

1881

PROCEEDINGS

of the

**GRAND
CHAPTER**

of

Royal Arch Masons

of

ALABAMA



A.D. 1881 / A.I. 2411

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A.D.2017, A.L.6017

PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,

AT THE

ANNUAL CONVOCATION

HELD IN THE

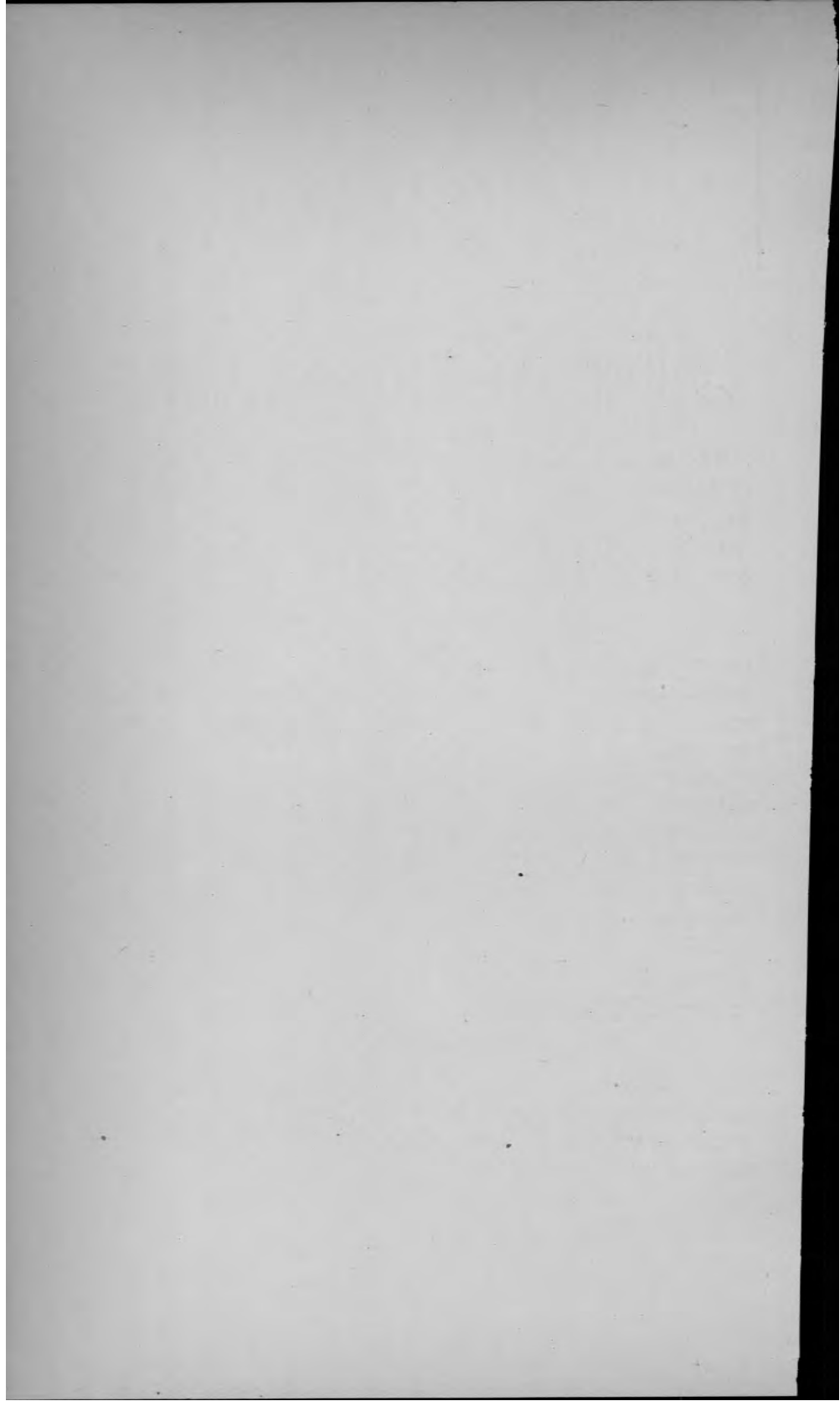
CITY OF MONTGOMERY,

1881.

MONTGOMERY, ALA. :

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1882.



PROCEEDINGS.

The M. Ex. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama held its Fifty-fifth Annual Grand Convocation, at the New Masonic Temple, in the City of Montgomery, on Tuesday, the 6th day of December, A. D. 5881, A. L. 5881, Anno Inv. 2411.

PRESENT:

LUCKY WALKER JENKINS, *Dep. as*.....Grand High Priest.
MYLES JEFFERSON GREENE, *as*.....Deputy G. H. Priest.
WILLIAM STORY FOSTER.....Grand King.
WILLIAM DWIGHT WADSWORTH.....Grand Scribe.
WILLIAM HENRY DINGLEY.....Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE.....Grand Secretary.
WILLIAM WALLACE McCOLLUM.....Grand C. of H.
DANIEL SMITH, *as*.....Grand P. Sojourner.
GEORGE WASHINGTON TAYLOR, *as*.....Grand R. A. C.
NEWELL MARION THORNTON.....Grand M. of 3 V.
JAMES TAIT BECK.....Grand M. of 2 V.
THOMAS BIRD McCLESKEY, *as*.....Grand M. of 1 V.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

PELEG BROWN.....Grand High Priest.
HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG.....Grand High Priest.
MYLES JEFFERSON GREENE.....Grand High Priest.
JAMES MCGINNIS BRUNDIDGE.....Grand King.
PALMER JOB PILLANS.....Grand Scribe.

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

NEWELL M. THORNTON, M. D.....	Abbeville	Arkansas.
WILLIAM D. WADSWORTH.....	Montgomery.....	California.
JOSEPH H. JOHNSON, M. D.....	Talladega.....	Canada.
PELEG BROWN.....	Mobile.....	{ Indiana, Missouri, Tennessee.
MYLES J. GREENE, M. D.....	Talladega.....	Iowa.
JOHN G. HARRIS.....	Livingston.....	Kansas.
PALMER J. PILLANS.....	Mobile.....	Louisiana.
WILLIAM S. FOSTER.....	Mobile.....	Maryland.
HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG	Notasulga.....	Nova Scotia.
DANIEL SAYRE.....	Montgomery.....	Oregon.

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

No. 1.	Tuskaloosa.....	William G. Cochrane.....	H. P.
" 5.	Eunomia.....	William H. Tancere*.....	"
" 20.	Livingston.....	George C. Gowdy*.....	K.
" 21.	Mobile.....	William S. Foster.....	H. P.
" 22.	Montgomery	William W. Screws.....	"
		Archibald L. R. Thompson...	K.
		Emil Kulman.....	S.
" 23.	Talladega	Joseph H. Johnson.....	H. P.
		Myles J. Greene*.....	K.
" 26.	Union.....	Junie Harwood*.....	H. P.
" 28.	Saint Johns.....	William W. McCollum*.....	K.
" 34.	Hermon	James T. Norman.....	H. P.
" 38.	Decatur.....	James M. Brundidge.....	"
		John W. Jones.....	K.
		James T. Beck*.....	H. P.
" 40.	Camden.....	Lucky W. Jenkins*.....	K.
		John R. Barrett*.....	S.
" 44.	Choctaw.....	Benjamin H. Warren.....	K.
" 54.	Troy.....	John R. Goldthwaite.....	H. P.
		Fletcher J. Cowart*.....	K.
" 64.	Central	Thomas B. McCleskey.....	"
" 66.	Alabama.....	Daniel Smith	H. P.
		Philip C. Candidus.....	K.
" 73.	Gordon.....	Newell M. Thornton.....	H. P.
" 83.	Bell.....	John Reeves.....	"
" 68.	Coosa.....	Benjamin F. Pope.....	"
" 87.	Moulton	DeWitt C. White.....	"
		Noble G. Deleshaw	K.

*Proxies.

No. 93.	Columbus.....	Richard A. Ramsay*.....	H. P.
" 96.	Daniel Pratt.....	Llewelyn Spigener.....	"
" 100.	Rock Mills.....	George W. Taylor.....	"
" 104.	Weogufka.....	Oliver P. Looney.....	"

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 it was referred to a special—

COMMITTEE ON GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

Palmer Job Pillans, Past Grand Scribe.

Joseph Henry Johnson, of Talladega No. 23.

Peleg Brown, Past Grand High Priest.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Companions of the Grand Chapter:

The dispensation of Providence which has called me to assume the Gavel, and the grave responsibilities attending it, causes me extreme embarrassment; and the dread of my unfitness for them makes me wish that this insignia of authority had passed into abler hands. But since I am appointed to so great and so unmerited an honor, I shall not evade any of those arduous duties or high responsibilities which necessarily rest upon your presiding officer, but shall address myself to their discharge with whatever of ability the great I AM hath endowed me.

Companions, since it is through God's infinite goodness that we are assembled once more in Annual Grand Convocation, let us, with hearts filled with gratitude for the inestimable blessings which we have enjoyed during the past year, return Him hearty thanks for thus permitting us to meet together, to discharge those duties required of us by the Constitution of this Grand Chapter; to perpetuate the harmony, strengthen the fraternal bonds, and promote, as best we may, the prosperity of our honored Craft.

DEATH OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

While I rejoice at meeting so many familiar and esteemed Companions, who are wont to gather here in Grand Convocation, I am grieved by the absence from our midst of our lamented Most Excellent Grand High Priest, JAMES HERVEY JOINER, whom God has called to the eternal Grand Convocation beyond the stars. We miss him, and we have reason to mourn the loss of such as he.

Companion Joiner was a kind, true, and noble friend; a zealous and valuable Mason; and a devoted and consistent Christian, whose usefulness was acknowledged, and whose influence was felt in every sphere of life to which Providence called him. He was born in the State of South Carolina, November 17th, 1819, and departed this life at his late residence in Talladega, September 6th, 1881, being nearly sixty-two years of age at the time of his death. For thirty years he was a zealous Mason, during which time he filled every station in both Lodge and Chapter, from the humblest member to Most Excellent Grand High Priest; from which last position he was removed by death; having filled it for three years with marked dignity and ability, and a courtesy of manner peculiar to himself. For more than forty years he was a faithful Christian, whose heart and energies were ever devoted to the service of his Master; and I doubt not his was "*good work, and true work, such work as will be received.*" As a man, he was clear and wise of judgment; firm in his convictions, amiable in disposition, and honored and respected by all whose good fortune it was to know him.

It is meet that this Grand Chapter should pay to the memory of our deceased Companion such tribute of respect as it may deem most suitable.

NOTICE TO THE SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

As soon as I was informed by the Grand Secretary of the death of our Most Excellent Grand High Priest, I assumed the duties of that high office, and instructed the Grand Secretary to notify the subordinate Chapters throughout the Jurisdiction; and also the other Grand Chapters in correspondence with this Grand Body. At my request, Companion Joseph H. Johnson, who is well known to the family of the

deceased, procured Companion Joiner's official record, which I will now read to you. * * * * And a copy of which you will find appended to this address.

During the brief period since I assumed the prerogatives of Most Excellent Grand High Priest, nothing of importance has been submitted to me for my official decision. Not having access to the proceedings of any of our sister Grand Chapters, I am ignorant as to what subjects may be engaging the attention of the Craft beyond our own Jurisdiction. I am confident, however, that our able Committee on Foreign Correspondence will furnish you, in their report, with much valuable and useful information.

THE WORK.

I would earnestly recommend that the Committee on Work have ample time to exemplify *all the Work and Lectures* of our beautiful Ritual, that the Representatives of the subordinate Chapters may learn them more thoroughly, and become better qualified to confer the degrees, and make the working within their several Chapters more attractive to the members.

It is of vital importance to the success and prosperity of the Chapters, that they select for High Priest Companions who not only can read and expound the law, and can "preside over the sons of light," but who, in addition to the qualifications I have mentioned, have the disposition and leisure to study and perfect themselves in the Work and Lectures.

Where the officers are efficient and bright in the Work and Lectures, the Chapter is prospering and growing in strength; and conversely, where the officers are unskilled in their work, the Companions grow indifferent and apathetic, and the actual membership rapidly decreases.

PROSPEROUS.

It is with pleasure that I report that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry, in the main, have prospered in our Jurisdiction.

DEATH OF THE LATE PRESIDENT.

The past year has not passed without noted events to impress its

chronological importance indelibly upon our minds. Not alone does this Grand Chapter mourn. The voice of mourning has been heard throughout this vast country—palaces and huts alike—because of the sad and terrible death of the President of this great people. Never before has the great heart of this people been touched by such feelings of kinship and common sympathy. Sorrow has united a mighty nation in the closest bonds of brotherhood. Nor has this feeling of sympathy been confined to this side of the great oceans. All the nations of the old world have been moved to express their feelings of condolence. This augurs well for the civilization of our day. It indicates the inception of that golden age of universal brotherhood between man and man, prophetically alluded to by the Scottish bard when he said,

"It's comin' yet, for a' that,
That man to man the world o'er
Shall brothers be, for a' that."

I thank you, Companions, for your kind attention, and solicit your generous indulgence and assistance in my efforts to perform the responsible duties that have devolved upon me during this Grand Convocation.

L. W. JENKINS,

Acting G. H. Priest.

The following is a copy of the official record of James H. Joiner, late Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, for the current masonic year:

1. On the 4th day of April, 1881, I commissioned Silas O. Vaughan as the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Alabama near the Grand Chapter of Illinois.
2. The Grand Chapter of Illinois appointed our R. E. Deputy Grand High Priest, Companion Lucky W. Jenkins, as the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Illinois near the Grand Chapter of Alabama.
3. On the 13th of May I forwarded a Commission to Companion Elbert H. English, as Representative of the Grand Chapter of Alabama near the Grand Chapter of Arkansas.
4. Companion Newell M. Thornton was appointed Representative of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas near the Grand Chapter of Alabama.
5. On the 21st of June I granted Dispensations to Choctaw Chapter

No. 44 and Alabama Chapter No. 66, to elect officers at a time other than that prescribed by law.

6. On the 5th of July I granted Dispensations to Gaston Chapter No. 85 and Mobile Chapter No. 21, to elect officers at some other time than that prescribed by law.

7. On the 27th of July I granted a Dispensation to Bell Chapter No. 83, to elect officers at some other time than that prescribed by law.

8. On the 11th of August I granted a Dispensation to Notasulga Chapter No. 92, to elect officers at some other than the time prescribed by law.

9. On the 11th of August I appointed Henry W. Clark, Thomas J. Miles, and Nathaniel D. Wright, a Commission to dispose of the Furniture and other property of Pine Level Chapter No. 75, to pay the debts of said Chapter which were properly vouched for; with instructions to report action to the Grand Secretary as soon as practicable.

REPORTS MADE.

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

COMPANION FRIZZELL OF TENNESSEE.

Companion John Frizzell, R. Ex. Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee, and P. G. H. P. of that Jurisdiction, and P. G. G. High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, being present, was introduced to the Grand High Priest, and through him to the members of the Grand Chapter. Felicitous speeches were made on the occasion, and the distinguished companion was seated in the Grand East.

The Grand High Priest announced the following

STANDING COMMITTEES.

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

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS No. 2.—Newell M. Thornton, Richard A. Ramsay, Oliver P. Loony.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS No. 3.—James T. Beck, William H. Tanere, John W. Jones.

ON DISPENSATIONS.—William W. McCollum, James T. Norman, Benjamin F. Pope.

ON FINANCE.—Daniel Smith, John Reeves, De Witt C. White.

ON BY- LAWS, SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS AND APPEALS.—William W. Screws, Benjamin H. Warren, Philip C. Candidus.

ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.—Myles J. Greene, Palmer J. Pillans, John R. Goldthwaite.

ON WORK.—Henry Clay Armstrong, Joseph Henry Johnson, Lucky Walker Jenkins.

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.

REPORT ON THE M. M. DEGREE.

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

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

RESOLUTION AS TO PROFICIENCY REPEALED.

Resolved, That the recommendation of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence of the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter in 1868, as published in the "Grand Chapter Code," page 53, which requires Candidates for advancement to be examined "as to their proficiency in each degree," be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

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 7, 1881.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock; the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, Lucky W. Jenkins, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

The minutes were read and approved.

Companion Joseph H. Johnson, 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.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

The Committee to whom was referred the address of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest begs leave to report:

That after a very careful perusal of the same they unite with him in the expression of the high encomiums upon the life and character of our lamented Grand High Priest, James Hervey Joiner, and express but the feelings of the entire Grand Chapter, when they say that his was no ordinary character, but full of wisdom, and kindness, and reverence, yet always self reliant and extremely and conscientiously just. Few among us will be able, when the dread judge shall appear, to present a fairer record. "To the just and upright, death hath no terrors." We mourn for, and with, his stricken family, and tender to them our entire and unbounded sympathy. He was a loving husband, a kind father, and faithful friend. We recommend that a memorial page be set apart in the printed proceedings, that "his memory may be put upon perpetual record," and that in token of our unfeigned grief the Grand Chapter Hall be draped in mourning.

The Committee are satisfied that the dispensations granted by the Grand High Priest, were so granted because the M. Ex. G. H. Priest was satisfied that the cause of Capitular masonry was to be subserved thereby, and recommend their approval.

The Committee would also recommend the approval of the appointment of representatives named and suggest that the hour of twelve be set apart for the reception of those appointed by other jurisdictions.

The Committee recommend to the Grand Chapter the approval of the committee appointed to take possession and dispose of the effects of Pine Level Chapter.

The Committee are unwilling to close without congratulating our R. Ex. D. G. H. Priest, who was so suddenly called upon to assume the responsibility of the office of M. Ex. G. H. Priest, upon the felicitous manner in which he has discharged the duties of the office, and in common with the entire people of these United States and the civilized world, this Grand Chapter deeply deplores the untimely taking off of the Chief of this great people, and express their indignation at the enormity of the crime. All of which is fraternally submitted.

P. J. PILLANS,
PELEG BROWN,
JOSEPH H. JOHNSON,
Committee.

Companion Henry Clay Armstrong offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

NOTASULGA NO. 92.

Resolved, That Notasulga Chapter No. 92 be allowed ninety days in which to make returns and pay dues.

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 :

Gordon.....	No. 75	Rock Mills.....	No. 100
Gaston.	" 85	Cross Plains.....	" 102
Moulton.....	" 87		

INCORRECT :

BELL No. 86.—Name not indorsed on the back, date A. Inv. not filled out.

