

1882

PROCEEDINGS
of the

GRAND CHAPTER

of
Royal Arch Masons
of

ALABAMA



A.D. 1882 / A.I. 2412

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A.D.2017, A.L. 6017

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,

AT THE

ANNUAL CONVOCATION

HELD IN THE

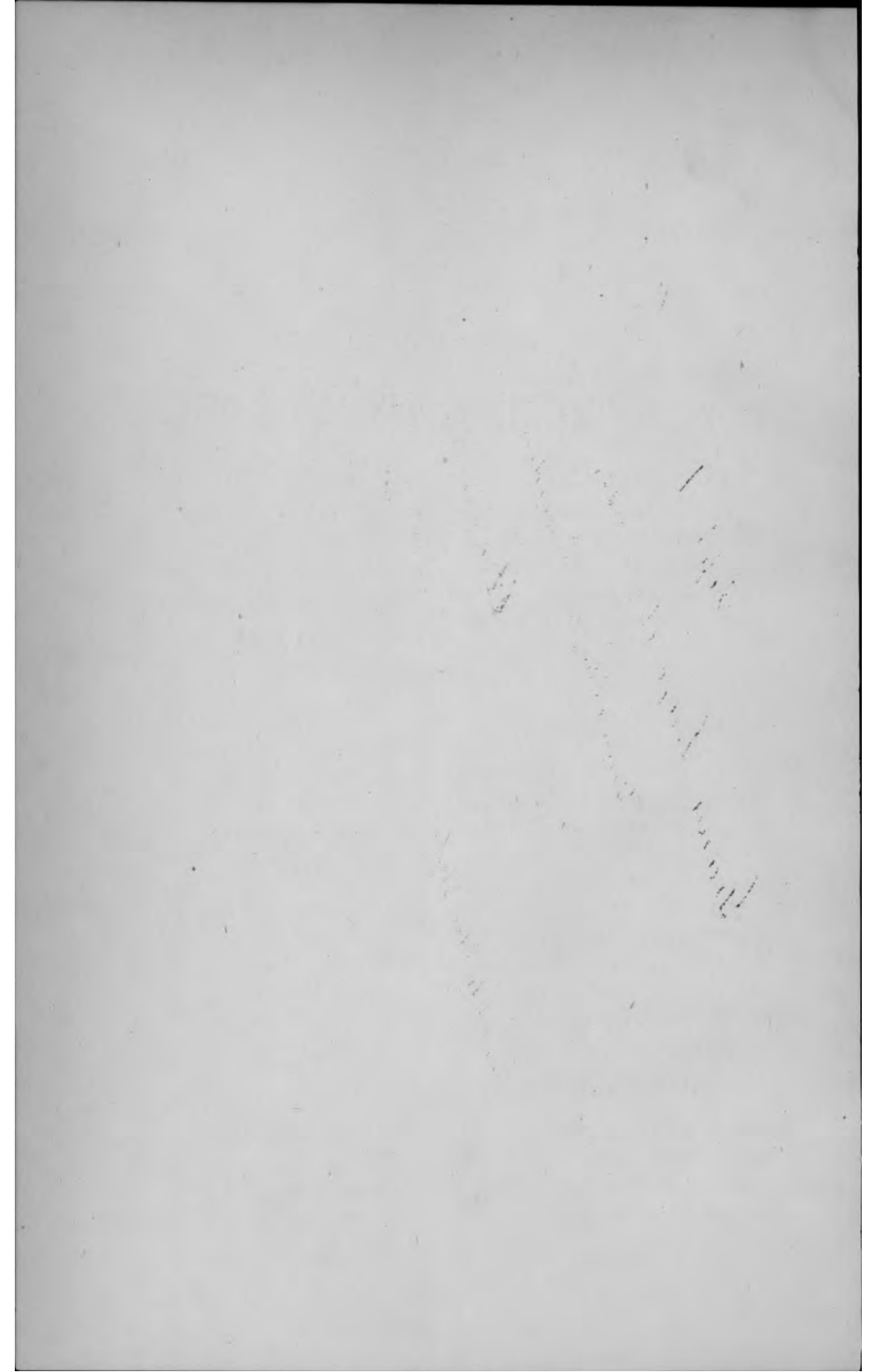
CITY OF MONTGOMERY,

1882.

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1883.



PROCEEDINGS.

The M. Ex. Grand Royal Chapter of the State of Alabama held its Fifty-sixth Annual Grand Convocation, at the New Masonic Temple, in the City of Montgomery, on Tuesday, the 5th day of December, A. D. 1882, A. L. 5882, Anno Inv. 2412.

PRESENT :

LUCKY WALKER JENKINS.....	Grand High Priest.
WILLIAM STORY FOSTER.....	Deputy G. H. Priest.
WILLIAM DWIGHT WADSWORTH.....	Grand King.
MYLES JEFFERSON GREENE, <i>as</i>	Grand Scribe.
WILLIAM HENRY DINGLEY.....	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE.....	Grand Secretary.
WILLIAM WALLACE McCOLLUM.....	Grand C. of H.
DANIEL SMITH.....	Grand P. Sojourner.
JOHN GIDEON HARRIS, <i>as</i>	Grand R. A. C.
RICHARD ASBURY RAMSEY.....	Grand M. 3 V.
JAMES TAIT BECK.....	Grand M. 2 V.
GEORGE LITTLEFIELD SMITH, <i>as</i>	Grand M. 1 V.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....	Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS :

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.
LUCKY W. JENKINS, M. D.	Camden	Illinois.
MYLES J. GREENE, M. D.	Talladega	Iowa.
JOHN GIDEON 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. 13.	Gainesville	Edward N. Kring	H. P.
" 20.	Livingston	John G. Harris	"
" 21.	Mobile	William S. Foster	"
" 22.	Montgomery	William Wallace Screws	"
		Archibald L. R. Thompson	K.
		Emil Kulman	S.
" 23.	Talladega	Joseph H. Johnson	H. P.
		Arthur Bingham	K.
		Myles J. Greene*	S.
" 26.	Union	Mims Walker*	H. P.
" 28.	Saint Johns	William W. McCollum	"
" 38.	Decatur	James M. Brundidge	"
" 40.	Camden	Lucky W. Jenkins*	"
		James T. Beck*	K.
		Daniel W. Bloch	S.
" 44.	Choctaw	Oliver C. Ulmer*	K.
" 54.	Tyrian	Fletcher J. Cowart*	H. P.
" 56.	Zerubbabel	James McCarty Oliver	"
		Walter Raleigh Dawson	K.
		William F. Aldrich	H. P.
" 64.	Central	Thomas B. McCleskey	S.
		Daniel Smith*	H. P.
		Philip C. Candidus	K.
" 66.	Alabama	Charles A. Mohr*	S.
		Benjamin F. Cassidy	H. P.
		Angus M. Scott	K.
" 71.	Landmark	Newell M. Thornton	H. P.
" 73.	Gordon	William J. Williams*	S.
" 83.	Bell	James M. Nelson	H. P.
" 85.	Gaston	William R. Horn	"
		William B. Gers*	S.

*Proxies.

No. 86.	Coosa.....	Isaac P. Moragne*.....	H. P.
" 87.	Moulton.....	DeWitt C. White.....	"
" 92.	Notasulga.....	{ Henry Clay Armstrong.....	"
		{ William S. Ford*.....	S.
" 93.	Columbus.....	Richard A. Ramsey.....	H. P.
" 96.	Daniel Pratt.....	George L. Smith.....	"
" 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.

George D. Norris,
Joseph H. Johnson,
Myles J. Greene.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Companions of the Grand Chapter :

In meeting in this Grand Annual Convocation we have cause for congratulation and gratitude, in that a most merciful Providence has vouchsafed us the inestimable blessings of good health and unprecedented prosperity. Particularly happy does our lot appear, when contrasted with that of some of our sister Jurisdictions, whence arose from the pallid lips of suffering, cries for aid that reach the most distant lands, and melted to sympathy the hardest hearts. While we sympathize with our brethren in their great affliction, it is very meet and very right, that we should return thanks to God, who stayed the dread scourge at our border, and said to "the pestilence that walketh in darkness, and the destruction that wasteth at noon-day, *"thus far shall thou come and no further."*

During the past year this Jurisdiction has not been entirely exempt from affliction; for since our last Convocation, the cold hand of Death has been laid upon some of our esteemed and useful compan-

ions, who were wont to assemble with us around this sacred altar. Among whom was Companion John A. Padgett, who was representative of the Grand Chapter of Quebec near this Grand Chapter. He faithfully and acceptably discharged all his duties here, as he also did all those of a noble life, full of promise. Both this Grand Chapter and the State of Alabama have sustained a severe loss in the death of so worthy a companion and able Statesman. * * * * *

On the 15th of April I appointed Thomas S. Kenan, P. G. H. P., as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Alabama near the Grand Chapter of North Carolina; at the same time I recommended Companion William G. Cochrane of Tuscaloosa, as the representative of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina near this Grand Body.

On May 27th, I appointed Companion John P. Sanborn, P. G. H. P., as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Alabama near the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island; and at the same time recommended our worthy Companion James T. Beck, of Camden, as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island near this Grand Chapter. Companions Cochrane and Beck are now in possession of their credentials and I hope that at the proper time you will recognize them in a suitable manner.

On June 5th I granted a dispensation to Decatur Chapter No. 38, to elect officers at another time than that prescribed by law.

June 22d I granted a dispensation to Central Chapter No. 64, to elect officers at another time than that appointed by law.

August 11th I granted a similar dispensation to Daniel Pratt Chapter No. 96; and on September 2d I granted a similar dispensation to Mobile Chapter No. 21.

I submit the following synopsis of decisions rendered since the last Convocation of the Grand Chapter:

1st Question.—"Can we substitute a companion with two candidates to confer the Royal Arch Degree?"

Answer.—"Yes." See edict of the Grand Chapter, Proceedings of 1878.

Obedience to the resolution passed by the Grand Chapter of 1878 compelled me to render the decision as I did, though believing it to be contrary to the decisions of former Grand High Priests, in viola-

tion of the constitutional rules and ancient usages; and utterly irreconcilable with our Ritual. I hope the delegates to the Grand Chapter, who have had ample experience of the awkward working of this rule are prepared to review and revise it.

2d Question.—"Can a Chapter refund its fees after conferring the degrees?"

Answer.—"A Chapter cannot donate or refund the fees without doing violence to the Constitution." (See last clause of Section 5, Article IV, of the Constitution.)

3d Question.—"Can a High Priest suffer his Chapter to adopt any subterfuge by which the law can be evaded for the purpose of donating or refunding to a candidate fees for degrees conferred?"

Answer.—"The refunding of such fees, or any portion thereof as have been established by the Grand Chapter, would be violative of the Constitution, at variance with the customs of the Chapters throughout the State, and highly improper. (*See Proceedings 1847.*)

4th Question.—"Can a Chapter bury with masonic honors a Royal Arch Mason who dies in good standing in his Chapter, but is suspended from his Lodge for non-payment of dues?"

Answer.—"A Royal Arch Chapter has no place in a funeral procession. The Masonic burial is peculiarly the business of the Lodge, and hence cannot be performed by the Chapter.

5th Question.—"A dispensation is asked for to confer all the degrees at one meeting of the Chapter.

Answer.—"A dispensation is not necessary. The Grand Chapter last year passed an act repealing the edict of 1868, which required candidates to pass examination of their proficiency before they were permitted to advance. Therefore all the degrees can be conferred at one meeting.

I fear that the repeal of the edict that required candidates to undergo examination will prove to be injurious to our Order. One of the causes of the languishing condition of our Chapters is the non-attendance at the regular meetings. If there was work, a degree to be conferred, the members would take more interest in the proceedings of the Chapters, and give the meetings more attention, and of consequence become more expert and useful craftsmen. When there

is work in a Chapter only once or twice during the year, the members become indifferent, inattentive, and in many cases unprofitable to the Order. Every one must admit that when all the degrees are conferred in short order at one meeting, great injustice is done the candidates who are left ignorant of the lectures. To my mind, thorough instruction in the beginning would be far better for the candidate, and more creditable to the Chapter.

It gives me very great pleasure to report that peace and harmony subsist in the Craft throughout our jurisdiction. As far as my observation goes, our members exemplify by their daily walk the principles taught us in the work and lectures.

Our annual proceedings show fewer applications for admission into our Chapters now than in former years. That is not to be regretted, since nothing could be more detrimental to the true interests of the Order than *popularity*, in its general sense. It is far preferable to have a chosen few who are faithful to the principles and virtues set forth in our Ritual, than to parade long rolls containing names that bring discredit upon the membership, or disorder into the Craft. We cannot be too circumspect. Although good material be, perchance, rejected, let us see to it, that no *bad* be received. Let us guard our beloved Order with jealous vigilance, and labor for it with unabating zeal; feeling that its usefulness is proportionate to its prosperity, and that upon ourselves that prosperity depends; and when, in the last Great Day, our works are brought forth for inspection, they will commend us to the blessed approbation of our Most Excellent Great Grand High Priest above.

L. W. JENKINS,

Most Ex. Grand High Priest.

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,

DUES REMITTED.

On motion of Companion Grand Secretary the Dues of Landmark Chapter No. 71, for 1881, were remitted.

TUSCUMBIA NO. 10.

On motion of Companion Grand Secretary, Tusculumbia Chapter No. 10, had 90 days in which to pay its Dues, and have a Dispensation to continue Work until the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

McKINLEY NO. 48, AND DAYTON NO. 27, REORGANIZED.

On motion of Companion John G. Harris, the Companions of McKinley Chapter No. 48, at McKinley, and Dayton Chapter No. 27, at Dayton, both in the county of Marengo, were authorized to reorganize a chapter at McKinley, under the Charter of McKinley Chapter No. 48.

CROSS PLAINS NO. 102, REINSTATED.

On motion of Companion Daniel Smith, Cross Plains Chapter No. 102, was reinstated upon the payment of its Dues in 90 days.

The Grand High Priest announced the following—

STANDING COMMITTEES.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS No. 1.—William J. Williams, James M. Nelson, Daniel W. Bloch.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS No. 2.—Newell M. Thornton, Richard A. Ramsey, Mims Walker.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS No. 3.—James T. Beck, Charles A. Mohr, Arthur Bingham.

ON DISPENSATIONS.—Edward N. Kring, William W. McCollum, Philip Charles Candidus.

ON FINANCE.—Daniel Smith, Fletcher J. Cowart, Oliver C. Ulmer.

ON BY-LAWS.—Thomas B. McCleskey, James McCarty Oliver, William F. Aldridge.

ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.—Myles Jefferson Greene, Palmer Job Pillans, Henry Clay Armstrong.

ON WORK.—Henry Clay Armstrong, Joseph Henry Johnson.

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, Chairman of the Committee on Work, made report on the M. M. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

Companion George D. Norris, 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 R. A. M. of Alabama:

The Committee appointed on Annual Address of M. Ex. Grand High Priest, L. W. Jenkins, beg leave to report—

That having read with much interest the address, they see nothing in it to recommend for action by the Grand Chapter, but much to recommend to the careful consideration of not only the membership of this Grand Chapter, but the membership of this Jurisdiction, and all R. A. Masons. It is replete with good, honest, old fashioned, Chapter Masonry, and as such we commend it to the Craft. We also recommend that the decisions of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest be confirmed by this Grand Chapter.

In connection with this address, official information was given this Grand Chapter of the death of M. Ex. Gen. G. H. P. of the M. Ex. Gen. G. Chapter of the United States, Robert Farmer Bower.

Therefore we recommend the adoption of the following Resolution:
Resolved, That in response to the directions of the M. Ex. Deputy Gen. G. H. P. the E. H. Priests of the several Chapters will cause

this notice to be read therein and spread on the records at the 1st Convocation after its reception, and the Jewels and Altar to be suitably draped until the next Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter. Fraternaly submitted.

GEO. D. NORRIS,
M. J. GREENE,
JOS. H. JOHNSON,
Committee.

Companion Joseph H. Johnson made report from the Committee appointed to procure a testimonial for Companion James H. Joiner, P. G. H. P., deceased, and the report was received and ordered to lie upon the table.

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 6, 1882.

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

The minutes were read and approved.

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

Companion Newell M. Thornton, Chairman of the Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 2, made the fol-

lowing 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 :

Camden.....	No. 40	Central.....	No. 64
Tyrian.....	" 54	Gordon.....	" 73

INCORRECT :

CHOCTAW No. 44.—Dues not indorsed upon the back.
 ZERUBBABEL No. 56.—Date A. Inv. not filled out, no seal.
 ALABAMA No. 66.—No Post-office set down.
 LANDMARK No. 71.—Members incorrectly numbered ; Returns not dated ; seal illegible.
 All of which is fraternally submitted.

NEWELL M. THORNTON,
 MIMS WALKER,
 RICHARD A. RAMSEY,
 Committee.

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

REPORT ON DISPENSATIONS.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your Committee on Dispensations beg leave to report that nothing has come to their hands requiring examination.

Fraternally.

EDWARD N. KRING,
 WILLIAM W. McCOLLUM,
 PHILIP C. CANDIDUS,
 Committee.

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 having carefully examined the Returns submitted to them, they find the following

CORRECT :

Gaston.....	No. 85	Notasulga.....	No. 92
Coosa.....	" 86	Weogufka.....	" 104
Moulton.....	" 87		

INCORRECT :

BELL No. 83.—Date of 1 having *Presided* under the wrong head ; incorrectly numbered ; no sentinel reported.

COLUMBUS No. 93.—Recapitulation not filled out ; table of Dues not properly filled out ; no post-office.

DANIEL PRATT No. 96.—Improperly numbered ; no sentinel reported, initials used to one member's name.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JAMES T. BECK.
CHARLES A. MOHR,
ARTHUR BINGHAM.
Committee.

The Grand Chapter proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the following year, Companions Benjamin F. Cassidy, and Isaac P. Moragne 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 WALLACE SCREWS....Montgomery....Grand King.
WILLIAM WALLACE MCCOLLUM.Selma.....Grand Scribe.
WILLIAM HENRY DINGLEY.....Montgomery....Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE.....Montgomery....Grand Secretary.
LEROY RILEY SIMMS (Rev.)....Abbeville.....Grand Chaplain.
JOHN GIDEON HARRIS.....Livingston.....Grand C. of H.

And the Grand High Priest *elect* announced the following—

APPOINTED GRAND OFFICERS :

DANIEL SMITH.....Mobile.....Grand P. Sojourner.
EDWARD NORRIS KRING.....Gainesville.....Grand R. A. Captain.
RICHARD ASBURY RAMSEY.....Newton.....Grand M. 3 V.
GEORGE LITTLEFIELD SMITH.....Prattville.....Grand M. 2 V.
WILLIAM ROBERT HORN.....Tompkinsville.....Grand M. 1 V.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....Montgomery.....Grand Sentinel.

INSTALLATION.

The Grand Officers, elect and appointed, were installed by P. G. H. P. Myles Jefferson Greene, being presented by Companion Joseph Henry Johnson, acting as Grand Marshal.

Companion William J. Williams, 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 :

Gainesville.....	No. 13	Saint Johns.....	No. 28
Montgomery.....	" 22	Decatur.....	" 38
Union.....	" 26		

INCORRECT :

TUSCUMBIA No. 10.—Neither number, name, nor amount of Dues indorsed on the back ; Recapitulation not filled out ; seal not plumb.

LIVINGSTON No. 20.—Seal not plumb.

MOBILE No. 21.—No date of certification.

TALLADEGA No. 23.—Annual Dues not stated at the bottom ; not signed by the High Priest.

All of which is frternally submitted.

WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS,
Chairman.

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

ON WORK.

Henry Clay Armstrong.....Montgomery.
Joseph Henry Johnson.....Talladega.

CUSTODIAN OF THE WORK.

Lucky Walker Jenkins, M. D., Grand High Priest, *virtute officii*.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Myles Jefferson Greene, M. D.....Talladega.
Palmer Job Pillans.....Mobile.
Henry Clay Armstrong.....Montgomery

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Palmer Job Pillans.....Mobile.

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.

