George Lodge, No. 78, warranted by the "Moderns," in 1752, as No. 92, meeting at Middleton, in Lancashire. It runs thus:

I believe, that in a short time, I shall be in possession of actual transcripts of earlier Mark minutes in the North of England, but the difficulties in obtaining access to old minutes are very great, and those of inducing local Brethren to make copies, are, as a rule, still greater.

From the published "Directory" of the Minerva Lodge, No. 250, at Hull, which contains a sort of analysis of the old minutes I gather that in 1802 the following Degrees were worked in that Lodge: "Three Degrees of Craft Masonry, Mark Masonry, Royal Arch, Knight Templar, Old English Herodim or Orange Masonry, and Ark, Mark, and Link." On enquiring of Bro. M. C. Peck, the Secretary, I gather that no regular Mark minutes were kept, but the marks were entered in the Craft minute book, and there is nothing to prove that the Degree was then worked *in extenso*, and previous to 1853, the W. M. of the Minerva Craft Lodge was (if a Mark Mason) W. M. of the Minerva Marks Lodge (*ex-officio*).

Separate and distinct certificates for Mark Master Masons were issued for many years before distinct Mark Lodges were established and I append one formerly issued by the "Old York" Lodge, at Bradford, which at one time formed an integral portion of the Hope Lodge, held in that town, and which worked under a "Dispensation" from York. In this one the Brother's mark was placed in the centre and the certificate was written according to the taste of the W. M. in the margin.

The York Mark Lodge was one of those Time Immemorial Lodges which was long in recognizing the authority of the Grand Mark Lodge of England, although overtures of reception on favorable terms were early made to it. Its records are very imperfect, and do not extend further back than 1852, and I do not think that it had any existence as a separately worked Degree for any lengthy period. According to the oldest edition of its By-Laws, which I possess, it is called the "York Lodge of Mark Masons, attached to the Union Lodge, No. 236" (now called the "York" Lodge, 236), and its By-Laws makes the Mastership conditional on membership in the Union Lodge. No doubt at this old centre of Freemasonry there has always been a practice of selecting marks, but there is no evidence of its having been worked as a separate Degree, indeed, the Templar is the only extraneous working beside the Royal Arch, of which we have any recorded evidence at York.

In the minutes of the Lodge of Perseverance, No. 371, at Maryport, in Cumberland, there is an entry dated July 9th, 1844, to the effect that

certain Brethren "took the Degree of Mark Master Mason, and had their marks duly registered in the Book of Marks," and Bro. Lamonby says that he has found no earlier entry of the Mark in the counties of Westmoreland and Cumberland. There was no Mark Lodge, however, as we understand the term, and the oldest Mark Lodge in that District, at the present time, was warranted in 1863.

I suspect that south of the Trent, Mark Masonry fell out of fashion at the beginning of this century, and that this was one reason why it was not included as a portion of "Pure and Ancient Masonry at the Union." Thenceforth the Degree must have been preserved in the South by a very slender thread, which would account for the Bon Accord Lodge in London, in 1855, applying to Scotland for a Mark warrant; for the six members who applied for the warrant from the Bon Accord Royal Arch Chapter in Scotland, would scarcely have done so, had they been able to advise with any known established Mark Master's Lodge in London on the subject. It was then, that the Committee of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, of England, took the matter into consideration as to whether the Mark Degree should be taken over by that Body as in Scotland, but that Committee decided that the Mark was a portion of the Fellow Craft Degree, and had no connection with the Arch. That Committee even recommended that the Mark should be added to the Fellow Craft, and the recommendation was accepted by the Grand Lodge of England. Some of the members of Grand Lodge, however, became frightened at the prospect of any change, however slight, regarding it as the thin end of a wedge, and consequently the declared opinion of Grand Lodge was regularly reversed and matters were left in the same condition as before, and in which they have remained ever since.

The Bon Accord Lodge in London was the first body to move in the formation of an independent Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons (Lord Leigh being their head), and they gathered round them, in 1857, the other Lodges in the South and some in the North of Ireland, working the Degree as English Lodges, and formed a Grand Mark Lodge of England. In this they were perfectly constitutional, and were only following the example of the Craft Lodges in 1717. It had been previously agreed that any Mark Lodge in working existence before June, 1856, should be considered a "Time Immemorial" Lodge, and should take rank accordingly. In 1858 most of the Mark Lodges working under warrants from the Grand Chapter of Scotland transferred their allegiance to the Grand Mark Lodge of England, which, from that date, has held an increasingly prosperous existence.

But it is to Scotland that I think we must look for the birthplace of the Mark Degree as a speculative working. No one who has made even the most cursory examination of the remains of ancient ecclesiastical and military buildings could fail to acknowledge that the system of Masons' marks has been in vogue as long as the art of building itself, but between such a system and the speculative system of Mark Masonry there is more difference than between the mediæval Abbey Builders and ourselves as Free and Accepted Masons. The Abbey Builders had a system of speculative teaching, a code of general morality which they taught their initiates, but which, as far as we know, had no special reference to Masons' marks. The mark was selected by a Brother as soon as he had served his time and was made free of the guild, just as the monastic devotee of this day, on assuming the cowl, adopts a name by which he is known amongst the brotherhood. I feel sure that the

Mark Degree came into a "working" existence towards the close of the last century, when there was a rage for the multiplication of orders, and when, doubtless, it was seen by the leaders of the Craft, as now, that a certain hiatus existed between the Second and Third Degrees. It may even have been the case that originally some kind of mark working, though of course not the same as at present, once formed an integral part or complement of the Second Degree, just as some Masons imagine the Royal Arch did of the Third Degree, and that for the sake of abbreviating the ceremonies, both were divorced and fashioned into separate and distinct workings under newly invented names.