COOSA No. 86.—Date A. L. not filled out.

COLUMBUS No. 93.—Recapitulation not filled up with the number of members in good standing.

DANIEL PRATT No. 96.—Heading erroneous in stating that the year commences in 1881 and ends in 1881, A. Inv. not filled out, nearly all the names abbreviated.

WEOGUFKA No. 104.—Date of Advancing 3 candidates not given, and date of Presiding 2 not given, name of 1 Affiliated not put down in the list of members, consequently due the Grand Chapter 75 cents; date of sealing the Returns altered from November to December, which is wrong, as the Chapter Masonic year ends on the first Monday in November.

JAMES T. BECK, Chairman.

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

The Grand Chapter proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, Companions Junie Harwood and John R. Barrett acting as tellers, and the election resulted as follows :

ELECTED GRAND OFFICERS.

LUCKY WALKER JENKINS.....	Camden.....	Grand High Priest.
WILLIAM STORY FOSTER.....	Mobile.....	Deputy G. H. Priest.
WILLIAM DWIGHT WADSWORTH.....	Montgomery..	Grand King.
JOHN RANDALL GOLDTHWAITE.....	Troy.....	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:

DANIEL SMITH.....	Mobile.....	Grand P. Sojourner.
GEORGE WASHINGTON TAYLOR.....	Rock Mills....	Grand R. A. Captain.
RICHARD ASBURY RAMSEY.....	Newton.....	Grand M. 3 V.
JAMES TAIT BECK	Camden	Grand M. 2 V.
WILLIAM GILBERT COCHRANE	Taskaloosa....	Grand M. 1 V.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....	Montgomery...	Grand Sentinel.

RECEPTION OF GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

The hour of 12 o'clock having arrived, the time appointed for the reception of Representatives of other Grand Chapters, commissioned since the last Annual Convocation, viz :

Newell M. Thornton, of Abbeville, for Arkansas,
 William D. Wadsworth, of Montgomery, for California,
 Lucky W. Jenkins, of Camden, for Illinois,

were presented to the presiding officer, and cordially received and welcomed as the Representatives of the several Grand Chapters by which they were commissioned near the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

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 :

Tuskaloosa.....	No. 1	Montgomery.....	No. 22
Gainesville.....	" 13	Talladega	" 23
Livingston.....	" 20	Enfaula	" 24

INCORRECT :

EUNOMIA No. 5.—Recapitulation not filled out, initials and abbreviations used.

CYRUS No. 6.—A mere list of members, and the signatures of the officers.

MOBILE No. 21.—Recapitulation not filled out.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

WILLIAM G. COCHRANE,
GEORGE C. GOWDY,
NOBLE G. DELESHAW,
Committee.

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

REPORT ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS NO. 2.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 2 beg leave to report, that having carefully examined the Returns submitted to them, they find the following

CORRECT :

Saint Johns.....	No. 28	Central.....	No. 64
Camden.....	" 40	Alabama.....	" 66

INCORRECT :

UNION No. 26.—Recapitulation not filled out, certification improperly dated—1880 instead of 1881.

HERMON No. 34.—Name not indorsed on the back, neither year nor Dues indorsed on the back, Recapitulation not filled out, Caption of Returns not filled out, Table of Dues not filled out, and what is filled out is erroneous.

DECATUR No. 38.—Names of all upon whom Degrees have been conferred repeated under all the Heads, contrary to instructions.

CHOCTAW No. 44.—Date on back of Returns not filled out, A. Inv.

improperly filled out—2481 instead of 2411. (Anno Inventionis is the common Era 1881 increased by 530=2411.)

TYRIAN No. 54.—Seal nearly illegible, A. Inv. not filled out.

LANDMARK No. 71.—Date of certification not filled out, one name abbreviated.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

NEWELL M. THORNTON,

Chairman.

REPORT ON THE R. A. DEGREE.

Companion Henry Clay Armstrong, Chairman of the Committee on Work, made report on the Royal Arch Degree, and the report was received and concurred in. And then the further report of the Committee was dispensed with.

INSTALLATION.

The Grand Officers, elect and appointed, were installed by P. G. H. P. Henry Clay Armstrong, being presented by P. G. H. P. Myles J. Greene.

Companion William S. Foster, Deputy Grand High Priest, offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

GRAND HIGH PRIEST JEWEL.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to procure a suitable testimonial to present to the family of the late M. Ex. Grand High Priest, Companion James Hervey Joiner.

(And the Committee was appointed, consisting of Companions Dingley, Sayre, and Johnson.)

Companion Henry Clay Armstrong offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

CYRUS NO. 6.

Resolved, That Cyrus Chapter No. 6 be allowed ninety days in which to make returns and pay dues.

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.

Lucky Walker Jenkins, <i>virtute officii</i>	Camden.
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MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Myles Jefferson Greene, M. D.....	Talladega.
Palmer Job Pillans.....	Mobile.
John Randall Golthwaite.....	Troy.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Palmer Job Pillans.....	Mobile.
Thomas Bird McCleskey.....	Montevallo.
James Talmadge Norman.....	Union Springs.

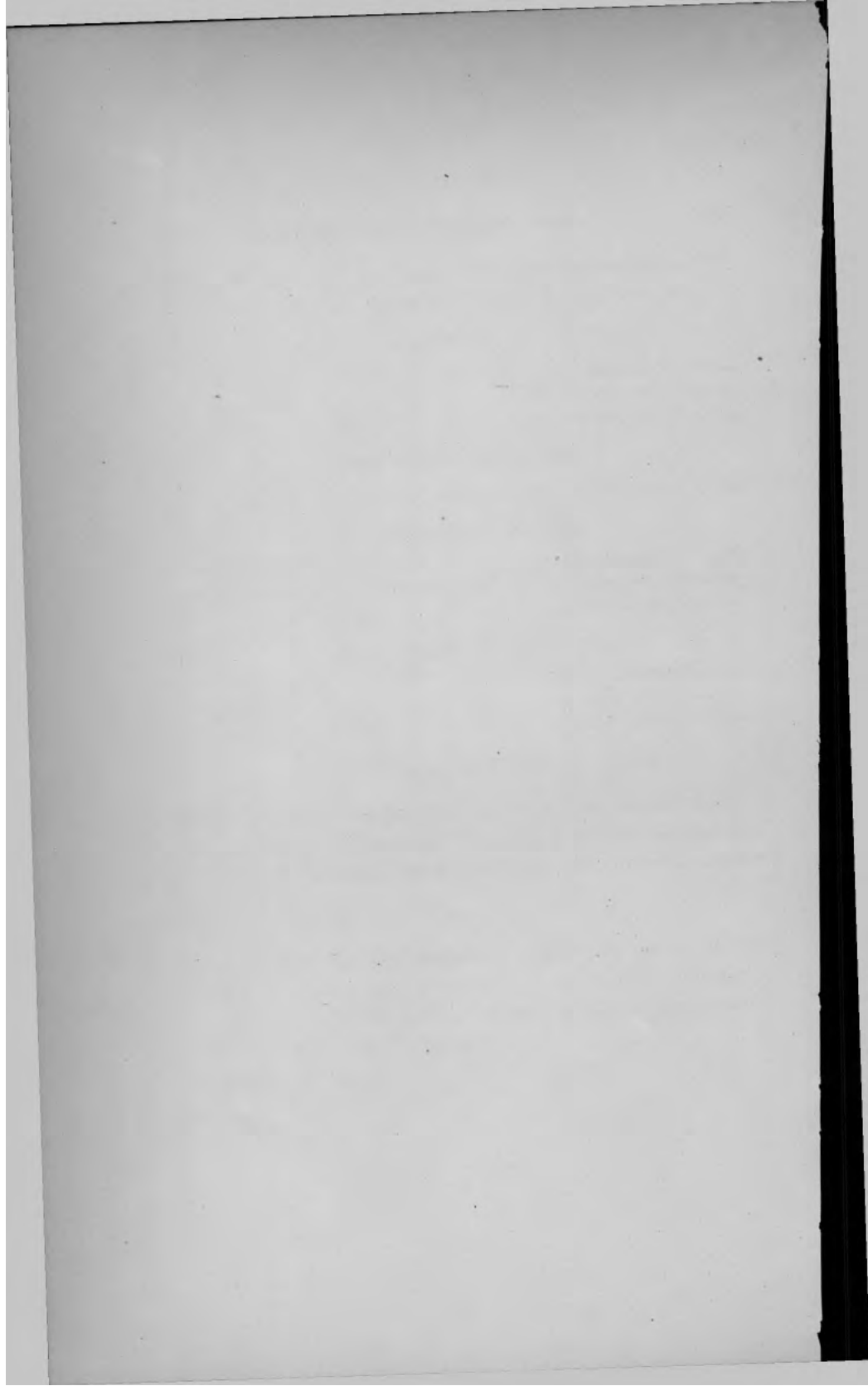
MINUTES READ.

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

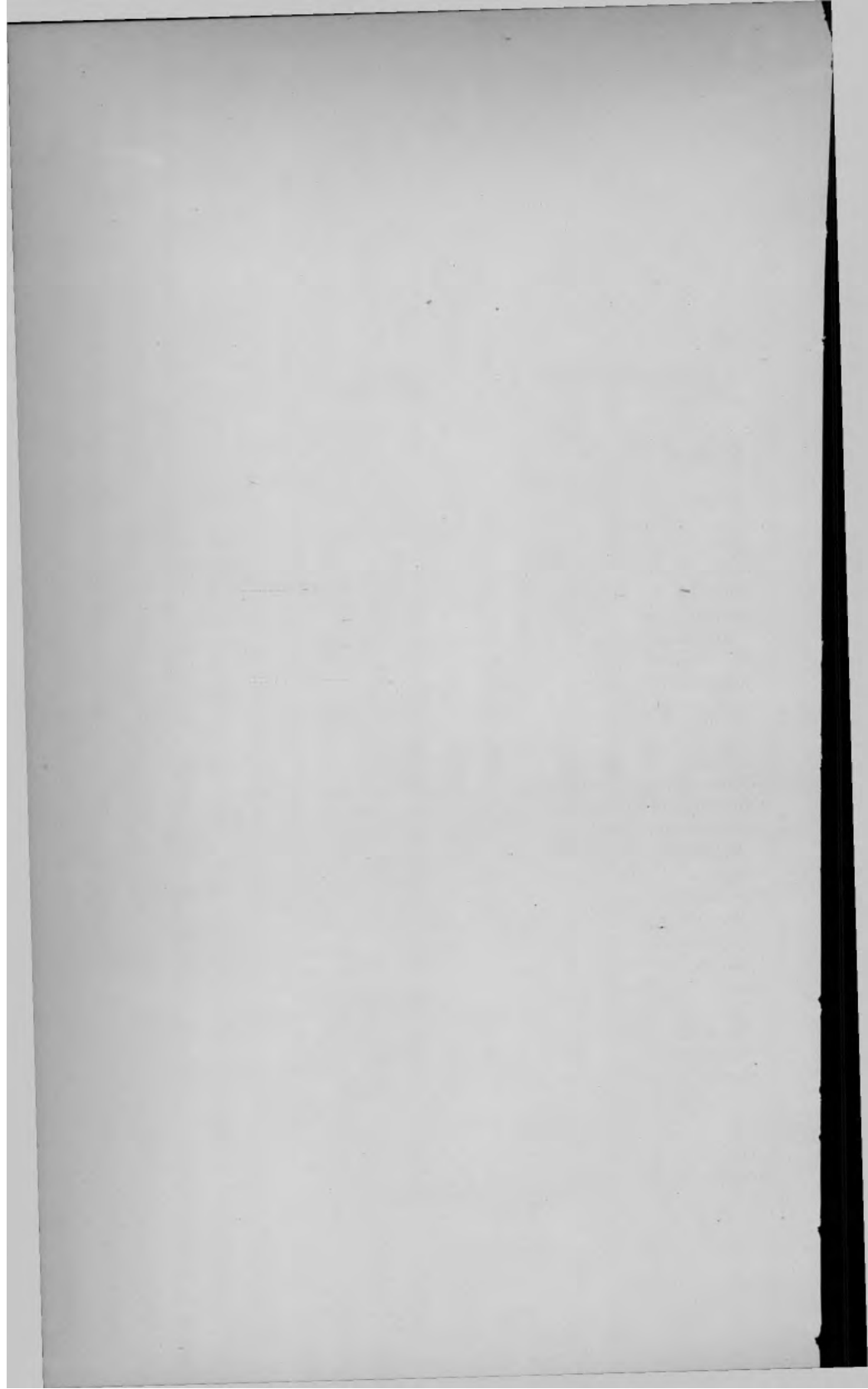
CLOSED.

And then, the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama was closed in AMPLE FORM, at 15 minutes past 12 o'clock, P. M.

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.



APPENDIX.



REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. E. G. Chapter of Alabama:

Our Companions of Alabama have recently been called upon to mourn as Rachael because of the death of our M. E. G. H. P. James Hervey Joiner, who was "cut off in the midst of usefulness" and whom they had learned to love. For he was a sterling character, full of energy, ability, honesty, conscientiousness and moral fearlessness—and they trust that he has only gone to receive the reward consequent upon a well spent life.

Yet though we mourn, the duties of the hour press upon us, and we will attempt, Companions, to lay before you what is doing in other jurisdictions, which we may think worthy of note, or of such character as would probably be interesting to you. And first comes

ARKANSAS,

Whose Thirty-First Annual Convocation was held on 19th day of November, 1880, presided over by the M. E. G. H. P. M. M. McGuire and with representatives from 18 Chapters.

The G. H. Priest's address was eloquent when delineating the true character of Masonry, and contrasting its long duration with the many ephemeral societies which spring up, flourish and disappear.

The larger part of his address is devoted to a consideration of the Cryptic degrees and the probable future of those made under the combination process, and inclines to the belief that Arkansas had better take the back track thereon.

The G. Chapter of Quebec obtained fraternal recognition.

No report on Correspondence.

Companion George Thornburgh was elected M. E. G. H. Priest, and Companion L. E. Barber Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA, 1881,

Comes next on our list with the report of the proceedings of its Twenty-Seventh-Annual Convocation, held April 12th, 1881. At this M. E.

Companion G. H. P. Wiley James Tinnin presided, with representatives from 42 subordinate Chapters.

From the G. H. Priest's address, we learn that Capitular Masonry is growing stronger and quite flourishing. Yet the G. H. P. finds that among some of the Chapters there is a disposition to great extravagance in their expenditures for buildings, outfit, &c., and that to accomplish these, large debts are incurred, and invokes the consideration of the Grand Chapter to devise some means of preventing this. No Masonic body should incur debt. Whenever it shall, disturbances result, and general indifference consequent thereon. He also finds that many of the H. Priests and Chapters are, through inadvertence, violating the provisions of the Constitution which provides that no applicant shall receive the R. A. Degree until he shall have selected and recorded his mark.

The address is such an one as would likely emanate from one who desired conscientiously to discharge his whole duty to the Craft. Yet we can hardly think that the proposition to have the Grand Chapter pay all the expenses of its delegates would be productive of great good, when the largely increased annual assessment upon the Chapters is considered. For we find upon an examination of the Treasurer's report that the probable excess of receipts over expenditures for the year will only be some five hundred dollars. The invested capital is good and the report of the Committee on Finance shows that the preceding year's expenditures had exceeded the revenue by near \$29.

In future no charter will issue to a Chapter unless it shall be able to show that it is without debt.

Comp. Henry Sayre Orme was elected M. E. G. H. P. and Comp. Thomas Hubbard Caswell G. Secretary.

The report on Correspondence is as usual made by the Grand Secretary Comp. Caswell, and in it we do not find Alabama, the proceedings not being in time for the review.

We so entirely concur in his views on the subject of cheap Masonry, that we copy them and indorse them as our own. Under Arkansas he says "cheap Masonry is likely to prove a very poor article, and to fade sadly in washing; and when Masonry cannot stand upon its fundamental principles, without being propped up by the many expedients resorted to for success by the thousand and one organizations of the day, such as low fees, endowment funds, mutual provident associations, and life insurance companies, we say, let it fall and be buried in the dust of its antiquity."

In noticing the proceedings of the G. Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, he mentions that he finds that there were issued

during the year 167 certificates for "Royal Ark Mariners," and says, "We have but little knowledge of this degree in America, but if we are not mistaken, it was instituted by Noah during his forty days' voyage of discovery, and for the purpose of relieving the *ennui* occasioned by a close confinement to his cabin during the prevalence of a *heavy shower*. If we are in error Bro. Binckes will please set us right, and we will extend the *olive branch*."

We find everywhere throughout the report our Companion advocates, with great force, the right of an officer of a Chapter of whatever grade, at any time, either to resign or to dimit, and his arguments are strong indeed. The reverse of this proposition is held in this jurisdiction, and we know of no such event having occurred which should have put us to thinking upon this subject. So that we state the bare fact without comment or indorsement.

The report also shows the writer's great hostility to the "*mergement*" of the Cryptic with the Capitular Degrees. This question no longer agitates this jurisdiction, but may be considered settled since our G. Council approved the formation of the G. G. Council and became a constituent part thereof, but we fear that it will take more than this simple act to revive the carcasses of dead Councils. Would that it were otherwise.

The report is an exceedingly interesting one and lengthy, covering no less than 125 pages closely printed. And if our considerations of justice to the finances of our G. Chapter had allowed, we would have made copious extracts from it.

COLORADO.

The Sixth Annual Convocation of this G. Chapter was held on 25th Sept., 1880, Comp. John R. Hambel, M. E. G. H. P., in the east, and representatives from eight subordinate Chapters present.

The address of the G. H. P. assures us that "peace, harmony and prosperity prevail" among the Craft. The address relates almost entirely to matters of local interest. By it the attention of the G. Chapter is called to the address of the G. H. P. of Missouri in relation to Comp. Byers' report on Correspondence wherein he introduced a clandestine G. C. of negroes in Missouri to our consideration, and with this was submitted a letter from Comp. Byers, which were referred to a committee of three, who reported as follows:

To the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Colorado:

We, the Special Committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand High Priest's address relating to that part of Comp. Byers' report on African Grand R. A. Chapter of Missouri in annual report of 1878,

would respectfully report that we have read Comp. Byers' report, and the criticisms of the Grand High Priest of Missouri, wherein he suggests that the commission of Comp. Byers be revoked; also the report of the committee indorsing said suggestion; and while we acknowledge with sorrow that the Grand Chapter of Missouri was justified in that action, we would plead for Comp. Byers that no insult was intended, and that he, as well as this Grand Chapter, do disown any recognition of African Masonry; and that we would further recommend that that portion of Comp. Byers' correspondence relating to African Masonry be expunged from the records.