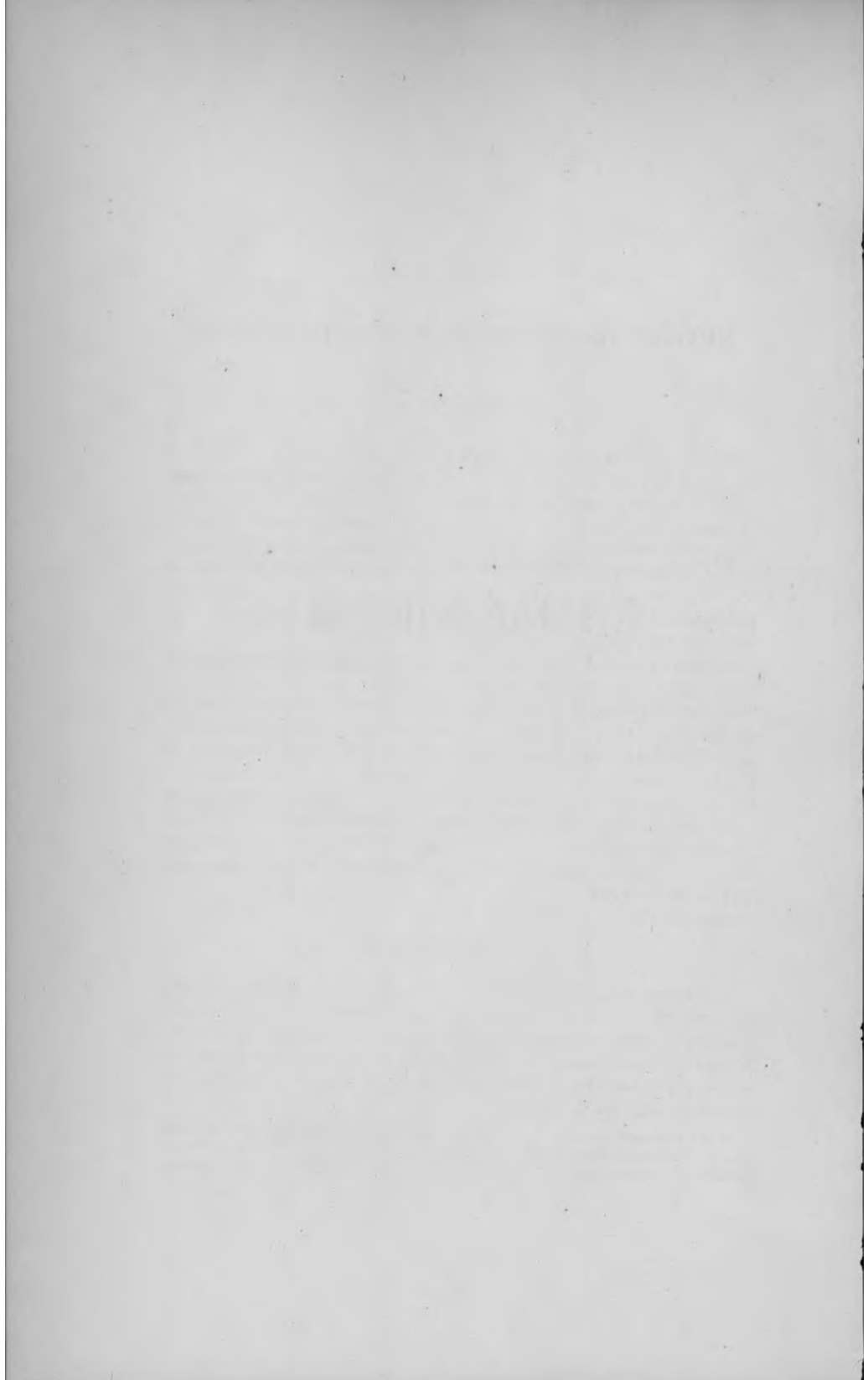
CLOSED.

And then, the Fifty-Sixth Annual Grand Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama, was closed in Ample Form at 11 o'clock and 18 minutes, A. M.

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.



APPENDIX.



REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

INTRODUCTION.

Upon receipt of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Alabama we found that our esteemed M. Ex. Grand High Priest still expected that we would prepare this report. Though anxious to avoid the responsible duty, yet were we unwilling to have the Grand Chapter disappointed by having no report, or fail ourself in a proper appreciation of the high honor conferred. We have then, as the time at our disposal, and our ability allowed, prepared such a report of the condition of the Royal Craft as we hope may prove instructive, and comport with the finances of the Grand Chapter.

When we commenced writing these reports, many questions, some quite vexed, agitated our companions in the several jurisdictions, and much asperity of feeling, growing out of the political condition of the country, was evinced. Of the former, the most have disappeared, and the latter has entirely subsided. We claim that much of this happy result is the natural consequence of the broad and catholic, and truly Masonic spirit displayed by the various brethren who composed the corps of the reporters on correspondence. On most questions wherein great difference existed in the various jurisdictions we find uniformity, and we are satisfied that on all, ere long, there will be no diversity.

But to our work.

ARKANSAS.

The Thirty-Second Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 19th November, 1881, R. Ex. C. H. Stone, D. G. H. Priest, presiding, and 32 subordinates represented. At the evening session, however, Comp. George Thornburgh, M. Ex. Grand High Priest, assumed the chair, and delivered his address, in which we find the following apology for its brevity :

It is profitable always to observe the old admonition, "put not off until to-morrow that which should be done to-day;" but, in the preparation of this report, I did not obey the injunction, and found

myself two days without a word written for the Grand Chapter. It is not my habit to postpone a duty, but about the time I had fixed upon for the preparation of this paper, there was quite a commotion at our house, caused by the arrival of one who, it was said, bore a close relationship to me, though I had never seen the stranger before. I supposed that when the introduction was concluded, and the excitement consequent thereon was over, I would have a quiet week in which to prepare for this Convocation, but, alas, how short the memory of a married man. I had forgotten in five short years the engaging incidents of early infancy. Between the visits of congratulating friends and the frequent administration of well-known family medicines in the day time, and a remarkably regular habit on the part of my visitor, of taking lengthy nocturnal walks, in which the father's company was uniformly required and his musical powers extensively exercised, my time was fully if not pleasantly occupied, until the time of my departure for Little Rock. But, as I had but little to report, it did not require much time to prepare it, and for the want of more time on my part, the Grand Chapter probably escapes the infliction of a feeble effort at oratory. So, perhaps, you will be thankful that circumstances have forced one Grand officer to make a strickly business report.

He also says: "I have granted no dispensations for new chapters," and doubts whether this is an evidence of prosperity or not.

He had not been called on for a decision.

"In fact," he says, "I am not sufficiently informed to give you reliable information as to the condition of capitular Masonry in Arkansas."

He recommended the separation of the capitular and cryptic degrees.

His reasons for brevity were referred to a committee on infant baptism, which made no report, and that part of his address in relation to the Council degrees, to the committee on this subject appointed at the last Convocation, who reported a resolution recommending the abandonment of these degrees to the Grand Council. The Grand Council re-organized and again assumed control of these degrees.

The business was purely local. The treasury had a balance on hand. There was no report on correspondence.

Companion Stone was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion J. A. Henry, Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA.

The Twenty-Eighth Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 11th April, 1882. M. Ex. Companion Henry S. Orme, Grand High Priest, in the chair, and representatives from 47 Chartered Chapters present.

The Grand High Priest states that Capitular Masonry is in a healthy

and prosperous condition. "No symptoms of syncope or deep coma exist." Yet he strikes a note of warning lest the Craft should forget the true aims and ends of Masonry and allow themselves to be beguiled by novelties into innovations. Hear—

Throughout the length and breadth of our land, I fear that both Symbolic and Capitular Masonry are threatened by grave dangers. They are too popular. The modern spirit of "Progress" is knocking at our doors demanding admission to our *Ancient Order*. In many different shapes it presents itself; and one of the many to which I would call your attention, is that which is trying to make *our Order* an insurance society. It is from this source we have most to fear. Many, fearful that our beloved institution will be crowded back—injured as it were—by the multitude of benevolent organizations springing up around us, propose that we introduce "*something new*;" what, they do not exactly know, but something on the co-operative insurance plan. To such I would say that Masonry needs no extraneous aid. It has stood the test of ages, and will stand; and we as Masons must stand by it and with it, true to its high and holy teachings and principles, and exemplify in our lives its pure and ennobling influences. No, my companions, we have nothing to fear,—but we must be true and steadfast, remembering the old but true motto—"*Quam fluctus dicensi, quam mare conjuncti*."

Instead of seeking to make Masonry more popular, we ought to guard more jealously than ever the portals of our Temple; being careful in the selection of those whom we invest with its secrets, and in the character and fitness of the officers chosen to preside over its destinies.

All benevolent societies are doing a noble work, and are well worthy the support of good men. But we must remember that during the past five years, as shown by statistics, over two hundred of these organizations have failed in the United States. Let us, then, as a part of the Masonic Brotherhood, be careful. For those who choose to become members of other societies, we have only the best of wishes. Masonry has a different work to perform. Our duty is to adhere to the ancient usages and traditions of the Craft, to comfort the distressed, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and protect the destitute widow and orphan. In fine, to perform the duties assumed by us before we were permitted to engage in the grand work of bringing to the light the mysteries hidden beneath the "Mystic Vault."

These views were entertained by us and were made effective within this jurisdiction when our Grand Lodge so decidedly refused to sanction any such scheme. Twice has this effort been made with many intervening years, and twice has any countenance been refused.

We find a decided aversion expressed by the committee on the High Priest's address to any change, however trifling, with the work, but they say, "Let us continue to walk the good old way a little longer." This was in consequence of a recommendation from the Grand High Priest to submit the work as sent down from the G. G. Chapter to the examination of the Grand Lecturer, that he might make such

changes in that of the Grand Chapter as would make it agree with that of the G. G. C. This idea of producing absolute uniformity in work has been one of the *ignis fatuus* in Masonry that has been continually luring us to destruction. The impossible can never be accomplished, and it is the part of wisdom quietly to submit to the inevitable.

Companion William Monroe Petrie was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Companion Thomas H. Caswell, re-elected Grand Secretary.

The latter presented the report on correspondence, which, as usual, though intended as a lightning report, is very full and able.

He very properly thinks that none should be admitted within a lodge unless by special invitation in R. A. Regalia.

Our Companion Caswell by no means approves of a limit to commissions of Grand Representatives recommended by Grand High Priest of Connecticut, and adopted by Illinois, making them expire at the end of three years. You know he is also Grand Secretary, and "norates" this on the subject :

An excellent idea in this, that it gives Grand Secretaries who have nothing else to do an opportunity for exercise in the preparation of some forty commissions triennially with the contingent correspondence. We have enough to do, and don't crave the job. Grand High Priests, however, must have something to talk about, and the representative question in all its phases forms an important factor in the annual addresses.

We find him speaking thus of Grand Official visitations, in which sentiments we heartily concur :

The Grand High Priest visited a large number of the subordinate Chapters during the year, and from these visits he believes much good resulted, of which we have no doubt. Such visits encourage the weak Chapters and gratify the strong ; they show that the head of the Order is not a mere *figure-head* to be looked upon and admired, but that he is a living, moving influence, having a personal interest in, and a paternal care for the bodies which acknowledge him as their chief, and to whom they look for instruction, advice, and encouragement.

If the system was inaugurated and persevered in in Alabama, we would have very few unaffiliated companions.

We find him accounting for Chapters having too little work to do, by stating that the individual members lack zeal—rarely attend their Chapters, and thus, those outside are induced to believe that there is no good in it. And he gives some very good advice thus :

If a Chapter has no work, let not a meeting be passed. Get together and let the officers and members perfect themselves in the

ritual; then study the usages and jurisprudence of the Order; give lectures, tell stories, and sing songs—anything rather than fail to meet at the stated periods. Failure to meet soon causes indifference, which rapidly ripens into neglect. Work upon the plan adopted by the doctor who, without a patient, drove about town as if the twenty-four hours were not long enough to enable him to fill his engagements, and was called out of church half a dozen times during the service. Make the world believe you are busy and you will soon find enough to do.

With this we must leave our agreeable companion, so "*au revoir*."

CONNECTICUT.

The Eighty-Fourth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 9th May, 1882, M. Ex. Grand High Priest, Charles W. Skiff, presiding. Thirty-six of the thirty-eight subordinate Chapters were represented.

We notice that the Grand High Priest recommended that the Grand Chapter provide a limit to the commissions issued to representatives of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut near other Grand Chapters. Whereupon the following resolution was adopted by the Grand Chapter:

Resolved, That the representatives of this Grand Chapter near other Grand Chapters, be required to report annually to the M. E. Grand High Priest their doings as such representatives, and a failure to perform this duty on the part of any such representatives for three consecutive years, shall be considered a vacation of the office, and the commission of such representative shall thereupon terminate, and notice of such termination shall be given to the Grand Chapter to which he is accredited.

We are grieved to find that the altar fires of two of the Chapters were allowed by the companions to die out, and that on some others they burned but dimly. Yet the condition of the Craft throughout the jurisdiction appears on the whole, to be prosperous.

Companion James H. Walsh was elected M. Ex. Grand High Priest, and Companion Joseph K. Wheeler, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Companion John H. Barlow again made the report on correspondence, reviewing Alabama in his usual courteous and thorough style.

He advocates trial and properly adjusted Masonic punishment for non-payment of dues.

We find him entertaining fears such as we expressed, as to the future of the cryptic degrees, and thinks that all difficulty may "be avoided by each jurisdiction being allowed to regulate the conferring of them, as they may deem best, whether by separate council organizations or those appendant to a Chapter." We fear, however, that

this sensible plan will hardly be allowed by those who prompted the organization of the G. G. Council.

From his conclusion we copy the following :

From the proceedings reviewed, we are pleased to notice the general prosperity that has attended the labors of the royal craft since our last review, as evinced by the increase of interest in the work, and a very satisfactory gain in membership. Twenty-eight jurisdictions report a gain of 2,041, as compared with last year ; and fourteen jurisdictions report a loss of 1,744, making a net gain the past year of 297 members. If we take into consideration, also, that 3,065 have, during the past year, either been suspended, dropped from the roll, or deprived of membership for non-payment of dues—most, if not all, were lifeless branches, whose places are supplied, we trust, by zealous, active members—a most satisfactory advance has been made, although comparatively few new chapters have been instituted.

Among the disputed points noticed, we especially commend to the thoughtful consideration of the companions of Connecticut the subject of discipline for non-payment of dues, which has largely engaged the attention of the companions of many of the jurisdictions reviewed, a careful study of which has led the writer to the conclusion that the system of striking from the roll, suspension, or deprivation from membership only, as practiced by Connecticut, Massachusetts, and a few other jurisdictions, is only increasing the present army of worthless non-affiliates, which are neither useful or ornamental to the royal craft. This, we think, like any other violation of masonic law, should be a subject of calm, patient and charitable investigation, and when punishment becomes necessary, let it be such as is recognized for other offenses, as the lodge or chapter shall determine.

Another subject, which we think is fraught with importance to the royal craft, is the council degrees. On this subject, we hope, a spirit of forbearance will prevail, and each jurisdiction allowed to regulate those degrees as they shall deem best, and thus the great work of royal arch masonry go on without interruption.

CANADA, 1881.

The Twenty-Fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada was opened in ample form by M. E. Companion Daniel Spry, G. Z., on 15th July, 1881, there being present representatives from 55 subordinates.

The condition of the Craft is, on the whole, quite encouraging. In this jurisdiction the several Chapters are located in various districts into which it is divided which are presided over by Grand Superintendents, whose duty it is to visit those within his district, and report on the condition of each to the M. E. G. Z. This is probably the best substitute for the Grand Visitations which we find in Pennsylvania, and is doubtless productive of infinite good to the Craft. From these reports we find that the Chapters are generally doing

well. Still complaint is made of lethargy and indifference, though not to the same extent as is apparent in some other jurisdictions. From the report of one of these Superintendents we copy the following, hoping that this report may be read by the High Priests of our Chapters, and by them heeded that more activity and zeal may be thereby effected, and that more effort will be made to render existing Chapters useful instead of multiplying them. There is no doubt that the multiplicity of weak bodies of Masonry is well calculated to bring the Order into disrepute :

In my humble judgment it would greatly conduce to the benefit of the Order, if more care were taken in granting charters, for if we had fewer and stronger Chapters, there would be better meetings, and they would be more efficiently worked. It must be very dispiriting for Principals of Chapters, after spending their time in getting up their work, to attend meeting after meeting and find barely enough members present to form a quorum, and even more so, when, as happens too frequently, there is not enough to do that. I am afraid too many do not feel sufficient interest in the repetition of our beautiful ritual. There is not sufficient excitement in our impressive ceremonies for them, and they prefer devoting their time elsewhere than at the Chapter meetings. This class of members (and they are by far too numerous) take the degrees, attend a few meetings, and then drop off. I think the Grand Chapter would do well to give this subject consideration, with the view of suggesting some plan by which our meetings could be made more interesting and attractive. One important feature which must be considered in connection with this matter is the number of different branches of Masonry, almost all of which are too numerous in country places, and they detract from the strength and usefulness of each other.

We find in the report of another, though a member of one of the Chapters, Thomas Pinkerton, of Saugeen Chapter No. 50, at Walkerton, Bruce County, having been discovered "in taking part in the organization of a Lodge of clandestine Masons," was expelled by the Grand Lodge from all the rights and privileges of Masonry.

The balance of cash on hand shows a gratifying increase.

Companion Donald Ross was elected M. E. G. Z., and Companion D. McLellan, re-elected G. S. E.

Companion Henry Robertson again made the report on Correspondence, giving many extracts from the proceedings reviewed from which the Companions could well deduce the general condition of the Craft.

CANADA, 1882.

The Twenty-Fifth Annual Convocation was held at London on the 14th July, 1882, Companion Donald Ross, M. E. G. Z., presiding, and representatives from fifty-three subordinates present.

The G. Z. feelingly expresses the sympathy of our Companions of that jurisdiction with those of the United States in the loss which the latter sustained in the death of the late lamented President of this great Republic.

Of the City of London in which the Grand Chapter met, he says :

The old countryman from the metropolis of the world hears the names of streets and bridges, so familiar and dear to his ear that he may almost fancy himself at home and straining his eyes across the western horizon ; beholds a great empire opening into existence—the future home of millions of the human race, where, in the course of a few years, thousands of Lodges of good and accepted Masons will dot the prairies—where before but the lodge of the wild Indian and the trail of the buffalo were to be seen.

The whole jurisdiction is divided into suitable districts and Grand Superintendents are appointed one for each, whose duty it is to watch over the interests of the Craft and report its wants to the Grand Chapter. From these reports we find that in some districts Capitular Masonry is making rapid strides, while in others apathy prevails, yet the Craft is growing and will, we hope, continue to grow. Of these reports we greatly admire one by Companion J. Ross Robertson for its frankness, candor and fearlessness in exposing the errors of his Companions. We find him talking thus :

Even where chapters are prosperous, they have so much "dead-wood" on their rolls that the suspension knife has to be used, and this cuts down the membership almost as fast as it is added to by new material. Suspensions, however, cannot occur every year. Hence good will come of it. I cannot assign any particular reason for the lack of interest in Royal Arch Masonry. Enthusiasm does not seem to permeate Chapters as it does Craft Lodges. Companions do not seem to care a jot about suspension, as is evidenced by the small number of restorations. There is something wrong, and he who may find the remedy for the evil, will deserve the lasting thanks of the Royal Craft.

The Committee on Capitular Masonry speak of this report as "full, interesting, and complete."

This system of Grand Superintendents strikes us as unusually useful, and if a like system cannot be introduced into our own jurisdiction, why may not the State be so divided among the several Grand Officers as to enable every Chapter to be visited during the year. This would infuse life into the Craft, and a spirit of emulation would be aroused which we think would redound to the credit and improvement of our Chapters.

Companion Donald Ross was re-elected G. Z., and Companion David McLellan, G. S. E.

Companion Henry Robertson presented the report on Correspond-

ence. His opinion of the insurance attachment to Masonry is as follows :

If our grand old institution cannot continue to be the best, as well as the most ancient of all the societies of modern times, without such a union as proposed, we may as well give it up, for it is certain that such a devious method has no true Masonry whatever about it.

In his conclusion, he says :

One of the great attractions of our institution is the fact, that in it we can find rest and repose from the wranglings and disputes of the busy world, that our Lodges and Chapters are places where harmony prevails, and where we can all meet on one common platform, and enjoy the pleasures of social and fraternal intercourse in perfect freedom and confidence.

The report contains an excellent display of the opinions and doings of other jurisdictions.

COLORADO.

The Grand Chapter of this State met in Grand Annual Convocation for the seventh time on the 22d September, 1881, with M. E. Companion John S. Titcomb, Grand High Priest, presiding, and representatives from all the chartered Chapters.