In consequence of the action of a Blue Lodge in Glasgow in the year 1860, which conferred the Mark Degree under its Craft warrant, the Grand Lodge of Scotland felt compelled to examine into the whole question of the status of Mark Masonry, and the result of its inquiries is very important, as showing what conclusion the heads of Masonry in that country came to after careful investigation and abundant evidence. The following was the minute entered into between the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter of Scotland, and though rather long is well worth quoting in its entirety :

"The Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge and Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter having held a conference with a view to carrying out the remit to them, unanimously agree that what is generally known under the name of the Mark Masters' Degree was wrought by the operative Lodges of St. John's Masonry in connection with the Fellow Craft Degree before the institution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. That since that date it has continued to be wrought in the Old Operative Lodges, but in what may be called the Speculative Lodges it never was worked at all—or at all events only in a very few. That this Degree being with the exception of the Old Operative Lodges above mentioned, entirely abandoned by the Lodges of St. John's Masonry, the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter assumed the management of it as the Fourth Degree of Masonry in order to complete the instruction of their candidates in the preliminary Degrees before admitting them to the Royal Arch. That this Degree, whether viewed as a second part of the Fellow Craft Degree or as a separate Degree, has never been recognized or worked in England, Ireland or the Continent or in America as a part of St. John's Masonry; and that it is now most desirable that an arrangement may be made which will reconcile the differences between the Grand Lodge and Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, and which will admit of the three first Degrees of St. John's Masonry being worked in the Lodges in Scotland in a manner similar to that allowed by sister Grand Lodges. Resolve to recommend the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland to enact and declare as follows: I. That all Lodges holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland shall be allowed to work this Degree in virtue of the charters which they already possess. II. That to prevent confusion with Brethren belonging to Lodges out of this kingdom or with sister Grand Lodges, this Degree, although held by the Grand Lodge to be a second part of the Fellow Craft Degree, shall only be conferred on Master Masons, and the secrets shall only be communicated in presence of those who have taken it either from a Lodge or Chapter entitled to grant it. III. That the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland shall adopt the same ritual in conferring the Degree, being that now adjusted by their respective committees. IV. That any candidate applying to be admitted to the Royal

Arch Degree, if he has received this Degree in a regular Lodge of St. John's Masonry, shall not be required to take it a second time from the Chapter into which he seeks admission, but in event of his not having received it he shall be obliged to take it from that Chapter. V. That as regards the Royal Arch Degree, this Degree shall be reckoned the Fourth Degree in Masonry. VI. That nothing contained in these regulations shall interfere with the superintendence which the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter claims over Mark Masonry out of Scotland or with the Lodges holding of it in England or abroad."

Now this is a register of opinion of the highest value, and when added to that of the Grand Lodge of England, in 1856, that the Mark Degree was "not positively essential, but a graceful appendage to the Degree of Fellow Craft," and to the fact that the Mark Degree occupies a similar position in Ireland, to that which it does in Scotland, it gives to the Degree the *imprimatur* as it were, of the highest Masonic authorities in the United Kingdom. It signifies nothing that the Grand Lodge of England declined to take charge of the Degree. That was objected to merely on the technical ground of Article II of the Articles of Union in 1813, and not because the Grand Lodge of England regarded the Mark Degree as *unworthy* of inclusion in Craft Masonry. The objection was similar to that which now pervades the minds of English churchmen at the idea of any alteration in the Book of Common Prayer. It is felt that if once a breach is made in the rubrics, which have stood the test so many years, there is no telling where it would end.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland refused to recognize the Grand Mark Lodge of England until June of this year, only because they were so convinced that the Degree belonged to the Fellow Craft, that it seemed to them as reasonable to form a Grand Fellow Craft's Lodge as a Grand Mark Lodge, and it was only when it became quite evident that Grand Lodge of England would never recognize, or take charge of the Degree that they accepted the inevitable. In 1864, the Scotch Committee, before spoken of, sent their adopted report to Grand Lodge and Chapter of England, and asked if those Bodies were prepared either to take over the Mark Degree, or to recognize the Grand Mark Lodge of England, but the reply was in the negative, nor have subsequent conferences and communications altered matters. At the present moment the Grand Mark Lodge of England is strong and occupies such an independent position that there would be no possible chance of amalgamation with either Grand Lodge, or Grand Chapter, even were such a consummation to be desired by any of those Bodies.

I stated before, that in Scotland were to be found the oldest records of any registration of marks in lodges now in existence. Of course, when a brother chose a mark it must necessarily have been different from the mark of any other member of the lodge, and for that reason it must have been registered in the books of the lodge. It is in Scotland that we now find lodges practicing speculative masonry, whose records show them to be direct descendants of operative lodges existing from very ancient times. In the very earliest records of these lodges we find the process of the selection of a mark to have been gone through by every mason admitted, and we also find that as early as the middle of the 17th century, others than masons were admitted members, showing that even then the speculative element was invading the lodges. How long that period existed during which the lodges were both operative and speculative, it would be difficult to decide, because,

in the very earliest charges which we possess, not only those collected and published by our Eminent Brother Hughan, but the old mediæval guild charters, all contain allusions which prove that moral, and even theological teaching entered into the earliest operations of the building guilds. According to the records of a trial which took place in Edinburgh about 1707, being the outcome of a financial dispute between the Edinburgh Journeymen's Lodge and the Mary's Chapel Lodge, it appears that the former lodge made only Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts, the "Mark Master" being Master of the Lodge. The condition of things in England about that time was very similar since the third degree could only be given in Grand Lodge, just as in Edinburgh, it could only be obtained from St. Mary's Chapel Lodge, which occupied the position to a certain extent of a Grand Lodge in that city. The Mark Master who ruled the Lodge, therefore, was not what we understand now by a "Mark Master," but was simply an Installed Master, and as such, held the register of marks of his Lodge, or, in other words, ruled over the Mark men, or Craftsmen, who formed the ordinary Masons' Lodge. He seems to have been called a "Mark Master," or "overseer," in distinction to the "Master Mason," who ruled over a Mother Lodge, such as Mary's Chapel. Thus there would seem to have been two classes of lodges, the lower class, or Mark Lodges owing a kind of allegiance to the Master Masons' Lodges, and this existed up to the commencement of the 18th century. In many of the old Scotch minute books the Brethren appear to have made a rule of appending their marks to their signatures, and I hope our Brother Hughan may see his way some day to publish a work on Mark Masonry, and reproduce therein specimens of the marks used, which, as far as I have been able to examine them, are principally emblematical of the calling in life of the Brother adopting them, such as a shovel for a maltster, &c., or merely a monogram of the Brother's initials.

The present ritual of the Mark Degree wherever worked, has been founded principally upon ancient Craft legends, and is intended not only to illustrate the principles which guided our ancient operative founders, but to instill moral lessons of integrity, faith, hope and gratitude. As such the Degree is valuable. But it does not end here, for Mark Masons in England have taken up a position in regard to practical charity, which, regarding the strength of the Order, places them second to none amongst the Masonic Bodies of the world. It numbers on its roll over 240 numbered Lodges in addition to 10 "Time Immemorial" Lodges without distinction of number. The Grand Master holds 45 votes in the Masonic charities. It has an invested Benevolent Fund of £2,000, and a General Fund of £1,000. It has an "Educational Branch" of its Benevolent Fund for the purpose of giving supplementary aid in the education of the children of Mark Master Masons in reduced circumstances; to say nothing of the assistance casually rendered by the Lodges, both to local charities, and to the lists of Brethren at the Annual Masonic Charity Festivals.

