

1887
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND
CHAPTER
of
Royal Arch Masons
of
ALABAMA



A.D. 1887 / A.I. 2417

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,

AT THE

ANNUAL CONVOCATION,

HELD IN THE

CITY OF MONTGOMERY,

DECEMBER 6TH, 1887.

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1888.



PROCEEDINGS.

The M. Ex. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama held its Sixty-first Annual Convocation at the New Masonic Temple, in the City of Montgomery, on Tuesday, the 6th day of December, A. D. 1887, A. L. 5887, Anno. Inv. 2417.

PRESENT :

WILLIAM WALLACE SCREWS.....Grand High Priest.
WILLIAM WALLACE McCOLLUM.....Deputy G. H. Priest.
JOHN GIDEON HARRIS.....Grand King.
JAMES TAIT BECK.....Grand Scribe.
WILLIAM HENRY DINGLEY..Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYREGrand Secretary.
EDMUND READ HASTINGS.....Grand C. of H.
GEORGE LITTLEFIELD SMITH.....Grand P. Sojourner.
JOHN ALEXANDER McKINNON.....Grand R. A. Captain.
JOSEPH HENRY JOHNSON, *as*.....Grand M. of 3 Veil.
HENRY C. WILEY, *as*.....Grand M. of 2 Veil.
HENRY CLARK DAVIDSON, *as*.....Grand M. of 1 Veil.
ADAM REIGART BAKER.....Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS :

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.

WILLIAM DWIGHT WADSWORTH.....	California.
JOSEPH HENRY JOHNSON.....	Canada.
JOHN ALEXANDER MCKINNON, M. D.....	Indiana.
MYLES JEFFERSON GREENE, M. D.....	Iowa.
JOHN GIDEON HARRIS.....	Kansas.
PALMER JOB PILLANS.....	Louisiana.
WILLIAM S. FOSTER.....	Maryland.
GEORGE L. SMITH.....	Ohio.
DANIEL SAYRE.....	Oregon.
JAMES T. BECK.....	Rhode Island.
SAM THOMPSON.....	Tennessee.
PHILIP C. CANDIDUS.....	Virginia.
NOAH A. AGEЕ.....	Washington.

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

No. 1.	Tuscaloosa.....	John Snow.....	K.
" 4.	Monroe.....	Noah A. Agee.....	H. P.
" 6.	Cyrus.....	Samuel H. Daily*.....	K.
" 10.	Tuscumbia.....	Henry W. Sample.....	H. P.
" 13.	Gainesville.....	Thomas T. Rowland.....	"
" 20.	Livingston.....	Edward N. Kring.....	"
" 21.	Mobile.....	George C. Cowdey.....	K.
" 22.	Montgomery.....	William S. Foster.....	H. P.
" 23.	Talladega.....	William H. Long.....	K.
" 26.	Union.....	Philip C. Candidus.....	S.
" 28.	Saint Johns.....	Henry C. Davidson.....	H. P.
" 40.	Camden.....	Archibald L. R. Thompson*.....	K.
" 54.	Tyrian.....	Henry H. Matthews.....	S.
" 76.	Elyton.....	Joseph H. Johnson.....	H. P.
" 79.	Hillabe.....	Morritz L. Ernst.....	"
" 85.	Gaston.....	John A. McKinnon.....	K.
" 86.	Coosa.....	William A. George*.....	H. P.
" 87.	Moulton.....	Richard E. McWilliams*.....	K.
		James T. Beck*.....	S.
		Oliver C. Wiley*.....	K.
		Henry C. Wiley*.....	S.
		Sam Thompson.....	H. P.
		George W. Porter.....	"
		No Representative.	
		Benjamin F. Pope.....	H. P.
		DeWitt Clinton White.....	"

* Proxies.

No. 92.	Notasulga.....	{ George W. Arberry*.....H. P.
		{ George W. Hardy*.....K.
		{ William S. Ford*.....S.
" 96.	Daniel Pratt	{ George L. Smith .....H. P.
" 100.	Rock Mills.....	{ Charles W. Eichelberger*.....K.
		{ Richard J. Breed.....S.
" 101.	Mineral City.....	{ Lucian J. Pettijohn*.....H. P.
		{ Oliver P. Looney....."
" 104.	Weogufka.....	{ Kenial J. Thomas*.....K.
		{ William R. Phillips*.....S.