Capitular Masonry is vigorous in Colorado, the number of Chapters increasing annually. The Grand High Priest mentions a singular case of a Chapter whose H. P., K., and Scribe moved beyond the jurisdiction of the Chapter and the remaining members prayed a dispensation from the Grand High Priest to enable them to open and attend to the general duties of the Chapter which he did, assigning as his reasons for so doing as follows :

Being of opinion that the authority that could constitute a new body in Masonry, might use the same authority to sustain that body in emergent cases, and that too, if I, as Grand High Priest, might appoint any Companion as my deputy to open any certain Chapter at any single stated time, I might give him power to do it more than once, and in view of the peculiar situation in which the Leadville Chapter was placed, I did on the 18th day of March, A. D. 1881, A. I. 2411, issue a commission to Companion James S. Creamer, as my special deputy to open said Leadville Chapter at its regular or other convocations, during the continued absence of all the members of the Grand Council of that Chapter, and to do and perform such other duties in connection therewith as I might do myself if there present. Said commission to remain in force only until the meeting of the Grand Chapter. I understand, however, that Companion Costen, H. P. of Leadville Chapter, has returned to that city and assumed his place in the Chapter again.

All this seems to us sound.

From his conclusion we are pleased to quote the following. It has the ring of the true metal :

As no edifice can be sound or certain of lasting duration without suitable foundations, so we who are now laying the foundation of what may become a mighty edifice in Masonry, should see to it that every stone therein and every part thereof be sound, true and of just proportion, every part fixed with exact nicety, that those who come after may know that the work has been good work, true work, square work, just such work as will last through the ages to come. I trust therefore that with all earnestness and especial forethought for the future welfare of the Royal Craft we may discuss and determine on all the points of interest and importance which come before us at this session. And not only now, but in everything our hands find to do during the years of our labor here, that at last we may each hear the words, from the Great Grand High Priest of Heaven, "Well done good and faithful servant."

Companion Roger Woodbury was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Companion Ed. C. Parmelee, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Companion Woodbury presented the report on Correspondence, curtly reviewing our proceedings for 1880. He thinks that there is altogether too much taffy in the reports, and proceeds throughout to display a sneering disposition. We know not if this be assumed or if the acidity is natural like that of the lemon, which is nevertheless quite agreeable. We think him, however, eminently correct in the following :

Iowa has an order appropriating 5 per cent of its gross income to a charity fund, which might well be followed by others. A standing rule of this kind supplies a fund without its loss being felt by the other departments. But why should not "charity" be considered as one of the necessary items of expense in a Masonic body, and be provided accordingly? Unfortunately this is rarely the case. The members must receive their per diem and their traveling expenses; their committees on correspondence must have large sums for distributing taffy to other committees; beautiful jewels must be voted to expiring officials for having performed their bounden duties; and costly engravings of their faces must embellish the Proceedings; these and many other items are every year to be met with in the Proceedings of some Grand Chapters, but a "regular" appropriation for charity—ah, we often look for it in vain.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The Fifteenth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on December 14th, 1881, the M. E. G. H. P., J. H. Jochum, presiding, and with representatives from all of its subordinates.

M. E. Companion Jochum declared that the condition of the Craft was harmonious, and that it was enjoying a fair share of prosperity.

Our Companions of this jurisdiction were, however, called on to mourn over the loss of two most distinguished members, they being our late President, who in the midst of his usefulness was foully assassinated, James A. Garfield, and the other the distinguished Masonic writer, Companion A. G. Mackey, to whose careful Masonic research all of us are to-day so largely indebted, and by whose illustrations of Masonic law we and our successors will so long be guided. They do not mourn alone, but we assure our Companions of the District that our sympathies are with them, for we feel that the loss is as largely ours as theirs. Our Companions of the District have determined to establish a Masonic Memorial to the late President in a National Masonic Orphans Home, to be built by the individual contributions of Masons. For this purpose an appeal will doubtless be presented to you at your present session containing all particulars.

Our M. E. Companion regrets the lack of interest displayed by members of the Chapters and attributes it largely to the fact that candidates for the several degrees are allowed to receive the several degrees consecutively without a proper preparation in and knowledge of the preceding degree, and recommends examination in each degree before allowing them to advance.

Companion J. P. Pearson was elected M. E. G. H. P., and Companion L. G. Stephens, Grand Secretary.

Companion N. D. Lerner again made the report on Correspondence. In it we find the proceedings of Alabama for 1880, which receive full and courteous attention.

We hope he may be mistaken in his gloomy apprehensions herein expressed :

Two handsome offerings to the "Home" had been made by bequests during the year. He says "it is no longer a mere experiment, but a glorious and permanent success." We heartily rejoice to learn such to be the fact, but we doubt the permanency unless Kentucky Masons differ from all that we have heretofore known. The prevalence of State and Church institutions in this country has caused a lukewarmness, after a while, when the broom has been worn down to a mere stump, when "taxation" becomes a burden ; then, like the Missouri College at Lexington, and the one in North Carolina at Oxford, and many other benevolent enterprises among Masons, they fail to carry out their principles, and finally become such a drag that they are dropped entirely out of view. May this never be the case in Kentucky with the "Home."

Companion Lerner being at the time Grand Master, could find time for only a short report.

DELAWARE

Held the Fourteenth Annual Convocation of its Grand Chapter on the 18th January, 1882, the M. Ex. D. Grand High Priest, Wm. G. W. Lewis, presiding, with representatives from five Chapters present. We commend to the attention of our companions where two or more Chapters have concurrent jurisdiction, the following words, from the address of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, Jno. W. Lawson, which, in his absence, was read :

You will perceive by the records of the Grand Secretary, that the increase in the number of Companions exalted during the year has been small, the work being done by but two of the Chapters. I hope the time will soon come when every one of our Chapters will be able to report as having examined and passed good and square work for the upbuilding of our sacred temple, yet I cannot fail to express my condemnation of the means that are too often taken by some of our over zealous Companions who laud their particular Chapter, and point out the weakness of this and that Chapter, to brethren, who, in some cases, have only received the first or second degrees in Masonry. I think this way of increasing the number of Royal Arch Masons, is not at all in good taste, in good order, or decency.

The communication of Companion Sayre, advising of the death of our M. Ex. Grand High Priest, James H. Joiner, which was referred to a committee who expressed deep sympathy with the companions of Alabama.

Companion Thomas Davidson was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion Henry B. McIntire Grand Secretary.

Companion Wm. G. W. Lewis, the Grand Chaplain, made the report on correspondence, reviewing Alabama for 1880. In reference to our conclusion that the Grand Chapter of Delaware had determined to rely upon its Grand Representatives for its report on correspondence, he "does not think that Delaware will ever try any other plan than the present one."

Under the District of Columbia he summarizes very beautifully and truthfully the sublime teachings of our order in the following language :

Disregarding the old-fashioned superstitions and hobgoblin stories of "hot irons and ancient goals," with which the vulgar mind associates the name of Freemasonry, we can tell the honest public, in truth and sincerity, that in all that beautiful ritual, from the M. M. up to and including our sublime Royal Arch, there is not one word spoken, one sentence uttered, which could wound the most sensitive ear, or bring the blush of shame to the cheek of the purest maiden, and, although concealed from public gaze, and general comment, our esoteric work is full of sublime thought, and replete with great

moral lessons, and our candidates, as they advance in the several degrees, are constantly admonished to curb ambition, to depress envy, to moderate anger, to encourage good dispositions, to be immovable in the discharge of duty, to correct each others failings by advice, admonition and reproof; to be good fathers, good sons, good husbands, and to contemplate with supreme gratitude and admiration the sacred source from whence all earthly comfort flows, "whence arises among good Masons that comely order,"

"Which nothing earthly gives, or can destroy,
The soul's calm sunshine and the heartfelt joy."

ENGLAND AND WALES.

G. MARK LODGE.

At the Semi-Annual Communication held December 6, 1881, his Royal Highness, the Duke of Albany, was received, obligated and installed P. G. Mark Master Mason, having been elected thereto at a previous communication.

It was at this communication too that a resolution of condolence at the death of President Garfield was passed.

A special Communication was held on 21st March, to express the congratulations of the M. M. M. at the happy escape of Her Majesty, the Queen, from the attempt made on her life.

The order continues to grow in England and her dependencies.

Lord Herkimer was continued G. M. M. M.

GEORGIA

Celebrated her Sixtieth gathering around the R. A. altar, on April 26th, 1882, there being present M. E. Companion Chas. E. Lambdin, Grand High Priest, and representatives from 24 subordinates. Companion Lambdin thus introduces his address:

COMPANIONS—The Roman bard, in tuneful numbers, sang, "*Labuntur anni*," giving us a most forcible picture of the lapse of time; verily it glides away, we know not whence nor whither, leaving in every heart a feeling of dissatisfaction, excited, perhaps, by the remembrance of opportunities unimproved, or of possibilities unaccomplished.

"The seasons came and went, and went and came,
To teach men gratitude, and as they passed
Gave warning of the lapse of time that else
Had stolen unheeded by."

He fears that the question of attendance upon the meetings of the Chapters is accompanied with another "will they pay?" We copy his

views of the deleterious effect of debt upon Masonic bodies ; they are truthful and forcible ;

We have all noticed the dispiriting influence of debt upon individuals ; we have seen how greatly it paralyzes the energies and beclouds the hopes of its victims ; and the observation and experience of the last decade have shown us that the same is true as to its effects upon corporations. We have seen the Grand Lodge, as well as the Grand Chapter, laboring to keep itself from the maelstrom of financial bankruptcy by adopting various questionable measures. The Grand Chapter issued scrip for several Convocations to pay a part of the mileage and per diem of its members, and finally resorted to an extra assessment upon the Subordinate Chapters, impoverishing and crippling them in their resources, and creating among their members a dissatisfaction that has never been wholly relieved. The Grand Lodge has resorted to biennial sessions, that the mileage and per diem of alternate years may be applied to the liquidation of its debt.

He thinks all temporary expedients permanently injurious to the Grand Chapter.

Companion Lambdin was re-elected Grand High Priest, and Companion J. Emmett Blackshear, Grand Secretary.

There is no report on Correspondence.

INDIANA.

The Thirty-sixth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on October 19th, 1881, with the M. E. Grand High Priest, Edward Walker, in the chair, and representatives from 70 subordinate Chapters.

We copy the following from the address, only commenting that so far as the recommendation in it goes, it accords with the rule of this jurisdiction, but as no question has arisen under it we do not know what would be the ruling if objection should be made after the candidate should have received one or more of the degrees :

I recommend that the Grand Chapter so change the law governing the admission of candidates to the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Chapters in this jurisdiction, that one ballot shall be sufficient to warrant any Chapter in conferring all the degrees of the Chapter. In making this recommendation, I am not unmindful of the fact that the doctrine enunciated in my comments upon my own decision, is not acquiesced in by all the members of this Grand Chapter, but to the end that justice may be done, an open question settled, and my successor relieved of embarrassment such as I have experienced upon this question, I make this recommendation. Other and perhaps better reasons for changing the law as it now stands, can be given, but for these, I have without consultation determined to bring it before you for your consideration, and hope it will be disposed of, as it seems to me the rights of no Royal Arch Mason can be compromised

by this change in our laws ; while under laws as they now stand, any Companion objecting to the advancement of a brother may do so without assigning a reason therefor ; and I claim that the entire Chapter has a right to know it, if there is anything in the character of the applicant rendering him unfit to receive the Royal Arch Degree, and only a formal trial, with charges and specifications, can determine it. In the hope that you will give it your careful and earnest consideration I leave it with you.

We do not find that the Grand Chapter took any action on it.

Companion Chas. R. Butterfield was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Companion John M. Bramwell, Grand Secretary.

In this jurisdiction the Grand High Priest is required to prepare a report on Correspondence, and in his address Companion Walker thus alludes to his effort :

This is submitted, knowing that there are many defects. But, Companions, ill health, first attempt at anything of the kind, together with other duties that were imperative, combine to plead for me a charitable consideration of this subject at your hands. No one could have worked harder to make it respectable—and have had very much good material to glean from—both in matter and style, and after writing some and laying them away, weeks after, have reviewed them, then thrown them aside and re-wrote to suit changed circumstances, or, what was more aggravating, that which was first written did not seem to be such information as would be desired by you or those who might peruse it in other jurisdictions. But I have attempted to appease them by appeals to their Masonic forbearance, as I reviewed each separately. Writers of these reports in other jurisdictions are, as a rule, retained in this field of labor from year to year, because of their known ability, and I have egotism enough about me to believe that a second attempt would enable me to correct or improve upon this, but I have promised (to gain the indulgence of those who criticize) that this shall be the last.

The report covers 147 pages and betokens care and thought. It comes to us in a separate, good sized pamphlet. Noticing Alabama he rather cynically remarks as follows, but we deserve it :

He granted dispensations to confer all the Chapter degrees at one Convocation to two Chapters, and to three Chapters to elect officers out of time, which is liberal, considering that only twenty-seven Chapters were represented in the Grand Chapter, out of a hundred Chapters in the State, dead or alive. He is hopeful of the outlook for the Royal Craft, and as numbers are supposed to take the place of zeal, or rather—to put it plainer—as the zeal for the institution is in inverse ratio to the paucity of members, what Royal Arch Masons are left in Alabama, ought to be full of enthusiasm for the institution and zealous to a degree not known where a large per cent of the chartered Chapters send representatives to the Grand Chapter.

ILLINOIS.

The Thirty-second Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Illinois was held on the 27th October, 1881. The Grand High Priest, M. E. Companion Silas O. Vaughan, presiding.

We learn from the address and reports of the several visiting officers that Capitular Masonry in that jurisdiction is in a fair condition—harmony prevails and the subordinate Chapters display a reasonable amount of zeal, though some altar fires are burning dimly, and a few have expired.

The Grand High Priest recommended that a fee be established for all dispensations granted by the Grand High Priest, and accordingly the Grand Chapter requires \$2 for ordinary dispensations, and \$10 from any candidate for conferring the degrees out of time a dispensation may be granted.

The Grand Secretary recommended that the commissions of representatives to other Grand Chapters should expire at each triennial Convocation of G. G. Chapter, which was adopted.

This jurisdiction is divided into nine districts, which are placed under the immediate supervision of the several officers of the Grand Chapter, who visit the several Chapters in the district and make report on the condition of each to the M. E. Grand High Priest. To insure a proper attention to their duties by these Grand Visitors, a committee recommended that they "be allowed a fair compensation to be paid by this Grand Chapter, to visit such Chapters," &c., which was approved and adopted, but we do not find that any appropriation was made to this end.

M. E. Companion John P. Norvell was elected Grand High Priest, and Gilbert W. Barnard, Grand Secretary.

The report on Correspondence is again made by Companion Robert L. McKinlay.

We commend the following extract to one we wot of, under California :

The Grand Secretary had the printed proceedings distributed within thirty days after the close of the session. This is one of the points in the make up of an efficient Grand Secretary. The Companions highly appreciate promptness in publishing the proceedings, and when they find a Grand Secretary that is not prompt in these matters, the brethren feel like trying some one else. We believe that a Grand Secretary, when he discharges the duties of his office properly, should be continued in office as long as he desires to hold the position.

Though we have an adage, "'Tis better to be late than never."

We read this report with considerable interest, and we found the

writer had made his extracts judiciously and abundantly, but without comment save on points which had already been discussed by us.

IOWA.

On 25th October, 1881, the M. E. Grand High Priest, Almon K. Dewey, opened in ample form the Grand Chapter of this State, it being its Twenty-Eighth Annual Convocation, representatives from 63 Chapters being present. In allusion to the forfeiture of the Charter of one of the Chapters the Grand High Priest says: "This creates the second break in our chain of Chapters," ninety-five being the number reached.

We quote what he says about the Council degrees and the action of the Grand Chapter thereon, for your information :

As suggested in my report to you one year ago, a General Grand Council was organized at Detroit, Michigan, August 25th, 1880. The conditions precedent to a complete organization have been complied with, and they have published their proceedings, including a constitution adopted at that time. Among other provisions, article I. provides :

"SEC. 9. The General Grand Council shall watch over and protect the interests of Cryptic Masonry in the states, districts, or territories which recognize its jurisdiction, and where there is no Grand Council regularly established, and shall settle all difficulties which may arise and be referred to it, and shall give such advice and instruction as may seem most conducive to the peace, advancement, and perpetuation of Cryptic Masonry in its original integrity.

"SEC. 19. The General Grand Master, or, in case of his inability to act, the Deputy General Grand Master, shall have power and authority to grant dispensations for new Councils of Royal and Select Masters in any state, district, or territory in which there is not a Grand Council regularly established and working independently of any other masonic body ; such dispensation in no case to extend beyond the time of the next stated assembly of the General Grand Council. But no new Council shall be established in any state, district, or territory where there is a regular Council within a reasonable distance, without the consent of the Council nearest the place where such new Council is proposed to be located ; and he shall immediately notify the General Grand Recorder of such dispensation, and make report of the same at the next triennial assembly of the General Grand Council, when the General Grand Council may grant said Council a charter."

It is not clear to my mind what is fully intended by these provisions. If a menace to our jurisdiction and others of kindred belief, I would recommend that we express ourselves in terms not to be misunderstood, and would recommend the adoption of the following :

"WHEREAS, No Grand Council exists in Iowa, and it is desirable to prevent misunderstanding and to preserve peace and harmony ; therefore be it

Resolved, as a general regulation, That it shall be the duty of the Grand High Priest, and he is hereby requested to declare expelled from the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry, as contumacious, any companion under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter who may become a member of any Grand or subordinate Council which may be organized within the state of Iowa by or under said Grand Council, or by or under any other authority except that of this Grand Chapter. And it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary, and he is hereby ordered, forthwith to notify all Chapters under this Grand Chapter thereof."

The special committee to whom the foregoing was referred made the following report which was approved by the Grand Chapter :

TO THE M. E. GRAND CHAPTER OF THE STATE OF IOWA :

The special committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand High Priest's address as refers to the Council degrees would report : That, "whereas this Grand Body has assumed jurisdiction of the Council degrees, it has no disposition at the present time to rescind its action ; that the formation of a Council in Iowa, under the authority of the so-called General Grand Council, by the members of any of the Chapters in this jurisdiction, would be considered contumacious ; that, although we cannot approve of the adoption of the letter of the resolution proposed by the Grand High Priest, yet we approve its spirit ; that we would not approve of any penal legislation at this time concerning this matter, as such legislation would seem to acknowledge the existence of a disposition on the part of some companions in this jurisdiction to bid defiance to this Grand Chapter.

The Grand High Priest recommended a reduction in the mileage and per diem, which was adopted.

The Grand Chapter refused to adopt a resolution allowing substitutes, by a large majority.

We find near \$6,000 invested.

Companion Augustus C. Sherwood was elected M. E. G. H. Priest, and Companion W. B. Langridge re-elected Grand Secretary.

Companion Ercanback again presented the correspondence report. Of Alabama he says :

We do not have the census of 1880 before us ; but, according to the count of 1870, Alabama had 521,387 white people, and almost as many colored. Is not 821 Royal Arch Masons rather a small number for such a magnificent country ?

How differently he speaks of Texas from some of those of hotter blood elsewhere. We think he is right and suggests the right course. Surely there is room enough for both the G. G. Chapter and the Grand Chapter of Texas, nor need the intercourse between the companions of the two jurisdictions be more restrained than between those of the G. G. Chapter and those of the Virginias and Pennsylvania. He thus unburthens :

The State of Texas was once a "lone star." When it came into the political union, it was not only with her "own free will and accord," but with an earnest desire for protection. And now, as for the Grand Chapter of Texas, we agree with Companion Innes, of Michigan, that, after the rejection of the kindly invitation given to our sister Texas by the General Grand Chapter to return to the fold, nothing more ought to be said on the subject. Texas should be permitted to enjoy her sweet solitude alone, until the time shall arrive when she will see that it is best to "put away old things and put on new." Go, wayward sister, and bide your time.

The constant harping on this one subject by the G. Grand Chapter doubtless tends to smothering the zeal toward Capitular Masonry there. We do not think we can more appropriately close this notice of this report than by copying his closing words. They may appropriately be applied by the G. G. Chapter :

Companion Meyer, of Pennsylvania, in 1879, embodied in the conclusion to his report a beautiful poem. In 1880, Companion Pierson, of Minnesota, used it for the same purpose ; and as it contains the sentiments by which we propose to live and die, we hereby hold up the same old banner :

"LET IT PASS.

"Be not swift to take offence ;
 Let it pass !
 Anger is a foe to sense ;
 Let it pass !
 Brood not darkly o'er a wrong
 Which will disappear ere long ;
 Rather sing a cheerful song—
 Let it pass !
 Let it pass !

"Strife corrodes the purest mind ;
 Let it pass !
 As the unregarded wind,
 Let it pass !
 Any vulgar souls that live
 May condemn without reprieve ;
 'Tis the noble who forgive ;
 Let it pass !
 Let it pass !

"Echo not an angry word ;
 Let it pass !
 Think how often you have erred ;
 Let it pass !
 Since our joys must pass away
 Like the dew-drops on the spray,
 Wherefore should our sorrows stay ?
 Let it pass !
 Let it pass !