This alone would be a sufficient *raison d'être* for the existence of the Degree, which has since the formation of the Grand Lodge been ruled over by most distinguished Brethren: Lord Leigh, Lord Carnarvon, Viscount Holmesdale, W. W. B. Beach, Esq., the Rev. G. M. Portal, Earl Percy, Lord Limerick, and now Lord Skelmersdale. It has also had the advantage of many energetic officers and none more so than our distinguished Bro. Binckes, the Grand Secretary, whose zeal for

the Order is only excelled by that for the Boys' Schools whose needs he so constantly and eloquently advocates.

I wish I could have given you a more connected and detailed paper, but there is so very little ground to work upon and records are so meagre in England that, without bringing in the sister kingdom, I fear any history of the Mark Degree might be summed up in the words—there is none to speak of.

T. B. WHYTEHEAD,
P. M. York Mark (T. I.)

From Certificate formerly issued by the Old York Mark Lodge (Bradford.)

IRISH ROYAL ARCH MASONRY.

By COMPANION JAMES HORNER NEILSON (DUBLIN.)

Up to the year 1830 the Royal Arch Chapters of Ireland seem to have worked under the laws of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

The earliest known laws and regulations for the Irish Royal Arch are those of 1830. Few copies of these now exist. From the copy in our possession, we find they consist of only five octavo pages of print. From these laws we also learn that, the Grand Chapter consisted of three Grand Principals or Grand Masters, "all Past Grand Masters, 3 "Sojourners, 2 Scribes, 1 High Priest, all Companions who have past "any of these offices, the 3 Grand Masters of every regular subordinate "Chapter, the Past Grand Master of these Chapters." To these were added, on account of their rank in Craft Masonry, Past Grand Masters, P. D. G. M.'s and the two Grand Wardens for the time being (provided they were Companions of the Order), with a Grand Pursuivant and Tyler. The Grand Master of the Craft was to be the 1st Grand Master of Grand Royal Arch Chapter; the D. G. M. to be 2d G. M.; the 3d Grand Master and all other officers to be elected by the Grand R. A. C. The meetings of Grand Chapters were held on 3d Wednesdays in February, May, August and November.

"At the May meeting the 3 Grand Masters were inducted to their respective chairs, each of them having been previously installed, after "which all the others were likewise inducted."

On the 16th day of November, 1864, the names of these officers were changed to King, High Priest, Chief Scribe, Captain of the Host, Sup. of the Tabernacle, Royal Arch Capt., Capt. Scarlet Vail, Capt. Purple Vail, Capt. Blue Vail.

The laws being still that :

"The Grand Master of Freemasons of Ireland (if a Past King or Past "1st Principal) to be King.

"The King, Past Kings, High Priests and Chief Scribes of all Sub-ordinate Chapters are members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter."

On the 3d day of May, 1876, the right of the Grand Master of Freemasons of Ireland to be Grand King was changed, and the Grand King is now annually elected like all other Grand Officers.

The Grand Officers are now nominated at August meeting of Grand Chapter and elected at November meeting, and installed at the February meeting.

The other officers of the Royal Arch Chapters are :

The Grand Chaplain, the Grand Registrar, the Grand Janitor, and the Tylers.

Subordinate Chapters are constituted by warrants granted by the Royal Arch Chapter. These warrants are obtained by the presentation of a petition signed by at least nine Royal Arch Masons, who must be also Mark Master Masons and Master Masons of at least five years' standing.

The Irish Royal Arch Degree is now composed of the following degrees: Excellent, Super-Excellent, Virtual Master and Royal Arch, which were all originally worked separately in Ireland. The qualifications for the Degree are, being a Master Mason of at least six months' standing and a Mark Master Mason. The course to be pursued in seeking admission to the Degree is, the candidates being proposed by a member of a Royal Arch Chapter for exaltation in his Chapter, this being seconded, is either accepted or rejected by the Chapter, and if accepted, the candidate's name goes out in the summons for the next meeting of the Chapter for ballot (and there must be at least seven days between proposal and ballot.) If two black *beans* appear in the ballot-box the candidate is rejected and cannot be again proposed in the same Chapter for at least a period of six months, but may be in any other Chapter; but if only one, the candidate is accepted. If the candidate be proposed in a Chapter meeting in the city of Dublin, his name has, in addition, to go before what is called the Committee of Inspection. This committee consists of the Grand Officers and the King of every subordinate Chapter meeting in Dublin or his qualified proxy, five of whom form a quorum. The candidate's name being inserted in the committee summons, at the committee the name is again subjected to vote, and in case a majority are against the candidate's admission, the name cannot come again before the committee for a period of at least six months.

The Irish Chapters meeting generally only quarterly, it will be seen that the time which generally elapses between the candidate being proposed and exalted is six months, and consequently the candidate is generally a Master Mason of at least twelve months' standing before he can be a Royal Arch Mason.

The difference in name of the officers of an Irish and Pennsylvanian Grand Chapter will be seen from the following table:

Pennsylvanian Officers' Names.	Irish Officers' Names.
High Priest,	(Every subordinate Chapter must have 9 officers.)
King,	1. King,
Scribe,	2. High Priest,
Captain of the Host,	3. Chief Scribe,
Principal Sojourner,	4. Capt. of the Host,
Royal Arch Capt.,	5. Superintendent of the Tabernacle,
Masters of the Three Vails.	6. Royal Arch Capt.,
	7. Capt. of the Scarlet Vail,
	8. " " Purple Vail,
	9. " " Blue Vail.

The following officers are not compulsory in subordinate Chapters in Ireland, but few Chapters are without them:

Treasurer,	Treasurer,
Secretary,	Registrar,
Chaplain,	Chaplain,
Pursuivant,	Janitor (an honorary officer),
Tyler.	Tyler (a paid officer).

The following Pennsylvanian officers are unknown in Irish Royal Arch Chapters:

2 Masters of Ceremonies.
A Guide.
An Organist.

The officers of the subordinate Chapters are elected annually, and their names must be returned to the Registrar of Grand Chapter on or before the 24th of October in each year, so that the names may be submitted to the November meeting of Grand Chapter for approval.

The only restriction in the election of officers in subordinate Chapters is in that of King, as no Companion is eligible to that office unless he is or has been the Master of a Craft Lodge.