Respectfully submitted.

The finances of this Grand Chapter appear to be in a healthy condition, with a cash balance of over thirteen hundred dollars on hand.

There are now ten Chapters with a membership of 462.

Comp. John S. Titcomb was elected G. H. P. and Comp. Ed. C. Parmelee G. Secretary.

Comp. W. W. Woodbury made a very condensed report on Correspondence, and in his notice of Alabama gives our G. H. P. as James H. Jones. Read the proof, Companion.

CONNECTICUT.

The proceedings of this Grand Chapter, which were in our hands before the close of the month in which its Grand Convocation was held, having been mislaid, caused us to leave it out of our report when presented, but we hope to have it in time for the printer. Its Eighty-Third Convocation was held on 10th May, 1881, with Comp. Dwight Phelps, M. E. G. H. Priest, and representatives from 37 subordinates present. The address announces that harmony prevails and that the Companions had with one accord loyally devoted themselves to promoting the prospering of the Royal Craft." It in other respects is of local interest only.

At this Convocation a per capita tax of 20 cents was levied on the Chapters.

The Committee on Grievance in reporting on an appeal of some of its members who could not obtain limits, make the following remarks. These will apply in other jurisdictions and should be well pondered by every member of every Grand Chapter:

The condition of this Chapter is a commentary on the haste with which charters have been granted during the history of this grand body in fields where it was apparent to the most casual observer that a Chapter could live and thrive for a few years only, ending in discredit and dishonor to our institution.

Comp. Chas. W. Skiff was elected M. E. G. H. P., while Comp. Jos. K. Wheeler was continued G. Secretary.

Comp. John H. Barlow made the report on Correspondence, but we fail to find the proceedings of Alabama among them. Under Illinois he evidently thinks that the G. H. Priest possesses all the powers and prerogatives of the H. Priest of a Chapter or the Master of a Lodge. From these sentiments we are inclined to dissent, for we look upon any of these grand bodies as only legislative and in their deliberations to be governed by such rules as are found to be efficient in other similar bodies.

We find him saying upon the subject of the organization of the G. Grand Council: "It becomes us to guard against any confusion or dissensions among Companions, which, in some jurisdictions, we fear, may result therefrom."

The report fully conveys the manner of thought in other jurisdictions by copious extracts. His comments are few, but always judicious and courteous, and usually sound.

DELAWARE.

The Thirteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State was held on 19th day of January, 1881. Comp. John W. Lawson, G. H. Priest, and representatives from six subordinates.

The G. H. Priest reports "that there is but little life in Royal Arch Masonry." "Our members have not increased," but from this he makes an excellent deduction: "Do we live and act such lives as our institution teaches. I think not." He complains of levity in conferring the fifth and seventh degrees, and hopes that a little consideration will enable us "to do all things decently and in order."

Balance in hands of Treasurer, \$7.99.

Comp. Lawson was again elected G. H. P. and Comp. H. B. McIntire G. Secretary.

There are six Chapters in this jurisdiction with a membership of 326.

Comp. Wm. G. W. Lewis made the report on Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of 35 Grand Chapters and the G. G. Chapter. Under California he well meets the sarcasm of Comp. Caswell, who draws a comparison between the large products of his State and what, he thinks, must be small in so small a State as Delaware. We think our Delaware Companion has him:

We wish Companion Budd were here with his facile pen to reply to this boast. But as he is not we let it go, only repeating the now well-known invitation, for our peaches are luscious beyond comparison; our oysters—you ought to see Companion Budd sit down to a dish of fried! Our fish are the shad you cannot surpass in delicacy and flavor; our strawberries—language fails to describe their sweetness and aroma;

our houses are homes—not hotels, even though the latter be Palaces; our hearts are large enough to take in the Masonic world, and our expectations are only bounded by the possible; 55 Chapters, 2,904 members.

He thinks that membership in the Chapter should cease with non-affiliation with a Lodge and curtly thus expresses his views: "The Lodge and Chapter are two distinct bodies, as arithmetic and algebra are two distinct studies. Yet it would puzzle the algebraist to pursue his studies without his arithmetic."

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The Semi-Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 9th June, 1880.

M. E. G. H. Priest M. Trimble presided over its deliberations, all the Chapters of the jurisdiction being represented; and the Fourteenth Annual Convocation on 8th December, 1880.

The G. H. P. rejoices with his Companions "at the apparent evidences of continued prosperity" in that jurisdiction.

The address is devoted to such matters as are of interest only to those of the District, but in the conclusion the G. H. Priest says: "To him who will be thus honored by your confidence (his successor) I have this to say, that in the early morning of his career as Grand High Priest he will find the atmosphere of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction clear, bright, fresh and invigorating, and full of health and prosperity."

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the decision of the M. E. G. H. Priest of 1878, on the Frye case, to which we drew your attention in 1879, in their report entirely coincides with our then expressed views, that although the Chapter dismissed Companion Frye for non-payment of dues, their immediate remission of those dues restored him to membership.

We find in these proceedings that an appropriation of \$10 was made "*to pay for copying the ritual* of the Grand Chapter." The italics are ours.

Companion J. H. Jochum was made G. H. Priest, and Companion Hancock continued Grand Secretary.

Companion Larner comes forward again with the report on correspondence, in which Alabama comes in for all due consideration. He modestly suggests to us that the only way to bring about uniformity in the work, is by the employment of a Grand Lecturer; at the same time thinking a Committee on Work very proper as custodians thereof.

He entirely coincides with the views enunciated by our Grand Chap-

ter, in the resolutions requiring the actual presence of the charter when a Chapter is opened or at work, and approves of them.

He is a bold and able opponent everywhere of the position that one dropped from the roll is yet a worthy Companion. He insists, with great force, that the officers appointed by the High Priest can be removed at the pleasure of the H P. We think this differs from the custom or received opinion of this jurisdiction, though we are not aware that the question has ever been raised here.

This is indeed a most valuable and interesting report, and it has sorely tempted us to clip, but circumstances admonish us to abstain.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

The twenty-fifth Grand Annual Communication of the Grnd Lodge of the M. M. M. of England and Wales was held on the 31st of May, 1881, being presided over by M. W. Brother Rt. Hon. the Earl of Latham, G. M. M. M.

At this Communication Brother Lord Henniker was installed M. W. G. M. M. M. Several persons distinguished for their services in the Order were invested with the rank of P. G. M., Overseer, and other offices, and on His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, was conferred the rank of P. G. M. of the Mark Degree.

A number of new lodges were organized during the year, and the increase of membership was very gratifying. The finances are abundant in each of the several departments into which it is divided—General Fund, Benevolent Fund, and Educational Fund.

FLORIDA.

The Thirty-Fifth Grand Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 18th January, 1881, M. E. Comp. Robert J. Perry, G. H. Priest, presiding, with representatives from seven Chapters present.

"The best illustrations of the principles of masonry," said the G. H. P., "are the lives and conduct of good masons, of such as may claim prominence in society, by exhibiting in their actions and behavior the calm intrepidity of fortitude; the cool and deliberate decision of justice; the serene and regulated disposition of temperance; the steady wisdom and sagacious fore-sight of prudence, with the open, undisguised and generous soul of charity."

He is right: for as the tree, "by their fruits shall ye know them." He well says:

Whatever may have been our endeavors in the days that are gone;

whatever may have been our earnest efforts for the amelioration of the distresses or sorrows or misfortunes of the *faithful* or profane; however successful we may have been in brushing away the tears from the furrowed cheeks of old age, blanched by the hoary frosts of many winters, or in the encouragement of youth in the laudable pursuits of life, we still have quite an insignificant amount upon the credit side of life's journal, wherein are spread all there is of life.

And the world would be better and masoury more useful, if there were more of the actual and practicable and less of the mere speculative among us.

At this convocation the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales was recognized and fraternal courtesies extended.

The finances seem to be improving. Comp. Wm. A. McLean was elected G. H. P., and Comp. Dewitt C. Dawkins, G. Secretary.

GEORGIA.

We have the proceedings of the Fifty-ninth Grand Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter before us. It was held on 27th April, 1881, M. E. G. H. Priest, J. W. Oslin, presiding. Representatives from 25 Chapters were present.

The G. H. Priest delivered an extempore address because of an affliction which prevented him from writing.

The craft seem at least harmonious, there being no grievances to report. The business was purely of local interest, and the Grand Chapter still appears to be in debt—yet a large amount had to be paid for per diem and mileage.

Comp. C. E. Lambdin was elected M. E. G. H. Priest, and Comp. J. Emmett Blackshear was continued G. Secretary.

ILLINOIS.

The Thirty-first Grand Annual Convocation of this G. Chapter was held 28th October, 1880, the G. High Priest Samuel W. Waddle in the East, and Representatives from "a constitutional number of subordinates" present.

The G. H. P. announced that the Craft had lived during the past year in peace and harmony, but continues:

But while we indulge in congratulations on the prevailing peace and tranquility in our midst, our pleasure is marred by the thought that far too many of our Chapters are quiet and still because they have reached that comatose condition which precedes dissolution, and are even so far gone as to be unable to give any evidence of life.

We fear this quiet, this apparent sleep betokens lethargy that pre-

cedes death. This complaint may be made of other jurisdictions. Then, companions, where is that zeal which should ever characterize Royal Arch Masonry?

He thinks the failure of the G. G. Chapter to take action in regard to the council degrees leaves the whole matter with the several G. Chapters, and apparently advises the making of those degrees "a necessary requisite to full membership in the Chapter."

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

Comp. Silas O. Vaughn, was elected M. E. H. P., and Gilbert W. Barnard G. Secretary.

Comp. Robt. L. McKinlay presented the report on correspondence.

In relation to our resolution requiring the presence of the charter in the chapter hall to constitute a legal chapter, he expresses great astonishment, because he had "been taught that the presence of a charter was necessary in all the different degrees of masonry." So thought we, and so we yet think, but New York and some others were beginning to think the other way, and Alabama placed herself quickly of record, before the matter should become a question for the "mutuals."

The report gives a very fair view of the acts, doings, and expressed thoughts of the several jurisdictions reviewed.

INDIANA

Held the Thirty-fifth Annual Convocation on 20th Oct. 1881, M. E. Thomas B. Long being the G. H. Priest. There were present Representatives from 69 subordinates.

The address shows the Craft harmonious and sufficiently prosperous, and the Grand Treasurer's report shows the finances in a healthy condition.

Comp. Edward Walker was elected G. H. P., and Comp. Jno. M. Bramwell G. Secretary.

We find the Committee on Jurisprudence holding this language, which we heartily approve, in regard to the standing in the Chapter of one punished for non-payment of dues by his lodge:

That our laws on that subject are very definite, and clearly set forth that "the suspension or expulsion of a companion for any cause whatever effectually precludes, for the time being, all Masonic intercourse with him while under such disability."

Under this rule, your committee believe that an expulsion, suspension, or "dropped," as it is called in some jurisdictions, for non-payment of dues or for any other cause, so far impeaches the good standing of the companion that he can not affiliate with, or even be permitted to visit, a Chapter in this jurisdiction

We can not see how any other rule could prevail and preserve har-

mony and good understanding among the different grand jurisdictions of the world. The law imposing any disability upon a companion must follow him, wherever he may go, until restored or relieved from such disability by proper authority.

The G. H. Priest in this jurisdiction prepares the report on correspondence, so Comp. Long presented his, a most readable and, at times, highly instructive production. In it he reviews Alabama for 1879.

In his preamble having declared himself a neophyte, he jumps in with a strong cudgel and soundly belabors us poor devils who have scribbled for some time thus: "What a galaxy of reviewers there is throughout the general jurisdiction of the Royal Craft! Noble upholders of ancient landmarks! Profound expounders of constitutions! Splendid counselors in jurisprudence!"

He infers, because we adopted a resolution prohibiting our chapters from working without the charter present, that "some of Alabama's subordinate Chapters have been holding meetings without the presence of their charters." We desire to disabuse his mind and correct this false impression. This action was because New York in her Grand Chapter had promulgated this, to us, monstrous doctrine, and that one or two of the reporters approved this view, notably Comp. Drummond of Maine, that Alabama thought to put the seal of her disapprobation on it and thus, perhaps, stamp it out. Comp. Drummond has "modified," and we hope that Comp. Lewis and others of New York will "go and do likewise."

IOWA.

This Grand Chapter held its Twenty-seventh Grand Annual Convocation on 5th October, 1880, being presided over by Almon H. Dewey, G. H. Priest, with Representatives from 48 subordinates.

Immediately after the opening it was announced that the M. E. G. G. H. Priest would visit the Grand Chapter, to which he was introduced with appropriate speeches and ceremonies.

The address of the G. H. P. shows the Craft to be alive in that jurisdiction, and deals liberally with the question of the right of the Chapter to confer the cryptic degrees, and shows that the Chapters chartered by the G. G. Chapter, which originated the G. Chapter of Iowa, were themselves by their charters from the G. G. Chapter authorized to confer those degrees. We will extract what he says on the subject that our companions of Alabama may be fully apprised of all that is said on the subject. We feel that at least for a time we of this jurisdiction must look upon this question as *res adjudicata*. We say for a time, be-

cause we think the masonic mind generally is becoming adverse to the multiplicity of degrees, and the indifference now displayed to the maintenance of the Councils is strongly indicative of this:

CRYPTIC DEGREES.

This subject was considerably discussed, the conduct of jurisdictions adopting the plan of Iowa being by some severely criticised. A convention had been called of representatives of Grand Councils, and a General Grand Council was organized, subject to the approval of nine State Grand Councils. At last, after a long series of efforts to organize another General Grand Body, to create a few more high-sounding titles, the hopes of the "central government" men are realized. We speak of the useless "fifth wheel to a wagon," but its importance swells into mountain-size as compared with the use of a General Grand Council.

A memorial was circulated purporting to be issued by the Grand Council of New York, the closing page of which bore the indorsement of the convention called to organize a General Grand Council. This epistle of the "Pharisees to the Sadducees" contained some of the most unmasonic, discourteous, and invidious reflections I ever saw, for a masonic publication. But, to the credit of the General Grand Chapter, it took no cognizance of the matter.

But what of Iowa? If we be wrong in conferring the Council degrees in the Chapter, our mother (the General Grand Chapter) is censurable therefor. Let us compare a few dates. At the seventh meeting of the General Grand Chapter, held in the city of New York, in September, 1829, the subject of conferring the Council degrees in the Chapters was broached and apparently fully considered, and the following resolution adopted:

"Resolved, That authority be and is hereby granted to the several Grand Chapters under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, to make such arrangements as shall be found necessary for conferring the degrees of Royal and Select Master in Royal Arch Chapters; Provided, always, that no Grand Chapter within the limits of which is a Grand Council shall authorize the Royal Arch Chapters under its jurisdiction to confer such degrees without the consent of such Grand Council."

The foregoing resolution remained in force, without alteration or amendment, until the fifteenth triennial session, held at Lexington, Kentucky, in September, 1853, when the subject appears to have again been presented, and on Friday, September 16th, after a full week of labor, the committee made a lengthy report, closing with the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the General Grand Chapter and the governing bodies of Royal Arch Masonry affiliated with and holding jurisdiction under it have no rightful jurisdiction or control over the degrees of Royal and Select Master."

The General Grand Chapter issued charters to four Chapters in Iowa, as follows: To Iowa Chapter, at Burlington, September 14th, 1847; to

Iowa City Chapter, at Iowa City, September 17th, 1847; to Dubuque Chapter, at Dubuque, September 17th, 1847; to Washington Chapter, at Muscatine, September 17th, 1853. These four Chapters composed the Grand Chapter of the State of Iowa when organized by authority of the General Grand Chapter, issued March 1st, 1854. The charters so received *each and all* contain permission to confer the Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, Royal Arch, *Royal Master*, and *Select Master* degrees.

If the General Grand Chapter had no authority to thus confer the right on our subordinate Chapters, and afterwards on our Grand Chapter, to confer the Council degrees, why did she assume it in 1829, by the adoption of the resolution referred to? And if then wrong, why did she not retract before a period of twenty-four years? And even if then wrong, why censure us for following her own teachings?

The course pursued by Iowa has been deemed right by us, and I know of no authority which can forbid. The independence of State Grand Chapters is the boast of all Royal Arch Masons: The powers of the General Grand Chapter, as set forth in its constitution, claim no right to dictate to or censure a State Grand Body; on the contrary, it expressly asserts that it *shall not* assume such duties; hence it necessarily follows that we shall direct the Royal Craft in Iowa as we may deem for the general good—"with malice toward none and charity for all." If other jurisdictions choose to maintain Grand Councils, let no word or act of ours interfere. But let Iowa demand that same right of independence thus freely accorded to others.

The result of the consideration of the subject was the report of a committee and its adoption, which leaves matters as they were.

Companion Dewey was re-elected G. H. Priest and Companion Wm. B. Langridge Grand Secretary.

The report on correspondence is by Companion T. R. Ercaubrack, and is written *currente calamo*, and in a very easy, pleasant style. When on Alabama, he says he is "taken back" by our using his own language in reference to his table of statistics. Now this should not be, for we only expressed our own views, but finding them so well given by himself we used his own words. He declared in the introduction that he would make his report short for the sake of economy, and the same reason is controlling us.

KANSAS.

The sixteenth Annual Convocation was held on the 15th of February, 1881, M. Ex. Erasmus T. Carr, G. H. Priest, presiding, and representatives from 23 Chapters.

The Craft seem exceedingly prosperous, at least the G. H. Priest so proclaims, Dispensations for eight new Chapters having been granted; and the report of the Grand Treasurer shows a handsome balance on hand.

Companion Silas E. Sheldon was elected G. H. Priest, and Companion John H. Brown continued Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary presented the report of the Committee on Correspondence, reviewing Alabama for 1879, among others, courteously.

KENTUCKY.

Companion John H. Leathers, M. Ex. G. H. Priest, opened the sixty-fifth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, with 70 Chapters represented.

He gives us the gratifying intelligence that the Craft is prosperous.

He recommends a change in the mileage and per diem, as the expenses are in excess of the receipts.

When speaking of "Our Home" he grows eloquent, and well may he—well may every Kentucky Mason be proud of this "imperishable monument of masonic benevolence." Would that the Craft in every State and jurisdiction, wherever found, were imbued with the same spirit of determination that actuated our Kentucky brethren when they conceived and continued to successful end this "great and glorious undertaking." They will yet meet their reward. This is the way in which he speaks of

"OUR HOME."