"If for good you've taken ill,
 Let it pass!
 Oh, be kind and gentle still!
 Let it pass!
 Time at last makes all things straight;
 Let us not resent, but wait,
 And our triumph shall be great;
 Let it pass!
 Let it pass!

"Bid your anger to depart;
 Let it pass!
 Lay these homely words to heart:
 'Let it pass!'

Follow not the giddy throng;
 Better to be wronged than wrong;
 Therefore, sing the Cheery song—
 Let it pass!
 Let it pass!"

KANSAS.

The Seventeenth Annual Convocation was held on February 14, A. D. 1882, under the guidance of M. Ex, Companion Silas E. Sheldon, Grand High Priest, and with representatives from forty-one Chapters present.

The Grand High Priest says:

Our society, like all human institutions, is auxiliary, not creative; we subserve morality; we can not compel men to be good, but I am sure that there is no Companion present who has not felt, in his own experience, that his knowledge of our beautiful ritual and his observance of our ceremonies and his belief in the salutary precepts of our Order, has, in some degree, coerced him in the direction of right conduct and restrained him from temptation. If it were not so, Masonry would be without its saving principle, and it would die of inanition, for the mere formulary of Masonry, uninformed by sound morality, and without the force of righteous example, is empty mummery, possessed of neither health nor vitality.

And of the Royal Craft in that Jurisdiction—

During the past year the Order has not increased greatly in numbers, which is to be attributed, I believe, to other reason than a lack of interest in the Order, for so far as substantial progress is concerned that progress is indicated by work well performed, and no Masonic duties omitted or overlooked; the Order has advanced in the last year perhaps as much as in any former year of its existence in this State.

A charter was granted to a Chapter which, while under dispensation, balloted upon applications and conferred degrees out of time,

and so far as their record showed, neither received nor expended any money.

The Craft seem sufficiently harmonious and prosperous, with finances in quite a healthy condition.

Companion Geo. C. Kenyon was elected M. Ex. Grand High Priest, and Companion John H. Brown continued Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary made the report on correspondence, thus introducing his review, and we take this opportunity to state as he says, "we have written first and foremost with a view to the collection of instructive facts and not," &c., &c., and regret that we could "furnish no fun in camp."

Your committee has once more arrayed itself in pilgrim guise, not indeed, as of old, with staff, scrip and shell, but with a supply of ink, paper, a box of steel pens, shears, sometimes also called "steel pens," and spectacles of the best modern manufacture, wherewith to observe and note the beauties, and, if need be, the defects of the work of our cotemporaries, to "crib" their good sayings, and to borrow a little wisdom from their experiences. We have made the round of the proposed journey (on paper), and present herewith our *ephemera*, containing the results of observations carefully conducted with aid of the above mentioned apparatus. We have written first and foremost with a view to the collection of instructive facts, and not with any vain desire to be original, very entertaining or captiously critical. If we have laughed, it has been *with* a Companion and not *at* him.

Under District of Columbia, commenting on the position of the Grand High Priest that the negligence and apathy displayed by companions is due in a great measure to their ignorance of the ritual or lectures of the degrees, and the recommendation, that each candidate be required to be subjected to an examination in each degree before advancement, we find him proclaiming as follows, to which we fully subscribe :

Were the acroatic lectures carefully imparted and candidates perfected therein, no doubt Companions would be more active and oftener in attendance. But it should not be forgotten that three-fourths of the Order have not had the training necessary to render it an easy task for them to acquire long lectures by oral instruction, and when they do, so treacherous is memory that even the best trip unless constantly under drill. Were the private work no longer than at the time of the *revival* and for many a year thereafter, one-half the difficulty would disappear and the other would be easily overcome. But as degrees have multiplied, work has increased, and by the expansion of lectures the task of acquiring and retaining them has become a formidable task for the keenest mind, and almost an impossible one for the average man. Hence, one of the causes of the growing neglect to make such acquirements as would fit Companions for any post in the Chapter. And such cause will continue to operate until the proper authority interposes the needed check.

We find him generally in accord with ourself, except, notably, as to his position that it is not necessary to have the charter present to constitute a legal chapter; or comparing the charter to the license of an attorney. But, as we have had our say, we leave the matter, the more particularly as our Grand Chapter has declared that any work done without its presence is void.

We can, however, pause no longer with this agreeable and very racy writer.

KENTUCKY

Held the Sixty-Sixth Annual Convocation of her Grand Chapter on the 18th October, 1881, and was opened in ample form by the M. E. Grand High Priest, W. LaRue Thomas.

Never were truer words uttered than those uttered by the Grand High Priest when he said "few Chapters with large memberships is far preferable to many Chapters with small memberships." It were well if Companions generally should become imbued with this sentiment.

We find in these proceedings a very full and able disquisition upon the Cryptic degrees, which we are tempted to copy in full that our Companions might be fully informed of the argument, both pro and con on this much vexed question. Its length alone precludes it. The majority report is from the pen of our esteemed friend and Companion, Rev. Lansing Burrows, and is replete with sound judgment, nice discrimination, and a firm expression of his of the legality of the adoption of these degrees by the Grand Chapter, while he at the same time for good Masonic reasons springing from the goodness of his heart and his broad Masonic charity, recommends the revival of the Grand Council. We, however, give below a part of the preamble and resolutions of the majority of the committee, and also a part of the report of the majority:

INASMUCH as since that hearty and unanimous action on the part of both the Grand Chapter and Grand Council, complications have arisen, threatening confusion among the Craft, caused by ill-advised measures adopted in the vain hope of conserving the interests of the Rite, by persons aside from this jurisdiction, and which leave us no alternative but that of conferring degrees without privileges.

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter resign its jurisdiction over the degrees of Royal and Select Masters into the hands of the officers and members comprising the last Grand Council of such, which met in the city of Louisville, on the 24th day of October, 1878.

Resolved, That in this action, this Grand Chapter does not for one moment doubt the legality of the action of two sovereign Grand bodies, which resulted in the intrusting and assumption of the de

grees of R. and S. M. in the month of October, 1878 ; but on the contrary enters its solemn protest against the ambitious and inconsiderate measures taken for the practical extinction of the Cryptic Rite, or the denial of its light to three-fourths of the Royal Craft ; and further places itself on record as being compelled to this action, only by the solemn duty which it owes to its Chapters to allow no conflicting elements to disturb their harmony, and the equally solemn duty to refrain from conferring degrees which will not entitle their possessors to travel and receive the wages of fellowship and universal brotherhood.

We feel therefore, that from Masonic history in our own State, as well as out of it, there is at least some grounds to conclude that the Chapter is not violating any fundamental law of Masonry in recognizing the Cryptic degrees as she has done.

In 1841 the Grand Chapter of Virginia took control of the Cryptic degrees, and conferred them before that of Most Excellent Master. As early as 1824 the Grand Chapter of Maryland placed the Select Masters degree between those of Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch.

In New Hampshire, Columbian Council was formed April 15th, 1822, by R. and S. Masters, connected with Webb Chapter, and that Council was one of three which formed the Grand Council in 1862. Massachusetts' Grand Council was formed in 1826 by seven Councils, none of whom had any charter or warrant ; the Grand Council of Alabama was organized in 1838 by twenty-seven R. and S. Masters ; New York Grand Council was established in 1807 under authority from France, and in 1841 holding all Councils clandestine, which came from Cross or Cushman, "refused admission to the Most Puissant of Ohio ;" North Carolina established her Grand Council in 1822, and in 1824 recommended to a convention of the Craft that the control of the degrees be given to the Chapters. Whether this was done or not, we cannot ascertain, but no Grand Council existed afterwards until 1860. Vermont organized her Grand Council in 1814 by four Councils, one of which was said to have been organized by Jeremy Cross, but had no charter—two others had been working under Chapters, and the fourth was an old Council of unknown origin, which had disbanded, but came together in 1852. Out of about thirty Grand Councils which have existed in the several States, twelve are directly or indirectly descended from the Grand Council of Kentucky, and all of them were descended either from Jeremy Cross, who got the degrees from Eckel or from some agent, either of the Grand Consistory of France or the Council of Princes of Jerusalem (Scottish Rite) at Charleston, S. C. But we do not find any uniformity in or any authoritative original organization of the Cryptic degrees into a system. It is not even settled whether the Super Excellent Degree be or be not one of them. They have been conferred by traveling agents acting under different powers. As Companion Drummond of Maine says :

"The degrees were side degrees unorganized, which any possessor of them might confer at pleasure upon competent candidates. Or instead of doing so, several could unite and confer them in a formal manner."

If this be true, and we do not question it, we hold that those who possess these degrees may regulate for themselves the manner of per-

petuating them, and the Grand Council of Kentucky being legally in possession of them, had the power to intrust them to the keeping of this Grand Body. As the custodian of that trust, this Grand Chapter could and did delegate the power of conferring these degrees to the Council officers of the subordinate Chapters.

But we come now to consider the expediency of retaining these degrees which have been intrusted to us.

Since the action of the Grand Council of 1878, the Grand Councils of some other States forgetful of their own origin, have declared that action to be unauthorized, and all Royal and Select Masters in Kentucky to be clandestine, because they either have received or connived at conferring the degrees under the direction of a Chapter. A General Grand Council has been formed, of which Josiah H. Drummond is General Grand Master, and although he in 1870 laid down the broad principle that the State Grand Councils whether legally or illegally created, were supreme in their particular jurisdiction, yet in his proclamation of recent date he has assumed to divide the "General Grand Jurisdiction" into districts, and appoint over each an Inspector, whose official title and duties are undefined and presumably just such as he may choose to assume. One of these districts includes Kentucky and Michigan, neither of which have given in their adherence to the so-called "General Grand Council." He has also issued a dispensation for a Council in this State.

Royal and Select Masters who wish to visit Councils in our sister States are debarred from that privilege, and it is desired by many of them that this Grand Body should surrender its trust.

It seems to us that if our former organization under the Grand Council of this State could not be maintained, there is no assurance that a reorganization upon the same basis would succeed better. We do not believe that Councils as such would be able to keep alive. We think that the Cryptic degrees should be taken by every Royal Arch Mason who wishes to understand the Mystic Art, and that the Masonic light derived from them is of far more importance than the mere right of visitation. If these degrees are conferred by the Chapters, a large body of companions will receive them who otherwise never would, and it seems to us better that many should be enlightened, even though the rights of a few should be thereby curtailed.

If the Grand Council of Kentucky were reorganized now, we have no assurance that it would be safe from the usurpations of the "General Grand Council." Michigan is named as part of the "General Grand Jurisdiction," although her Grand Council is in existence and as much opposed to our system as Companion Drummond himself. Might not the same pressure be brought to bear upon a Grand Council as upon a Grand Chapter, and would it not (a weak body) succumb where a strong body could stand?

We would also suggest the difficulty in such an event of dealing with those who have received the Cryptic degrees under our recent system. If they are clandestine now, would they not still be so? And those who assisted at conferring the degrees on them? If they forfeited their regular standing by doing so, how will they regain it? The General Grand Master seems to have carried his premises to their logical conclusions when he issued his dispensation and began *de novo* in Kentucky. But how can he know that those to whom his warrant

is directed are regular? If they live in this State they are already under the ban. Has his warrant magical properties that it can make and unmake Masons at his supreme will? We think such a doctrine too dangerous to be entertained for a moment. Those who have taken these degrees under the sanction and by the power of this Grand Chapter, we think should be protected. So long as we retain control of those degrees we can protect them—we can confer them on whom we choose and keep alive the beautiful ritual which none of us would willingly see die. But when we divest ourselves of that power, then we leave these companions at the mercy of their enemies, weaponless and beyond the reach of our helping arm. What terms may be exacted of them, we know not, but the few acts of the new born "General Grand Council" look as if *Vae victis* would be their motto.

Therefore claiming the right, and believing in the expediency of doing as we have done, and remaining as we are, we beg leave to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the sense of this Grand Chapter, it is unwise and inexpedient to take any action upon the subject of the degrees of Royal and Select Master.

The further consideration of these reports was postponed to the next Grand Chapter. We have noticed this question in this place because it is still a question which is vexing the minds of many of the Craft, and the course pursued by the G. G. Council is not calculated to allay the excitement. Last year we said that we feared a storm from that question that would endanger the entire fabric if great caution were not displayed, and we still fear it.

Companion R. J. Laughlin was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Companion J. H. Branham, Grand Secretary.

Companion Bassett again made the report on Correspondence, and is characterized by full extracts and a fearless-expression of opinion. We would like to note a few things, but we have devoted so much space to Kentucky we are constrained to say to our Companions '*au revoir*.'

LOUISIANA.

The Thirty-fifth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 14th February, 1882, with the M. E. Grand High Priest, Andrew Hero, in the East. There were 11 Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest deplores the declining condition of R. A. Masonry in that jurisdiction, and erroneously, we think, places the responsibility upon the shoulders of the various Chapter officers, assuming that lack of zeal in these produces the effect. We have said erroneously, for we are satisfied that more frequently these same results follow unwise legislation and regulations made by the supervising Grand Body. We have also observed that when any Masonic

body becomes burdened with debt, its members become indifferent if not apprehensive, soon remiss in attendance, many dimitting, and lifelessness necessarily follows. May this same result not follow similar indiscretions on the part of the Supreme Body?

We find that the Grand Chapter cannot reasonably hope to meet its present constitutional expenditures with its legitimate income. To save them further indebtedness or the necessity of resorting to assessments on the subordinates, the Grand High Priest recommends the abolishment of all per diem and mileage, and also that life members should be taxed as others for the maintenance of the Grand Chapter. Sundry amendments to the Constitution to promote these ends were proposed, and will be acted on at the next Grand Annual Convocation.

The Craft seems to be entirely harmonious and the only question submitted by the Grand High Priest to the Grand Chapter involves peculiar local laws, so that we cannot venture any opinion thereon. But we find that in deciding it he enunciates as a decision of his own a ruling on the effect of a constitutional provision of the Grand Lodge, which seems to us *ex-cathedra*.

In Treasurers report we find "balance due the Treasurer."

Companion Hero was re-elected Grand High Priest, and Companion James C. Batchelor, Grand Secretary.

It gives us great pleasure to welcome Companion Horner again as Correspondent, and hope that the various changes contemplated may so improve the finances of this, our sister, as to enable us always in future to find a report on Correspondence. We find Alabama, among others, and feel gratified at the fraternal manner in which she is treated, and personally done proud at his remarks of ourself.

He laughs at the proviso except "when prevented by very emergent circumstances" attached to a resolution of our Grand Chapter in relation to opening and closing of Chapters. That is right.

Under California, after quoting from Companion Caswell's report in relation to suspension for non-payment of dues, he says as follows :

But who is to find out if the accused is unable to pay? By what right are you to presume so merely because he keeps silent; and how can any man reconcile it to himself that a formal trial is a farce; and who, in the whole aggregation of Masons, is so infallible as to say that there is any fault which a man may commit, which, by its nature, is proven by being charged? Instead of asking the question: is the companion delinquent? and authoritatively saying yes, why not just as well, and in just as short and uncouth a manner, alter it and say: "Is he charged?" "Yes." "Then is he guilty. Off with his head!" All that may be "so much for Buckingham;" but we fear the Buckingham is Masonry, which has been suffering from just such

wrongs for so many years, for it would require a close study of Masonic statistics, at this day, to say whether there are more Masons in good standing, at present, in this country, or more Masons laboring under the sentence of suspension from all their Masonic rights and privileges, who have never been really and truly tried Masonically, the edicts of every Grand Lodge and every Grand Chapter on this continent to the contrary, notwithstanding. If in the body politic crime should stalk so fearlessly through our streets that it should be found necessary to take away the form of trial for any named offense, what would result but anarchy and blood-shed and confusion? So, also, in Masonry; we believe, unless things are changed, that the time must come when those thus cut off from Masonic privileges will so far outnumber those of us in so-called good standing that they will be able to heave the whole institution from the imaginary foundations of financial support upon which it stands, and overturn the whole theory that, in order to be a Mason, one must needs be a contributor.

So thanking Companion Horner for making the report, and M. E. Companion Hero for determining to "foot the bill" rather than have Louisiana again remiss, we must leave this report, else we may trench too heavily on the treasury of our own Grand Chapter.

MAINE.

The Fifty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State, was held on the 2d May, 1882, M. E. Companion Joseph A. Locke, Grand High Priest, and representatives from 39 subordinates present.

The Grand High Priest says that "Royal Arch Masonry in this State, during the past year, has been making a steady gain."

I desire to call attention to a practice which has prevailed for some time in certain Chapters. I allude to the duties of Secretary and Treasurer, which are clearly defined by the by-laws. A Companion, in accepting an office, thereby agrees that he will faithfully perform its duties. Now, a few of the Treasurers do not do so. The Secretary receives all moneys, pays all bills, and when he gets ready, pays the balance over to the Treasurer. This is not right. There is no authority, express or implied, for a Secretary to pay out moneys; but he should turn all money over to the Treasurer as he receives it, taking his receipt therefor, and the Treasurer should pay the bills.

We fear that to this loose method of performing the duties are due the defalcations that within a few years have been brought to light.

In the Grand Treasurer's report is to be found a declaration that should put to shame Chapters in many other jurisdictions, if not all others. "*All the subordinate Chapters have sent in their returns and paid their dues in full.*"

There was nothing for the Committee on Grievances to consider,

there were no appeals, there were no decisions or questions of Jurisprudence for the committee to consider.

The Treasury has a handsome cash balance, and the Charity Fund is by no means small, and continues to grow.

Companion Locke was re-elected Grand High Priest, and Companion Ira Berry who, at this Convocation, had made his twenty-eighth annual report, was again elected Grand Secretary.

Companion Josiah H. Drummond again made the correspondence report in his usual spirited and intelligent mode. Alabama for 1881 is reviewed.

Under District of Columbia we find in reply to the Committee on Correspondence :

But as to there not having been Grand Masters before there were Grand Lodges, we take issue squarely with our Companion. He admits that there was an officer *called* Grand Master. But because they exercised functions in *some particulars*, he claims that they were not Grand Masters, as known since 1717. By the same argument, it follows that there was no Freemasonry prior to 1717; and in fact he says, "No such then existed." Now, our Companion may *call* his statements history, and may continue to *call* them history till doomsday, but he will not in the least detract from the fact that they are *not* history. Freemasonry existed long before 1717, as an operative institution it is true, with a Grand Master with almost supreme power at its head; it had been gradually changing from an operative to a speculative institution for years before 1717, and at that time was really a speculative institution; the Grand Master had met all the Craft in "General Assembly," and presided therein annually; but in 1717 a change was made, and instead of the whole Craft meeting in "General Assembly," with the Grand Master at their head, they met by their Representatives in Grand Lodge, with the Grand Master at its head. The change in 1717 was merely that from a general meeting of the Craft to make laws, to a representative form of government. The change from the *operative* character of the Institution to the *speculative* had happened before. So we repeat, that Grand Masters existed in *fact* as well as *name* before Grand Lodges did. The Old Charges, &c., collected by Anderson, were those existing long before 1717, and our whole Masonic system is founded on rules which in 1717 were "*Ancient Regulations*," clearly recognizing the powers of the Grand Master.

Reports from the pen of this illustrious Mason are always replete with instruction, for we know of none better qualified to deal with questions involving historical accuracy. This under consideration is no exception, but we are somewhat surprised to find our Companion in a report to a Grand Chapter devoting so much space to defending the origin of the G. G. Council. We have heretofore thought that he deprecated the junction of the Chapter and Council, but this report does not betoken it. In this connection and in reference to his allu-

sion to the regularity of the formation of the G. G. Council, we will say that no such proposition was mentioned in the Grand Council of Alabama or that we heard of none, and that at Detroit we were told that we, a P. G. T. Ill. of Alabama would not be admitted.

MARYLAND.

We have before us the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of this State held on November 8, 1881, M. Ex. Companion Ferdinand J. S. Gorgas, Grand High Priest, with representatives from eleven subordinates.

The condition of the Craft in this jurisdiction is thus given by the Grand High Priest :

Royal Arch Masonry in Maryland, without any ostentatious display, pursues an onward, steady and harmonious course. The officers of the Subordinate Chapters, through the assistance of the Grand Lecturer, have conformed to the changes in the ritual as recommended by the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and the majority of them have exhibited an ardent devotion to their work during the past year, that is highly commendable. Material prosperity has attended such efforts, and it is confidently expected that the completion of the new elevator will greatly increase the attendance at the Convocations of the City Chapters held in the Masonic Temple.

All of the Subordinate Chapters, with one exception, are represented at the present Annual Conclave, and general prosperity and the characteristic harmony prevail in the Order of Capitular Masonry in Maryland, and throughout our entire country.