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

The M. E. Grand High Priest delivered his Annual Address, and it was referred to a special—

COMMITTEE ON GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

WILLIAM S. FOSTER,

JOHN A. MCKINNON,

JAMES T. BECK.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Companions of the Grand Chapter :

On this day as we meet in the Sixty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, it affords me great pleasure to greet you with the announcement that only the kindest and most fraternal feelings have prevailed in our ranks during the past twelve months. By appropriate ceremonies we have acknowledged our dependence upon the Great I Am, and let us not forget to render Him thanks that so many of us have been spared to meet again around the Sacred altar and to participate in raising our Royal Arch.

THE LATE PELEG BROWN.

While all chosen at our last Grand Convocation to fill stations in the Grand Chapter have been spared, still we have suffered a great

loss in the death of our beloved Companion and Past Grand High Priest, Peleg Brown, of Mobile. As soon as the sad intelligence reached me, I sent to the Subordinate Chapters the following letter, in recognition of his worth, and of the tribute which all the Royal Arch Masons of the State should pay to his memory.

JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,
OFFICE OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST,
MONTGOMERY, ALA., March 4, 1887.

To the Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter, and the Officers and Members of the Subordinate Chapters of this Jurisdiction :

COMPANIONS—After a life illustrated by the practice of all the virtues which characterize the pure and upright man, Mason, and citizen, our late and Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Peleg Brown, has been summoned from his labors here below, to enter upon the rest which awaits the true and faithful. On the 21st of February, 1887, at five o'clock p. m., he died at New Berlin, New York, in the 81st year of his age. For nearly half a century he was a prominent member of the Masonic Grand Bodies of this State, and had filled the highest stations. He leaves behind him the record of a good life, well spent in the discharge of all the duties that devolved upon him, and in the practice of charity, and in the manner taught by Holy Writ. We will all be better by imitating his noble example.

Therefore, in token of the respect felt for him while living, and as a mark of our desire to perpetuate his memory, it is directed that this communication be read in each Subordinate Chapter at the first communication after its receipt; that the Chapters be draped in mourning for thirty days, and that the Companions wear the usual badge for the same space of time.

By order

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

W. W. SCREWS,
Grand High Priest.

I recommend that suitable resolutions be prepared commemorative of his life and character.

WORK OF THE YEAR.

I find but little except matters of routine business for me to present in this report. We are to be congratulated on the improved outlook

for Royal Arch Masonry. In many jurisdictions a large amount of work has been done, and in our own, increased interest has been manifested. No new Chapters have been re-organized, but indications point to several during the coming year. Under a resolution adopted by the last Grand Convocation, any Chapter that had forfeited its charter can be revived by payment of one year's dues. A circular letter embodying the resolutions was sent to all such Chapters, and some correspondence ensued, though as yet without actual result.

The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer, and of the different Subordinate Chapters, will show our financial situation, and the state of membership, and the numbers that have been advanced, that have presided, been received and acknowledged and exalted during the past twelve months. The aggregate will be almost the same as last reported. When the demoralization caused by speculation in different parts of the State has been corrected, which I have no doubt will be done before we meet again, I am persuaded that a different state of financial affairs will exist. That we hold our own, and do not go backward at a time when men are absorbed in the wild rush for rapid gain and accumulation, is good evidence that when the normal condition is restored, there will be increased interest and activity in our order.

APPEALS AND RULINGS.

There was no appeal taken during the year from the action of any Subordinate Chapters. This shows a delightful state of harmony, and a realization of the brotherly love which is so largely the foundation of the true Masonic character. Nor was an official ruling asked for on any question.

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED.

During the year Dispensations were granted to Gainesville Chapter No. 13, Tyrian Chapter No. 54 (Troy), Bell Chapter No. 83 (Lineville), St. Johns Chapter No. 28 (Selma), to elect officers, they having failed to do so at the proper time for reasons stated in the applica-

tions. A Dispensation was also granted Tyrian Chapter (Troy) November 15th to hold a convocation at a time other than the regular time for the purpose of balloting for candidates and such other business as might come up.