It affords me sincere pleasure and gratification to be able to report to the Grand Chapter the favorable condition of the Home. Since our last session the entire building has been thrown open for occupancy, and as far as the means would admit, and to the full extent of the ability of the managers to accommodate, all who have applied for admission have been received into its hospitable embrace. Two handsome bequests have been made to the Home during the past year by friends who have remembered it in their dying hours, and the darkness, which for a time seemed to obscure this grand charity, and which taxed the ardor and devotion of its friends to the utmost, has been dispelled, and it is with pleasurable pride that we can at last say that the Home is no longer an experiment but a permanent and glorious success. It is not only a success, but it is the embodiment of the highest type of charity, and it stands there to-day an imperishable monument of masonic benevolence.

But, companions, remember that our work is not done. It will require continued sacrifice and devotion to provide the means to take care of those whom God in His Providence has placed in our charge. Let us bear the burden stoutly, and in our manhood resolve that this magnificent charity, dedicated to God and consecrated by the prayers and tears of dying brethren, may dispense its blessings for generations to come to the widows and orphans of our deceased companions, who, by an afflicting Providence, may be compelled to seek its fostering aid.

A complete history of R. A. Masonry in this jurisdiction was submitted by Comp. James W. Staton, and approved by the Grand Chapter.

Comp. W. LaRue Thomas was made G. H. P. and Com. Joseph H.

Branham continued Grand Secretary, who were installed by M. E. P. G. H. P. John Frizzell.

Comp. Hiram Bassett presented the report on correspondence, reviewing Alabama among the others.

He thus makes his bow and invokes our sympathy:

In submitting the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, its chairman, who alone is responsible for its poverty of matter and manner, begs leave to state that he feels the disadvantage at which he is placed by following, as immediate successor, the gifted and scholarly Henderson, who, as a word painter, has few, if any equals, and no superior. We know the scintillations from his facile pen, loaded as it is with the magnet of *originality* and adorned with the diamond tips of sparkling *wit* and fascinating *humor*, will be sadly missed.

We are glad to see that he is on the side of ourselves in relation to the effect of suspension for non-payment of dues, or of being dropped from the rolls for the same cause, or if called by any other name, and stigmatizes the "practice in Maine and some few other jurisdictions" as a "*premium for non-affiliation*."

LOUISIANA.

We have the proceedings of this Grand Chapter which convened in its Thirty-fourth Annual Convocation on 15th February, 1881.

Comp. Edwin H. Fay, M. E. G. H. P. in his address utters these sad words:

While I welcome you here, to-day, to this our Thirty-fourth Annual Grand Convocation, and rejoice to behold such a number assembled, still I would be recreant to the high trust your partiality has imposed upon me, did I not inform you, that although peace abounds within our walls, and harmony in our temples, yet it is the peace of inaction, and the harmony of inaction. Yes! companions, disguise it as we may, Capitulary Masonry, unless something is done to arrest it, and that something speedily, is going into a lethargic decline, if not into actual decease. The fact stares us in the face, and if we are wise, we will look carefully for the causes, to see if they can be remedied, and the result be prevented.

Which we are sure will bring grief to all zealous R. A. Masons.

The report of the Grand Secretary fully corroborates the foregoing, and unless there be a great change among our companions over there we must ere long exclaim, "*Carthago fuit*," "*Delenda est Carthago*."

The Grand Lecturer visited thirteen chapters and says, "Peace, love and unity prevail in these chapters. I find a great want of energy and promptness in the members in attending the meetings. In many of the chapters it is very difficult to get a quorum." From this statement we infer that indeed there is peace, but it resembles the peace of the

tomb—but love and unity there cannot be. The body is too inert to display either.

Comp. Andrew Hero jr., was made G. H. P., and Comp. Jas. C. Batchelor, Grand Secretary.

We find that Comp. Horner, one of those ancient worthies who wrought so hard in earlier and better times with the gray goose quill, made a short report from the committee on correspondence, only stating that because of a deficiency of funds to publish it the committee had concluded not to make further report. And we find that the Grand Chapter is oppressed with a debt of more than \$800, and pays per diem and mileage for attendance upon this convocation of very near \$800. "*Sic transit.*"

The condition of this Grand Chapter teaches us a serious lesson. We of Alabama feel much of that lethargy that has benumbed the limbs of our sister, and if we would avoid a similar condition we must awake and nerve ourselves for our own salvation ere it be too late.

MARYLAND

An Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 9th November, 1880. G. H. Priest M. E. Comp. Edmund J. Oppelt in the East and representatives from eleven chapters present.

The G. H. P. pays a beautiful and fitting tribute to the memory of a companion who during a very long life had been zealous and active as a Mason even during his old age. He also deplores the apathy pervading the companions, and speaks of it as a disease, "for which there appears to be no cure." Yet we find in the report of the Grand Lecturer that his "services have been frequently called into requisition and instruction in the ritual has been oftener sought for, than during the past two years." This betokens life and we augur that this period of lethargy will soon pass away.

The finances are in good condition. Comp. Ferdinand J. S. Gorgas was elected G. H. Priest and Comp. George L. McCahan re-elected Grand Secretary.

Comp. E. T. Schultz again made the report on correspondence and in it we find Alabama which is fraternally reviewed. He approves our resolution requiring the actual presence of the charter and believes that it is "the proper course to pursue, when one jurisdiction deems another to have legislated contrary to the laws or usages of the fraternity."

Companion Schultz is a strong advocate of the "mergement" of the Council degrees; this crops out on all occasions. And he thinks as we

do, that it is probably the only way in which these beautiful degrees will be preserved.

On the subject of attaching an insurance feature to our Chapters he says :

"So we go! The committee would have this Grand old institution of ours turned into a life insurance company—its corner-stone, charity, demolished, and our temples become the seat of the money-changers. Rather than this, we say, let every Chapter in the country surrender its charter."

We would, if we could, look still more closely at some of the views expressed in this excellent report.

MASSACHUSETTS.

We find from the report of the Quarterly Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held March 9th, 1880, that the office of the Grand Secretary, with most of its contents, was destroyed by fire. There was also an inquiry made into the propriety of establishing a fund for dispensing charity, which was referred to a committee, who reported adversely at a subsequent Convocation.

Companion Thomas E. Waterman, M. E. G. H. Priest, opened the Annual Convocation.

"The condition of the subordinate Chapters is remarkably good, and a healthy emulation exists between many contiguous Chapters." A larger number were exalted this year than last, yet the membership decreased slightly.

Companion Waterman was re-elected Grand High Priest, and Companion Thomas Grand Secretary.

Companion Dadman, the genial reporter, made a lengthy, and such a report on correspondence as we all know he can make. We are always loth to differ with our esteemed Companion, and correspondingly delighted when we find ourself entertaining his views. It appears we misapprehended our brother when we last gave his views on the effect of suspension for non-payment of dues to the Lodge, upon Chapter standing, and that we may not do the like again, we give his own language—only stating that on similar grounds we stood long in our own Grand Chapter :

"We believe that suspending or expelling a member from all the rights and privileges of Masonry without trial is unmasonic, and we know we have Masonic law and usage on our side. Further than this, if a Grand Lodge suspends or expels a Master Mason, even *unmasonically*, the Chapter cannot help itself, and must cut off the Companion from all his rights in the Chapter. With this exception, the Chapter is independent in its government and discipline."

He agrees with New York as to the necessity of the presence of the charter, and consequently differs with us and with the Grand Chapter of Alabama, which has declared that anything done without it is and shall be void. His views and those of the distinguished Grand Chapter of New York encourage "carelessness or forgetfulness of the custodian for the time being," and therefore should not be encouraged or countenanced. We cannot see how the opinions of "the best masonic authority" should operate here. Each Companion should be guided by his own conscientious interpretation of the obligation he owes to the Craft, and in such matters none can be his guide.

MICHIGAN.

We have before us the proceedings of the thirty-second Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held January 18th, 1881, Companion Samuel H. Norton, G. H. Priest, presiding, with representatives from 96 subordinates.

The G. H. Priest asked some very pertinent questions of his Companions. Have we kept our vows? Have we improved our opportunities, and exemplified in our every day life the true principles of our institutions, were among them. These may be asked at all of our Annual Convocations, and by each Companion daily, with doubtless great results to each of us and to masonry.

We are pleased to see that a very sound discretion was exercised in granting Dispensations for new Chapters, by the exercise of which, although one was granted others were refused, because the probabilities were that each would prove only weak Chapters, tending by their very weakness to dishearten the Companions, and but breed the disease of apathy among all the Craft. But on the other hand, we find him granting Dispensations for conferring the degrees "before the required time." This we esteem, except in very exceptional cases, pernicious. It most frequently is asked for, when some brother who has lived very many years near a Chapter has determined either to remove or travel, and who thinks the degrees would aid him. This bartering on masonry should not be encouraged. Indeed, some of those refused must have avowed these reasons.

The finances are in a healthy condition.

Companion Charles H. Axtell was elected G. H. Priest, and Companion Innes continued Grand Secretary.

Companion Innes again made the report on correspondence, as usual, very full and very complete. Companion Innes is a worker, one whom to know is to love. We look back with extreme pleasure to our visit

to Detroit when the G. G. Chapter met, and by no means the least pleasurable acquaintance made there was our esteemed friend the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter. He is grand in his physique, he is grand in his manner, he is more grand in the bigness of his heart and the warmth of his feelings. How we would like to greet him where the warm waters of the Gulf lave our shores, where the orange blooms, and the mocking bird makes night melodious. *Au revoir* Companion.

Under Canada, in relation to Grand Representatives, he says: "We fail to see in what manner they can be made useful to the Grand Chapters." The system meets no sympathy from Michigan.

MINNESOTA.

The nineteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter was held October 12th, 1880, under the direction of the M. E. G. High Priest, Thomas Montgomery, with representatives from 20 Chapters.

The G. H. Priest says the Order "is enjoying a reasonable degree of prosperity," and "peace, love and unity prevail in all our borders."

He seems delighted at the action of the G. G. Chapter in regard to the Cryptic degrees, and says "the matter was summarily and we hope forever set at rest."

Companion William G. Bronson was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion A. T. C. Pierson continued Grand Secretary.

Companion Pierson made report on correspondence, and in it we find Alabama.

He is inclined to think that suspensions for non-payment of dues is rather to be attributed to the neglect of the several Secretaries in not rigorously collecting (dunning is the word), and not to the indifference and negligence of the members. We have always been taught that it is the duty of the Secretary "to receive all moneys due the Lodge," and it is equally the duty of the member to be mindful of his obligation, and "abide by" the by-laws of his Lodge. If we have been taught correctly, then the fault lies with the member, and with him only, and on him should the penalty fall, however heavy it may be.

Yet even on this subject he utters sentiments that meet our hearty approval. Just hear him:

"It is not false pride, but a feeling that as the world is to a great extent governed by appearances,—Masons are not exempt,—the acknowledgment may work him an injury. The very next day he may be denied credit for a bag of flour or a pair of shoes, which would have been given him but for the acknowledgment that he could not in justice to his family pay four or five dollars dues to his Lodge. Theories are very pretty, but stubborn facts often knock the beauty out of the theories."

He thinks that "those that desire to do so, should take care of the cryptic degrees in their own way, without any let or hindrance from Chapters or Commanderies."

MISSISSIPPI.

The thirty-third Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 7th of February, 1881, Companion F. Speed Grand High Priest, with representatives from 32 subordinates, 9 others being added on the following day.

The address of the G. H. Priest is replete with interest, and is a very thorough and able argument in behalf of the "Mississippi Plan," as the control of the Council degrees by the Chapter is called. We think he shows most conclusively that there can be no constitutional objection to the plan, as the G. G. Chapter from 1829 to 1850 assumed control over those degrees, and in charters issued by it authorized its subordinates to confer them, as is shown before in this report, under Iowa. He quotes quite liberally from the Grand Council of New York, presented to the G. G. Council adverse to the memorials from Mississippi and other Grand Councils; and though not indulging in language so violent as it, still exhibits much feeling on the subject. And we find his Grand Chapter almost unanimously sustaining him, as is exhibited by the adoption of the following report, with but one dissentient voice after full discussion:

"The undersigned, your Special Committee, to whom was referred so much of the M. E. Grand High Priest's address as refers to the General Grand Chapter and Council degrees, and the memorial in reference to the latter presented to the General Grand Chapter, the real authors of which have won more celebrity in the Order for their proficiency in vituperation, slander and discourtesy than for those graces and virtues which should so eminently distinguish members of the Royal Craft, respectfully submit that we read with pleasure and satisfaction the bold and determined stand taken and the position assumed by our M. E. Grand High Priest, and most emphatically endorse and approve every sentiment expressed by him on this vexed question. We commend to the careful consideration of all Royal Arch Masons whose masonic charity ignores the existence of sectional lines and boundaries, this memorial and the answer thereto, feeling assured that in the verdict, which will be the spontaneous outburst of the great Masonic heart in this country, our course will be endorsed and that of the authors of the memorial will be condemned as a blotch upon the literature and charity of masonry on this continent."

This indicated, when taken in connection with the expressed sentiments in Iowa and the feeling exhibited at the General Grand Chapter at Detroit, that trouble may be expected ere very long between the various Grand Councils under Grand Chapters and the General Grand Council.

cil, which we fear will lead to injury, not to the Council degrees only, but bring discredit upon the whole body of masonry. And all this because a very few Companions panted after lofty titles!

The finances of this Grand Chapter are improving, and so is their membership. The darkest period with it we hope is passed.

The Committee on the Condition of the Order deplore the multiplication of Lodges and Chapters, and think this one of the prime causes of the decline under which they have labored.

A motion was made to pay P. G. High Priests, who do not represent a Chapter, mileage and per diem; which, however, we are pleased to see was indefinitely postponed.

Companion F. Speed was re-elected G. High Priest, and Companion Power Grand Secretary.

Companion Savery furnishes the report on correspondence, and we are surprised not to find Alabama there. Why should the proceedings of Grand Chapters and Grand Lodges so often fail to reach their destination? Can it be that they are taken as select reading by the mail clerks? It is a condensed, yet admirable review of the proceedings of such G. Chapters as had come to hand.

MISSOURI.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Saint Louis, on the 5th of May, 1881, under direction of Companion James E. Cadle, G. H. Priest, with 54 Chapters represented.

The G. H. Priest announced that Colorado had made the "amende honorable" in the matter of Companion Byers' notice of an African G. Chapter in the State of Missouri; whereupon he, the G. H. Priest, had appointed a representative of the Grand Chapter of Missouri near that of Colorado, and the committee on the address congratulates the Craft on the result. The address in other respects is of local interest only—so are the proceedings. They, however, indicate a very harmonious condition of the Craft.

Companion Samuel H. Owens was made G. H. Priest, and Companion William H. Mayo continued Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary made the correspondence report. He thinks that "dropping from the roll" by the Lodge is of the same effect as suspension, and can't see the difference.

He quotes freely, with an occasional comment only, for the sake of economy.

The Grand Secretary presented the report of the Committee on Correspondence, reviewing Alabama for 1879, among others, courteously.

KENTUCKY.

Companion John H. Leathers, M. Ex. G. H. Priest, opened the sixty-fifth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, with 70 Chapters represented.

He gives us the gratifying intelligence that the Craft is prosperous.

He recommends a change in the mileage and per diem, as the expenses are in excess of the receipts.

When speaking of "Our Home" he grows eloquent, and well may he—well may every Kentucky Mason be proud of this "imperishable monument of masonic benevolence." Would that the Craft in every State and jurisdiction, wherever found, were imbued with the same spirit of determination that actuated our Kentucky brethren when they conceived and continued to successful end this "great and glorious undertaking." They will yet meet their reward. This is the way in which he speaks of

"OUR HOME."

It affords me sincere pleasure and gratification to be able to report to the Grand Chapter the favorable condition of the Home. Since our last session the entire building has been thrown open for occupancy, and as far as the means would admit, and to the full extent of the ability of the managers to accommodate, all who have applied for admission have been received into its hospitable embrace. Two handsome bequests have been made to the Home during the past year by friends who have remembered it in their dying hours, and the darkness, which for a time seemed to obscure this grand charity, and which taxed the ardor and devotion of its friends to the utmost, has been dispelled, and it is with pleasurable pride that we can at last say that the Home is no longer an experiment but a permanent and glorious success. It is not only a success, but it is the embodiment of the highest type of charity, and it stands there to-day an imperishable monument of masonic benevolence.

But, companions, remember that our work is not done. It will require continued sacrifice and devotion to provide the means to take care of those whom God in His Providence has placed in our charge. Let us bear the burden stoutly, and in our manhood resolve that this magnificent charity, dedicated to God and consecrated by the prayers and tears of dying brethren, may dispense its blessings for generations to come to the widows and orphans of our deceased companions, who, by an afflicting Providence, may be compelled to seek its fostering aid.

A complete history of R. A. Masonry in this jurisdiction was submitted by Comp. James W. Staton, and approved by the Grand Chapter.

Comp. W. LaRue Thomas was made G. H. P. and Com. Joseph H.

Branham continued Grand Secretary, who were installed by M. E. P. G. G. H. P. John Frizzell.

Comp. Hiram Bassett presented the report on correspondence, reviewing Alabama among the others.

He thus makes his bow and invokes our sympathy:

In submitting the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, its chairman, who alone is responsible for its poverty of matter and manner, begs leave to state that he feels the disadvantage at which he is placed by following, as immediate successor, the gifted and scholarly Henderson, who, as a word painter, has few, if any equals, and no superior. We know the scintillations from his facile pen, loaded as it is with the magnet of *originality* and adorned with the diamond tips of sparkling *wit* and fascinating *humor*, will be sadly missed.

We are glad to see that he is on the side of ourselves in relation to the effect of suspension for non-payment of dues, or of being dropped from the rolls for the same cause, or if called by any other name, and stigmatizes the "practice in Maine and some few other jurisdictions" as a "*premium for non-affiliation.*"

LOUISIANA.

We have the proceedings of this Grand Chapter which convened in its Thirty-fourth Annual Convocation on 15th February, 1881.