The business of the Grand Chapter was of local interest only, there being no grievances to redress or difficult questions to be decided. Many amendments were made to their constitution, but none that would interest us.

Companion William F. Cochran was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion George L. McCahan re-elected Grand Secretary.

Companion Schultz again presented the report on correspondence, and Alabama for 1880 we find in it. On the subject of the G. G. Council he thus speaks under Arkansas :

If the advocates for the Grand Councils would consult and be governed by the will of a majority of the Royal and Select Masters in each jurisdiction, we believe there would be but few Grand Councils, and they only in the older and more populous States. We feel pretty sure there would be none in Maryland. We are totally opposed to minority rule. A few Companions, comparatively speaking, in each jurisdiction set up and keep up the Grand Council organization, and declare every Royal and Select Master not made under its authority *clandestine*, notwithstanding said Royal and Select Master may have

been made under and by authority older than any Grand Council in this country.

This Convention, which was organized, as Companion McGuire says, "to harmonize conflicting sentiments," but from whose deliberations every one was excluded that did not oppose consolidation, adopted a Constitution for a General Grand Council, which is to be a fixed fact when said Constitution shall be ratified by *nine* of the forty jurisdictions,—and thus a minority seeks to control the majority.

See what we have said under Maine. He devotes a considerable space to this subject and thinks the action of the G. G. Chapter at Detroit, in relation to these degrees, is equivalent to a *quasi* assent to the Mississippi plan, as it is called. He thinks the necessity for a G. G. Council is about as great as for a G. G. Council of Anointed High Priests.

We are pleased with the following quotation. The world is governed too much—there is too much legislation.

If we would but give all our Constitutions to the flames, and publish alone the ancient charges and regulations which all admit to be the paramount law, and every thing that conflict with them of none effect whatever; adding a half dozen lines of local regulations we would have all the law that any masonic body can possibly require, we would then have uniformity throughout the jurisdictions, and we would hear no more about a Brother or Companion being in good standing in his own and being classed as not in good standing in an adjoining and friendly jurisdiction.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The Eighty-First Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 13th December, 1881. Companion Thos. Waterman, Grand High Priest. Convocations of the Grand Chapter are held quarterly, at which much of the business that usually occupies so much of the attention of other Grand Chapters at their Annual Convocations is transacted.

We notice in the report of the committee on finance that "there are also on hand and held by the Grand Secretary one hundred and forty-five diplomas and eighty-three traveling cards." What are those traveling cards? They are unknown here, and we ask for enlightenment.

Of the Craft the Grand High Priest says :

Peace has been within our walls and prosperity within our palaces. The Royal Art has flourished, the Craft are working in harmony, and but few causes of difference have marred our labors. The most thorough loyalty to the Grand Chapter exists throughout the State.

Forty-eight Chapters were represented.

Companion Albert C. Smith was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion Zephaniah H. Thomas, Grand Secretary.

The report on correspondence was, as usual, made by Companion J. W. Dadmun, not only an old stager but a regular wheel-horse, full of opinions and strength of argument.

He right ably defends Massachusetts for depriving of membership only for non-payment of dues, and says it "is no new thing for it is as old as Masonry in this country." A very large part of this report is devoted to the defense of this doctrine, and indeed, he, to our mind, with Drummond, has apparently the best of the argument. Yet we can not get over the fact that if, as a member of a lodge, we are prohibited from having Masonic intercourse with any delinquent member, if he can't be received into our lodge, or we cannot sit with him there, how can we greet him in another lodge. If the delinquent is not good enough to be received by his own family, how are those of another family to be expected to receive him. Now, a non-affiliate may visit any lodge,—yet this delinquent would not be received by his own and cannot be expected to be received by any other lodge. Non-affiliates are entitled to no lodge benefits. If all this be his condition we see not that he is much better off in Massachusetts, Maine, or New York, than in Alabama and the other jurisdictions.

MICHIGAN.

We have the proceedings of the Thirty-Third Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State, held on 17th January, 1882. Companion Chas. H. Axtell, M. Ex. Grand High Priest, presided.

There seems to be, as announced by the Grand High Priest, "confusion in this Grand Jurisdiction over the Grand Omnific or R. A. W."

There was a balance of over \$5,000 in hands of the Treasurer, and we hope that the Grand Chapter will lay the foundation with it of some noble but durable charity.

The following resolution was passed:

WHEREAS, Companion J. Eastman Johnson was, during several succeeding years, the Secretary and Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of this Grand Chapter, whose long life of service and silvered locks betoken him as a veteran in our Order; and reminding of his faithful efforts in behalf of Capitular Masonry, and desirous of testifying our veneration and regard for our esteemed Companion; therefore, be it

Resolved, That Companion J. Eastman Johnson be and he is hereby declared an honorary member of this Grand Chapter.

A Turk—Companion William S. Turek was elected M. Ex. Grand High Priest, while our whilom friend Wm. P. Innes continued Grand Secretary—and long may he continue as such.

Companion Innes, as usual, made the correspondence report,—lengthy and gives a very complete view of the opinions and condition of the several Grand Chapters reviewed. For his kind words of us he has our thanks.

See what he says of the G. G. Council. We fear friend Innes occasionally gets mad, but keep cool, Companion. This is the great panacea :

We deprecate the formation of what is known as the General Grand Council, for it is simply another great body which must fail of any and every practical good, and must ere long take its stand side by side with the General Grand Chapter, as a body having no power, simply an asylum for office-making.

Companion Innes at the Convocation of the G. Grand Council at Detroit, having failed to get that body to cut off all Masonic intercourse with Texas is hard on her. All through his report he either gives a kick at Texas, or at the imbecility of the G. G. Council.

But withal we know that all the Companions of Alabama will join with us in offering our sympathies to our bereaved Companion, and hoping that as his treasure is now laid up “where moth, nor rust doth corrupt,” our Companion Innes may there be when the work of life is done. Of the loss of the companion of his life he thus bewails :

We beg our Companions to deal gently with our report, remembering that this labor which has hitherto been such a pleasure has been mechanically performed as under the weight of the cross. The shadow of the dread messenger but a few months ago crossed our threshold, and we to-day sit in darkness and loneliness, for the precious form that can never more brighten our life, is gone ; that sweet voice that can never again cheer our heart, is silent forever. We involuntarily reach out our hands to clasp that loved one, bend our ear to catch the faintest whisper of her gentle voice, but empty walls and places reverberate our importunate pleadings, and the fond echoes of joy and happiness perish on our lips. Gladly would we follow that precious form that was ever our guide, gladly swing open that heavenly gate which leads to the blessed land above where sorrow, death and separation are no more. Yearning fills our heart for that loved one who was the embodiment of love, light and purity. We stand on the very verge of that bright other shore, longing to kneel at the Jasper throne, and closely clasp our loved treasure of earth which heaven shelters so securely. But the voice of the Comforter is wafted over the waters of affliction, and we gladly take up the burden of life resolving, God being our help, to weave our remaining years into a life so exemplary that when the mandate is given to follow where loved ones have led, we may gladly cross the dark stream, and,

on the bright shore beyond, meet her who was the light of our life ; and free from all grief and sorrow, kneel in the Mystic Temple above, whose bonds are indissoluble.

MINNESOTA.

We greet the proceedings of the Twentieth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held on the 11th October, 1881, over which Companion W. G. Bronson, M. E. Grand High Priest, presided, there being present representatives from 22 subordinates.

The condition of the Craft is entirely harmonious, and there seems life yet in this jurisdiction.

The finances are in a healthy condition.

Companion Orville G. Miller was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and our esteemed friend, Companion A. T. C. Pierson, Grand Secretary. 'May his shadow never grow less.'

The Grand Secretary presented the report on Correspondence, in which we find the proceedings of Alabama for 1880 reviewed. We do not find that we differ much from each other as to the effect of suspension, for with him we believe "that suspension by a Lodge has the same effect during its existence as expulsion." He, however, goes a little farther and says this is so, "provided the reasons for such action does not accompany the communication of expulsion or suspension," and thinks the words 'for non-payment of dues' so qualifies the suspension as to make it no suspension at all. Now, we hold that suspension from any cause, whether it be accompanied by the qualifying words above or other qualifying words, such as for unmasonic conduct, deprives the brother so suspended from Masonic intercourse. If it is to be construed as a mere "dropping from the rolls," can the members of his Lodge from which he has been so suspended hold Masonic intercourse with him? and if not, then how can others of the great family? Suspension then is suspension, neither more nor less.

We give below a beautiful illustration of the value of Masonry when properly put in practice :

In Minnesota each Grand Body has a Grand Registry made up from the returns of subordinates showing the name, age birth-place, occupation, residence, date of receiving the various degrees or orders—in case of affiliates, from what body dimitted ; of each of the members, the changes that occur by withdrawal, death, &c., are reported and recorded ; the status of every Mason in the State can thus be told by a moments inspection of the Grand Registry ; a brother too can be traced should occasion require. Very many instances of rare interest has resulted from this system of registry—one of recent occurrence. An orphan boy living with a — man, by whom he was half starved, scantily clad, made to do chores without shoes in the coldest winter

weather, beaten and abused, said to a neighbors boy, "if the Masons only knew, they would not allow me to be thus abused," this was repeated to a man not a Mason, but one who had often remonstrated at the treatment, and who happened to know the then Grand Master—the records were examined—the name of the father was found registered as dead some seven years previous; the Lodge was visited, and although there were no members present who remembered the father, yet action was immediately taken, an attorney employed and the boy rescued; property was found, and the fellow made to disgorge; in a distant State, through correspondence with Lodges, an uncle of the boy, the mothers brother, was found, with whom was living a brother and sister, who had long mourned their brother as dead, and the orphan children were united.

One such instance is an ample recompense for the troubles and expenses of keeping up a register.

MISSISSIPPI.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held February 6th, 1882, Companion Speed, Grand High Priest, presiding, and with representatives from 34 subordinates present.

The Grand High Priest thus opens his address, which is indeed very beautiful:

Singularly appropriate have been the solemn ceremonies with which we have endeavored to sanctify the commencement of the labors of this, the Thirty-fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, for we, too, like Solomon and Zerubbabel, of old, are engaged in the construction of a mighty fabric—a temple pure and spotless; a temple whose site is not Mount Moriah, but our hearts; whose materials are not stone and mortar, but virtues and duties; whose cement is brotherly love, and in whose sanctuary, we trust, the Ancient of Days resides, not in any typical form, hovering over the Ark of the Covenant and between the extended wings of the Cherubim, as in the temple of Solomon, but in His ever-loving and sanctifying presence, as God is said to dwell in the heart of every good man. To keep this temple pure and spotless, fit for the dwelling place of Him who is the author of purity, where the great I Am may be worshipped in spirit and in truth, and whence every evil thought and unruly passion are to be banished, as the sinner and the Gentile were excluded from the inner courts of the Temple at Jerusalem, is the object of all Masonic labor. It is, then, very meet, right and our bounden duty that we should, at all times and in all places, give thanks unto Him who alone is able to keep our feet from stumbling as we travel the rough and rugged paths of life, and who is the only sure Guide to bring the blind by a way they know not, and who will not forsake them.

His views as to uniformity of work are so entirely consonant with views heretofore expressed by us that we copy:

Strict uniformity of work is a utopian dream, and notwithstanding the most strenuous exertions, never has been and never will be re-

alized, while substantial uniformity accomplishes every desirable purpose. I am the more fully impressed with this conviction, by the fact that although less than a century has passed since the American Royal Arch Work was substantially manufactured out of whole cloth, and every effort has been made by the General Grand Chapter to secure uniformity, there is a divergence from the standard in almost every jurisdiction. I believe if there were less time spent in attempting to secure exactitude in ritual, and more given to procuring uniformity in methods of conducting business and in the care and disposition of the funds of Chapters, a perceptible improvement would result.

The Grand Chapter adopted a resolution "that the G. G. Chapter be petitioned to allow a member of a Chapter to become a petitioner for a dispensation for a new Chapter without dismission from his Chapter.

We see that the finances of this Grand Chapter are improving.

Companion William Richards was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Companion J. L. Power, continued Grand Secretary.

The report on Correspondence was presented by Companion P. M. Savery, Chairman, and indorsed. "Having read, I fully indorse this report." J. H. Kennedy, one of the committee.

Alabama for 1880 is the first to be reviewed, which receives kindly notice.

MISSOURI.

The Thirty-fifth Grand Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held the 4th May, 1882, R. E. Companion Erwin Ellis, Deputy Grand High Priest, presiding, with representatives from sixty-seven Chapters.

Like our own jurisdiction the year before this our sister was called to mourn the death of their M. E. Grand High Priest, Samuel H. Owens. Companion Ellis thus speaks of him :

To his wise counsels, clear judgment and undying love of right are we indebted. Honest, noble and true, he possessed all those qualifications so essentially necessary to a great and good Mason. His wise counsel has made many a crooked way straight ; his true friendship and unbounded charity have made darkness light before many a heart bowed down with sorrow ; and his love has never forsaken us. "None knew him but to love him," and those who knew him best, loved him most. Kind, generous and true, with an uncompromising love of right, he was a true Companion and a faithful friend, and with his powerful intellect and eloquent tongue he fearlessly opposed with all the fire of his soul whatever he considered wrong. And, until death, none knew how dear he was to our Grand Bodies, nor how strong were our ties of friendship. But the summons came, and he obeyed.

And the Committee to prepare his memorial say :

While we to-day speak of Companion Owens as dead, yet that is only true as to his physical body ; the true life of a man is the character which he forms by his acts, and they are but the index of his motives. What man does, lives after him ; and the noblest part of life is the influence resulting from his good deeds, and this influence is not limited by the brief span of human life, but continues to exert itself through all time. In this sense, immortality is a demonstrable fact ; in this sense, our beloved Companion, though dead, still liveth, for his life was fruitful of good results. His mind was ever active in devising plans for good, both in and out of our Order ; plans which now are improving the condition of others. His hands were always open to the wants of the poor and helpless, and his heart beat in sympathy with the bereaved and distressed.

We find that it is the design of this Grand Chapter to make the report of Committee on Correspondence an authoritative enunciation of the views of the Grand Chapter, by requiring the report to be printed and placed in the hands of the several Chapters at least ten days before the meeting of the Chapter, and making it liable to amendment by the Grand Chapter. Whether many of the individual views of the writer may not thus receive the hasty and inconsiderate indorsement of the Grand Chapter and have subsequently to be re-called, remains to be seen.

Companion Ellis was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Companion William H. Mayo, continued Grand Secretary.

Companion Grand Secretary Mayo presented the report on Correspondence. Alabama received consideration and sympathy for the loss of her excellent Companion, Grand High Priest James H. Joiner.

Companion Mayo made a "short report" under instruction, but we are forced to do the same under duress—want of money. In his conclusion, he says :

Well, we have arrived at the desired place, the conclusion of our third report to the Royal Craft. We have made a bold attempt to follow instructions to make it short, and have succeeded in that respect beyond our expectations, but we have ignominiously failed to satisfy ourself with this report, because we have failed to note *en passant* many things that we individually thought should have been, but feared they were not of sufficient general importance to occupy our space ; and then again, there was quite a number of times that we felt very much like pitching into certain deliverances, ruling, legislation, etc., but did not, knowing that it would only be the individual views of one person. We have abbreviated, and saved much space by simply giving what we considered extracts of general interest to our readers, and, in most cases, no comment whatever, allowing our readers to draw their own conclusions and do their own criticising ; once in a while, however, we have let slip a short criticism, almost without knowing or intending it. If we can only inveigle our asso-

ciates, who are good, safe, sound thinkers and good writers, into joining forces with us, we will risk more comments and criticisms next year than we have at any time yet ventured to do.

We gladly avail ourself of the industry of our Companion, and thanking him for it, we reproduce his tabular statement of the several Grand Chapters at the end of this report.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

A Special Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on September 27th, 1880. Companion Albert S. Wait, Grand High Priest, presiding. Called to hear the report of the Committee on Work. There were present representatives from twelve Chapters, while eight were not represented. "The report of the Committee on Work as exemplified and rehearsed, was accepted and adopted."

The Sixty-Third Annual Convocation on 17th May, 1881, the Grand High Priest being present. On this occasion thirteen Chapters were represented and seven were not.

The Grand High Priest announces entire harmony within the jurisdiction.

The finances are in fair condition,

The business was purely local. Nothing of general interest.

Companion Wait was re-elected Grand High Priest, and Companion George P. Cleaves, Grand Secretary.

We find a page inscribed "Appendix. Report of Committee on Correspondence, A. D. 1881," and on the reverse side a note stating that as it had not come to hand the proceedings were sent out without it.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The proceedings of the 12th Annual Convocation, held on 31st May, 1881, Companion Lorenzo F. Darling, M. E. Grand High Priest, presiding. We find that of the twelve officers of Grand Chapter no less than seven were pro tem appointments. The condition of the Craft, however, is good, and its members are increasing. This Grand Chapter appoints annually a large committee of General purposes, which holds its meetings and attends to such business as is usually brought before the Grand Chapter, and recommends action at the annual meeting. This facilitates business.

Companion James Gossip was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion George T. Smithers, Grand Secretary.

The report on correspondence from Companion Smithers is a very

condensed review of a few Grand Chapters, but we do not find ours among them.

NEW JERSEY.

The Twenty-Sixth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State was held on September 13th, A. D. 1882. Companion I. Layton Register, M. E. Grand High Priest, and representatives of 26 Chapters, present.

We like the following recommendation and if acted upon by the various presiding Masonic officers would tend greatly to the relief of the Grand officers.

Without wishing to check the earnest seeker after knowledge, I suggest that the officers make it a rule to thoroughly inform themselves of the law, as laid down in the constitution, regulations and decisions, and from other Masonic authorities, and so become proficient and efficient as executives, and be able, without reference, to promptly answer many inquiries to their own satisfaction and that of the Companions over whom they have been elected to preside.

There is a good cash balance in the treasury. The committee on grievances had nothing before them. The committee on charity find nothing to do.

Companion Charles L. Chovey was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Companion Geo. B. Edwards re-elected Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary, Companion G. B. Edwards again comes to the front with his pleasant and able report on correspondence. And by the way, we are inclined to think that this is the proper member of the Grand Chapter to make these reports, because of his having sufficient time, and because he is in receipt of the proceedings earlier than any other.

Alabama receives fraternal notice—indeed attracts a large share of his attention. But after all that has been written about the effect of suspension for non-payment of dues, the fact remains that the brother is deemed unworthy of association with the members of his lodge, how then can he be esteemed worthy of association by members of other lodges?

About suspensions in the abstract he, however, is sound, as witness:

New Jersey cares nothing as to how a Mason is suspended—whether by the head or the heels; if the penalty of suspension attaches, he cannot receive recognition within her jurisdiction.

Under Connecticut, in allusion to that spirit of innovation which can find so much fault with the antiquated methods of our fathers, he says:

Let some one who is possessed of this spirit of modernization, dye that grand old mantle—"the mantle of Masonic charity"—of a fashionable color, modernize its style and present it to the fraternity as the *Masonic Ulster*.

Under Illinois we find our Companion uttering this doctrine with which we agree, and which will further display the New Jersey view of suspension :

Suspension and expulsion are each indivisible quantities in Masonics ; as terms, they cannot be qualified, and their qualities are immutable.

NEW YORK.

The proceedings of the Eighty-Fifth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of this Empire State, held on the 7th February, 1882, are before us. M. E. Grand High Priest, William T. Woodruff, presiding, with representatives from one hundred and eighty-seven subordinate Chapters—the total number of Chapters being 192.

Thus speaks the Grand High Priest in his address :

Old Father Time on his resistless march has left behind him another twelve months of his eternal journey since I last addressed you, and we are again reminded that we are all too surely and quickly hastening to that sixth hour of the sixth day when we shall carry up the work done in the quarries of life, and present it for the inspection of the Grand Overseer of the Universe.

We find him enunciating the views expressed by ourself some years since but which are not entertained by those who talk of the prerogatives of the Grand High Priest :

I have ever believed that the Grand High Priest is the servant of the Craft, and not the master : that his powers and duties are defined by constitutional enactments, and that there are no governmental powers inherent in his office ; hence he who has been chosen by the free suffrages of his companions in the Grand Chapter to the highest post of honor in their gift, should ever be willing to show his appreciation of their favor, by a faithful, careful, and impartial discharge of all duties and responsibilities which may devolve upon him during his term of office.

An amendment to the constitution diminishing the pay of representatives was adopted.

In this Grand Jurisdiction we find that the committee on grievances had nothing before them—"honorable, indeed, and full of promise."

We give one of the decisions of the M. E. Grand High Priest as reported upon by the committee on jurisprudence :

The thirteenth decision of the M. E. Grand High Priest is to the

effect, that a summons signed by the High Priest of a Chapter is valid, although issued without a seal ; that a summons, signed only by the Secretary, must be authenticated by the seal of the Chapter ; and that a summons issued only through the press is of no validity whatever.