VISITATIONS.

It was my pleasure, in company with Past Grand High Priest, H. Clay Armstrong and M. J. Greene, to visit Daniel Pratt Chapter No. 96, Prattville. I also, in company with Past Grand High Priest Greene, visited Notasulga Chapter No. 92. I also visited Tyrian Chapter No. 54, and also Montgomery Chapter No. 22. In all these Chapters work was exemplified, and I am led from these visits to again refer to the advisability of one of the four highest grand officers visiting every Chapter in the State. They could arrange the details among themselves, and no doubt each Chapter would be willing to pay the expenses attending the visit for the benefit of instruction and for the encouragement and incentive such a visit would produce. I cannot say too much in praise of the Chapters visited for their kindness and for the fervency and zeal manifested by the Companions. I had hoped to visit every Chapter in our Jurisdiction, but pressing engagements prevented. I would advise that a resolution be adopted making it the duty of one of the Grand Officers to visit any Chapter calling for a visit for the purpose of instruction, the applying Chapter to meet all necessary expenses. I hope in another year that we will be in such a condition, financially, that the officers will be enabled to visit every Chapter in the State.

TIME OF ANNUAL CONVOCATION.

Without making a formal recommendation, I would call attention to the great difficulty every year met with in holding the sessions of the Grand Chapter. The delegates, as a rule, come also in the same capacity to the Grand Lodge. They are generally in a hurry to return home, and as soon as the Grand Lodge adjourns a quorum for this body is simply unattainable. If we exemplify one degree we are doing well, and as a consequence, so far as instruction in all the

work is concerned, the Convocation is a failure. To elect officers and make a few reports seems to be about the sum and substance of all that can be done. It is not at all to be wondered at, therefore, that the Subordinate Chapters are not fully up in the work, and this fact operates against any increase in membership. The sessions of the Grand Chapter ought to be held in the Spring, unless the financial condition of the Subordinate Chapters requires the double duty that is now performed by having the same delegates attend all Grand Bodies. To have the work properly exemplified, and to transact our business decently and in order, requires more time than we now have, which at the outside amounts to but a few hours; not enough altogether in which to show the work in the four degrees. This is not proper treatment of our committee on work, to say nothing of the railroad speed at which other matters are considered. This ought to be remedied, and the best remedy is a separate time for holding our Grand Convocation.

CONCLUSION.

And now Companions, having for several years past occupied by your kindness high positions in this Grand Chapter, and for the past two the highest honor in your gift, I return you my grateful acknowledgments. When I retire from this chair I will gladly resume my place as a craftsman on the floor, ready and willing at all times to work in any field where my labors may be required. The reports from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence will show that I leave you at peace with all other Grand Chapters, and that brotherly love prevails.

To my associate Grand Officers I am greatly indebted for assistance and acts of courtesy and kindness, and especially to our honored Grand Secretary am I under great obligations for the many things that he has done to lessen the burdens of my official position. Companions, let us renew our vows, and enter upon the coming year with a determination to labor more faithfully and earnestly than ever in the noble work committed to our hands. Let us strive for the promotion of the best interests of our royal craft, and for the general

good of humanity. Thus we will discharge our duty and the Grand Ruler of the universe will bless and reward us accordingly.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

REPORTS MADE.

The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary made their Annual Reports, and the Reports were referred to the Committee on Finance.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Companion Palmer Job Pillans, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a report, and it was referred and ordered to be printed. (*See Appendix.*)

COMMITTEE ON WORK.

The Committee on Work proceeded to make report, and the report was received and concurred in.

Companion William S. Foster, Chairman of the Committee on the Grand High Priest's Address, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT ON GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your Committee to whom was referred the Annual Address of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, beg leave to report that they have read the Address with a great deal of pleasure, and recommend its careful perusal to every member of the Royal Craft throughout this Grand Jurisdiction. We recommend that so much of the Address as relates to the death of Past Grand High Priest Peleg Brown be referred to a special committee of three. That so much of the same as relates to a proposed change in the time of holding the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

And we further recommend that all official acts of the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, as reported by him to the Grand Chapter, be approved.

Fraternally submitted.

W. S. FOSTER,
JNO. A. MCKINNON,
JAMES T. BECK,

Committee.