Comp. Edwin H. Fay, M. E. G. H. P. in his address utters these sad words:

While I welcome you here, to-day, to this our Thirty-fourth Annual Grand Convocation, and rejoice to behold such a number assembled, still I would be recreant to the high trust your partiality has imposed upon me, did I not inform you, that although peace abounds within our walls, and harmony in our temples, yet it is the peace of inaction, and the harmony of inaction. Yes! companions, disguise it as we may, Capitulary Masonry, unless something is done to arrest it, and that something speedily, is going into a lethargic decline, if not into actual decease. The fact stares us in the face, and if we are wise, we will look carefully for the causes, to see if they can be remedied, and the result be prevented.

Which we are sure will bring grief to all zealous R. A. Masons.

The report of the Grand Secretary fully corroborates the foregoing, and unless there be a great change among our companions over there we must ere long exclaim, "*Carthago fuit,*" "*Delenda est Carthago.*"

The Grand Lecturer visited thirteen chapters and says, "Peace, love and unity prevail in these chapters. I find a great want of energy and promptness in the members in attending the meetings. In many of the chapters it is very difficult to get a quorum." From this statement we infer that indeed there is peace, but it resembles the peace of the

tomb—but love and unity there cannot be. The body is too inert to display either.

Comp. Andrew Hero jr., was made G. H. P., and Comp. Jas. C. Batchelor, Grand Secretary.

We find that Comp. Horner, one of those ancient worthies who wrought so hard in earlier and better times with the gray goose quill, made a short report from the committee on correspondence, only stating that because of a deficiency of funds to publish it the committee had concluded not to make further report. And we find that the Grand Chapter is oppressed with a debt of more than \$800, and pays per diem and mileage for attendance upon this convocation of very near \$800. "*Sic transit.*"

The condition of this Grand Chapter teaches us a serious lesson. We of Alabama feel much of that lethargy that has benumbed the limbs of our sister, and if we would avoid a similar condition we must awake and nerve ourselves for our own salvation ere it be too late.

MARYLAND

An Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 9th November, 1880. G. H. Priest M. E. Comp. Edmund J. Oppelt in the East and representatives from eleven chapters present.

The G. H. P. pays a beautiful and fitting tribute to the memory of a companion who during a very long life had been zealous and active as a Mason even during his old age. He also deplores the apathy pervading the companions, and speaks of it as a disease, "for which there appears to be no cure." Yet we find in the report of the Grand Lecturer that his "services have been frequently called into requisition and instruction in the ritual has been oftener sought for, than during the past two years." This betokens life and we augur that this period of lethargy will soon pass away.

The finances are in good condition. Comp. Ferdinand J. S. Gorgas was elected G. H. Priest and Comp. George L. McCahan re-elected Grand Secretary.

Comp. E. T. Schultz again made the report on correspondence and in it we find Alabama which is fraternally reviewed. He approves our resolution requiring the actual presence of the charter and believes that it is "the proper course to pursue, when one jurisdiction deems another to have legislated contrary to the laws or usages of the fraternity.

Companion Schultz is a strong advocate of the "mergement" of the Council degrees; this crops out on all occasions. And he thinks as we

do, that it is probably the only way in which these beautiful degrees will be preserved.

On the subject of attaching an insurance feature to our Chapters he says :

"So we go! The committee would have this Grand old institution of ours turned into a life insurance company—its corner-stone, charity, demolished, and our temples become the seat of the money-changers. Rather than this, we say, let every Chapter in the country surrender its charter."

We would, if we could, look still more closely at some of the views expressed in this excellent report.

MASSACHUSETTS.

We find from the report of the Quarterly Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held March 9th, 1880, that the office of the Grand Secretary, with most of its contents, was destroyed by fire. There was also an inquiry made into the propriety of establishing a fund for dispensing charity, which was referred to a committee, who reported adversely at a subsequent Convocation.

Companion Thomas E. Waterman, M. E. G. H. Priest, opened the Annual Convocation.

"The condition of the subordinate Chapters is remarkably good, and a healthy emulation exists between many contiguous Chapters." A larger number were exalted this year than last, yet the membership decreased slightly.

Companion Waterman was re-elected Grand High Priest, and Companion Thomas Grand Secretary.

Companion Dadman, the genial reporter, made a lengthy, and such a report on correspondence as we all know he can make. We are always loth to differ with our esteemed Companion, and correspondingly delighted when we find ourself entertaining his views. It appears we misapprehended our brother when we last gave his views on the effect of suspension for non-payment of dues to the Lodge, upon Chapter standing, and that we may not do the like again, we give his own language—only stating that on similar grounds we stood long in our own Grand Chapter :

"We believe that suspending or expelling a member from all the rights and privileges of Masonry without trial is unmasonic, and we know we have Masonic law and usage on our side. Further than this, if a Grand Lodge suspends or expels a Master Mason, even *unmasonically*, the Chapter cannot help itself, and must cut off the Companion from all his rights in the Chapter. With this exception, the Chapter is independent in its government and discipline."

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MICHIGAN.

We have before us the proceedings of the thirty-second Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held January 18th, 1881, Companion Samuel H. Norton, G. H. Priest, presiding, with representatives from 96 subordinates.

The G. H. Priest asked some very pertinent questions of his Companions. Have we kept our vows? Have we improved our opportunities, and exemplified in our every day life the true principles of our institutions, were among them. These may be asked at all of our Annual Convocations, and by each Companion daily, with doubtless great results to each of us and to masonry.

We are pleased to see that a very sound discretion was exercised in granting Dispensations for new Chapters, by the exercise of which, although one was granted others were refused, because the probabilities were that each would prove only weak Chapters, tending by their very weakness to dishearten the Companions, and but breed the disease of apathy among all the Craft. But on the other hand, we find him granting Dispensations for conferring the degrees "before the required time." This we esteem, except in very exceptional cases, pernicious. It most frequently is asked for, when some brother who has lived very many years near a Chapter has determined either to remove or travel, and who thinks the degrees would aid him. This bartering on masonry should not be encouraged. Indeed, some of those refused must have avowed these reasons.

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Companion Innes again made the report on correspondence, as usual, very full and very complete. Companion Innes is a worker, one whom to know is to love. We look back with extreme pleasure to our visit

to Detroit when the G. G. Chapter met, and by no means the least pleasurable acquaintance made there was our esteemed friend the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter. He is grand in his physique, he is grand in his manner, he is more grand in the bigness of his heart and the warmth of his feelings. How we would like to greet him where the warm waters of the Gulf lave our shores, where the orange blooms, and the mocking bird makes night melodious. *Au revoir* Companion.

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He seems delighted at the action of the G. G. Chapter in regard to the Cryptic degrees, and says "the matter was summarily and we hope forever set at rest."

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Companion Pierson made report on correspondence, and in it we find Alabama.

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The thirty-third Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 7th of February, 1881, Companion F. Speed Grand High Priest, with representatives from 32 subordinates, 9 others being added on the following day.

The address of the G. H. Priest is replete with interest, and is a very thorough and able argument in behalf of the "Mississippi Plan," as the control of the Council degrees by the Chapter is called. We think he shows most conclusively that there can be no constitutional objection to the plan, as the G. G. Chapter from 1829 to 1850 assumed control over those degrees, and in charters issued by it authorized its subordinates to confer them, as is shown before in this report, under Iowa. He quotes quite liberally from the Grand Council of New York, presented to the G. G. Council adverse to the memorials from Mississippi and other Grand Councils; and though not indulging in language so violent as it, still exhibits much feeling on the subject. And we find his Grand Chapter almost unanimously sustaining him, as is exhibited by the adoption of the following report, with but one dissentient voice after full discussion :

"The undersigned, your Special Committee, to whom was referred so much of the M. E. Grand High Priest's address as refers to the General Grand Chapter and Council degrees, and the memorial in reference to the latter presented to the General Grand Chapter, the real authors of which have won more celebrity in the Order for their proficiency in vituperation, slander and discourtesy than for those graces and virtues which should so eminently distinguish members of the Royal Craft, respectfully submit that we read with pleasure and satisfaction the bold and determined stand taken and the position assumed by our M. E. Grand High Priest, and most emphatically endorse and approve every sentiment expressed by him on this vexed question. We commend to the careful consideration of all Royal Arch Masons whose masonic charity ignores the existence of sectional lines and boundaries, this memorial and the answer thereto, feeling assured that in the verdict, which will be the spontaneous outburst of the great Masonic heart in this country, our course will be endorsed and that of the authors of the memorial will be condemned as a blotch upon the literature and charity of masonry on this continent."

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cil, which we fear will lead to injury, not to the Council degrees only, but bring discredit upon the whole body of masonry. And all this because a very few Companions panted after lofty titles!

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A motion was made to pay P. G. High Priests, who do not represent a Chapter, mileage and per diem; which, however, we are pleased to see was indefinitely postponed.

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Companion Savery furnishes the report on correspondence, and we are surprised not to find Alabama there. Why should the proceedings of Grand Chapters and Grand Lodges so often fail to reach their destination? Can it be that they are taken as select reading by the mail clerks? It is a condensed, yet admirable review of the proceedings of such G. Chapters as had come to hand.

MISSOURI.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Saint Louis, on the 5th of May, 1881, under direction of Companion James E. Cadle, G. H. Priest, with 54 Chapters represented.

The G. H. Priest announced that Colorado had made the "amende honorable" in the matter of Companion Byers' notice of an African G. Chapter in the State of Missouri; whereupon he, the G. H. Priest, had appointed a representative of the Grand Chapter of Missouri near that of Colorado, and the committee on the address congratulates the Craft on the result. The address in other respects is of local interest only—so are the proceedings. They, however, indicate a very harmonious condition of the Craft.

Companion Samuel H. Owens was made G. H. Priest, and Companion William H. Mayo continued Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary made the correspondence report. He thinks that "dropping from the roll" by the Lodge is of the same effect as suspension, and can't see the difference.

He quotes freely, with an occasional comment only, for the sake of economy.

NEBRASKA.

The fourteenth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 21st of December, 1881, Companion Alfred G. Hastings being the M. E. Grand High Priest, and 17 Chapters being represented.

The Craft is growing and prosperous, though some Chapters remain weak and sickly. The Chapters grow in numbers, however. We note that Dispensations were granted to make Companions out of the time prescribed, and this we deprecate, unless there be actual emergency in the case, or the applicant be placed in such position by circumstances entirely beyond his control.

There is evident apprehension of trouble in regard to the Council degrees, in consequence of the formation of the General Grand Council; but the same determination, or rather spirit of defiance, is expressed as we noticed in Iowa and Mississippi. The following was the action of Nebraska:

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Nebraska:

Your special committee to which was referred that portion of the address of the Grand High Priest relating to the threatened infringement of the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter in the matter of the Cryptic Degrees, have had the same under consideration, and would report—

That while, in our opinion, the danger of such invasion of our jurisdiction is not imminent at this time, for the reason that the proposed "General Grand Council" has only a provisional organization, we deem it proper that our views upon the subject should be made known to those who are proposing to consider those States wherein the merger has been perfected as "unoccupied territory," wherein new Councils can be organized at will.

Your committee are of the unanimous opinion that in this State, where the Grand Council, having lawful authority over the degrees, has voluntarily surrendered them to the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, to be conferred in a lawful Council, in and by the authority of this Grand Chapter, those who so receive them are not clandestine; they are conferred by lawful authority, and no General Grand Council, or any other masonic body, has jurisdiction to interfere in our control over the same. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of Nebraska would consider any action by a "General Grand Council," or other masonic body of whatever name, whereby jurisdiction over the Cryptic Degrees in the State of Nebraska should be assumed, a gross violation of our rights and of our jurisdiction, to be resisted by all lawful means and the exercise of all lawful powers.

The report on correspondence is by Companion Edwin F. Warren, and pecuniary considerations alone induce us to let it pass with the declaration that we have read the whole of it, and noted so many passages, that we are constrained to omit all.

Comp. H. Baxter Nicodemus, Grand High Priest. Comp. William R. Bowen, Grand Secretary.

NEVADA.

This M. E. Grand Chapter held its eighth Annual Convocation on the 13th of June, 1881, Companion Frank Bell, G. H. Priest, and representatives from 8 subordinates being present.

The address of the G. H. Priest was short, and pertaining strictly to local affairs. Peace and harmony prevail, and the Craft have maintained their numbers. The G. H. Priest expressed anxiety about the condition of the finances, and the Grand Secretary in his report says, "they need the careful attention of the committee." The committee's report shows that the expenditures exceed the receipts, and recommends that the proceedings be published only every two years, and that traveling expenses of delegates be no longer paid. This condition we greatly regret, though such difficulties must be encountered by young G. Chapters; nor are they confined to the young only, for there are some very much older that are struggling as Nevada.

Companion A. L. Fitzgerald, on behalf of the Grand Chapter, received the representatives of other jurisdictions in an elegant speech, in which he puts the question—what is the significance of this ceremonial? and answers that it means "Fraternity, Brotherhood, Family."

Companions Bell and Hammond were re-elected to the offices of G. High Priest and G. Secretary, respectively.

The Grand Secretary presented the report on correspondence. Among the proceedings reviewed are those of Alabama quite fraternally noticed. The report is concise and excellent.

NEW JERSEY.

The twenty-fifth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held September 14th, 1881, and opened in Ample Form by M. E. Charles Bechtel, Grand High Priest, there being present representatives from 28 Chapters.

The G. High Priest announces that "the financial condition of this Grand Chapter demands and should receive your careful and serious consideration. For some years past our expenses have exceeded our receipts—a state of things that ought not to exist." He recommended the sale of some real estate, the property of the Grand Chapter. The Finance Committee on this subject recommend the sale of the real estate that the funds might be more profitably invested by trustees. They recommend a reduction of the salary of Grand Secretary, and that the expenses of the first four officers only be allowed.

The subordinate Chapters are improving in both their finances and their zeal. As an empty pocket paralyzes the energies of a man, so do the empty coffers of a Chapter those of its members. Debt should never be incurred by any masonic body, for so soon as it is the case the interest of its members flag and lethargy and death supervene.

Companion J. Layton Register was elected G. H. Priest, and Comp. George B. Edwards re-elected Grand Secretary.

Companion Edwards made one of his excellent reports on correspondence, and differs with us as to the effect that should be given to any masonic punishment, we claiming that the "effect is, or ought to be, that placed upon it by the governing Grand Lodge;" and he that other "Grand and subordinate bodies" "have the right of individual estimate," "the right of conscience," "the right of inspection."

We concede all these rights, if the applicant presents himself with clean hands for their estimate or inspection. But the position taken by us was that when a punishment was provided by a governing body, that body, and that alone, must determine the force or value of the disgrace to be attached to it. If, as in Alabama, the Grand Lodge provides suspension as a punishment for non-payment of dues, and further declares that this suspension shall, like every other, operate an entire estoppel to all masonic intercourse and the enjoyment of all masonic benefits, will Companion Edwards contend that in the exercise of his various fancied rights he can hold masonic intercourse in New Jersey with one masonically so besmirched in Alabama? If two brethren from Alabama were to visit his Lodge, one under suspension for non-payment of dues, with whom all intercourse was masonically forbidden in that jurisdiction, and the other standing square before his brethren everywhere, what would be the result, both having stood successfully strict examination, if they were both ordered to be admitted? The Lodge would have the satisfaction of having admitted one under the exercise of the "rights" claimed, and excluded the other; the one being under the ban, the other able to hold up his head and look every brother squarely in the face. The unworthy would be admitted, the worthy excluded; and should a Chapter any the more readily admit the unworthy? Under the District of Columbia, we find him enunciating views not in consonance with those under Alabama: "The status of a Mason (of any degree) is designated by constitutional enactment of the Grand Lodge, so far as his relations to that body or its subordinates are concerned." And as we all constitute one family, he who is declared unworthy in one jurisdiction must carry with him the taint wherever he goes.

There is a great deal that is good in this report, but we have trans-

cended our limit already, and can only wish Companion Edwards had sent such a report when we had more money in the treasury.

NEW YORK.

The eighty-fourth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on February 1st, 1881, Companion William T. Woodruff, G. High Priest, and representatives from 181 subordinates being present. The total membership in this State is fifteen thousand and above—the dues being near \$10,000.

In consequence of the peculiar rules of the Grand Lodge in relation to the status of unaffiliated masons, and the fact that they give to suspension for non-payment of dues this effect apparently, led to a considerable debate in the Grand Chapter, but it was at last decided that the degrees could not be conferred on unaffiliates.

The finances of the Grand Chapter, though now sufficient, have a discouraging look, and this led to the appointment of a committee to consider the possibility of retrenchment, and to present a plan.

Companions Woodruff and Christopher G. Fox were severally elected G. H. Priest and Grand Secretary.

Companion Ogden again made the report on correspondence. Alabama is kindly reviewed. We are not willing to find fault with the lecture he reads us about our views in relation to making our Order the means of pushing forward the total abstinence question; for, except as to this feature of his comments, we heartily agree with him. Temperance is one of the cardinal virtues, as taught by masonry. This relates not alone to the use of alcoholic or fermented liquors, but to all things; language, desires, passions, and appetites—and this is what we meant in the passage quoted, though we were not sufficiently fortunate in the use of such language as might not be termed “a kind of mixture of good and evil, of false logic or perverted reason.” But Companion Ogden may not be altogether free from the same criticism. We would not for an instant use the phrase in any other than the most friendly light; but in view of what we have been taught somewhere in the Chapter, if our memory is not greatly at fault, we think the following extract from his review of District of Columbia smacks of “a kind of mixture of good and evil, of false logic or perverted reason.”

Take the matter in question; doubtless it has been held, and pertinaciously, too, by thousands of the best and wisest, that a Lodge or a Chapter could not be opened without the actual presence of the warrant in the room; and, after all, is there any valid reason for this? The warrant safely in the custody of the proper officer, if in his office, or safe at his home, gives just as full authority for the opening of the Chapter, and as much validity to its work, as if in the Chapter room. If it

have existence, and is in the custody of the proper officer, it is in full force, and no one can gainsay or call in question its power. Section 51. of the amended Constitution of this jurisdiction, says, "The High Priest shall preside at the several convocations of the Chapter; but, in case of his absence, the King or Scribe only shall, in order of rank, succeed him, provided such King or Scribe shall have lawful custody of the warrant." This covers the point exactly. "Lawful custody," does not mean that the officer must always carry it about his person; but the language must be construed in its ordinary, common-sense meaning. A High Priest, or King, or Scribe, as the case may be, need not ride, on a cold night, five miles to get the warrant of his Chapter before he can open and work it, if he knows that it is safe in his custody and under his control at his house or elsewhere. If the Constitution of the Grand Chapter read "that the warrant *must be in the room* before the Chapter can be opened, and there *kept all the time while work is being done*," then the language, being specific, must be literally obeyed—otherwise, common-sense and ordinary interpretation should govern. Comp. Smons might very likely chase away some of the shadows which surround Masonry, but, depend upon it, he will never give up the substance or counsel a disregard of a single essential principle or usage connected with it.