In all these propositions your committee concur. But they desire to add that, in their judgment, it is necessary, in order that a summons, signed only by the Secretary, should be effectual, that it should be issued upon the direction of the Chapter or the High Priest, and that it must appear upon its face to have been issued by such direction.

In this jurisdiction suspension for non-payment of dues in the Lodge only makes the brother a non-affiliate, which did not affect his standing in his Chapter, but the Grand Chapter at this Convocation, adopted a regulation by which his membership in his Chapter is also suspended.

The committee on memorials thus speak of our late M. E. Grand High Priest Joiner.

JAMES HERVEY JOINER,

Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, died in Talladega, September 6th, 1881. The nerve centres were touched by the relentless hand of the destroyer, and the life currents became sluggish, and the vigor of the man gave way, and still guiding the fortunes of the Masons of the Royal Arch, at his post he died. Full of honors, with a record creditable and complete, with zeal still unimpaired, Companion Joiner was suddenly called from things temporal to things eternal. The Grand Chapter of the State of New York directs the Grand Secretary to convey to the Grand Chapter of Alabama, assurances of heartfelt sympathy in the loss which Masonry in Alabama has sustained by the death of this Eminent Companion. The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers so few, that those best skilled in the work can scarcely be spared. We unite with our Companions of Alabama in doing honor to the memory of Companion Joiner.

“Farewell, dear brother!

Thou has given thine honors to the World again,

Thy blessed part to Heaven, and sleepest in peace!”

And while the sympathies of the Grand Chapter of New York are thus sincerely expressed for our grief, those of the Companions of this jurisdiction are profoundly excited by the various losses sustained by that Grand Chapter, but more particularly by the loss they have sustained in the death of Companion James M. Austin, M. E. P. Grand High Priest of New York, and M. E. P. G. Grand High Priest

of the G. Grand Chapter. "May God temper the wind to the shorn lamb."

Companion James D. Pollard was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion Christopher G. Fox re-elected Grand Secretary.

Companion Darius A. Ogden presented the report on correspondence. We find Alabama for 1880, among the proceedings reviewed. Companion Ogden treats the writer hereof very kindly, though differing from him in some of his views. Notably—in reference to the necessity of the presence of the Charter, and the mode of preservation of the Cryptic degrees. To his views we have no reply, because ours have heretofore been expressed and thus far nothing has occurred to induce a change of sentiment. To be sure a deed lost does not destroy a man's title if it shall have been put of record. A reasonable deduction from Companion Ogden's argument, then, is that as the Charter and its issuance are of record, and consequently notice to the world, its destruction or loss is entirely immaterial.

The ever-recurring question of how to deal with those who become delinquent in dues, meets with the following proposition from him. How would it work?

First. No member to be regarded as delinquent for non-payment of dues until one year from the time they are due.

Second. Let a summons be issued to all delinquents, stating the amount of indebtedness for dues, and propounding this question, "Are you able, and will you pay the amount? Answer, on your honor as a Mason."

Third. If the companion answers that he is not able, let the matter be referred to a committee to inquire and report as to the truth of the statement, and, if the report be in accord with the statement, let the dues be remitted and the debt forgiven.

Fourth. If the companion be able to pay, either by his own confession or known circumstances, then let the secretary take his note after two years dues have accrued, payable six months from date, and convert the same into money, or hold the same as assets belonging to the Chapter, to be used as circumstances may require. If this be refused, then let him be expelled for unmasonic conduct, and let all such be published annually.

Fifth. Let all subordinate Chapters be exempted from paying dues to the Grand Chapter on all members who have been twenty-five years and more members of the Chapter, and who have paid for that time all dues, and let such members be exempted from paying all dues ever after.

Truly he says that by the present system of suspension more are cut off at one end than come in at the other.

This report we have read with great interest. We find Companion Ogden at all times courteous though candid and firm in the expression of his opinions. He never forgets that it is proper to accord to

another that honesty of purpose which we claim for ourselves. With his views we are pleased to find that we, in the main, agree.

NORTH CAROLINA.

We hail the proceedings of the Thirty-Fourth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held on the 30th May, 1882, with our quondam brother of the quill, Companion James Southgate, M. E. Grand High Priest. Fourteen Chapters were represented.

We have for some years watched with anxiety the listlessness of the Chapters in this jurisdiction, and with great interest the efforts being made by the Grand Chapter for their revival, and with our distinguished Companion we grieve over the present apathy.

Companion Southgate says in his address :

In reviewing the labors of the past year as Grand High Priest, I am free to confess that there is much to discourage. A deadly apathy seems here and there to have fallen upon those who in days gone by were our best workers. To shake off this apathy will require almost superhuman effort. Internal dissensions have rooted out interest in many Chapters, and you will find where brotherly love is wanting, and every moral and social virtue does not cement, a fearful discord which lifts high the danger signal. I have devoted much of the time in endeavoring to ascertain the status of the Royal Craft, and think something has been done to increase that interest among the Craft which will eventuate in good.

Companion Southgate was again elected Grand High Priest, a well deserved token of the estimate put by his companions on his efforts to revive the drooping spirit of the Royal Craft. Persevere Companion, and success will yet crown your efforts.

Companion Donald W. Bain was re-elected Grand Secretary.

No report on correspondence.

OHIO.

The Sixty-Fifty Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State was held on 21st September, 1881. Companion James B. Hovey, M. E. High Priest, and representatives from 113 of 144 Chapters being present.

Companion Hovey's address goes right to business with no ornamentation. This is, we think, a model for others.

There is a considerable surplus in their treasury.

Many of the jurisdictions sympathizingly notice the death of M. E. Grand High Priest Joiner, and this Grand Chapter referred the

official notice of our Grand Secretary to a special committee, who reported as follows :

To the M. E. Grand Chapter R. A. M. of Ohio :

By the official notice of the death of Companion James Hervey Joiner, ex-Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama, this Grand Chapter has learned of the fame of that distinguished Grand Officer, and will, in sympathy with the Royal Arch Companions of our sister jurisdiction, offer the following :

Resolved, That this report be spread upon the record of this Grand Chapter, and a copy be forwarded by the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter to the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama.

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

Companion Daniel A. Scott was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Companion James Nesbitt, Grand Secretary.

Companion Melish again presented the report on correspondence, for the fourth and last time. We have been pleased with his frank and fearless manner, and with what seemed to us the soundness of his views. He introduces our proceedings with the legend so familiar to us :

We begin our report, as usual, alphabetically, with Alabama. We believe the old Indian meaning of this word is : Here we rest. But there is no rest for us until we reach Wisconsin. Whatever "Alabama" may have meant to the aboriginals, it means to the Ohio reporter : Here we begin.

He thinks that the remission of the dues of delinquent Chapters in this jurisdiction to enable the weak ones to again brighten their altar fires, "may be good policy for Alabama, where the Chapters were much prostrated by the civil war and the hard times resulting from it, but would not be good policy for Ohio."

From his conclusion we take—

Death as usual has been busy, and has taken away many a noble craftsman, who is sadly missed from the quarries ; but those who have nobly wrought in their lower fields have gone to receive the reward of all well-done labor at the hands of the Grand Overseer ; and although the workmen perish, yet the work goes on. Especially have we lost from our quarries one Companion, so eminent for his labors, so universally mourned by all civilized men, that we need not indicate him, nor even speak his name. Yes, companions, the cubic stone sweats blood as we think of the deep damnation of his taking off. But he has gone from labor to everlasting refreshment in the presence of the Grand Master of all true craftsmen ; and may we all so live that when death's level shall lay us low, when the earthly crypt shall be closed, and when the last veil that separates us from the Eternal Presence shall be drawn, we may all be again united with the loved and the lost who have gone on before us.

OREGON.

The Twenty-Second Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 9th June, 1882, and the proceedings are before us. Companion David P. Mason, Grand High Priest, presided, there being present representatives from 18 Chapter. The Grand High Priest said that "while some of our sister jurisdictions are compelled to bewail a lack of interest on the part of their subordinates, we have the pleasure to report all of ours in a flourishing condition."

The proceedings were entirely local in their application. This Grand Chapter, like one or two others, seems imbued with the spirit of change, hence we see them wrestling with amendments to their constitution and by-laws.

Companion James F. Robinson was elected M. E. G. High Priest, and Companion R. P. Earhart continued Grand Secretary.

Companion Thos. M. F. Patton, that champion reporter, comes on time to the front with a report peculiarly his own.

His views on the right of any one to withdraw a petition after the same has been read, are given below, and are strictly in accordance with those by which the companions of Alabama are governed :

We deny the right of any companion to object to the reception of a petition, either for the degrees or membership. If this right were admitted it amounts to nothing. The ballot is the only Masonic method of making known our objections. Companion Ogden, in his comments on this question, says he does not think that "an objection thus made would bar the reception and reference of the petition," and yet he argues in favor of allowing the withdrawal of the petition, if objection is made, simply because notice is given that the petitioner cannot be accepted. Masonic laws forbid publicity as to the character of our voting on the acceptance or rejection of applicants. We have no right to declare how we purpose to vote, or how we have voted. Petitions are read, and as a general rule the first information we have in regard to them is when the secretary reads. When once read they certainly are the property of the body and cannot be withdrawn.

A considerable part of his report is devoted to a defence of his position on the question of requiring the Grand High Priest to suspend until the next convocation of the Grand Chapter, any companion whom he fancies or believes to be acting improperly, and in doing so hits our friend Drummond of Maine, some very hard licks. Of course so sound a companion as Companion Patton repudiates any such power.

Hear him on the effect of objection after ballot. He denies the right of any member of a Chapter by a simple objection to stop the candidate and bar further progress.

It has always seemed strange and inconsistent to us that Masons of intelligence should claim, and even advocate and defend the doctrine, that "the right to object to the advancement of a candidate" is a Masonic right, founded upon immemorial usage. We dissent from any such doctrine. With due respect for the opinions of others, there is nothing Masonic about it. It is simply an exercise of an arbitrary power, usurped for questionable purposes, without a shadow of right.

When we, as Masons, were entered as apprentices, we were taught that "Justice" was one of the "cardinal virtues," and that "it should be the invariable practice of every Mason never to deviate from the minutest principle thereof." Now if such principles are sought to be impressed upon the mind of the novice, as the foundation upon which to build his Masonic education, is it not reasonable to suppose that as Royal Arch or Master Masons, we would practice and exemplify this cardinal virtue with as much zeal and earnestness as we would if only Entered Apprentices? Do these cardinal virtues, especially that of "Justice," lose their efficacy as we advance and receive full light and Masonic instruction? Not by any means. In our character of Royal Arch or Master Masons, we are expected to inculcate, by precept and example, *all* the virtues, and we certainly cannot intrench ourselves behind any custom, law or usage, based on the principles which underlie the superstructure of Masonry, and successfully defend this barbarous practice.

When a candidate passes the ordeal of a unanimous ballot, and receives one or more degrees, we are bound by every principle of honor and justice to advance him, unless it can be shown to the satisfaction of a majority of the companions or brethren that good and sufficient cause exists why he should not be; or in other words, that he is unworthy. If this fact is established and his advancement denied, the objector should forthwith prefer charges against him, and, if found guilty, punished by suspension or expulsion. If a candidate is unworthy to be advanced, he is unworthy to be retained. If, he is unfit for the most excellent or royal arch degrees, he is unfit for that of mark master. No argument is required on this point; it is too plain a proposition.

He insists that the objection should be sustained by the Chapter or the candidate proceed.

He is with us on the necessity of the presence of the Charter to constitute a legal chapter.

He violently objects to the granting of a dispensation to confer the degrees out of time. *Au revoir.*

PENNSYLVANIA.

This Grand Chapter holds quarterly communications as they term them, at which much of the business of the Grand Chapter is transacted, thus relieving the Annual Communication. At the quarterly communication held March 3, 1881, there was presented to Companion John Thomson, P. Grand Secretary, a silver snuff and tobacco

box, embellished with emblems of R. A. Masonry in gold, for his long and faithful service, and to Companion J. Alex. Simpson, a magnificent gold watch, for his long and faithful service as assistant Grand Secretary.

Companion Hibbert P. John, M. E. Grand High Priest opened the Annual Convocation on 27th December, 1881.

Capitular Masonry, in this jurisdiction is alive and active, due in a great measure we believe to the system of Grand Visitations, which stimulates to activity and zeal.

Companion John was re-elected Grand High Priest, and Companion Chas. E. Meyer, Grand Secretary.

The report on correspondence is from the pen of Companion Andrew Zane Jr. In it he reviews the proceedings of Alabama for 1880, courteously and pleasantly.

We copy the following to enable us to say, not that strong drink is "a gift of God to man," but that there is nothing which we have—given us by God—however simple, but by improper use may prove injurious.

On the resolution under the head of Alabama, in reference to profane language and intemperance in the use of strong drink, selling the same to others and gambling, by Royal Arch Masons, the committee make use of the following language :

"The Grand Chapter adopted the following resolution ; and we confess ourself much at a loss to distinguish between the heinousness of the offense of him who retails alcoholic liquors and of him who wholesales it, yet this distinction is drawn in the resolution. We might go further and also denounce him who hauls or transports the article, and him who sells the corn, or rye or wheat to the distiller who manufactures it. We are as much opposed to its improper use as any one, and have as little use for the drunkard as any one, but we think that the consumer, not the seller, is to blame. There are none of the gifts of God to man, the inordinate and improper use of which will not prove injurious and degrading."

For fear that some may be misled by the last two sentences of the above, implying that strong drink is one of the gifts of God to man, and that the seller of liquor is not to blame, we must differ from our Companions on these points. We can but think that the one who puts the bottle to his brothers' lips is much to blame. He has, at least, a Woe pronounced against him ; while on the other hand it is said no drunkard can enter into the kingdom of Heaven. The fact is, both are culpable, and we should love to see the time when all Royal Arch Masons shall look upon this evil just in the light of our Companions from Alabama and Oregon, and denounce it as in violation of the Regulations of Royal Arch Masonry, and discreditable to the Craft. As to the implication that strong drink is one of the gifts of God to man, we think our Companions have used these words without serious thought. They could not have meant all that this language implies, and we drop it with but little comment. Strong

drink, like many other things in the world, is made by man, not God, and the habit of using them comes through his own sinfulness or lust.

Notwithstanding his comments above, we find him in somewhat different language to be sure, uttering precisely the same sentiment that we did. Hear :

How about our companions who wholesale it. If a glass of whisky or beer should give cause for alarm among our companions, should not a gallon or a barrel be looked after as well? Does no Royal Arch Mason in the State wholesale the article to a Royal Arch Mason or others who retail it? If not there could be no harm in extending the resolution. If such is the case then we see no difference in the degree of unmasonic conduct. The wholesaler may have more money than the retailer; but rich and poor in Masonry stand on the same level. If you strike at all in such matters don't do the business by retail but let the blow fall upon all alike. It looks to us just like passing a resolution to do away with a little evil while the greater is entirely overlooked. To illustrate, suppose in the resolution in reference to profane language, you had said that you shall not use a little profanity but if you can swear so as to raise the hair on your neighbor's head you can do that with impunity. Would there be any sense in such a resolve; the answer is obvious. The fact is, companions, if you have any right to legislate at all on the subject, you have not gone far enough. The resolution is faulty in other respects, but we trust good may come out of it.

This was Companion Zane's first report; may it not be his last.

QUEBEC.

The Fifth Annual Convocation was held on 27th September, 1881. Companion J. H. Stearns, M. E. Grand Zerubbabel. There were present representatives from ten subordinates. Companion Stearns, in his address, says that "Our increase of membership in the subordinate Chapters has not been large, yet the growth has, I trust been a healthful one."

The proceedings betoken that entire harmony and good will prevail.

Companion Stearns was re-elected G. Z., but having declined again to accept the honor, Companion Frank Edgar was made G. Z., and Angus Grant, Grand Secretary.

Companion Arthur F. Simpson made the correspondence report, kindly noticing Alabama. We did not recognize the name of the committee on correspondence of Alabama when we saw it as P. J. Pillow. Please make your printer put it up **PILLANS**.

The report conveys to our Quebec Companions a correct idea of the condition of the Craft elsewhere. In his conclusion he says :

Our task for the second time is completed, and while it may truly

be termed a task, it has been a most agreeable one. It has given us an opportunity of holding communion with the brightest masonic lights on the continent, and from them, receiving much light and instruction. We are indebted to our co-reporters, for their kindly and indulgent strictures on our first report, and must again ask a continuance of the same, for not launching out into controversies on disputed points. Our constitution has been for such a short time on trial, that we did not consider ourselves compelled to argue from its stand point, especially as a committee has been on duty during the year considering its revision. We are probably the youngest Grand Chapter in North America, and we prefer gradually making our voice heard, than to rush headlong into the conflict.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

This Grand Chapter held its Seventy-first Annual Convocation on the 14th February, 1882, with M. E. Companion J. Adger Smyth, Grand High Priest, presiding. There were present representatives from 19 Chapters.

Of the condition of the Royal Craft, thus speaks the Grand High Priest :

It is with great pleasure that I feel that I can honestly report that in our own jurisdiction there has certainly been no decline, and there are visible many signs of budding promise, which assure us "that there is life in the old land yet," and make us sanguine for the future. Brotherly love prevails throughout our entire borders, and I have not been called upon to hear, much less to decide upon, a single case of grievance during the past year, nor do I know of any matters of appeal to come before your Grand Body. This is cause for heartfelt congratulation. The Grand Secretary's report, however, will show considerable dereliction on the part of some of the subordinate Chapters, with regard to their dues to the Grand Chapter, and upon this point I urge your careful but decisive action.

Thus giving cause for congratulation and rejoicing.

The financial condition of the Grand Chapter has for years been a subject of annoyance to the Companions, and Companion Smyth expresses some very sensible views, when he says :

Be this as it may, our financial condition is such that we must act promptly as well as decisively, and whatever may be the causes of the difficulties, as a matter of vital importance, we must remove them. For several years past our expenses have exceeded our receipts, a state of things that ought not to exist. I am aware that I am treading upon dangerous ground in alluding to this subject, but as a business man, I am talking to business men, who by becoming Royal Arch Masons, are not supposed to have left their business education behind them. This question of receipts and expenditures should be divested of all sentiment, and placed upon simple business principles, and when the Grand Chapter so determines, the solution is simple, and the result is certain.

This is in connection with the subject of mileage and per diem. Our method where neither are paid has worked well with us and has thus far enabled us to pass the period of greatest depression, and still be out of debt.

Companion Smyth was re-elected Grand High Priest, and Companion J. E. Burke, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary had prepared a report on Correspondence, and the Committee to whom it was referred recommended its publication, but the Committee on Finance after showing that the receipts after paying the current expenses, including mileage, &c., would be short \$250, "recommended that the report on Correspondence be omitted from the proceedings of this year."

TENNESSEE.

The pamphlet of proceedings, February 3d, 1882, contains an excellent likeness of our very eminent and distinguished Companion, John Frizzell. The proceedings are of the Fifty-third Annual Convocation, over which Companion Gideon R. Gwynn, M. E. Grand High Priest, presided, representatives from 44 Chapters being present.

During the year the Grand High Priest arrested the charters of 17 Chapters. After giving this information, he says :

This subject demands our most serious and earnest attention. I am sorry to report that it is not as flourishing in this Grand Jurisdiction as it ought to be. I believe if left to itself a few years longer, it will settle into that apathy and indifference that is worse than death ; but I am satisfied, with an earnest effort, it could *now* be easily aroused to a new life and a promising future.

Proceedings purely local in their application ; funds scarce ; Chapters dying, and no report on Correspondence. Let us, however, hope for better in the future.

Companion William E. Eastman was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Companion John Frizzell, Grand Secretary.

TEXAS.

The proceedings of the Thirty-second Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Texas are before us. It was held on the 8th December, 1881, being presided over by John B. McMahon, M. E. Grand High Priest. There were 63 Chapters represented. The address is very short and treats of local matters only, and contains only one decision. From it we are inclined to fear that there is no great growth

of R. A. Masonry, but that the altar fires in some parts are burning dimly.

The balance in Treasury is, however, good.

We find, however, from the reports of the Grand Visitors that the Chapters are doing well and displaying great interest. The returns of the Chapters show a gain of nine in the membership during the year.

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

Companion Peyton Nowlin was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion Robert Brewster, re-elected Grand Secretary.

The report on Correspondence was again made by Companion Robert M. Elgin. Alabama receives fair notice, and with the copy of the circular of our Grand Secretary announcing the death of our lamented Grand High Priest, we find: "To the Grand Chapter of Alabama, the Companions of that jurisdiction, and the immediate family of the deceased, we extend the assurances of our sympathy and earnest condolence."