The Grand Officers for the year 1880 are :

King—Hon. Judge Townshend, LL. D.
High Priest—John Fox Goodman.
Chief Scribe—George Hill Major.
Captain of Host—Rev. J. A. Galbraith, F. T. C. D.
Sup't of Tabernacle—George J. Norman de Arcy, J. P.
Royal Arch Capt.—Rev. Benjamin Gibson, A. M.
Capt. of Scarlet Vail—John Hodges.
Capt. of Purple Vail—Robert W. Griffin, LL. D.
Capt. of Blue Vail—Charles Foot.
Chaplain—Rev. Thomas J. Welland, A. M.
Treasurer—Maxwell C. Close, D. L., M. P.
Registrar—Samuel B. Oldham.
Janitor—William J. Welland.

Having copied so much, we must leave other marked passages.

QUEBEC.

This, our young sister, held her Third Annual Convocation on 23d September, 1879, with Companion John H. Graham, M. E. G. Z., presiding, and representatives from eight Chapters.

Harmony prevails, and, though the growth of the Order has not been large, yet there has been a growth. The G. H. P. thus beautifully expresses himself on the influence of our beloved institution :

In all free and enlightened nations Masonry is becoming a mighty power for good. Freedom and Freemasonry are twin sisters. Human enlightenment and the light of the craft spread alike together. Sound morality and the genuine principles of our order are one and inseparable. Wise government finds in our fraternity a bulwark of loyalty. Benevolence finds in it a permanent fountain, and pure religion finds a hand-maid in a fraternity whose fundamental doctrines are the FATHERHOOD OF GOD and the BROTHERHOOD OF MAN.

Just rulers of nations deem it among their highest honors to be rulers in the craft. Distinguished statesmen and learned divines—eminent jurists, literati and scientists—gentlemen of business and of leisure—and a host of good and true men of every rank, throng our temples.

Methinks the GOLDEN AGE of our ancient fraternity is now dawning; and it is not mere enthusiasm to affirm that an unprophetic eye may

see, in the not distant future, a grand realization of the vision of so many seers and sages of the olden time, who beheld afar off the benign reign of HUMAN FRATERNITY.

The hitherto most distant parts of this grand old world of ours are being brought nearer and nearer to each other every year. The whole earth is fast becoming one great NEIGHBORHOOD, with all whose inhabitants we soon shall hold daily converse as neighbor with neighbor; and it is no day-dream to predict that the time is at hand when from every clime the sovereign rulers and princes of the craft will readily and frequently assemble in a WORLD'S CONCLAVE for the consideration and promotion of the interests of our UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD.

At this Convocation a Constitution was adopted, and in it (Art. XVIII, Sec. 7,) we find that it requires *two* black balls to reject. It also provides for honorary membership.

Companion Graham was re-elected, and Companion Angus Grant continued G. S. E., or Secretary.

The report on correspondence was a mere acknowledgment of the receipt of proceedings, and was made by Companion Frank Edgar, G. J. The present financial condition forbids a lengthy report.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on February 10th, 1880, Companion W. G. DeSaussure, G. H. P., presiding, and representatives from 23 Chapters. The G. H. Priest says, "I am sorry to be unable to bear you good tidings," in relation to the craft.

In consequence of the present desire, on the part of many of our companions, for information in relation to the Cryptic Degrees, and to give them also an insight into the claim to "ancient landmarks" in the Capitular Degrees, we extract from the address the following short history:

The Cryptic Degrees appear to have been first known in the United States, and their history is thus given by Companion Albert G. Mackey, who drew his information from a report made to this Grand Chapter in 1829. He says of them:

1. "The Degrees of Royal and Select Master were originally introduced by an Inspector-General of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, in the year 1783, and placed by him under the control of the Grand Council of the Princes of Jerusalem, which was organized in the same year in the city of Charleston.

2. "That they were first conferred in the city of Charleston, by the Grand Council of the Princes of Jerusalem, as 'side degrees,' or 'detached degrees' of the Ancient and Accepted Rite.

3. "That they were afterwards disseminated over the whole country, by agents of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, who granted charters for the establishment of Councils of Royal and Select Masters.

4. "That in almost all the States, these subordinate Councils united to form Grand Councils, who afterwards exercised the rights appertain-

ing to such bodies, the prerogatives of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Right being gradually and silently ignored and dispensed with."

To such historical account may properly be added, that in 1870, the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite voluntarily withdrew its jurisdiction over these degrees, reserving only the right to confer them within unoccupied territory.

The first Council established in South Carolina was Adoniram Council No. 1, at Charleston, in 1850, and the Grand Council was organized in February, 1860; so that, as an independent organization, Cryptic Masonry in South Carolina is of comparatively recent date.

To one familiar with the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, it can readily be understood how these side or detached degrees served as a complement to another degree of such Rite. And so it can also be well understood by one versed in Capitular and Cryptic Masonry, how Cryptic Masonry is a proper complement to the Capitular Degree.

In this connection, it cannot but be interesting to briefly consider the history of Capitular Masonry. It will be remembered that in 1738, there occurred in England a schism, which led to the formation of two Grand Lodges, one of which was designated as the Grand Lodge of Ancient Masons, and generally called Ancient York Masons. Of the merits of the controversy it is not necessary to consider: it suffices to say, that on the union in 1813 of the two rival Grand Lodges in England, one of the articles declared "that pure ancient masonry consists of three degrees and no more, viz., those of the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, and the Master Mason, including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch." Lodges had been chartered in America by both of these Grand Lodges, and in those constituted by the Grand Lodge of Ancient Masons, the Royal Arch Degree was conferred. This degree appears to have been one of the distinguishing marks between the two organizations. In South Carolina, the Degree of the Royal Arch was conferred by Lodges holding their warrants under the Ancient Masons, certainly as early as 1796, as appears from the minutes of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 10, and Orange Lodge, No. 14. In 1797, committees from certain Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, which appear to have been constituted either by the Grand Lodge of Ancient Masons, or by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, met in Boston, Massachusetts, and proceeded to organize the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America, which body in 1806 became the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America. It will be thus seen that Capitular Masonry, as an independent organization, is also of comparatively modern date in the United States. The earliest independent Chapter organized in this State, was Unity Chapter, at Beaufort, to which a Charter was granted by the General Grand Chapter of the United States in 1806. The second was Carolina Chapter, constituted about 1807, and the third was Union Chapter, warranted 20th April, 1811. Delegates from these three Chapters met in Charleston on 13th March, 1812; and on 29th May, 1812, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of South Carolina was organized, and Companion William Young, of No. 3, was elected and installed as M. E. Grand High Priest.

From these brief sketches, it will be seen that Capitular and Cryptic Masonry in South Carolina were of nearly contemporaneous origin, and for a time ran side by side, not as independent organizations, but as adjuncts of others. And you will scarcely think me rash, therefore,

in expressing the opinion that there is no organic law, which would prevent the union of these degrees. You, my Companions, in your deliberations upon this matter, will be actuated only by an earnest desire for the good of Capitalar Masonry and will realize that what I have ventured to say, is more for the sake of information to aid your deliberations, than from any desire to influence your action.