The Grand High Priest announced the following—

STANDING COMMITTEES.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS No. 1.—George W. Hardy, George W. Porter, George Pettijohn.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS No. 2.—Oliver C. Wiley, Wm. S. Ford, DeWitt Clinton White.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS No. 3.—James T. Beck, George L. Smith, Oliver P. Looney.

ON FINANCE.—B. F. Pope, DeWitt C. White, Sam Thompson.

ON DISPENSATIONS.—Henry C. Wiley, Charles W. Eichelberger, George Pettijohn.

ON JURISPRUDENCE.—Wm. S. Foster, Noah A. Agee, George C. Gowdey.

The M. Ex. Grand High Priest announced the following Committee on Resolutions on the death of Past Grand High Priest Peleg Brown :

Companion WILLIAM S. FOSTER,

Companion PALMER J. PILLANS,

Companion PHILIP C. CANDIDUS.

And then the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, December 7, 1887.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 9:30; the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, William Wallace Screws, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

The minutes were read and approved.

Companion William S. Foster made report on the Rulings of the Grand Chapter, and was referred to Committee on Jurisprudence.

Companion George W. Hardy, 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 examined the returns submitted to them, and find the following—

CORRECT:

Tuscaloosa.....	No. 1	Monroe.....	No. 4
Tuscumbia.....	" 10	Gainesville.....	" 13
Livingston.....	" 20	Mobile.....	" 21

All of which is fraternally submitted.

GEORGE W. HARDY,
GEORGE W. PORTER,
LUCIAN G. PETTIJOHN,
Committee.

Companion Oliver C. Wiley, from the Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 2, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS NO. 2.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

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

CORRECT :

Montgomery.....	No. 22	Saint Johns.....	No. 28
Camden	" 40	Tyrian.....	" 54

INCORRECT :

TALLADEGA No. 23.—Initials used, and two who are reported dead are reported among members ; blanks not filled out.

ELYTON No. 76.—Blanks not filled out.

HILLABEE No. 79.—Amount of dues to the Grand Chapter does not correspond with the number of members reported in good standing, being short \$1.25.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

OLIVER C. WILEY,
WILLIAM S. FOSTER,
Committee.

Companion James Tait Beck, from the Committee on Chartered Chapters No. 3, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS NO. 3.

To the M. Ex. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your committee on Chartered Chapters No. 3 beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the returns submitted to them, and find the following—

CORRECT :

Gaston.....	No. 85	Moulton.....	No. 87
Notasulga.....	" 92	Daniel Pratt.....	" 96

INCORRECT :

Coosa No. 86.—No seal.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JAMES TAIT BECK,
GEORGE L. SMITH,
OLIVER P. LOONEY,
Committee.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

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

The Grand Chapter then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing Masonic year, Companions Benjamin F. Pope and William H. Long as Tellers, and the election resulted as follows :

ELECTED GRAND OFFICERS.

JOSEPH HENRY JOHNSON	Talladega	Grand High Priest.
JOHN GIDEON HARRIS	Montgomery	Deputy G. H. Priest.
JAMES TAIT BECK	Camden	Grand King.
JOHN ALEXANDER MCKINNON	Selma	Grand Scribe.
WILLIAM HENRY DINGLEY	Montgomery	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE	Montgomery	Grand Secretary.
B. M. STEVENS		Grand Chaplain.
HENRY C. WILEY	Troy	Grand C. of H.
GEORGE LITTLEFIELD SMITH	Prattville	Grand P. Sojourner.
WILLIAM S. FORD	Montgomery	Grand R. A. Captain.
WILLIAM H. LONG	Mobile	Grand M. 3 Veil.
RICHARD M. CUNNINGHAM	Birmingham	Grand M. 2 Veil.
GEORGE W. ARBERRY	Notasulga	Grand M. 1 Veil.
ADAM REIGART BAKER	Montgomery	Grand Sentinel.

Companion Benjamin F. Pope offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

RE-INSTATEMENT OF CHAPTERS.

Resolved, That all Subordinate Chapters whose charters have been re-instated by making returns and paying one year's dues to the

Grand Secretary as provided by resolution at last Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, be authorized to elect officers and make return thereof to the Grand Secretary.