Under Maine he takes Comp. Drummond to task for having "modified" on the subject and lengthily argues in favor of the foregoing opinions, which we would quote as evidences "of false logic," and proofs of perverted reason," if this question had not been finally disposed of in the jurisdiction of Alabama. But by it we are reminded that *tempora mutantur*, and that "*masonry must change with them*"—This has been enunciated, and whenever we can so accustom the minds of the Companions to acquiesce in changes that "common-sense" may demand as necessary, then the whole structure will rapidly disappear—what we received from our ancestors let us transmit to our successors. Then and only then, will we have fulfilled our mission, and properly discharged our duty to the Craft.

NORTH CAROLINA.

We are pained to learn that the M. E. G. H. P., C. M. Van Orsdell, though able to be present at the opening of the thirty-third Convocation had yet been so long under the burthen of personal affliction as not to have prepared an address to be read at the opening nor to be published with the proceedings.

Thirteen Chapters were represented. The D. G. H. P., Comp. James Southgate, whose reports on correspondence are well remembered by us, made a report to the G. Chapter of the condition of the Craft, and the actions of the G. G. Chapter, whose Convocation at Detroit he attended. From this we find that many Chapters but feebly exist, and others

are beyond the hope of resurrection. Yet there appears to pervade the members of the G. Chapter a zeal and determination which, if continued, will yet bear fruit, and may rejoice at the altar fires rekindled.

The business of the G. Chapter was local only in its influence.

The membership continues to diminish.

There was no report on correspondence, and Comp. Southgate was promoted to the guardianship of the east, while Comp. Donald W. Bain was continued G. Secretary.

OHIO.

M. E. Comp. James B. Hovey, G. H. P., opened the sixty-fourth annual Convocation of this G. Chapter on 14 Oct. 1880, there being present representatives from 106 Subordinates. The address of the Grand High Priest is of local interest. In it, however, he recommends the Grand Chapter to provide a suitable R. A. burial service, which, upon being referred to a Committee, was respectfully and suitably 'indefinitely postponed.'

The G. High Priest reports his decisions in a bundle marked B., which was referred to the Committee on jurisprudence, who recommended the Grand Chapter to "let her be."

Comp. Hovey was reelected G. H. Priest, and Comp. James Nesbitt continued G. Secretary.

The membership increased by more than 1000 during the year.

Comp. Thos. J. Melish again made the report on correspondence.

In his review of Alabama, we find him quoting what we said of a decision of the G. Z. of Canada as of that of Ireland. Now we do not wish our Irish friends to believe all they see in print.

In Ohio the same rule in relation to suspension for non-payment of dues prevails as here, for one so situated "can at any time re-instate himself by simply paying his dues."

This reporter evidently thinks that the time is approaching when it will no longer be requisite for one applying for the Templar degrees to have taken those of the Chapter. If so, then look out for the deluge. Such action with the difficulty now visible about the Cryptic degrees, will shake Capitular masonry to the foundation.

Under South Carolina, when speaking of the surrender of the Cryptic degrees by the Grand Council, and its dissolution, he speaks thus :

Thus died the Grand Council of R. and S. M. of South Carolina. Shall we call it a case of *felo de se*, or of *hari kari*? It is unmasonic to give funeral honors to suicides, otherwise we should erect a monument with this inscription :

HIC JACET CORPUS MAGNI CONCILII R. & S. MAGISTRORUM

IN CIVITATE CAROLINÆ SEPTENTRIONALIS.

VITA BREVIS—MORS MISERABILIS.

Requiescat in Pace.

1850-1880.

OREGON.

Sends her proceedings for 1881 handsomely put up and almost a volume, having arrived at her 21st annual Convocation, which was held on the 10th June, 1881. Comp. David P. Mason, G. H. P., and representatives from 18 Subordinates present.

The address of the G. H. P. was of local interest only. We find in the proceedings that the G. Chapter again wrestled with the resolution giving extraordinary power to the G. H. P., and that a majority and minority report was again made

We copy the following resolutions, and here say, we heartily concur in the spirit evinced in them; but we deplore the fact that Masonry should lend itself to the destruction of any Mason's business, simply because there be some persons who may be injured thereby, owing to their own want of ability to govern their own desires and passions. There be Masons, perhaps, who may too hastily resort to other than nature's arms, but for this reason shall we prohibit Masons from selling them?

SECTION 2. *Resolved*, That the habit of using profane language, or of using violent and abusive language concerning a companion, and that of intemperance in the use of strong drink, or engaging in the keeping of a saloon and retailing spirituous or malt liquors, or of indulging in the practice of gambling, by Royal Arch Masons, is in violation of the regulations of Royal Arch Masonry and discreditable to the craft; and it shall be the duty of every Royal Arch Mason in this jurisdiction to report any violation of this resolution, which may have come to his knowledge, to the High Priest of the Chapter in whose jurisdiction the offending Companion resides, and immediately thereafter it shall be the duty of said High Priest to notify such offending Companion in writing to immediately cease such violation: *Provided however*, that if such offense shall be in keeping a saloon and retailing spirituous or malt liquors, the High Priest shall notify him in writing to close out such business within the period of six months, next following the time of giving notice as aforesaid, and if such offending Companion refuses or neglects to comply with the terms of such notice, the High Priest shall cause charges to be preferred in his Chapter against such offending Companion, and thereupon he shall be tried and punished for unmasonic conduct.

Oregon still requires the subordinate Chapters to send up their records for inspection.

Comp. Mason was re-elected G. H. P., and Comp. R. P. Earhart, G. Secretary.

Comp. T. McH. Patton, the veteran ready reporter of this jurisdiction, made the report on correspondence. It is to be hoped that he shall long live to set so good an example to the rest of the corps.

He obtained our proceedings for 1880 just in time to give us a hasty shake up, and be off. Would that we could feel his palm now. We know he is shivering now in November, while we are writing without a fire. He introduces his report, as heretofore, with disquisitions on peculiar questions on which there may be a difference of opinion among our cotemporaries; but in his examination of the question of the character of suspension for non-payment of dues, and its effect, he deals most vigorously, and we think most admirably, and without gloves, with Drummond, Derby of Maine, and Dadmun of Massachusetts. We confess to a curiosity to see how they will meet his arguments. It is needless to state that he holds that suspension for any cause whatsoever is and can be nothing but suspension as understood in all the O. B's.

Having no greater interest in the matter than every Companion should have, he considers the probable effect of the organization of a G. G. Council on Cryptic Masonry, and evidently thinks that there is imminent a contest between that body and the G. Chapters which have adopted what is called the Mississippi plan, which must end in the destruction of these degrees. For if, after one has taken them, he is not to be recognized as such, save in his own jurisdiction, it cannot be long ere none will be found desirous of taking them. His views are curtly given in the following extract. This in reference to resolutions of the Grand Council of Maine, declaring all those connected with Councils under the care of Grand Chapters clandestine:

It is the natural disposition of man to rebel, especially when there is an organized effort made to coerce him. And, in this instance, when a brother or companion has received the degrees in a regular and constitutional manner, under the express sanction and authority of the General Grand Chapter, is declared clandestine and denied the right of visitation or affiliation, there is sufficient cause for him not only to rebel, but to prepare for immediate and continued war.

In this struggle we honestly confess that our sympathies are enlisted in favor of those who are thus tabooed. Our individual status cannot be questioned. The status of all other royal and select masters in this jurisdiction is also unquestioned. We have presented the matter as we find it—mixed, badly mixed—and a fair prospect for the muddle still to continue. The West and the South will doubtless adhere to their action, consolidating with the Chapter. The East, and a portion of the South,

will contend for regular organization of Councils, or abandon the whole thing. If the General Grand Chapter had never authorized and empowered the Grand Chapters, under its jurisdiction, to confer these degrees, the tenor of our remarks would be very different.

We might, perhaps, and doubtless would, be as radical as any for regular Councils; but in view of the history of these degrees—their origin and the diversity of opinion in relation thereto, as well as the action of the General Grand Chapter authorizing them to be conferred—we claim the privilege of questioning the right of any one to assert that all who are not connected with regular Councils are clandestine.

To all royal and select masters within this jurisdiction, as well as those who desire to become such, it is apparent that the situation is any thing but pleasant.

If a Council is established here by authority of the General Grand Council, the members thereof are forbidden to hold intercourse in any way or manner with royal and select masters holding membership in Councils merged with Chapters. On the other hand, if the Chapters should gain control, all those receiving the degrees would be regarded as clandestine, and thus be barred privileges of visitation with eastern Councils. Until this muddle is settled it is not worth while for any of us to mourn or lament the fact that we are not in possession of the Council degrees. Not being in possession of them, we would not use them—legally or illegally—and being in possession of them, we cannot use them without the risk of being branded as clandestine.

We are sorry that we can spare no more space to this most interesting report.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The proceedings of this Grand Chapter, at the various communications "held during the year 1880, are before us. In this jurisdiction the custom has been to hold quarterly, as well as annual, communications, and we use this word because our Companions there, adhere to this term. Much of the detail of business is done at the quarterlies. The annual communication was held on 27th December, 1880, being presided over by the M. E. G. H. Priest, William C. Hamilton, representatives from 19 subordinates being present.

In response to the inquiry, "In balloting for a candidate, has any Companion a right to reveal how he votes?" Among others, he makes these remarks:

We must accord equal rights to all, if one has a right to reveal how he votes all have the same privilege. If a Brother, who votes a white ball has a right to reveal his ballot, so also has he who votes a black ball. To permit a violation of the secrecy of the ballot by either would be the entering of the wedge of discord, and a destructive blow at one of the fundamental principles of Masonry. The question, therefore, is answered in the negative.

This precisely enunciates our views.

All but P. H. Priests, who had been invested with the Order of High Priesthood, having retired, Comp. Hibbert P. John was installed G. H. P., he having been previously elected at a quarterly communication, Comp. John Thomson being retained as G. Secretary.

Companion Charles E. Meyer made the report on correspondence, and we find his views, which we give below, to correspond with those entertained by us. The question has never been presented to us so clearly before, and the effect of the ruling of our lamented G. H. Priest did not strike us as involving so much. But we agree with our Companion, and if any member desires to place himself among the active members of the Fraternity, our Grand Lodge allows him to pay his dues to Grand Secretary, and his certificate operates as a dimit when he can apply for membership to any other Lodge.

We give the ruling of our G. H. P. and the comments entire :

"2d. Can a Royal Arch Mason visit a Chapter, when the *Lodge* of which he was a member has been suspended for the non-payment of dues ?

"Ans. Any Companion Royal Arch Mason, in good standing in his Chapter, has all the rights and privileges of a Royal Arch Mason, notwithstanding the *Lodge* of which he was a member may have been suspended for the non-payment of dues, or for any other cause ; *Provided*, he was in good standing in the *Lodge* at the time of such suspension."

A Lodge that neglects to pay its dues is suspended, and with that suspension is carried every member of it. On the suspension, the books and properties of the Lodge come into the possession of the Grand Lodge, and it alone can put the Brother in good standing and affiliate him.

We note further, that the Grand High Priest decided that an unaffiliated Mason could not be made a Royal Arch Mason ; this we agree with, and it is the law of Pennsylvania, but it is not very consistent in the Grand High Priest to decide that in one case an unaffiliated can not be admitted to receive the highest Degree in Ancient Craft Masonry ; while he permits a suspended Mason who is unaffiliated to remain a member in good standing in the Chapter.

He thinks the claim of Grand Chapters to exercise jurisdiction over the Cryptic Degrees, one not founded in right, and an assumption.

QUEBEC.

The fourth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 21st September, 1880, under the direction of Companion J. H. Graham, M. E. G. Z. Representatives from all but one of the chartered Chapters in attendance.

The financial condition of this young Sister appears to be most healthy.

The G. Z. reports the Craft to be in good condition, peace, unity and

harmony having prevailed, and an increased zeal having been manifested. He thinks that the Grand Chapter should require the selection of a mark by every Companion, and to this end recommends that the book of Marks of every Chapter should be brought up to the Grand Chapter for inspection.

He says properly, that—

The reading of the Annual Transactions of the Grand Chapter in every private Chapter—a part at each of several convocations—including the report on foreign correspondence, is absolutely necessary for the information and due instruction of the Companions; else the greater number of those Exalted will remain in painful ignorance of the important transactions of our own Grand Body, and of the history of Capitular Masonry throughout the world.

M. E. Comp. Isaac Henry Stearns was elected G. Z., and Companion Angus Grant continued Grand Scribe E.

Companion Arthur F. Simpson made the report on correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of Alabama among the others.

The report contains a very full and fair statement of what is doing, and being said, in other jurisdictions without comment, because of the "youth and modesty" of the writer; but he says—

A prosperous future is already dawning upon us, and we feel confident that our many able reporters on Foreign Correspondence will act with charity and forbearance towards us, by avoiding a too close criticism of our efforts. The report is merely contemplated to present to the Companions of the Grand Chapter of Quebec a compilation of the leading points of interest occurring in our sister Grand Chapters, scrupulously avoiding any criticism on matters wherein we have noticed the rendering of decisions not agreeing with our views. Much of interest has presented itself, and we trust the Companions will profit by its perusal.

RHODE ISLAND.

The eighty-second Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 9th of March, 1880, with Rev. Wm. N. Askley, M. E. G. H. P., and representatives from all the subordinates.

The G. H. P., among other dispensations, granted "one to Aquidneck Chapter, No. 9, to vote upon candidate and do business in a Mark Master's Lodge, on conditions similar to those just mentioned; and to discontinue regular Convocations from April to November, inclusive."

And assigns as his reason—

These several dispensations have been issued with the purpose of furthering the best interests of the several Chapters making application for them. In issuing some of them, I have followed past precedent, which has sometimes created a slight flutter in other jurisdictions. I have granted such dispensations on the broad ground that our legal provisions are not intended to be obstructive but helpful, should not

impede the freest motion in all legitimate channels, but should guarantee just latitude in the direction of all true work and progress.

And the committee to whom the address was referred, report—

In the matter of dispensations reported as granted during the year, the Committee would state that such dispensations seem to have been issued for good and sufficient cause; and they are in accord with what has been the practice in this jurisdiction, and may well be approved on the grounds set forth in the address under review.

After some routine business had been transacted, "The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment, and the Companions dine together in accordance with the ancient custom in this jurisdiction." We like this custom, and it doubtless has much to do with the representation from the subordinates being complete. There is no unoccupied seat at that board.

Companion John P. Sanborn was elected G. H. P.

The Committee on Correspondence made a very short report, noting only that the Craft were harmonious and prosperous.

Companion Sanborn opened in ample form the eighty-third Annual Convocation in 1881, and representatives from all the Chapters again answered at the call of the roll.

The G. H. P. recommended a diminution of the fees for the Degrees, and the committee on the address introduced an amendment to the Constitution in accordance therewith.

The committee appointed at the last convocation to prepare a copy of the Ritual of the degrees, reported, and the copy is to be placed in the hand of the Grand Lecturer, and there is to be no other—(if it can be avoided).

After dinner, Companion Sanborn was again elected G. H. P., and Companion William R. Greene re-elected Grand Secretary.

The Committee on Correspondence made a report of seven lines.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

M. E. Comp. F. F. Gary, G. H. P., opened the Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter on the 15th of February, 1881, representatives from 21 Chapters being present.

The G. H. Priest draws a very gloomy picture of the condition of the Royal Craft in that State, and informs us that no less than 21 charters were recalled in consequence of the death of the Chapters, and six others were in a doubtful condition; and the finances of the Grand Chapter are in a most distressing condition.

In consequence of the resolution of the General Grand Chapter, and the adoption of a Constitution recognising only the four Capitular De-

grees, this Grand Chapter returned the records of the Grand Council to the keeping of the old Grand Recorder.

The mileage and per diem to the various members was paid in two certificates—one to be cashed, the other not, thus gaining time with their debts.

Companion J. Adger Smythe was elected Grand High Priest, and J. E. Burke, Grand Secretary.

A report on correspondence was made by Companion Burke, but not published for want of funds.

TENNESSEE.

The fifty-second Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 11th of November, 1880, with Companion Joe H. Bullock, G. H. Priest, and representatives from 53 Chapters.

On the condition of the Order, we extract from the address of the G. H. Priest:

This is a subject that demands our serious consideration. During the last few years several of our Chapters have forfeited their Charters. Others that still exist are in a languishing condition, while very few are live, working bodies. A number of causes have operated to bring about this result.

1. The multiplicity of new Orders that have sprung up within the last few years.

2. The railroad manner in which degrees are conferred, and the consequent ignorance of the work and lectures resulting therefrom.

3. The pernicious practice of keeping one man, however good and zealous he may be, continually in office as High Priest, so that no one else learns the work.

To my mind the only remedy is a thorough system of instruction. The question to be considered is, how can this be accomplished? The appointment of a Grand Lecturer, as recommended by Comp. Wright, in his report to me, which will be read to the Grand Chapter, I would heartily indorse, if the financial condition of the Grand Chapter would warrant. Our financial condition as a Grand Chapter is such that I cannot make such a recommendation.

I would suggest that the Grand High Priest be authorized to appoint at least one Companion in each Congressional District whose duty it shall be to visit and instruct such Chapters in his District as may desire instruction, without expense to the Grand Chapter.

This recommendation was adopted, and Grand Visitors appointed. We have frequently expressed our views of the value and necessity of these visitations, and anticipate great good from it.

There is no report on correspondence.

Comp. Gideon R. Gwinne was elected G. H. Priest, and Comp. John Frizzell, whom we met at Detroit in 1879, and for whom we contracted a very great liking and esteem, was elected Grand Secretary.

TEXAS.

The proceedings of the thirty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State, held on the 9th of December, 1880, with Comp. Z. E. Coombes, Grand High Priest, and representatives of 50 Chapters present.

The address of the Grand High Priest and the reports of the several Grand Visitors show the Craft to be in fair order. The G. H. Priest made no allusion to the threatening attitude of the G. G. Chapter, but Comp. Elgin in his report on correspondence deals liberally with the subject. And as this question of disciplining the Grand Chapter of Texas is one near the hearts of many members of the G. G. Chapter, and will doubtless be brought up for action at the next Triennial Convocation of the G. G. Chapter in 1883, we will very extensively extract for the enlightenment of our Companions. If this unreasonable contest is continued, it cannot but result in great injury to the Craft. If the G. G. Chapter had cut off communication by resolution, it in some parts would only have been a "*brutum fulmen*."