The surrender by the Grand Council of the Cryptic Degrees to the G. Chapter was made and perfected at this convocation.

Companion F. F. Gary was elected G. H. P. and Companion J. E. Burke G. Secretary.

No report on correspondence.

TENNESSEE.

The fifty-first annual convocation was held on November 12th, 1879, there being present Companion Benjamin F. Haller, G. H. P., and representatives from 57 Chapters.

The address related almost exclusively to matters of business, but in it we found what may interest some of our companions.

I would respectfully recommend to this Grand Chapter, as the additional cost of publishing with our proceedings matters of interest contained in reports of sister jurisdictions would be but a small outlay, and afford much information and pleasure to the reading Mason, that in future it be the duty of the Grand Secretary to prepare such report, allowing him a reasonable compensation for the same.

Companion J. H. Bullock was elected G. H. P., and Companion John Frizzell G. Secretary.

No report on correspondence.

VERMONT.

Companion Alfred A. Hall, G. H. P., opened in ample form the sixty-third annual convocation of the Grand Chapter with representatives from 22 Chapters present.

The Craft are harmonious and prosperous, and the G. H. Priest urges upon them the *importance* of *study*. By a little reading, doubtless, High Priests generally would refer fewer questions to the Grand H. Priest and the Craft at large would be guilty of fewer errors.

Companion Hall was reelected G. H. P., Companion Wm. H. S. Whitecomb G. Secretary.

Companion E. S. Dana made the report on correspondence—reviewing the proceedings of 34 Grand Chapters and among them Alabama—which is kindly noticed. He differs from Companion Menet G. Z. of Canada, as to the effect of suspension from a lodge upon chapter membership, and thinks that a Mason shut out from his Lodge cannot sit in either Chapter or Commandery.

He thinks that an objection to a candidate (we presume after ballot,) has precisely the effect of a black ball.

VIRGINIA.

M. E. Alfred S. Lee, G. H. Priest, opened in ample form the seventy-second Grand annual convocation on 11th December, 1879, 23 Chapters being represented.

We congratulate the Craft in this jurisdiction upon the harmony prevailing and the evidence of returning prosperity.

We commend to the favorable consideration of our own G. Chapter the following resolutions. We think this action will be conducive to creating fewer Chapters but stronger ones.

Resolved, That when any two Chapters having concurrent jurisdiction deem it to their interest and to the interest of Royal Arch Masonry to consolidate and become one Chapter, that they be permitted to do so upon the consent of the Grand High Priest, and to retain the charter, records, &c., of the retiring Chapter and place them in the archives of the Chapter remaining in existence, and also to transfer their property, unpaid dues of membership, &c., to the same, on such terms and conditions as the two Chapters may agree upon.

Resolved, That upon the formal application of the Chapter remaining in existence, for a new election of officers following the consolidation, the Grand High Priest be authorized to issue his dispensation authorizing the same, and said elected officers shall hold their respective offices until the next regular election, as provided by the by-laws of the Chapter, and the said officers may be eligible to re-election.

We think the same might be done by small chapters and lodges not having concurrent jurisdiction. Fewer chapters and stronger would be better able to discharge their masonic obligations to the Craft.

Companion David M. Bowman, elected G. H. P., Companion Wm. B. Isaacs, G. Secretary.

No report on correspondence.

WISCONSIN.

The thirtieth annual convocation was opened by Companion Oliver Libbey, G. H. P., with representatives from 49 chapters on February 17th 1880.

From the report of the G. Lecturer we learn that the prohibition of the use of substitutes in conferring the degrees "has materially retarded the prosperity of many of the Chapters, and stopped their work;" this we also found to be the case and our G. Chapter very properly abandoned its modern method and went back to the ancient method.

The report of Companion Cottrell on correspondence was *read* when presented and ordered to be printed, and the G. Chapter passed a resolution of thanks for it in which it says: "His report was read and

listened to without anybody's going out." We are satisfied that the companions would always remain to listen to one of these reports as men always remain quiet when they are interested, and the reports would be better and do more good.

Companion Fred King Jr., G. H. P., Companion Jno. W. Woodhull, G. Secretary.

The report on correspondence well deserves the approval of the companions.

And, now, companions, our work is finished, whether well or ill done, it is the best we could do under the circumstances surrounding us at the time. We have been kindly treated by our *confreres* and wishing them and you good night, we remain,

Yours,

P. J. PILLANS.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA

IN ACCOUNT WITH DANIEL SAYRE,

GRAND SECRETARY.

1879.

CR.

Dec. 2.	By Dues at this Grand Convocation.....	\$585 75
“ 15.	“ Amount of Contingent Fund.....	250 00

1880.

BACK DUES.

Feb. 28.	By William J. Nolen, of Rockford No. 62..	\$ 5 25
Sept. 27.	“ Elisha E. Estes, of Mount Moriah No. 19.	1 50
	“ 11 Codes sold—314 on hand.....	11 00 - 17 75
		\$853 50

1879.

DR.

Dec. 15.	To paid Grand Treasurer.....	\$585 75
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1880.

Mar. 16.	“ “ for Stamps.....	10 00
April 5.	“ “ Barrett & Brown, printing.....	186 30
July 6.	“ “ Dues to General Grand Chapter...	9 27
	“ “ Expressage.....	1 35
Dec. 3.	“ “ Grand Treasurer.....	60 83 - 853 50

MONTGOMERY, December 7, 1880.

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

WILLIAM H. DINGLEY,

GRAND TREASURER,

IN ACCOUNT WITH THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA.

		DR.	
1879.			
Dec. 3.	To balance.....	\$210	29
" 15.	" Received from Grand Secretary.....	585	75
1880.			
Dec. 3.	" " " " "	60 85—	\$856 89
		CR.	
Dec. 3.	By Committee on Work, J. H. Johnson....	35	00
4.	" " " " L. W. Jenkins...	35	00
6.	" Grand Sentinel.....	15	00
	" Committee on Correspondence, P. J. Pil-		
	lans.....	125	00
15.	" Grand Secretary.....	250	00
	" " Treasurer.....	75	00
	" Contingent Fund.....	250 00—	\$785 00
1880.			
Dec. 7.	" Balance on hand.....	71	89
			\$856 89

WILLIAM H. DINGLEY,

Grand Treasurer.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

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

The balance cash in hand last Convocation.....\$210 29

Amount received from Grand Secretary to Dec. 15, 1879. 585 75

“ “ “ “ “ “ 3, 1880. 60 85

\$856 89

Amount Expended to Dec. 15th, 1879, including Contin-

gent Fund of \$250 00..... 785 00

Leaving balance on hand Dec. 7th, 1880.....\$ 71 89

Estimated receipts of this Convocation..... 497 25

Sum total\$569 14

APPROPRIATIONS.