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

ON WORK.

Myles J. Greene, M. D. Talladega.
William S. Foster Mobile.
Edmund R. Hastings Montgomery.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Palmer Job Pillans Mobile.

CUSTODIAN OF THE WORK.

Joseph H. Johnson, M. D. *Virtute Officii.*

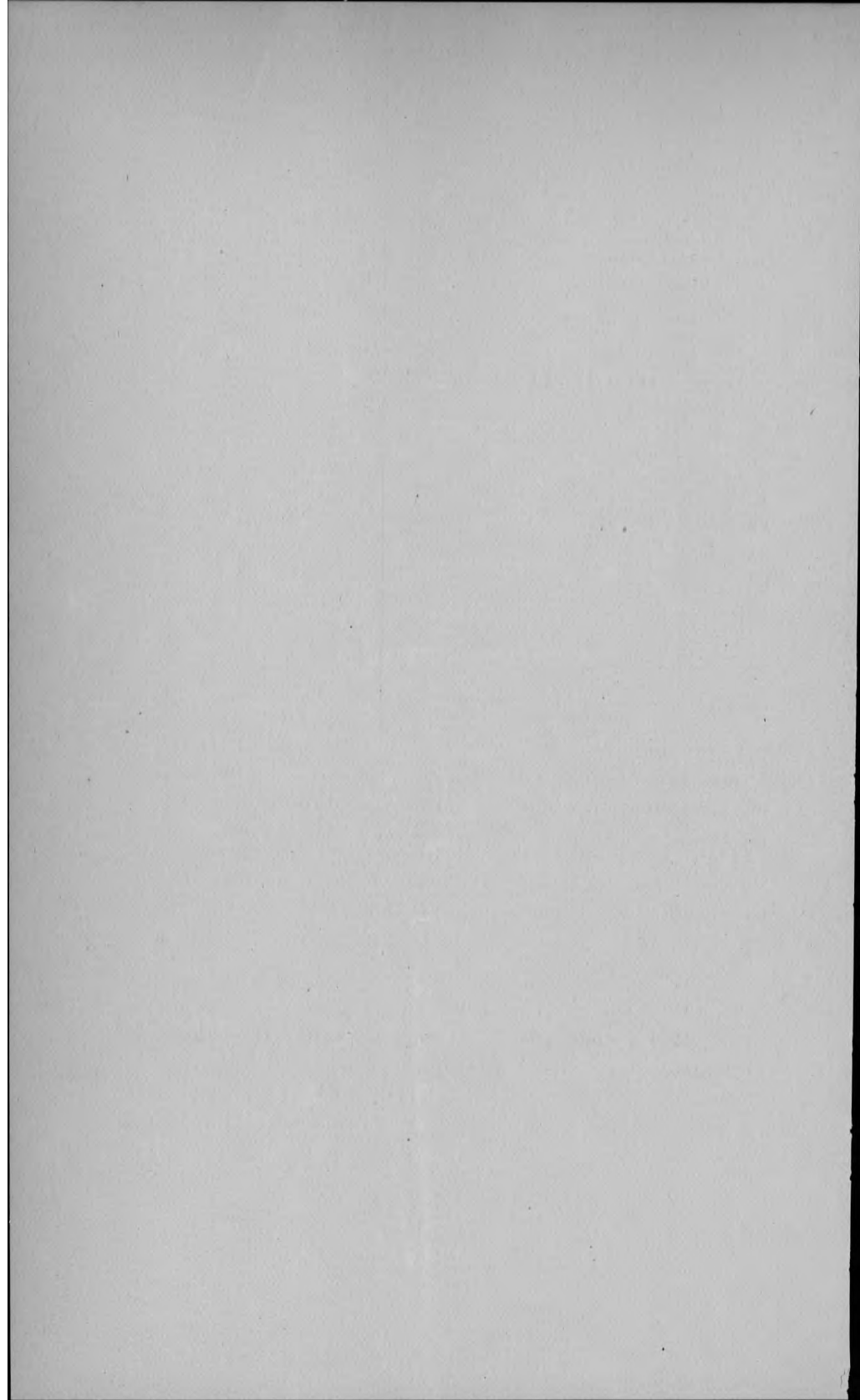
Companion William W. Screws, retiring Grand High Priest, then proceeded to install the Grand Officers elect, Companion George F. Moore as Marshal.