Then we give you without comment the following :

There it is again. Companions Drummond and Frizzell have written various pages on the subject, and the only argument, if an argument at all, is contained in the above extract from the report of the minority committee. It is based on the false premise that the Grand Chapter was legally created by the General Grand Chapter, and of its own will and pleasure rebelled against its authority and dissolved its connection. And Comp. Larner asks : "Has not every constituent Chapter of the Grand Chapter of Texas the same right to annul its allegiance with the Grand Chapter of Texas?" We answer Comp. Larner that under the same circumstances three constituent Chapters of the Grand Chapter would have the right to do so, and form a new Grand Chapter. It was done in West Virginia and Comp. Larner nor any other member of the General Grand Chapter ever raised an objection. The only difference was that the Mother Grand Chapter, with a magnanimity that would become even the General Grand Chapter, acknowledged the correctness of the course, bid the new Grand Chapter Godspeed, and sent it on its mission with its blessings and advice. We refer Comp. Larner to our last report for our views on the question. We have no desire to discuss it. We regard the question as one of policy only, being convinced that the present Grand Chapter is as legal as that of Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Canada or Nova Scotia, and if Comp. Larner will convince us of one single benefit that will result to Royal Arch masonry in Texas by coming under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, we will withdraw all objection and use whatever influence we may have to accomplish it. Now, Companion, if you think of a single one, trot him out.

Comp. Drummond disclaims any *bitter feeling*, but appeals to us to say if he was not right in feeling *indignant*, as he acknowledges he did, and still does, at the charge made by the committee, of which Comp.

Botts was chairman, against the General Grand Chapter, which he construes to be an imputation against the distinguished Masons whom he names. We say that the committee never inquired who were responsible for the action of the General Grand Chapter; they mentioned no names, and it was no reflection upon the distinguished Companions whom he mentions. When it was proposed to enter in the confederation, the committee had a right to show the past action of that Body in regard to Texas, and if it had transcended its powers, or violated Masonic usage, it was legitimate to point it out. They undertook to show the tendency of the General Grand Chapter to grasp at power. In doing so they cited its treatment of Texas, as showing how punctilious it was to the formation of the Chapters that composed the original Grand Chapter of Texas, and how it overlooked all formality as to those which formed the one organized under the General Grand Chapter, and in proof showed up a Chapter formed under an old charter granted nearly ten years before in blank, for a Chapter nearly 100 miles distant from the place where it was organized. We see no personal imputation in this. The reflection was against the action of the Grand Body itself and not the individual members. If the record is wrong it is not our fault, but the responsibility rests with the General Grand Chapter. Those in Texas know from personal knowledge some of the facts stated, and we will venture to say it cannot be proven that any meeting was ever held at the place mentioned in the charter alluded to.

We think Comp. Drummond dodges the question when he says the cases which we mentioned of Chapters which formed sundry Grand Chapters having worked under Lodge charters, that they happened before the Grand Chapter system was formed, while those in Texas were formed afterwards. Of course, after a Grand Chapter was formed Chapters in the several jurisdictions took charters under them. He seems to forget that Texas at that time was an isolated Republic, and formed no part of the United States, was as distinct as England or Mexico. In that Republic there was no Grand Chapter system, and the General Grand Chapter had no more right to interfere than England had.

He declines discussing the question as one of *policy*, and says we shifted the line of argument when we stated that the separation was made by the political separation of Texas. We combine the two statements in one sentence because the reply to them is so intimately connected.

The resolution of our Grand Chapter declared that the separation was made by the separation of our State from the government of the United States. It was distinctly based upon that ground, and treated as an existing fact. Since then the Grand Chapter has acted on that basis. The committee could not, without insulting the Grand Body, argue a question to it which it had decided sixteen years before, and had acted upon as *res adjudicata* ever since.

We do not believe we owe any *duty* to the General Grand Chapter, more than to any other Grand Chapter, and therefore the committee only discussed the policy of the measure. On the other hand, in discussing the question with Comp. Drummond, it was not inappropriate to defend the former action of the Grand Chapter.

We have heretofore stated the position of Texas and given the history of the formation of the Grand Chapter. The position assumed by the General Grand High Priest and the committee as to the theory of the

Constitution of the General Grand Chapter is not warranted by the instrument. The Second Section of the Constitution says that it is a "confederation of Grand Chapters," and can exercise no powers not consistent therewith; and that all powers not granted by the Constitution are reserved to the Grand and subordinate Chapters, and to the individual Masons. It says, further, that it can exercise no doubtful powers nor any powers by implication merely. Under what clause in the Constitution is it proposed to coerce us? Will some one give us the chapter and verse?

Again, the same section says: "It shall have no power of discipline, admonition, censure or instruction over the Grand Chapters." It appears to us, that if Texas is one of the Grand Chapters belonging to the Confederation, M. E. Comp. Frizzell very grossly violates that clause in his address, for it not only contains "censure" and "admonition," but recommends "discipline." We think he would do well "to pluck out the mote," etc.

But they say our own Constitution recognized the authority, etc., of the General Grand Chapter. Granted; but it also provided for its amendment, and it has been amended.

The General Grand Chapter does not, and has no right to give an organic law to a Grand Chapter. Each Grand Chapter makes its own organic law, and alters it at will, which is the highest exercise of sovereignty.

They say every officer and member has obligated himself to support and maintain the General Grand Chapter. This is the main argument, if it deserves to be so called, that has been used by those who oppose us, and they hurl it at us on all occasions, either openly or covertly, charging us as being unfaithful and false. Every Companion exalted in England, Canada, Virginia or Pennsylvania, we presume, is obligated to support the Grand Chapter under which he is made. But when he leaves that jurisdiction, and goes into another, his obligation changes, and attaches to the new. The obligation is the same in every Lodge, and yet we see new Grand Lodges formed whenever a new State is organized. Will the Committee explain how it is that in one case it is "irrevocable," and not so with the other?

VERMONT.

The sixty-fourth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 17th of June, 1881, Alfred A. Hall, M. E. Grand High Priest, in the chair, and representatives from 21 Chapters.

From the Grand High Priest's address, we find—

"During my official connection with this Grand Body, I have often noted the fact that subordinate Chapters do not always choose the best men for officers. It is not a matter that concerns a single Chapter, but one of general interest. Our institution is judged of by its members, and often by its officers, and it is of the highest importance that selections be made with great care. 'But,' says my technical friend, 'our elections are held without nominations or previous arrangement. Electioneering is unmasonic.'"

The business was confined to matters of local interest purely.

Comp. Homer M. Phelps was elected Grand High Priest, and Comp. Wm. H. S. Whitcomb, Grand Secretary.

Comp. Edward S. Dana again presented the report on correspondence. We don't exactly think he is altogether correct in either part of the following extract, for we know of no Grand Chapter that has added the insurance excrecence to its other duties, nor are we aware that there is any Grand Chapter that is not using its best exertions to arouse its Companions to a zealous performance of their duties. But we are not surprised at the sentiments of the writer, for he has never encountered a similar condition of things, and cannot imagine how completely "hope deferred maketh the heart sick." Yet we see the dawn of a better day, masonically, as our depressed and dejected people begin to realize that their constant efforts are being rewarded:

The Craft seems to be in a prosperous condition, except in some of the Southern States, where they have "gone wild" over insurance associations, and other "strange gods;" or are indolently waiting, with the hopefulness of Micawber, for "something to turn up," when wholesome labor and unselfish devotion would cure all their present ills, and remove all their discouragements.

He regretted the absence of our M. E. Grand High Priest Cobb, and hoped no "accident had befallen him;" and we equally regret to state that such, however, was the case—a railroad accident.

We find him enlarging on the doctrine of New York, that the presence of the charter is not necessary, though desirable, and says:

It is simply the evidence of the act of the Grand Body granting the right to the Chapter to work; the absence of the parchment issued by the Grand Body, it seems to us, cannot abrogate the authority thus delegated to the subordinate Chapter, any more than it would the power of a Judge, commissioned by the Governor of a State, if he failed to have his commission in his pocket while sitting upon the bench.

VIRGINIA.

The pamphlet before us contains the proceedings of the seventy-third Annual Convocation of this M. E. Grand Chapter, held on the 16th of December, 1880, with Comp. Samuel M. Bowman, G. High Priest, and representatives from 22 Chapters.

The G. H. Priest reports "that the Craft in this jurisdiction is in a very healthy condition, and harmony prevails."

The reports of the several District Deputy Grand Lecturers betoken a very mixed condition of the Craft. Some Chapters are doing well, while in every District there are some which are merely alive. We find the consolidation of two Chapters. This we think the best course to pur-

sue. Chapters not active soon find their members indifferent and negligent—then comes an inability to have regular meetings, a gradual diminution of members, a decrease in funds, debt to the Grand Chapter, and loss of charter. One strong Chapter can do more good than twenty weak ones.

There has probably been, however, a slight increase of membership during the year.

No report on correspondence.

Comp. Peyton Skipwith Coles was elected G. H. Priest, Comp. Isaacs being re-elected Grand Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The ninth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was presided over by the G. H. Priest, M. E. Comp. John W. Grantham, and held on the 13th of November, 1879, with representatives from 9 subordinates.

There was but one question submitted for decision of the G. High Priest, to which he answered: "An applicant for these degrees must be a Master Mason in good standing; and to be in good standing, he must be a member of some Lodge." To which the Committee on Jurisprudence say:

Your Committee on Jurisprudence respectfully report that they are not prepared to approve of the decision of the M. E. G. High Priest, to the effect that a non-affiliated Mason is not eligible to the Chapter Degrees.

While we believe that a Master Mason, applying for the Chapter Degrees, should be a member of some Lodge, we do not think that the Grand Chapter would be justified in taking any action which would unfavorably affect the standing of a non-affiliated Mason in advance of the action of the Grand Lodge upon the subject.

Until the Grand Lodge declares that a non-affiliated Mason is not in good standing, in the opinion of your committee a non-affiliated Mason is not, by reason of such non-affiliation, ineligible to the Chapter Degrees.

No report on correspondence.

Comp. Arthur Linsel was elected Grand High Priest, and Comp. Odell S. Long, Grand Secretary.

In the same pamphlet we also have the proceedings of the tenth Convocation, under the supervision of Comp. Linsel, Grand High Priest, with representatives from seven Chapters present, held on the 8th of November, 1880.

In relation to the condition of the Chapter, the Grand High Priest says:

I am glad to state that a number of the Chapters in our State are doing nobly for the Royal Craft; they seem to be imbued with that fervency

and zeal that should actuate all Royal Arch Masons. I regret to say that from the best information I have, we have some Chapters in this jurisdiction that have a name to live, yet they are dead.

There is no report on correspondence.

The pamphlet is so mixed in the binding that we can examine it no further—pages not numbered, turned upside down, so that we are not certain that we are correct when we announce that Comp. Wm. H. H. Flick was made Grand High Priest, and Comp. Long, Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN.

Companion M. L. Youngs, P. G. H. Priest, as G. H. Priest, in due form opened the thirty-first Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter on the 15th of February, 1881, but there not being a constitutional quorum of subordinates present, the Grand Chapter was called off until the 22d of February, when Companion Fred Ring Jr., G. H. Priest, presided, with representatives from 49 Chapters.

The business might have been said to have been of local interest only, but for the formation of a G. G. Council, which claims exclusive jurisdiction over all territory not occupied by those who organized this august General Grand Body. But we find our Wisconsin Companions busy in perfecting their system without a proper fear of the displeasure of the G. G. Council. They report a wonderful increase in membership since they have adopted the "plan."

Companions Ring and Woodhull were re-elected to the offices of G. H. Priest and Grand Secretary, respectively.

Comp. J. P. C. Cottrill, as usual, made one of Comp. Cottrill's reports on correspondence.

He is bitterly opposed to the use of substitutes in conferring the degrees, and gets off the following sublime, and we venture to say inimitable, distich thereon :

So, substitutes, come on,
We care not a bit how many;
We'll welcome all, and take you in,
And cheer you all, without regard
To whether you are few or several; and
Our rhyme shall be as irregular
As your progress in the Chapter.

He very properly opposes making cheap masonry, and thinks masonry "would live in any jurisdiction among true hearts, if not a single degree were conferred in a year." He opposes any insurance attachment, in which he agrees with our Grand Chapter, and favors our system of having each Chapter bear the expense of its representatives, instead of receiving mileage and per diem.

And now, Companions, we have brought this report to an end. In the start, we determined to make it a very short one, which we assure you involves more labor than one more lengthy. This we were inclined to do, in consideration of the probable smallness of the exchequer of the Grand Chapter. We hope we have neither disappointed you or ourself.

Our extracts have not been either many or long, except in regard to the General Grand Chapter and Texas, and then only because it is still an open question, and one on which your representative will be called upon doubtless to vote in 1883.

The perusal of the several proceedings has given us sincere pleasure, yet not altogether unmingled with pain. We have seen that many, very many worthy and exalted Companions, under the inflexible law of nature, have gone to "that bourne whence no traveler returns;" but we have also learned, what pains us most, that our beautiful and blessed Order is not properly appreciated by very many of the Craft, and that through indifference many altar-fires have either been allowed to go out or are only flickering, giving but a spasmodic and imperfect light to those who might otherwise seek the boon of admission.

We have learned that great discretion must be exercised by not only our General Grand Chapter in its dealings with Texas, but also by the General Grand Council in regard to Councils not acknowledging its jurisdiction, or such a storm will arise as will endanger the entire fabric.

We have learned, too, that as time blunts the energies, it is proper that those who have long been serving the Craft should give place to those younger, and more zealous, and stronger. For which reason the writer hereof, who has served this Grand Chapter as its correspondent lo! these many years, should retire and let some more able craftsman, and one who can better command his time, take up the work on which he has been engaged so long, and continue it to the greater edification and renown of this M. E. Grand Chapter.

To our confreres of the quill we bid adieu. They have ever treated us with all the consideration we deserved, and with uniform courtesy; and so long as the sands of life continue to run, the communings that we have had with them will constitute a green spot in memory,—and to you all, our Companions of this jurisdiction, we bid you, as reporter, adieu.

P. J. PILLANS.

So Companion Pillans wrote, but as will be perceived the Grand Chapter would not let him retire.

GRAND SECRETARY.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,

IN ACCOUNT WITH DANIEL SAYRE,

GRAND SECRETARY.

1880.	CR.	
Dec. 7.	By Dues at Grand Convocation.....	567 75
17.	By Contingent Fund.....	200 00
25.	By Dues of O. Schevenell of No. 12.....	4 00
1881.		
Jan. 11.	By Dues from Zerubbabel No. 56	9 00
		\$ 780 75

1880.	DR.	
Dec. 17.	To amount paid Grand Treasurer.....	567 75
1881.		
Mar. 22.	To paid Dues to G. G. Chapter.....	8 21
April 7.	“ “ Expenses on Proceedings.....	1 25
25.	“ “ Barrett & Brown, printing.....	134 40
July 8.	“ “ Barrett & Brown, printing.....	1 00
Aug. 9.	“ “ Expressage.....	35
Sep. 22.	“ “ Allred & Beers.....	1 50
Dec. 1.	“ “ Grand Treasurer.....	66 29—\$ 780 75

MONTGOMERY, December 6, 1881.

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

WILLIAM H. DINGLEY,

GRAND TREASURER,

IN ACCOUNT WITH THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA.

1880.

DR.

Dec. 3. To Balance..... 71 89

17. " Received from Grand Secretary..... 567 75

1881.

Dec. 1. " Received from Grand Secretary..... 66 29 — \$ 705 93

1880.

CR.

Dec. 8. By Companion Palmer J. Pillans..... 25 00

" Committee on For. Correspondence... 75 00

" Committee on Work, J. H. Johnson... 32 25

9. " " " L. W. Jenkins... 35 00

" " " H. C. Armstrong. 12 00

13. " Grand Sentinel..... 15 00

17. " " Secretary..... 200 00

" " Treasurer..... 25 00

" Contingent Fund..... 200 00

1881.

Dec. 6. " Balance on hand..... 86 68 — \$ 705 93

MONTGOMERY, December 6, 1881.

WM. H. DINGLEY,

Grand Treasurer.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

Your Committee on Finance would most respectfully report that they have examined the reports of the Right Excellent Grand Treasurer and Right Excellent Grand Secretary, and find them correct.

Since last report the R. E. Grand Secretary has received from

all sources.....\$780 75
All of which has been properly disposed of, as per proper vouchers submitted to us.

The R. E. Grand Treasurer had on hand at last report..... 71 89

Has received from Grand Secretary..... 634 04

Making a total of.....\$705 93

And has paid out on proper vouchers submitted to us..... 619 25

Leaving balance in his hands.....\$ 86 68

Estimated receipts at this Convocation..... 438 75

Making a total of.....\$525 43

Of above amount your committee recommend the following appropriations to meet current expenses of this year:

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

“ “ Sayre, Grand Secretary..... 200 00

“ “ Pillans, Foreign Correspondence..... 75 00

“ Grand Secretary, for Contingent Fund..... 200 00

“ Grand Sentinel..... 15 00—\$ 515 00

Leaving a probable balance of..... 10 43

Fraternally submitted.

DANIEL SMITH, 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.

Chapter Number.	NAMES OF CHAPTERS.	No. of Members.	Amount of Dues.	Advanced.	Presided.	Rec'd and Ack'd.	Exalted.	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimitted.
1	Tuskaloosa.....	23	\$17 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
5	Eunomia.....	16	21 75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6	Cyrus.....	21	8 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13	Gainesville.....	25	18 75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20	Livingston.....	20	15 00	1	1	3	1	..	..	..
21	Mobile.....	30	22 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
22	Montgomery.....	53	39 25	3	3	3	..	..	..	2
23	Talladega.....	21	15 75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
24	Eufaula.....	19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
26	Union.....	24	18 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
28	Saint Johns.....	40	30 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
34	Hermon.....	30	22 50	..	1	1	1	..	..	3
38	Decatur.....	27	18 75	9	9	12	12	3	..	..
40	Camden.....	17	12 75	..	..	1	1	..	..	..
44	Choctaw.....	13	9 75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
54	Tyrian.....	51	38 25	3	3	..	..	..	..	3
64	Central.....	19	14 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
66	Alabama.....	26	19 50	3	3	..	..	..	..	3
71	Landmark.....	29	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
73	Gordon.....	19	14 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
83	Bell.....	11	18 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
85	Gaston.....	17	12 75	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
86	Coosa.....	20	15 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
87	Moulton.....	18	13 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
93	Columbus.....	16	24 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
96	Daniel Pratt.....	15	11 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
100	Rock Mills.....	25	18 75	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
102	Cross Plains.....	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
104	Weogufka.....	27	20 25	..	1	2	..	1	..	..