Your Committee recommend the following appropriations to meet the necessary expenses of the Grand Chapter :

To Companion Dingley, Grand Treasurer.....\$ 25 00

“ “ Sayre, “ Secretary 200 00

“ “ Pillans, Foreign Correspondence. 75 00

“ “ “ Expenses to G. Grand Chapter..... 25 00

“ “ Sayre, for Contingent Fund..... 200 00

“ “ Davidson, Grand Sentinel..... 15 00

\$540 00

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

J. G. HARRIS,

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.

Lodge Number..	Names of Chapters.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues.	Advanced	Presided	Rec'd and ack'd.	Exalted	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted
1	Tuscaloosa	24	\$18 00	1	1	2	2	1		2
5	Eunomia	13								
10	Tuscumbia	30	22 50	2	2	3	3			
13	Gainesville	27	20 25	2	2	2	2			
17	Wetumpka	10	7 50							4
20	Livingston	19	14 25	3	3	3	3			2
21	Mobile	31	23 25	1	1	1	2			1
22	Montgomery	59	44 25	9	7	9	9	1		1
23	Talladega	22	16 50	1	1	1	1	2		
24	Enfaula	22	16 50							1
26	Union	26	19 50					1		
28	Saint John's	45	33 75	6	6	6	6	1		
34	Herman	29	21 75	5	3	3	3	1	1	4
38	Decatur	15	11 25	5	5	2	2			
40	Camden	17	12 75	2	2	1	1			1
44	Choctaw	14	10 50							
54	Tyrian	58	43 50	6	6	6	6	3	1	
56	Zerubbabel	12		1	1					
64	Central	19	13 50	4	4	4	4			1
66	Alabama	29	21 75	1	2	3	3			2
71	Landmark	31	23 25							
73	Gordon	23	17 25							
76	Elyton	17								3
85	Gaston	18	13 50					4		2
86	Coosa	20	15 00							
87	Moulton	19	14 25		2	2	2			2
88	Roslin	12	9 00							
91	George D. Norris	11	8 25							
96	Daniel Pratt	18	13 50							
98	Oxford	17	12 75							
100	Rock Mills	25	18 75							
101	Mineral City	23	17 25	11	11	11	11	1		
102	Cross Plains	17	12 75							
104	Weogufka	28	21 00	5	5	3	3			

AT REST.

"After life's fitful fever, they sleep well."

Benjamin F. Larabee, Oct. 28—60 years.	Tuscaloosa.....	No. 1
James E. Moore, Aug.....	{ Tuscumbia.....	" 10
Nathaniel A. Smith, April.....		
Eldridge Barker, Dec. 1, 1879.....	{ Wetumpka.....	" 17
Allen V. Robinson, June 25.....		
George W. Matthews, July 18—73 years.	Montgomery.....	" 22
George Henry Sporman, Oct. 30.....	Eufaula.....	" 34
John W. Love, Nov. 20.....	Saint John's.....	" 28
Frank P. M. Gilbert, Aug. 14.....	Camden.....	" 40
Isaac Johnson, June 7.....	Central.....	" 64
Awiss Woodham, Sept. 18—84 years.....	Landmark.....	" 71
Charles A. Walker, April 1.....	{ Elyton.....	" 76
Robert T. Emond, April 21.....		
Simeon Walton, Sept. 11—59 years.....	Gaston.....	" 85
William P. Hollingsworth.....	{ Coosa.....	" 86
Obediah W. Ward.....		
John C. Luttram.....		
Harlow H. Heath.....		
William P. Holmes, March 9.....	Moulton.....	" 87
Robert L. Robertson, Oct.....	Rock Mills.....	" 100

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Socrates Parker.....	Livingston.....	No. 20
Augustus P. Dorgan.....	} Mobile.....	" 21
William Keyland.....		
Isaac R. Young.....		
David B. Bryant.....		
John Gano Winter.....	} Montgomery.....	" 22
John T. McDonald.....		
Robert H. Molton.....		
George L. Comer.....	} Eufaula.....	" 24
Wells J. Bray.....		
Washington L. Ward.....	Saint John's.....	" 28
James S. Hansberger.....	} Central.....	" 64
John D. McMath.....		
Daniel Sterling.....	Alabama.....	" 66
William S. Corbitt.....	Gordon.....	" 73
Thomas Masterson.....	} Moulton.....	" 87
Thomas J. Blalock.....		
James S. Gibson.....		
Thomas T. Holley.....	} Rock Mills.....	" 100
Charles S. Johnson.....		
Amos F. Tomlin.....	Cross Plains.....	" 102

REINSTATED.

Leonidas F. Burks.....	Tuscaloosa.....	No. 1
George E. Geice.....	Tuscumbia.....	" 10
Berryman Hawkins.....	Livingston.....	" 20
John A. C. Horn.....	} Camden.....	" 40
Edward N. Jones.....		
Amos S. Wooley.....	} Central.....	" 64
James T. Leper.....		
Amos M. Elliott.....		
Henry C. Horton.....		
Samuel W. Roper.....	} Alabama.....	" 66
Pleasant M. Fancher.....		
Andrew Bernhardt Nelson.....	} Elyton.....	" 76
Frank R. Roe.....		
George M. Morrow.....	} Cross Plains.....	" 102
Robert T. Emond.....		
Gilbert R. Tracy.....		
Hugh P. Berry.....	} Cross Plains.....	" 102
George M. McCurry.....		

RECAPITULATION.

Chapters that made Returns.....	34
Chapters that paid Dues.....	32
Chapters that were represented.....	28
Members reported at this Convocation.....	700
Estimate of members not reported.....	121 821
Dues received at this Convocation.....	\$567 75

WORK OF THE YEAR.

Advanced since last Grand Convocation.....	65
Presided " " " ".....	64
Received and Acknowledged.....	61
Exalted since last Grand Convocation.....	63
Affiliated " " " ".....	15
Rejected " " " ".....	2
Dimitted " " " ".....	26
Died " " " ".....	20
Expelled " " " ".....	0
Suspended for U. M. C.....	0
Suspended for N. P. D.....	21
Reinstated.....	18

STATE OF THE CHAPTERS.

Chapters square upon the Book.....	28
Chapters under Dispensation.....	0

MEMORANDA.