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

CLOSED.

And then the Sixty-first Annual Grand Convocation of the M. Ex. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama was closed in Ample Form.

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.



APPENDIX.



REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

By P. J. PILLANS, CHAIRMAN.

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

We have endeavored to be as brief as a proper notice of the condition of Capitular Masonry in the various jurisdictions reviewed would permit, to comply with the financial requirements of our Grand Chapter. The Proceedings that have reached us will be found alphabetically arranged in the following. We begin with—

ARKANSAS, 1886.

Held the Thirty-seventh Annual Convocation of her Grand Chapter on the 25th November, 1886, Grand High Priest James H. Van-Hoose, presiding.

There appears to be considerable activity here, the number suspended for N. P. D. being but one-half of those exalted.

Dispensation for one new Chapter was issued.

The Grand High Priest gave some good advice about fitting up Chapter halls, so as to be neat and inviting.

Business local in character.

Companion W. W. Garland, Grand High Priest.

Companion J. A. Henry, Grand Secretary.

No report on Correspondence.

CALIFORNIA, 1887.

The Thirty-third Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State was held on the 26th April, 1887, Benjamin Franklin Tuttle being Grand High Priest. The increase in membership during the year was exceedingly gratifying.

Dispensations for the formation of two new Chapters were granted, and they were chartered at this Convocation.

The Grand High Priest, in his address, discoursed very beautifully and impressively upon the end and objects of Capitular Masonry.

The Treasurer's report shows the sum of \$25,475 as assets in his hands, there being of this a cash balance of over \$5,000.

A movement was put on foot at this Convocation to place all unaffiliated R. A. Masons who, residing six months within the jurisdiction without having made application for affiliation in the same position as those suspended for non-payment of dues. This was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who reported favorably upon it, and it was adopted.

An exceedingly able, and we had almost said convincing report, was made by the Committee on Jurisprudence against the repeal of a general regulation which declared the Cernean branch of the Scottish Rite illegitimate, and prohibited masonic intercourse with its members, and its recommendation was adopted "with almost entire unanimity."

Michael James Keating, San Francisco, Grand High Priest.

Thomas Hubbard Caswell, San Francisco, Grand Secretary.

The latter, as usual, made the report on Correspondence, reviewing Alabama for 1885 and 1886.

CANADA, 1887.

M. E. Companion Thomas Sargent, G. Z., opened the Thirtieth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter in Ample Form on the 15th day of July, 1887.

The effect of disturbing elements in the Masonic circle within this jurisdiction is clear when we find that this once flourishing sister is now decreasing in the number of her membership. We find the G. H. Priest very hopeful, however.

The committee on the condition of Capitular Masonry, speaking of the reports of the Grand Superintendents, say "some of these reports indicate progress, others indifference, and a few apathy."

Robert Hendry, Jr., Kingston, G. Z.

David McClellan, Hamilton, G. S. E.

The report on Correspondence is again made by Companion Henry Robertson. In it we find Alabama for 1886.

COLORADO, 1886.

The Twelfth Annual Convocation was held on 7th October, 1886, Lawrence N. Greenleaf, Grand High Priest, presiding. We find the Craft increasing in numbers in Colorado. The Grand High Priest of it says: "I am happy to inform you that Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction is in a healthy and prosperous condition." He

granted dispensations for two new Chapters, and both were chartered at this Convocation.

Christopher C. Gird, Denver, Grand High Priest.

Ed. C. Parmelee, Georgetown, Grand Secretary.

Companion Byron L. Carr submitted the report on Correspondence, and of the various proceedings examined, forty-one in number, he says :

We have examined these reports with interest for the purpose of discovering, if possible, "some new thing" which we might tell to the Companions of our Masonic "Areopagus," but none of the "Athenians nor the strangers" with whom we have conversed have discovered any unknown God of whom they could say "Him whom ye ignorantly worship declare I unto ye."