Under Connecticut, in allusion to the catholic views of Companion Barlow on the powers of the G. G. Chapter, he thus comments:

We quote this with some hesitancy, lest by our indorsement Companion Barlow should be accused of disloyalty. So long as it and its advocates claim only such powers as were delegated by the founders, the General Grand Chapter may expect, and will have the respect of those within as well as without the pale of its jurisdiction. The assumption of authority unauthorized by its Constitution, and acting upon principles contrary to the theory of its organism, are the dangers to be counteracted.

We quote largely his reply to Companion Drummond of Maine, in relation to the attitude of the G. G. Chapter to the Grand Chapter of Texas, because the resolution to *discipline* the Grand Chapter of Texas is still pending and will be up before the G. G. Chapter in Denver at its Convocation in 1883. Companion Elgin might, if he had been present at Detroit, have seen how far that body was from passing any resolution to discipline. Companion Innes' resolution to this effect, moved as a substitute for that of the committee, received but one vote on a call of the Grand Chapters, and that vote was his own. But as this matter was deferred until the last day, it was plain that the interest felt in the subject would lead to a lengthy debate, so the whole matter was laid over to the meeting in Denver. It was hoped by those opposed to such action that sober reflection of three years would soften the feelings of its advocates, and a sound judgment be allowed to govern. The opponents, though quiet, were neither few nor weak.

We beg our Companions to note the closing sentiments. They are what was to have been expected, and in full accord with the rules which govern all human beings; and there were many there who thought that the report of the majority with the address of M. E. Grand High Priest Frizzell, were unfortunate at least:

We are glad to hear that the subject was discussed with the "most fraternal feelings toward our Texas Companions and that," among all the Companions, only the most fraternal feelings toward the Companions of Texas was found.

It puts a different phase upon the proceedings from that conveyed by the Journals. So far as we could see from the Printed Proceedings, the majority report fully indorsed the views and opinions of the General Grand High Priest, and thought it better to wait until the next Triennial Convocation before carrying them into effect. It looked from the face of them that they hoped, with the threat of certain punishment hanging over it, the Grand Chapter of Texas would be frightened into terms. We were more deeply impressed with this feature by the rejection of Companion Speed's report. It was a dignified and unanswerable constitutional argument. It was couched in respectful language, and showed the most profound regard for the opinions of his fellow committeemen. Companion Drummond may well content himself with the assertion that he proceeded upon an "absurd" assumption without attempting to refute his argument. He is too good a constitutional lawyer not to know that the point made by Companion Speed, that as the Constitution denied to the General Grand Chapter the power of discipline, admonition, censure or instruction over Grand Chapters, it could not delegate that power to the General Grand High Priest, was well taken.

Now, as to its application: Companion Frizzell recommended that immediate and decisive steps be taken to discipline the Grand Chapter of Texas. The committee, or a majority of it, concurred with M. E. Companion Frizzell in all except the immediate application of the punishment, and recommended that it be deferred until the next Convocation, "unless some emergency shall meanwhile arise requiring definite action, and which in such case, the General Grand High Priest is hereby fully authorized and empowered to take." Now, if we can understand the English language, that resolution would have given the General Grand High Priest the power, whenever in his judgment an "emergency" should arise, to inflict discipline on the Grand Chapter of Texas. Companion Drummond says that the latter part of the resolution was intended to apply to a particular matter. But it is not so expressed, and the authority was left entirely within the discretion of the presiding officer, to be exercised upon any occasion that he might have considered emergent.

We think it hardly fair for Companion Drummond to attack the report of Companion Speed in the contemptuous manner which he adopted. We suppose he had an opportunity of discussing it at the time of its proposition, and after it was defeated it seems to us he ought to have considered the discussion at an end, and not have attacked it when Companion Speed had no opportunity to reply. His complaint that the report was not shown to the majority seems to us

to be captious. In ordinary legislative bodies it is not customary for the minority of a committee making an adverse report to submit it to the majority. It is not done in our State Legislatures, or in Masonic bodies, so far as our observation goes.

Companion Drummond devotes considerable space in reply to us. We have discussed this matter with Companion D. for several years, and it really looks as if each was determined to have the last word. It looks, too, as if from one year to another is rather "too long between drinks" for a discussion to be carried on profitably, and we had intended to say very little in regard to this imbroglia in this report. And we hope, whether we ever write another or not, that this is the last time we will feel called upon to discuss it.

He reproves us for, as he charges, insinuating that Companion Tucker had changed his opinion on this subject from certain causes. We accept the reproof in the spirit in which it was given, but will say to Companion Drummond that Companion Tucker is a member of our Grand Chapter, and is amply able to defend himself from any attack that we may make, and has every opportunity of doing so. Our intercourse has been cordial, and we have no wish to do him injustice. He never appeared in Grand Chapter to defend the report on this question, which he fathered. He has never been there since to dispense light on this or any other question. We do not know why it has been so, or what causes have prevented him. We leave it to Companion Drummond, who has so ably defended the report of Companion Tucker, to say whether the latter should call upon Hercules without first putting his own shoulder to the wheel.

But while accusing us of imputing certain motives to Companion Tucker, he assumes to say that the committee, of which Companion Botts was the mouthpiece, never thought of the grounds upon which the Grand Chapter of Texas dissolved its connection with the General Grand Chapter until we brought it up.

We do not pretend to say what the committee did or did not think of. But it certainly is very unreasonable to suppose that in discussing so grave a subject they did not read over the resolution of withdrawal. That resolution stated the cause, and we have done nothing more than to repeat what was in the resolution, and in our feeble way to maintain the legality of the proceedings when denied by Companion Drummond and others. He says:

This assumes that it owed allegiance to the General Grand Chapter; and if so, it necessarily was of the same nature of that which a Chapter owes to its Grand Chapter. We also admit that a separation *de facto* had the same effect for the time being as a separation *de jure*. If a General Grand Chapter had been formed for the Confederate States, we admit, for the sake of the argument, at any rate, that it would have been regular under the American doctrine, and when the civil government was restored, it would have rightfully continued to exist. Precisely as with the Lodges in West Virginia, if that State should be restored to Virginia, the Grand Lodge of West Virginia would rightfully continue to exist. But if no new Grand Lodge had been formed, the allegiance of the Lodges would never have been changed. The system of government under which the Grand Chapter of Texas was formed, required a General Grand Chapter as much as a Lodge requires a Grand Lodge, and each one of the West Vir-

ginia Lodges had as much right to declare itself a Sovereign Grand Lodge, as the Grand Chapter of Texas had to declare itself independent of a General Grand Chapter. The American doctrine has never been carried so far as that, and no attempt has been made to do so, except in this particular case.

We do not remember to have used the word *allegiance* in speaking of the connection of the Grand Chapter of Texas with the General Grand Chapter. The Grand Chapter of Texas, as one of the "confederation" of Grand Chapters that composed the General Grand Chapter, while a member thereof was bound by its Constitution, as the other Grand Chapters were. That we have never denied. But we do deny, and are surprised at Companion Drummond's assertion, that the bond of union was of the nature of that allegiance, which a Chapter owes to its Grand Chapter. They are different in theory, in principle and in fact. A Grand Chapter, like a Grand Lodge, is supposed to be the source of power and authority, and its powers are *limited* only by its Constitution. The General Grand Chapter on the other hand, has no powers except such as are expressly *conferred* by the Constitution. In theory, the Grand Chapter is not formed by the Subordinate Chapters, and the latter have no *reserved* rights, but only such as are conferred by the parent body. But the General Grand Chapter is a "confederation" between the independent State Grand Chapters, and they confer such powers as they do not desire to reserve for themselves or their Subordinates, or the individual Royal Arch Masons.

In its nature of a confederation, the General Grand Chapter is a mere *advisory* body, and the Grand Chapters being sovereign, are not subject to "discipline, admonition, censure, or instruction" at its hands. But a Grand Chapter is a *governing* Body, and can punish its subordinates by discipline, admonition, censure or instruction, even to the revocation of its Charter. All these are facts too well known to be denied, and show a very marked difference between the relations of a Chapter to its Grand Chapter, and that of the Grand Chapter to the General Grand Chapter.

Nor is his position, that if a General Grand Chapter had been formed in the Confederate States the case would have been different, any more tenable.

We have shown above that the General Grand Chapter is, as its Constitution expressly states, a "confederation of State Grand Chapters." To form a confederation presupposes the existence of equal independent organizations. If independent, the several Grand Chapters in the Confederate States had the right to form a confederate body or not, as they saw proper. They were not bound to do so by ancient usage, for that in the United States, instead of being the rule is an exception to the rule, and the only confederation of Grand Chapters in existence, so far as we have ever heard or read.

He says we argue "fiercely" from the standpoint that those who oppose us hold that we are irregular, and the Chapters created by the Grand Chapter of Texas are illegal, and says: "No one doubts that the Grand Chapter of Texas is as regular as any other, and all the Companions of its obedience 'regular Royal Arch Masons.'" We were never before accused of fierceness, and thought we were considered as "mild a mannered man as"—as Companion Drummond. We

have only argued the logical result of Companion Drummond's reasoning. We are very glad to meet our Companions from every jurisdiction on the basis of equal good standing, and if the Companion can reconcile this remark of his with the position assumed above, as to the nature of the relations of the several Grand Bodies to each other, we are more than willing that he should do so.

We are very much inclined to believe that Companion Drummond is arguing the question very much as a lawyer does a case which he has been employed to defend. He does it more from what he thinks is his duty as a friend of the General Grand Chapter than from conviction. We think if he would summon the moral courage to say what he has said above, and leave out "for the sake of argument, at any rate," as well as that portion in regard to a General Grand Chapter for the Confederate States, he will but express his honest convictions. Texas would not have the General Grand Chapter do anything incompatible with its dignity. It is never derogatory to the character of a nation to concede to another government that to which it is entitled by the recognized principles of international law. Neither should it be considered humiliating for the General Grand Chapter and its adherents to acknowledge that the law is with Texas, and her attitude legitimate. Were this the case, and the question presented on the broad basis of a free and voluntary association for congenial Masonic intercourse, and a triennial assemblage of Grand Representatives for consultation, interchange of views, social intercourse, and the cultivation of national unity, we are prepared to say that the opposition of many, if not all who now oppose the union, would be hushed.

But Companion Tucker and all others who have written upon this subject have required that the Grand Chapter should stultify itself. The General Grand Chapter treats her as a contumacious subordinate. G. A. G. H. P. Frizzell threatened her, and when his threats failed to frighten her into submission, tried, and came very near getting the General Grand Chapter to overrule its Constitution to carry them into effect, and the committee, of which Companion Drummond was a member, recommended that the threats be held over us until the next Triennial Convocation. As we said above, Texas would not have the General Grand Chapter do anything inconsistent with its dignity, but she does not propose to be humiliated herself. Grounded in the belief that her action twenty years ago was legal and Masonic, that from that time to the present her conduct toward her sister Grand Chapters composing the General Grand Chapter has been as kind and fraternal as to those, who like Pennsylvania and the Virginias, are independent of it, and to all as friendly as they could be, she does not wish to get back in the attitude of an "erring sister," of a "coerced" Subordinate, or cringing under threats of non-intercourse. When she comes in it must be in such a manner that her Grand High Priest need not hang his head with shame, but as he first entered the door of Masonry, freely and voluntarily. More than this, no true Mason ought to require; to less than this, we trust that Texas will never consent.

We can however, dwell no longer with Texas.

VERMONT.

The Grand Chapter of Vermont was convened in the Sixty-Fifth Annual Convocation on 16th June, 1882. M. E. Companion Homer M. Phelps, Grand High Priest, and representatives from every subordinate, twenty-five in number, being present, thus indicating the zeal of our companions in the Green Mountain State. The address of the Grand High Priest is of local interest, except wherein he announces the death of the M. E. Grand High Priest of the G. G. Chapter, Companion Robert Farmer Bower—which comes home to, and should excite the sympathies of the companions of every jurisdiction owing allegiance to the G. Grand Chapter.

There were no grievances, no appeals and a fair balance in the treasury.

During the year there were 45 lost to the Chapters, while there were 70 added, a net gain of 25.

Companions Phelps and William H. S. Whitcomb, were severally re-elected Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary.

Companion Edward S. Dana again presented the report on correspondence. Alabama receives kind notice and deep sympathy in her distress at the loss of her loved and honored Grand High Priest, Joiner. Well and truly has he termed ourself a "patient toiler in the service" of the Grand Chapter, for like others where the wit is wanting labor must make amends.

Companion Dana has anticipated us in the remark that "the questions for discussion narrow each year and are confined to a few points." This is truly a source of congratulation, and, in our opinion, is largely due to the just, free and frank expressions of opinion to be found in these reports. He enunciated it in his introduction, we intended to do it in our conclusion.

We fully agree with him in the following opinion. Differing from Companion Larnier of District of Columbia, he says :

He still adheres to his singular notion that where a Companion has been suspended by a vote of his Chapter, under a misapprehension, a vote to reconsider cannot be entertained when made at *the same meeting*. As Companion Larnier is generally sound on most questions, we forgive him this idiosyncrasy, and must think that a body can always correct its own errors, if discovered at the time, or at the same meeting they occur. We believe the gathered wisdom of the guild must sustain us in this, marching in column of threes, with Patton's Band at the fore.

Under Louisiana, he says :

We call the attention of Companion Pillans of Alabama to this, for

he does not seem to have heard of such attempts as this to dilute Freemasonry, or of that lethargy of indolence to which we alluded in our opening remarks last year. If he will study his exchanges a little more closely, he will perhaps receive "further light."

This in reference to the Mississippi plan. We have not been ignorant of this disturbing element, nor could we have excluded it from our vision if we would. But we have wished to see these beautiful degrees perpetuated and not lost, though we feared from the condition of Councils in Alabama, that this must have been their fate, and rather than this we thought the Virginia plan, now misnamed the "Mississippi plan," might preserve them. The plan worked there why not elsewhere? Yet, if the organization of the G. G. Council will effect the object we shall be entirely content. We have never seen any reason for the feeling frequently exhibited, or the eloquence displayed by the advocates of either plan, but we have seen cause for great and well grounded apprehension in the intemperate course of the fledgling G. G. Council. We think if Companion Dana "will study his exchanges" he will find the ominous mutterings of the coming storm, unless greater prudence and a wiser sagacity than has yet been displayed by the G. G. Council shall be exercised. This storm will involve Capitular Masonry.

We regret that financial considerations will prevent our dwelling longer with our interesting brother.

VIRGINIA.

This Grand Chapter was assembled in Annual Convocation for the seventy-fifth time on the 8th August, 1882, Companion George R. Atkinson, M. E. Grand High Priest, in the East, and representatives from 18 subordinates being present.

The Grand High Priest represents the Craft as fair in condition, and congratulates the Grand Chapter that "peace has dwelt within our borders and the past has been a year of great harmony among us, and I feel assured that the reports will show equal prosperity." The reports of the District Deputy Grand Lecturers do not sustain this anticipation. We hope, however, for the future.

The business was entirely local in its application.

Companion Henry William Murray was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Companion William B. Isaacs, Grand Secretary.

There was no report on Correspondence.

WISCONSIN.

The proceedings of the Thirty-second Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter come to us embellished with the portraits of the Grand High Priest, Fred Ring Jr., who presided over this session, held on the 21st February, 1882, and with that also of our esteemed friend the Grand Secretary, Companion John W. Woodhull. Fifty-two Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest says "the reception of new material has been in excess of former years."

We find a "Committee on Distribution of Keys." What does this mean? eh! Will Companion Cottrill enlighten us?

Companion John M. Evans was elected Grand High Priest, and Companion Woodhull, Grand Secretary.

Companion Cottrill presents us with his meditations on the proceedings of other jurisdictions. It is written '*currente calamo*' with few extracts, yet is very full.

His view is that "suspension is suspension; only this and nothing more." Whether this be for N. P. D. or unmasonic conduct. He asks: "But is not the fact the same in each case? and are we to look further than to the fact that a Lodge member has lost his standing?" Our views exactly.

We sincerely regret to see him at this late day using such language as he has in relation to Texas. He should recollect that a "patriot is a rebel who succeeds, a rebel is the patriot who fails." We should "learn to subdue our passions" and exercise that charity to others which we hope for ourselves. "Let him that is without sin cast the first stone."

CONCLUSION.

We congratulate the Craft that though the increase of our members has not been great, yet we have no cause for regret. The various other secret organizations with their endowment plans have for a time had their influence upon our progress, but as the various Masonic organizations have kept their garments unspotted by these ephemera, but have adhered firmly to the landmarks and objects of the Order, so they have still maintained their reputation for usefulness, and the light of their fires are again beginning to guide the unwary and lure them from those *ignes fatui*.

We congratulate the Craft on the maintenance of principle, and still more on the harmony generally prevailing. Various questions which were a short time since esteemed mooted ones no longer

trouble the Companions, and there seems at present to be but three which threaten disturbances. These are—

The effect for non-payment of dues and consequent suspension from the Lodge.

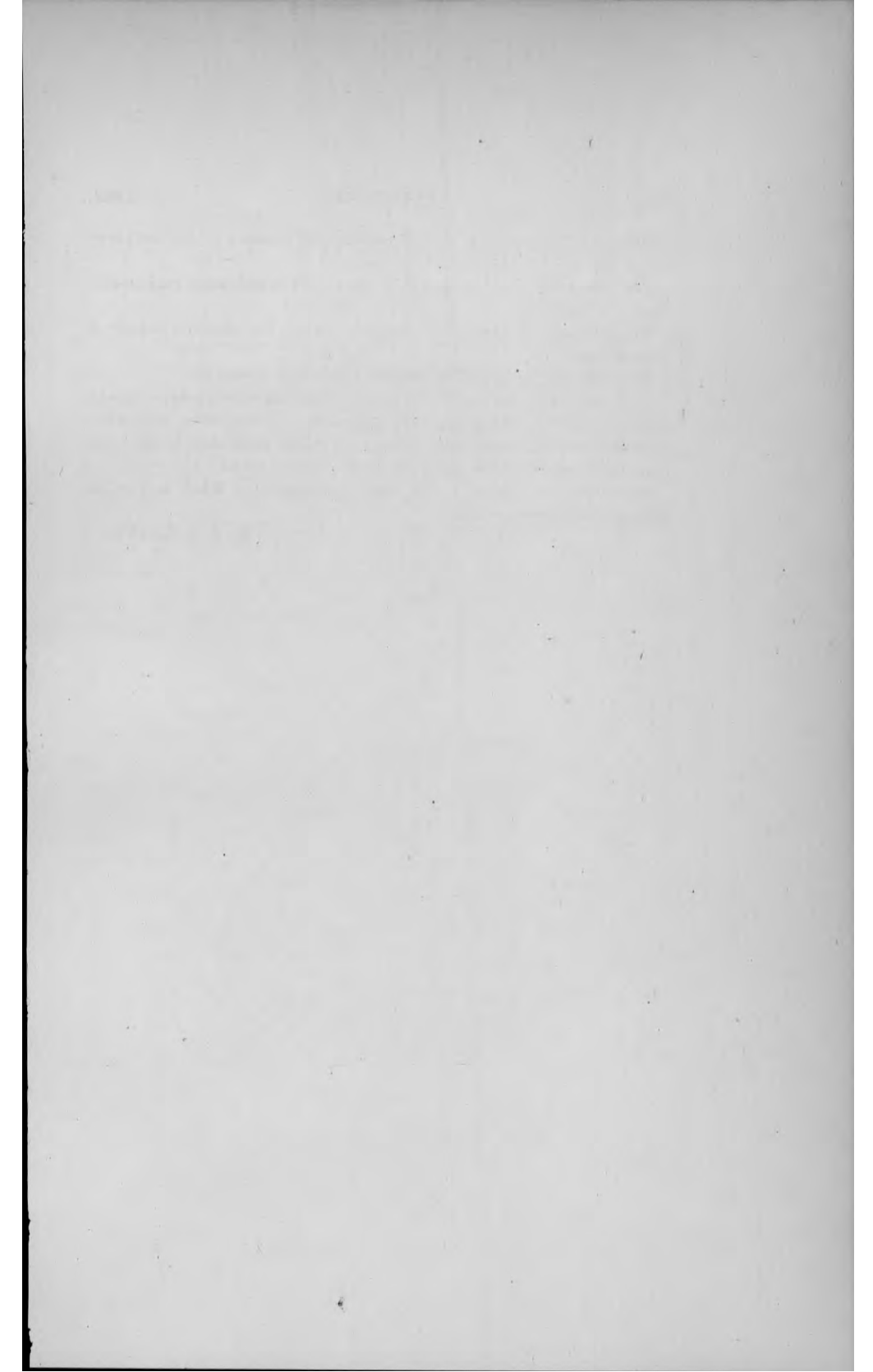
The position of our G. G. Chapter toward the Grand Chapter of Texas. And

The effect of the probable course of the G. G. Council.