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

Joseph H. Johnson, M. D.	Talladega	Canada.
George D. Norris, M. D.	New Market	District Columbia.
Peleg Brown	Mobile	Indiana.
Myles J. Greene, M. D.	Talladega	Iowa.
John G. Harris	Livingston	Kansas.
Henry F. Mullen	Selma	Kentucky.
Palmer J. Pillaus	Mobile	Louisiana.
William S. Foster	Mobile	Maryland.
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.
John W. Bush	Uniontown	New York.
Henry 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.	Opelika	Wisconsin.

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

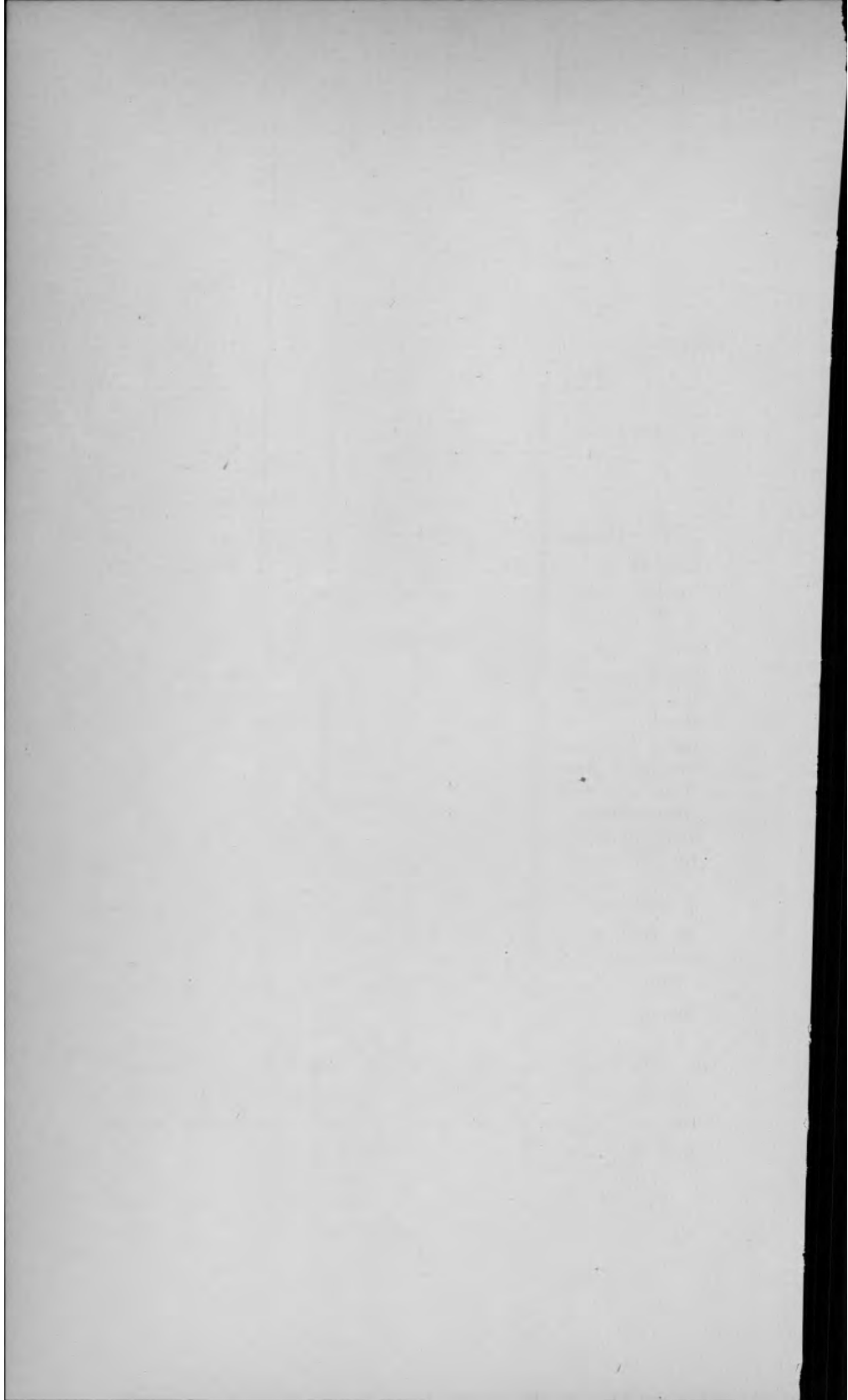
Isaac F. Toms	Goderich, Huron	Canada.
Charles W. Hancock	Washington City	District Columbia.
Downing Baugh	McGregor	Iowa.
Albert D. McConaughy	Atchison	Kansas.
William Ryan	Louisville	Kentucky.
James Todd	Franklin	Louisiana.
Jeseph E. Tyler	Baltimore	Maryland.
Frederick G. Walbridge	Boston	Massachusetts.
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.
William Sherer	Brooklyn	P. O. B. 2065 N. Y.
Rocky P. Earhart	Salem	Oregon.
Angus Grant	Montreal	Quebec.
Augustine T. Smythe	Charleston	South Carolina.
Jonathan S. Davis	Paris	Tennessee.
Justin W. F. Washburn	Montpelier	Vermont.
Alexander M. Evans	Middleway	West Virginia.
William G. Swain	Milwaukee	Wisconsin.