AT REST.

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

John R. Chapman, Aug.—60 years....	Gainesville.....	No. 13
Socrates Parker, May 6.....	Livingston.....	" 20
Isaac B. Faunce, June 13.....	Montgomery.....	" 22
James Hervey Joiner, Sep. 6—62 years.	Talladega.....	" 23
John Duncan McCormick, May 29....	Eufaula.....	" 24
Martin H. Smith, Sep. 22.....	Saint Johns.....	" 28
John F. Foreman.....	Hermon.....	" 34
Lawrence S. Banks.....	} Decatur.....	" 38
James S. Clark.....		
Abner Dill, Oct. 20.....	Choctaw.....	" 44
George W. Stewart.....	Tyrian.....	" 54
James M. Bridges, Jan. 6—72 years...	} Landmark.....	" 71
Green B. Whaley, Mar. 16—68 years..		
Briton Seavey, July 13—65 years.....		
Asa M. Hodges, Aug. 22.....	Moulton.....	" 87
Rufus W. Penny, Oct. 24.....	Cross Plains.....	" 102



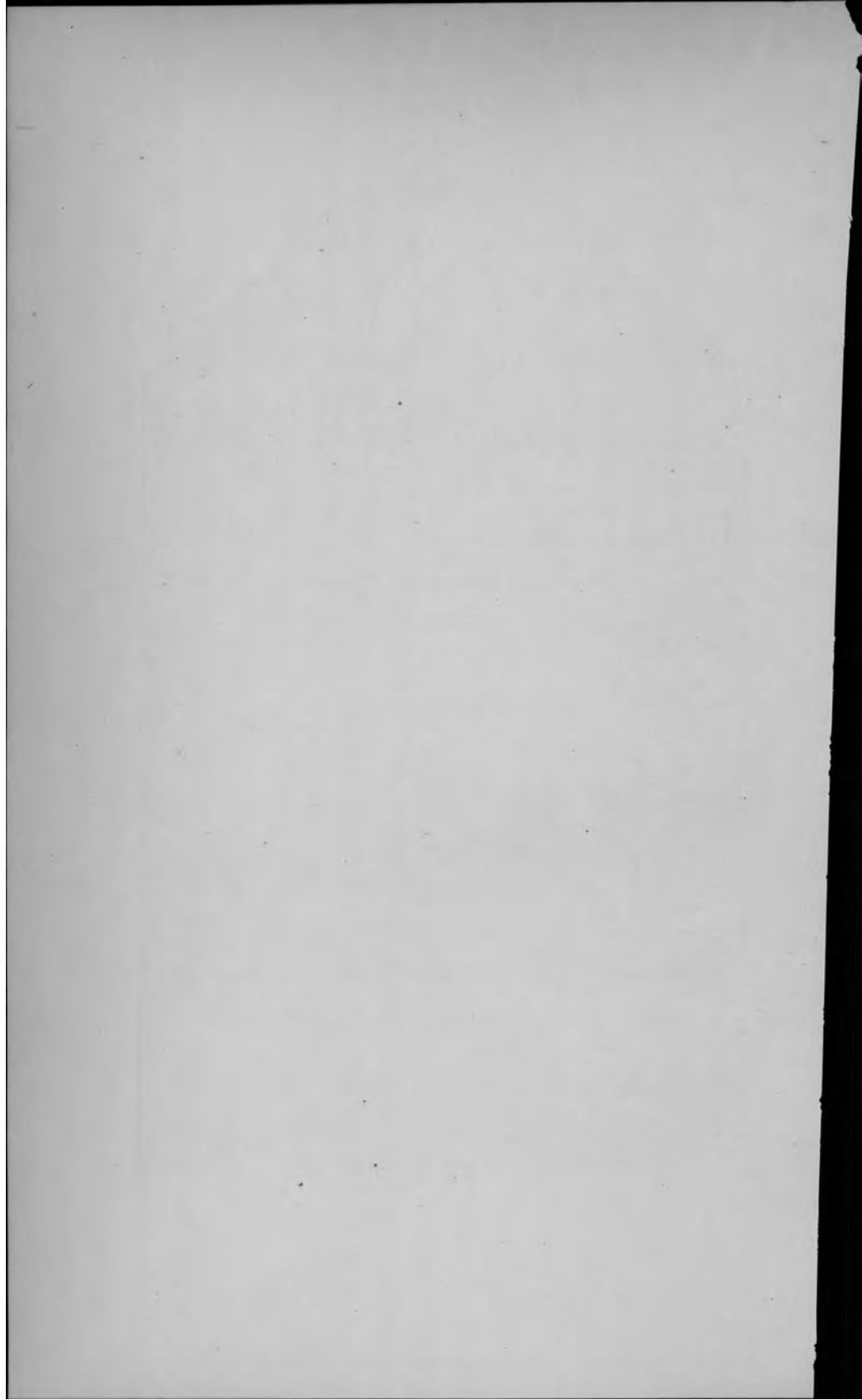
SACRED TO THE MEMORY
—OF—

James Hervey Joiner,
GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

DIED SEPTEMBER 6TH, 1881,
In the 62d year of his age.

"Since then we are so liable to be dispossessed of this earthly tabernacle, let us look upon ourselves as only tenants-at-will; and hold ourselves in perpetual readiness to depart at a moment's warning."—*James Hervey's Meditations among the Tombs.*

Death conquers all things, we must yield to Death.



SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

MONTGOMERY No. 22.—John Egger, John W. Simpson, Rufus K. Boyd—3.

EUFULA No. 24.—Addison A. Walker—1.

SAINT JOHNS No. 28.—Michael Carter, Nathan D. Greene—2.

LANDMARK No. 71.—John Jolly, Daniel K. Trant, David Chancey, David Chancey Jr.,—4.

GORDON No. 73.—William Shirley, Charles J. Reynolds, Wesley F. Wadford—3.

BELL No. 83.—Richard Cole, William D. Hood—2.

WEOGUFKA No. 104.—John T. Glenn—1.

REINSTATED.

David B. Bryant.....	Montgomery	No. 11
Thomas Robinson.....	Eufaula.....	" 24
Gilbert R. Tracy.....	Cross Plains.....	" 102

RECAPITULATION.

Chapters that made Returns.....	29
Chapters that paid Dues.....	26
Chapters that were represented.....	25
Number of Representatives present.....	31
Members reported at this Convocation.....	677
Estimate of members not reported.....	132
Dues received at this Convocation.....	\$500, 75

WORK OF THE YEAR.

Advanced since last Grand Convocation.....	20
Presided " " " ".....	22
Received and Acknowledged.....	20
Exalted since last Grand Convocation.....	17
Affiliated " " " ".....	5
Rejected " " " ".....	0
Dimitted " " " ".....	24
Died " " " ".....	16
Expelled " " " ".....	0
Suspended for U. M. C.....	0
Suspended for N. P. D.....	16
Reinstated.....	3

STATE OF THE CHAPTERS.

Chapters square upon the Books.....	26
Chapters under Dispensation.....	0

MEMORANDA.

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

NEWELL M. THORNTON, M. D.	<i>Abbeville</i>	Arkansas.
WILLIAM D. WADSWORTH	<i>Montgomery</i>	California.
JOSEPH H. JOHNSON, M. D.	<i>Talladega</i>	Canada.
GEORGE D. NORRIS, M. D.	<i>New Market</i>	District of Columbia.
LUCKY W. JENKINS, M. D.	<i>Camden</i>	Illinois.
PELEG BROWN	<i>Mobile</i>	Indiana.
MYLES J. GREENE, M. D.	<i>Talladega</i>	Iowa.
JOHN GIDEON HARRIS	<i>Livingston</i>	Kansas.
HENRY F. MULLEN	<i>Selma</i>	Kentucky.
PALMER J. PILLANS	<i>Mobile</i>	Louisiana.
WILLIAM S. FOSTER	<i>Mobile</i>	Maryland.
GEORGE D. NORRIS, M. D.	<i>New Market</i>	Massachusetts.
JAMES E. COBB	<i>Tuskegee</i>	Minnesota.
DAVID CLOPTON	<i>Montgomery</i>	Mississippi.
PELEG BROWN	<i>Mobile</i>	Missouri.
WILEY W. BLOODWORTH, M. D.	<i>Loachapoka</i>	Nebraska.
.....		New Jersey.
JOHN W. BUSH	<i>Uniontown</i>	New York.
HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG	<i>Notasulga</i>	Nova Scotia.
DANIEL SAYRE	<i>Montgomery</i>	Oregon.
JOHN A. PADGETT	<i>Greenville</i>	Quebec.
GEORGE D. NORRIS, M. D.	<i>New Market</i>	South Carolina.
PELEG BROWN	<i>Mobile</i>	Tennessee.
JAMES E. COBB	<i>Tuskegee</i>	Vermont.
GEORGE P. HARRISON JR.	<i>Opelika</i>	Wisconsin.

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

ELBERT H. ENGLISH.....	<i>Little Rock.</i>	Arkansas.
ISAAC F. TOMS.	<i>Goderich, Ontario</i> ...	Canada.
CHARLES W. HANCOCK	<i>Washington.</i>	District of Columbia.
SILAS O. VAUGHAN.....	<i>De Kalb.</i>	Illinois.
DOWNING BAUGH.	<i>McGregor.</i>	Iowa.
ALBERT D. MCCONAUGHEY.	<i>Atchison.</i>	Kansas.
WILLIAM RYAN.....	<i>Louisville.</i>	Kentucky.
JAMES TODD.....	<i>Franklin</i>	Louisiana.
JOSEPH E. TYLER.....	<i>Baltimore.</i>	Maryland.
FREDERICK G. WALBRIDGE.....	<i>Boston</i>	Massachusetts.
MOSES W. GETCHELL.....	<i>Minneapolis.</i>	Minnesota.
ROBERT L. SAUNDERS.....	<i>Jackson.</i>	Mississippi.
THOMAS E. GARRETT.....	<i>St. Louis</i>	Missouri.
WILLIAM E. HILL.....	<i>Nebraska City.</i>	Nebraska.
FREDERICK G. WEISE.....	<i>Bordentown.</i>	New Jersey.
WILLIAM SHERER.....	<i>Brooklyn</i>	P. O. Box 2065 N. Y.
ROCKY P. EARHART.....	<i>Salem.</i>	Oregon.
ANGUS GRANT.....	<i>Montreal.</i>	Quebec.
AUGUSTINE T. SMYTHE.....	<i>Charleston.</i>	South Carolina.
JONATHAN S. DAVIS.....	<i>Paris.</i>	Tennessee.
JUSTIN W. F. WASHBURN.....	<i>Montpelier.</i>	Vermont.
ALEXANDER M. EVANS.....	<i>Middleway.</i>	West Virginia.
WILLIAM G. SWAIN.....	<i>Milwaukee</i>	Wisconsin.

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

No	NAME	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POST OFFICE.	HIGH PRIEST.	SECRETARY.	CONVOCAATION.
1	Tuskaloosa.	Tuskaloosa.	Tuskaloosa.	Tuskaloosa.	John Mason Martin.	William A. Cochrane.	3 Wednesday
5	Huntsville.	Huntsville.	Madison.	Huntsville.	Bernard F. Ludwig.	William H. Tancr.	1 Tuesday
6	Cyrus.	Florence.	Lauderdale.	Florence.	Henry W. Sample.	James R. Price.	Thurs afn
13	Gainesville.	Gainesville.	Sumter.	Gainesville.	Edward N. Krug.	Thomas F. Ramage.	3 Friday
20	Livingston.	Livingston.	Sumter.	Livingston.	Robert D. Webb.	Isaiah C. Brown.	1 and 3 Thurs
21	Mobile.	Mobile.	Mobile.	Mobile.	William Story Foster.	Falmer Job Pillars.	2 Tuesday
22	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	William Wallace Srews.	Calvin William Sayre.	3 Friday
23	Talladega.	Talladega.	Talladega.	Talladega.	Joseph Henry Johnson.	Henry H. Hamill.	1 Saturday
24	Eufaula.	Eufaula.	Barbour.	Eufaula.	James Milton.	John Curtis Thomas.	1 Thursday
26	Union.	Uniontown.	Barbour.	Uniontown.	John W. Rush.	John H. White.	1 Thursday
28	Saint Johns.	Selma.	Dallas.	Selma.	Benjamin J. Sifton.	Adolph Jacobson.	4 Monday
34	Hermion.	Union Springs.	Bullock.	Union Springs.	James Talmege Norman.	Columbus J. L. Cunningham.	2 and 4 Fri
38	Decatur.	Decatur.	Morgan.	Decatur.	James M. Brundidge.	John T. Banks.	3 Tuesday
40	Chadwell.	Chadwell.	Wilcox.	Chadwell.	John T. Cook.	Green F. Spurin.	Friday bfm
44	Tyrin.	Troy.	Pike.	Troy.	Alanson J. Gray.	Oliver C. Umer.	2 Saturday
64	Central.	Montevallo.	Shelby.	Montevallo.	John E. Goldthwaite.	Thomas H. Jones.	Fri of 2 Sab
66	Alabama.	Mobile.	Mobile.	Mobile.	Paul Smith.	Samuel S. Holbrook.	Mo near st fm
71	Landmark.	Ozark.	Dale.	Ozark.	Benjamin F. Cassidy.	Edward L. Merkel.	2 and 4 Fri
73	Gordon.	Abbeville.	Henry.	Abbeville.	Nowell Morton Thornton.	Mark A. Cooke.	3 Saturday
88	Bell.	Lineville.	Clay.	Lineville.	John Reeves.	James W. Stokes.	1 Saturday
86	Gaston.	DeSotoville.	Choctaw.	DeSotoville.	William R. Horn.	Alexander Beck.	3 Saturday
86	Coosa.	Gadsden.	Etowah.	Gadsden.	Benjamin Franklin Pope.	John C. Christopher.	2 Thursday
87	Monkton.	Newton.	Lawrence.	Monkton.	DeWitt Clinton White.	Leonal E. Hamlin.	1 Monday
99	Calumbus.	Prattville.	Dale.	Prattville.	James S. Edwards.	Robert V. Goodlett.	Fri of 3 Sab
99	Daniel Pratt.	Prattville.	Antonia.	Prattville.	Elwelyn Spigener.	William D. Vaughan.	3 Saturday
100	Rock Mills.	Rock Mills.	Randolph.	Rock Mills.	George W. Taylor.	James H. Edwards.	1 Mon afn
102	Cross Plains.	Cross Plains.	Calhoun.	Cross Plains.	Andrew J. Sifton.	Fountain P. Randall.	1 Tuesday
102	Cross Plains.	Wesgufka.	Calhoun.	Cross Plains.	Andrew J. Sifton.	Francis M. Savage.	Sat of 1 Sab
104	Wesgufka.	Wesgufka.	Coosa.	Wesgufka.	Oliver F. Loony.	Francis M. McEwen.	Fri of 1 Sab

GRAND SECRETARIES AND THEIR ADDRESS.

0. Alabama.....	Daniel Sayre.....	Montgomery.
1. Arkansas.....	James A. Henry.....	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.....	Lewis Guillian Stephens.....	Washington.
7. Delaware.....	Henry B. McIntire.....	Wilmington.
8. Florida.....	DeWitt Clinton Dawkins.....	Jacksonville.
9. Georgia.....	James Emmett Blackshear.....	Macon.
10. Illinois.....	Gilbert Wordsworth Barnard.....	Chicago.
11. Indiana.....	John M. Bramwell.....	Indianapolis.
12. Iowa.....	William Baker Langridge.....	Muscadine.
13. Kansas.....	John M. Price.....	Atchison.
14. Kentucky.....	Joseph H. Branham.....	Louisville.
15. Louisiana.....	James C. Bachelor.....	New Orleans.
16. Maine.....	Ira Berry.....	Portland.
17. Maryland.....	George L. McCahan.....	Baltimore.
18. Massachusetts.....	Zephaniah H. Thomas.....	Cambridgeport.
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 Lewis.
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.....	George T. Smithers.....	Halifax.
30. Ohio.....	James Nesbitt.....	Troy.
31. Oregon.....	Rocky Preston Earhart.....	Salem.
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.
45. England and Wales.....	Albert G. Goodall.....	New York, 142 B'y.

COUNCIL OF HIGH PRIESTS.

THIRTEENTH CONVOCATION.

MONTGOMERY, December 7, 1881.

The Council of High Priests for the State of Alabama met at the Masonic Hall, in the City of Montgomery, on Wednesday, at 4½ o'clock, P. M.

PRESENT :

HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	President.
PELEG BROWN, <i>as</i>	Vice President.
MYLES J. GREENE, <i>as</i>	Chaplain.
GEORGE W. TAYLOR, <i>as</i>	Treasurer.
NOBLE G. DELESHAW, <i>as</i>	Recorder.
WILLIAM S. FOSTER.....	Master of Ceremonies.
ANGUS M. SCOTT, <i>as</i>	Conductor.
JOHN REEVES, <i>as</i>	Herald.
EDMUND R. HASTINGS.....	Steward.

PRESENT.—Companions James M. Brundidge, James Davidson, Lucky W. Jenkins, William D. Wadsworth, Joseph H. Johnson, William W. McCollum, William S. Ford.

The Council of High Priests was opened in Ample Form.

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

Royal Arch Masons, and the necessary contribution, were received from the following Companions :

William W. Screws, of Montgomery No. 22.

John R. Goldthwaite, of Tyrian No. 54.

Benjamin F. Cassidy, of Landmark No. 71.

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.
PELEG BROWN.....	Vice President.
MYLES JEFFERSON GREENE.....	Chaplain.
GEORGE W. TAYLOR.....	Treasurer.
NOBLE G. DELESHAW.....	Recorder.
WILLIAM S. FOSTER.....	Master of Ceremonies.
ANGUS M. SCOTT.....	Conductor.
JOHN REEVES.....	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.

NOBLE G. DELESHAW,
Recorder.