This latter may yet prove a disturbing element which may seriously affect Capitular Masonry. Let temperance, moderation and wise counsels prevail, and all will yet be well. The same may be perhaps more emphatically declared in reference to the second.

And now, Companions, our task is finished. "What is writ, is writ, would it were worthier."

P. J. PILLANS.



RECAPITULATION OF ROYAL ARCH MASONRY IN
From Authentic Data

STATES.	DATE OF ORGANIZATION.	LAST CONVOCATION ; WHERE AND WHEN HELD.	No. of Subordinates.
Alabama	June 2, 1827 ; Dec. 8, 1837.	Montgomery, Dec. 6, 1881.	34
Arkansas	April 28, 1851.	Little Rock, Nov. 19, 1881.	43
California	July 27, 1854.	San Francisco, April 12, 1881.	52
Colorado	May 11, 1875.	Denver, Sept. 22, 1881.	11
Connecticut	March 17, 1798.	New Haven, May 10, 1881.	38
Delaware	January 20, 1869.	Wilmington, Jan. 19, 1881.	6
District of Columbia	May 3, 1867.	Washington, Dec. 14, 1881.	8
Florida	January 11, 1847.	Jacksonville, Jan. 18, 1881.	7
Georgia	February 3, 1822.	Macon, April 27, 1881.	41
Illinois	April 9, 1850.	Chicago, Oct. 27, 1881.	170
Indiana	December 25, 1845.	Indianapolis, Oct. 19, 1881.	84
Iowa	June 3, 1854.	Des Moines, Oct. 25, 1881.	94
Kansas	January 27, 1854.	Topeka, Feb. 15, 1881.	47
Kentucky	December 4, 1817.	Louisville, October 18, 1881.	108
Louisiana	March 1, 1813 ; May 1, 1848.	New Orleans, Feb. 15, 1881.	27
Maine	February 7, 1821.	Portland, May 3, 1881.	43
Maryland	June 14, 1797 ; Nov. 9, 1814.	Baltimore, Nov. 8, 1881.	11
Massachusetts	June 12, 1798.	Boston, Dec. 13, 1881.	68
Michigan	March 9, 1848.	East Saginaw, Jan. 18, 1881.	99
Minnesota	December 17, 1859.	St. Paul, Oct. 11, 1881.	33
Mississippi	May 18, 1846.	Jackson, Feb. 7, 1881.	56
Missouri	October 16, 1846.	St. Louis, May 5, 1881.	87
Nebraska	March 19, 1867.	Lincoln, Dec. 20, 1881.	23
Nevada	November 18, 1873.	Virginia, June 13, 1881.	8
New Hampshire	June 10, 1819.	Concord, May 17, 1881.	20
New Jersey	November 30, 1856.	Trenton, Sept. 14, 1881.	34
New York	March 14, 1798.	Albany, Feb. 1, 1881.	190
North Carolina	June 21, 1822 ; June 28, 1847.	Asheville, May 31, 1881.	17
Ohio	October 24, 1816.	Toledo, Sept. 21, 1881.	139
Oregon	September 18, 1860.	Portland, June 10, 1881.	18
Pennsylvania	December 17, 1824.	Philadelphia, Dec. 27, 1881.	103
Rhode Island	March —, 1797.	Providence, March 8, 1881.	10
South Carolina	May 29, 1812.	Charleston, Feb. 15, 1881.	21
Tennessee	April 3, 1828.	Nashville, Feb. 3, 1882.	73
Texas	January 22, 1850.	Houston, Dec. 8, 1881.	86
Vermont	Dec. 20s 1804 ; July 18, 1849.	Burlington, June 17, 1881.	25
Virginia	May 6, 1803.	Richmond, Dec. 15, 1881.	33
West Virginia	November 16, 1871.	Wheeling, Nov. —, 1881.	14
Wisconsin	February 13, 1850.	Milwaukee, Feb. 15, 1881.	52
General G. Chapter	January 24, 1798.	Detroit, August 24, 1880.	16
Canada	January 20, 1857.	Hamilton, July 15, 1881.	76
Nova Scotia	June —, 1870.	Halifax, May 31, 1881.	10
Quebec	December 12, 1876.	Montreal, Sept. 27, 1881.	11

THE UNITED STATES, CANADA, AND NOVA SCOTIA.

Received for Year 1881.

No. of Members.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF GRAND HIGH PRIEST.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.
800	L. W. Jenkins, Camden.....	Palmer J. Pillans, Mobile.
1,200	Caleb H. Stone, Camden.....	
2,932	Henry Sayre Orme, Los Angeles.....	Thos. H. Caswell, San Francisco.
539	Roger W. Woodbury, Denver.....	Edward H. Collins, Denver.
4,112	Chas. W. Skiff, New Haven.....	John H. Barlow, Birmingham.
326	John W. Lawson, Wilmington.....	W. G. W. Lewis, Middletown.
1,095	James P. Pearson, Washington.....	Noble D. Larner, Washington.
205	W. A. McLean, Jacksonville.....	
1,394	J. E. Lambdin, Barnesville.....	
10,321	John P. Norvell, Danville.....	Theodore T. Gurney, Chicago.
4,400	Chas. H. Butterfield, Evansville.....	Albert P. Charles, Seymour.
4,800	A. C. Sherwood, Marshalltown.....	H. S. Winslow, Newton.
1,522	Silas E. Sheildon, Topeka.....	John H. Brown, Wyandotte.
2,769	R. J. Laughlin, Nebo.....	Hiram Bassett, Millersburg.
931	Andrew Hero Jr., New Orleans.....	Joseph P. Horner, New Orleans.
4,090	Joseph A. Locke, Portland.....	Josiah H. Drummond, Portland.
1,003	Wm. F. Cochran, Baltimore.....	Edward T. Schultz, Baltimore.
9,130	P. C. Smith, Boston.....	Rev. J. W. Dadmum, Boston.
7,315	C. H. Axtell, Ionia.....	William P. Innes, Grand Rapids.
1,932	O. G. Miller, St. Paul.....	A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul.
1,540	Erederic Speed, Vicksburg.....	P. M. Savery, Baldwin.
3,950	Samuel H. Owens, California.....	William H. Mayo, St. Louis.
932	Samuel P. Davidson, Tecumseh.....	Edwin F. Warren, Nebraska City.
412	Frank Bell, Reno.....	John D. Hammond, Carson.
2,220	A. S. Wait, Newport.....	John J. Bell, Exeter.
2,475	I. Layton Register, Camden.....	George B. Edward, Jersey City.
15,276	W. T. Woodruff, 402 West 22d, New York.....	John W. Simons, New York City.
642	James Southgate, Durham.....	
8,809	Daniel A. Scott, Akron.....	J. Kelly O'Neill, Lebanon.
572	David P. Mason, Albany.....	Thomas McF. Patton, Salem.
10,000	H. P. John, Broad Street, Philadelphia.....	Andrew Zane, Philadelphia.
1,634	John P. Sanborn, Newport.....	Geo. H. Burnham, Providence.
577	J. Adgar Smyth, Charleston.....	J. E. Burke, Charleston.
2,385	Wm. E. Eastman, Nashville.....	
3,260	Payton Nowlin, Waxahachie.....	R. M. Elgin, Houston.
1,952	Homer M. Phelps, Burlington.....	Edwin S. Dana, New Haven.
1,516	George R. Atkinson, Smithfield.....	William B. Isaacs, Richmond.
520	W. H. H. Flick, Martinsburg.....	
3,275	Fred. Ring, La Crosse.....	Jedd P. C. Cottrill, Milwaukee.
680	R. F. Bower, G. G. H. P., Keokuk, Iowa.....	
3,480	Donald Ross, Grand Z., Pickton.....	Henry Robertson, Collinwood.
435	James Gossip, Halifax.....	George T. Smithers, Halifax.
410	Frank. Edgar, Grand Z., Montreal.....	J. H. Graham, LL.D., Richmond.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,

IN ACCOUNT WITH DANIEL SAYRE,

GRAND SECRETARY.

1881.	CR.	
Dec. 6.	By Dues received at Grand Convocation..	—\$500 75
“ 10.	“ Contingent Fund.....	200 00
1882.	BACK DUES.	
March 8.	By Notasulga No. 92.....	8 25
Nov. 10.	“ Warrior No. 103.....	16 00 24 25
	“ Cash for 2 Codes.....	2 00
		\$727 00

1881.	DR.	
Dec. 14.	To amount paid Grand Treasurer.....	\$500 75
1882.		
Mar. 8.	To paid Dues to General Grand Chapter..	8 09
	“ “ Barrett & Brown.....	118 50
Apr. 25.	“ “ Postage.....	10 00
	“ “ James Davidson.....	1 40
Nov. 30.	“ “ Grand Treasurer.....	88 26—\$727 00

MONTGOMERY, December 5, 1882.

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

WILLIAM H. DINGLEY,

GRAND TREASURER,

IN ACCOUNT WITH THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA.

1881.

DR.

Dec. 6. To Balance.....\$ 86 68

14. " Received from Grand Secretary..... 500 75

1882.

Nov. 30. " Received from Grand Secretary..... 88 26—\$675 69

1881.

CR.

Dec. 7. By Com. on Correspondence.....1 \$ 75 00

" " Work, J. H. Johnson.....2 30 00

" " " L. W. Jenkins.....6 36 00

" " " H. C. Armstrong...7 8 25

9. " Grand Sentinel.....8 15 00

14. " " Secretary.....9 200 00

" " Treasurer.....10 25 00

" Contingent Fund.....11 200 00

" Balance on hand..... 86 44—\$675 69

MONTGOMERY, ALA. December 5, 1882.

WM. H. DINGLEY,

Grand Treasurer.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

To the M. Ex. 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. Ex. Grand Secretary has received from all sources.....\$727 00
All of which he has paid out on proper vouchers submitted to us.

The R. Ex. Grand Treasurer had on hand at last report...\$ 86 68
and has received from the R. Ex. Grand Secretary the sum of 589 01

Making a total of.....\$675 69
And has paid out on proper vouchers.....\$589 25

Leaving a balance of.....\$ 86 44
Add receipts at this Convocation.....365 75

Making a total of.....\$452 19
“ Estimated further receipts of about.....25 00

Making a total of.....\$477 19

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

To Grand Treasurer, for services last year.....\$ 25 00
“ “ Secretary. “ “ “ “200 00
“ Com. on Foreign Correspondence.....75 00
“ Grand Sentinel for present Convocation.....15 00
“ Grand Secretary for Contingent Fund.....150 00—\$465 00

Leaving a *probable* balance on hand of.....\$12 19

In view of the *limited* resources of this Grand Chapter, which barely provides the means for meeting *current expenses*, your committee feel

unwilling to close this report without recommending the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the practice of presenting Testimonials to retiring Grand Officers, or for other purposes, be discontinued from this date,—this resolution not to impair existing obligations of the Grand Chapter.

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.
10	Tuscumbia	24	\$.							2
13	Gainesville	24	18 00							1
20	Livingston.	17	12 75							1
21	Mobile	32	24 00	3	3	3	3			2
22	Montgomery	57	42 75	3	3	3	6			4
23	Talladega	20	15 00							
26	Union	22	16 50							1
28	Saint Johns	37	27 75	1	1	1	1	1		1
38	Decatur.	30	22 50	4	4	4	4			
40	Camden	16	12 00	1	1	1	1			
44	Choctaw	15	11 25							1
54	Tyrian.	46	35 25	1	1	3		3		1
56	Zerubbabel	20	24 00	4	4	5	5			
64	Central.	18	13 50							
66	Alabama.	35	26 25	6	6	9	9		1	
71	Landmark.	29	21 75	1						
73	Gordon	21								
83	Bell	14	10 50	3	3	3	3	2		1
85	Gaston	16	12 75							
86	Coosa	20	15 00							
87	Moulton	17	12 75							
92	Notasulga	17	12 75	6	6	6	6			
93	Columbus	16	12 00							1
96	Daniel Pratt.	14	10 50							1
104	Weogufka	24	18 00			1				2

AT REST.

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

Benjamin W. Hudson, Jan. 2.....	Tuscumbia.....	No. 10
John E. Foust, June 7.....	Livingston.....	" 20
Alonzo L. Willoughby, Nov. 12.....	Mobile.....	" 21
Lyman P. Wells.....	Montgomery.....	" 22
Andrew Engelhardt, Nov.....		
James W. Woodson.....	Camden.....	" 40
James C. Morgan.....	Choctaw.....	" 44
Alfred Boyd, Sept. 21.....	Tyrian.....	" 54
John Merrick, Jan. 28—75 years.....	Landmark.....	" 71
William H. Hill, July 26.....	Moulton.....	" 87
James A Nummy, Mar. 18—49 years.....	Daniel Pratt.....	" 96

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

William J. Whitsitt.....	Gainesville.....	No. 13
John J. Leitch.....	Montgomery.....	" 22
Daniel H. Thweatt.....	Talladega.....	" 23
Samuel P. Bondurant.....	Union.....	" 26
Gilbert S. Nicholson.....		
Charles Lovelady.....	Saint Johns.....	" 28
Michael J. Niel.....		
John M. Reeder.....		
Burr C. Warner.....	Camden.....	" 40
John A. C. Horn.....		
Joseph C. Avent.....	Tyrian.....	" 54
Henry M. Bradley.....		
William J. Chancey.....		
Urban L. Jones.....	Landmark.....	" 71
William H. Jolley.....		
William M. Love.....	Bell.....	" 83
John Jolly.....	Gaston.....	" 85
Thomas C. Moon.....		
Joseph W. Dunham.....	Weogufka.....	" 104
James Y. Penington.....		
Floyd H. Hastie.....		
Thomas J. McCaine.....		
Robert A. Leslie.....		

REINSTATED.

Garrett Van Antwerp.....	}	Mobile.....	No. 21
Joseph A. Carter.....		Montgomery.....	" 22
Frederick H. Warren.....	}	Union.....	" 26
John M. Jeffers.....		Choctaw.....	" 44
John T. Wilson.....	}	Gaston.....	" 85
J. King Ryan.....			
John T. Foster.....			
Joseph C. Woodward.....			

RECAPITULATION.

Chapters that made Returns.....	24
Chapters that paid Dues.....	24
Chapters that were represented.....	24
Number of Representatives present.....	38
Members reported at this Convocation.....	601
Estimate of members not reported.....	132
Dues received at this Convocation.....	\$427, 50

WORK OF THE YEAR.

Advanced since last Grand Convocation.....	33
Presided since last Grand Convocation.....	32
Received and Acknowledged.....	39
Exalted since last Grand Convocation.....	38
Affiliated " " " ".....	6
Rejected " " " ".....	1
Dimitted " " " ".....	19
Died " " " ".....	11
Expelled " " " ".....	0
Suspended U. M. C.....	0
Suspended N. P. D.....	23
Reinstated.....	8
Chapters square upon the Books.....	24

MEMORANDA.

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.
.....		District of Columbia.
LUCKY W. JENKINS, M. D.	Camden	Illinois.
PELEG BROWN	Mobile	Indiana.
MYLES J. GREENE, M. D.	Talladega	Iowa.
JOHN GIDEON HARRIS	Livingston	Kansas.
HENRY F. MULLEN	Selma	Kentucky.
PALMER J. PILLANS	Mobile	Louisiana.
WILLIAM S. FOSTER	Mobile	Maryland.
.....		Massachusetts.
.....		Minnesota.
DAVID CLOPTON	Montgomery	Mississippi.
PELEG BROWN	Mobile	Missouri.
.....		Nebraska.
.....		New Jersey.
JOHN W. BUSH	Uniontown	New York.
WILLIAM COCHRANE	Tuscaloosa	North Carolina.
HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG	Notasulga	Nova Scotia.
DANIEL SAYRE	Montgomery	Oregon.
.....		Quebec.
JAMES T. BECK	Camden	Rhode Island.
.....		South Carolina.
PELEG BROWN	Mobile	Tennessee.
.....		Vermont.
.....		Wisconsin.

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

ELBERT H. ENGLISH.....	<i>Little Rock</i>	Arkansas.
ISAAC F. TOMS.....	<i>Goderich, Ont.</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.
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>Saint Louis</i>	Missouri.
WILLIAM E. HILL.....	<i>Nebraska City</i>	Nebraska.
FREDERICK G. WEISE.....	<i>Bordentown</i>	New Jersey.
THOMAS S. KENAN.....	<i>Raleigh</i>	North Carolina.
WILLIAM SHERER.....	<i>Brooklyn</i>	P. O. Box 2065 N. Y.
ROCKY P. EARHART.....	<i>Salem</i>	Oregon.
ANGUS GRANT.....	<i>Montreal</i>	Quebec.
JOHN P. SANBORN.....	<i>Newport</i>	Rhode Island.
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.	CONVOCATION.
10	Tuscumbia.	Toscumbia.	Colbert.	Tuscumbia.	Thomas T. Rowland.	Lewis B. Thornton.	Mon after 2 Sat
19	Gainesville.	Gainesville.	Sumter.	Gainesville.	Edward N. King.	Thomas F. Ramage.	Thurs after fm
20	Livingston.	Livingston.	Sumter.	Livingston.	John Gideon Harris.	Isaiah C. Brown.	3 Friday
21	Mobile.	Mobile.	Sumter.	Mobile.	William Story Foster.	Joseph A. Carter.	1 and 3 Thur
22	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Joseph Henry Johnson.	Edmund R. Hastings.	2 Tuesday
23	Talladega.	Talladega.	Montgomery.	Talladega.	Morriz L. Ernst.	Henry H. Hamill.	3 Friday
26	Union.	Union.	Perry.	Uniontown.	Jet T. West.	Julie Harwood.	1 Thursday
28	Saint John's.	Selma.	Dallas.	Selma.	James M. Brundidge.	Adolph Jacobson.	4 Monday
38	Decatur.	Decatur.	Morgan.	Decatur.	John T. Cook.	John T. Banks.	4 Tuesday
40	Camden.	Camden.	Wilcox.	Camden.	James M. Oliver.	Green F. Spurlin.	Friday bfm
44	Choctaw.	Butler.	Choctaw.	Butler.	Alanson J. Gray.	Oliver C. Usher.	2 Saturday
54	Tyrin.	Troy.	Pike.	Troy.	Samuel B. Coffen.	Lewis H. Jeter.	Fri bf 2 Sab
56	Zerubabel.	Camp Hill.	Tallapoosa.	Dadeville.	James M. Oliver.	Junius Percival Oliver.	Sat bf 2 Sab
64	Central.	Montevallo.	Shelby.	Montevallo.	Daniel Smith.	Samuel S. Holbrook.	Monday bfm
66	Alabama.	Mobile.	Mobile.	Mobile.	James M. Nelson.	Charles A. Mohr.	2 and 4 Friday
71	Landmark.	Ozark.	Dale.	Ozark.	Benjamin F. Cassidy.	Mark A. Cook.	3 Saturday
73	Gordon.	Abbeville.	Dale.	Abbeville.	James W. Stokes.	James W. Stokes.	3 Saturday
83	Beil.	Lineville.	Henry.	Lineville.	Robert D. Evans.	Robert D. Evans.	3 Saturday
85	Gaston.	Lineville.	Clay.	Lineville.	John C. Christopher.	John C. Christopher.	2 Thursday
86	Coosa.	DeSotoville.	Choctaw.	DeSotoville.	Benjamin F. Pope.	Samuel Orr.	1 Monday
87	Monton.	Gadsden.	Lawrence.	Gadsden.	DeWitt Clinton White.	William P. Chitwood.	Fri bf 3 Sab
92	Notasulga.	Monton.	Macon.	Notasulga.	Henry Clay Armstrong.	William S. Ford.	1 and 4 Sat
93	Columns.	Newton.	Dale.	Newton.	Richard A. Ramsey.	John R. Kelly.	3 Saturday
96	Daniel Pratt.	Prattville.	Autauga.	Prattville.	George L. Smith.	Jacob Faber.	Monday afm
104	Weogufka.	Weogufka.	Coosa.	Weogufka.	Oliver P. Looney.	Francis M. McEwen.	Friday bf 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 of 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	Muscatine.
13. Kansas.	John M. Price.	Atchison.
14. Kentucky	Joseph H. Branham	Louisville.
15. Louisiana.	James Cunningham Batchelor	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 Louis.
23. Nebraska.	William Robert Bowen	Omaha.
24. Nevada	John Dempster 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.	Charles E. Meyer	Philadelphia.
33. Quebec	Angus Grant	Montreal, B. 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	N. York, 142 B'y