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

No	NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POST OFFICE.	HIGH PRIEST.	SECRETARY.	CONVOCATIONS.
1	Tuscaloosa.	Tuscaloosa.	Tuscaloosa.	Tuscaloosa.	John Snow.	William A. Cochrane.	3 Wednesday
5	Eunomia.	Huntsville.	Madison.	Huntsville.	Bernard F. Ludwig.	William H. Tancere.	1 Tuesday
10	Tuscumbia.	Tuscumbia.	Colbert.	Tuscumbia.	Thomas T. Rowland.	Benjamin Pybas.	Mon af 2 Sat
13	Gainesville.	Gainesville.	Sumter.	Gainesville.	Edward N. Kring.	Joseph Schifman.	Thursday afm
17	Wetumpka.	Wetumpka.	Elmore.	Wetumpka.	Isaac W. Suttle.	William S. Penick.	Friday bfm
20	Livingston.	Livingston.	Sumter.	Livingston.	Robert D. Webb.	Isaiah C. Brown.	3 Friday
21	Mobile.	Mobile.	Mobile.	Mobile.	William S. Foster.	John P. McNeill.	1 and 3 Thurs
22	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Edmund R. Hastings.	Calvin W. Sayre.	2 Saturday
23	Talladega.	Talladega.	Talladega.	Talladega.	Joseph Henry Johnson.	Henry H. Hamil.	3 Friday
24	Eufaula.	Eufaula.	Barbour.	Eufaula.	John Gilbert Smith.	John Curtis Thomas.	1 Saturday
25	Union.	Uniontown.	Perry.	Uniontown.	John W. Bush.	John Henry White.	1 Thursday
28	Herman.	Selma.	Dallas.	Selma.	George Peacock.	Adolph Jacobson.	4 Monday
34	Union Springs.	Union Springs.	Bullock.	Union Springs.	Isaiah A. Wilson.	Columbus J. L. Cunningham.	2 and 4 Friday
38	Decatur.	Decatur.	Morgan.	Decatur.	Christopher C. Harris.	John T. Banks.	3 Thursday
40	Camden.	Camden.	Wilcox.	Camden.	John T. Cook.	Green F. Spurlin.	Friday bfm
44	Choctaw.	Butler.	Choctaw.	Butler.	Alanson J. Gray.	Oliver C. Ulmer.	2 Saturday
54	Tyrann.	Troy.	Pike.	Troy.	John R. Goldthwaite.	Thomas H. Jones.	Friday bf 2 Sat
56	Zerubbabel.	Camp Hill.	Tallapoosa.	Montevallo.	John F. Bledsoe.	Henry P. Smith.	Sat bf 2 Sat
64	Central.	Montevallo.	Shelby.	Mobile.	Daniel Smith.	Samuel S. Holbrook.	Mon nearest fm
66	Alabama.	Mobile.	Mobile.	Ozark.	Benjamin F. Cassidy.	Edward Louis Merkel.	2 and 4 Friday
71	Landmark.	Ozark.	Dale.	Abbeville.	Newell M. Thornton.	Mark A. Cooke.	3 Saturday
73	Gordon.	Abbeville.	Henry.	Elyton.	Sam Thompson.	James W. Stokes.	1 Saturday
76	Elyton.	Jefferson.	Jefferson.	DeSotoville.	William R. Horn.	Robert A. Terrell.	2 Monday
85	Gaston.	Choctaw.	Choctaw.	Gadsden.	Benjamin F. Pope.	John C. Christopher.	2 Thursday
86	Coosa.	Coosa.	Coosa.	Moulton.	Noble G. Deleshaw.	Lemuel E. Hamlin.	1 Monday
87	Moulton.	Moulton.	Lawrence.	New Market.	Andrew J. Nunneley.	Robert Y. Goodlett.	Friday bf 3 Sat
88	Roslin.	Saint Clair.	Saint Clair.	Springville.	George D. Norris.	Aaron W. Woodall.	3 Friday
91	George D. Norris.	New Market.	Madison.	New Market.	Stephen C. Williams.	William R. Whitman.	1 Saturday
96	Daniel Pratt.	Prattville.	Autauga.	Prattville.	Llewellyn Spigener.	J. Holman Edwards.	Monday afm
98	Oxford.	Oxford.	Calhoun.	Oxford.	Stephen C. Williams.	Thaddeus L. Robertson.	2 Monday
100	Rock Mills.	Rock Mills.	Randolph.	Rock Mills.	George W. Taylor.	Anthony P. Randle.	Sat bf 1 Sat
101	Mineral City.	Birmingham.	Jefferson.	Birmingham.	William L. Gude.	Fontany B. Ellison.	1 and 3 Thurs
102	Cross Plains.	Cross Plains.	Calhoun.	Cross Plains.	Andrew J. Sifton.	Francis M. Savage.	Sat bf 2 Sat
104	Weogufka.	Weogufka.	Coosa.	Stewartville.	John A. Sears.	William H. Coleman.	Friday bf 1 Sat

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	David McLellan	Hamilton, Ont.
4.	Colorado	Edward C. Parmelee	Georgetown.
5.	Connecticut	Joseph K. Wheeler	Hartford.
6.	District Columbia	Charles W. Hancock	Washington.
7.	Delaware	Henry B. McIntire	Wilmington.
8.	Florida	DeWitt Clinton Dawkins	Jacksonville.
9.	Georgia	James Emmett Blackshear	Macon.
10.	Illinois	Gilbert Wordsworth Bernard	Chicago.
11.	Indiana	John M. Bramwell	Indianapolis.
12.	Iowa	William Baker 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	George L. McCahan	Baltimore.
18.	Massachusetts	Zephaniah H. Thomas Jr.	Boston.
19.	Michigan	William Power 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 Perley Cleaves	Concord.
26.	New Jersey	George B. Edwards	Jersey City.
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 Preston Earhart	Portland.
32.	Pennsylvania	John Thomson	Philadelphia.
33.	Quebec	Angus Grant	Montreal, box 744
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 Squier Long	Wheeling.
41.	Wisconsin	John Wesley Woodhull	Milwaukee.
42.	United States	Christopher G. Fox	Buffalo, N. Y.
43.	England and Wales	Frederick Binckes	London, W. C.
44.	Ireland	Samuel B. Oldham	Dublin.



COUNCIL OF HIGH PRIESTS.

TWELFTH CONVOCAATION.

MONTGOMERY, December 8, 1880.

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, P. M.

PRESENT :

MYLES J. GREENE.....	President.
HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	Vice President.
WILLIAM A. O'HARA, <i>as</i>	Chaplain.
ISAIAH A. WILSON, <i>as</i>	Treasurer.
EDWARD N. KRING, <i>as</i>	Recorder.
WILLIAM S. FOSTER.....	Master of Ceremonies.
DANIEL SMITH.....	Conductor.
JAMES H. JOINER, <i>as</i>	Herald.
EDMUND R. HASTINGS.....	Steward.

PRESENT.—Companions Joseph H. Johnson, James M. Brundidge, Andrew J. Sitton.

The Council of High Priests was opened in Ample Form.

The President reported that he had, during vacation, convened a Special Council, and conferred the Order on Companion William Ivey, of Herman Chapter No. 34, who was elected at the last Council.

The President also reported that since our last Council, death had invaded our ranks, and taken from us our

worthy and most beloved companion and Treasurer, Lewis T. Wimberly, of Loachapoka Chapter, No. 80.

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 necessary contribution, were received from the following Companions :—

Noble G. Deleshaw, of Moulton No. 87.

Stephen C. Williams, of Oxford No. 98.

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.

HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG	President.
JAMES H. JOINER	Vice President.
WILLIAM A. O'HARA	Chaplain.
ISAIAH A. WILSON	Treasurer.
EDWARD N. KRING	Recorder.
WILLIAM S. FOSTER	Master of Ceremonies.
DANIEL SMITH	Conductor.
STEPHEN C. WILLIAMS	Herald.
EDMUND R. HASTINGS	Steward.

And then, after reading the minutes, the Council of High Priests was closed in Solemn Form until the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama.

EDWARD N. KRING,
Recorder.