Having then descanted at some length upon conflict of jurisdiction between the Grand Mark Lodge of Great Britain and the Grand Chapter of Quebec, and on the subject of physical qualification, he concludes :

Except as herein reported it appears from the published reports that the work of clearing away the rubbish, and laying the foundation of the new temple has progressed without molestation or interference at the hands of any adversaries from beyond the river or from other tribes or peoples. Important discoveries have continued to be made among the ruins, and have been brought up for inspection, and the faithful workman has been duly rewarded for his valuable labors. The temple still continues to rise, and a goodly number of sojourners are still arriving to engage in the great and glorious work.

CONNECTICUT, 1887.

The Eighty-ninth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 10th day of May, 1887, with Companion James McCormick, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Capitular Masonry holds its own in this jurisdiction. With liveliest feelings of pleasure we note that not one was suspended for non-payment of dues.

Cash balance, though small, in treasury.

No grievances found their way into the Grand Chapter to disturb its harmony.

The Grand Lodge of this State having revoked the charter of Hiram Lodge No. 1, New Haven, and forbidden masonic intercourse with its members, this Grand Chapter also forbade such intercourse.

All the Chapters but one were represented.

Companion Reuben H. Tucker, Ansonia, Grand High Priest.

Companion Joseph K. Wheeler, Hartford, Grand Secretary.

Companion J. H. Barlow again presented the report on Correspondence, Alabama for 1885 and 1886 being found in it. He was averse last year to the limitation of the number of times one may be made Grand High Priest consecutively, and reiterates his objection again.

Referring to our review of the condition of the Craft in this, our jurisdiction, in 1886, he "hopes and trusts that we will succeed in finding the cause for such decline and apply the remedy."

He thinks that a G. H. P. "is invested with certain prerogatives pertaining to his office which may or may not be given him by the constitution of his Grand Chapter."

DAKOTA, 1887.

We have in hand the proceedings of the Third Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held on 15th June, 1887, Companion Peter Pickton, Grand High Priest.

No dispensations for the organization of new Chapters were granted, although three were applied for, thus indicating the caution of the Grand High Priest.

The Grand High Priest recommended that no one be exalted to the R. A. Degree until he has chosen and recorded his mark, and that the same be reported by the Secretary to the Grand Secretary, who should keep a record of the marks of all the brethren within the jurisdiction.

Membership, 958 ; increase, 120. Splendid showing.

A charter was granted to one Chapter.

Companion Collins D. Pratt, Handrean, Grand High Priest.

Companion Thomas J. Wilder, Casselton, Grand Secretary.

The latter presented the report on Correspondence, which was printed and in the hands of the Companions of the Grand Chapter when it opened. This is what we have sought for many years to accomplish in our jurisdiction, but without effect. In this report we find that Alabama for 1886 received fraternal notice.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 1886.

The Twentieth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on December 8th, 1886, with Companion George E. Carson, Grand High Priest.

As the population of the seat of the general government grows, so does the membership of this Grand Chapter.

There were no grievances, but every Chapter was enjoying complete harmony among its companions and with other Chapters.

At the Semi-annual Convocation, held on 9th June, 1886, the proclamation of the G. Z. of the Grand Chapter of Quebec suspending intercourse between that body and the Grand Chapter of England was read and referred to a committee to report at the Annual Convocation, but further time was granted for the report.

Companion William G. Powers, Grand High Priest.

Companion L. G. Stephens, Grand Secretary.

Companion William R. Singleton again made the report on Correspondence, Alabama for 1885 being among the proceedings reviewed.

DELAWARE, 1887.

The Nineteenth Annual Convocation was held on the 19th day of January, 1887, Companion William C. Baggerly being M. E. Grand High Priest.

The Craft has lost none in number during the year.

The Grand High Priest recommends the limitation of office of Grand Representatives, and a limit of three years was adopted.

Companion W. C. Baggerly, Wilmington, Grand High Priest.

Companion James H. Price, Wilmington, Grand Secretary.

The Committee on Correspondence, through their Chairman, Jno. Otto, Jr., "say that they prepared no report, owing to the fact that the funds of the Grand Chapter would not permit of having the same printed."

G. M. M. LODGE OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

We are aware that at the Tri-ennial Convocation of G. G. Chapter, held on 28th September, 1886, all Subordinate Chapters of obedience to the G. G. Chapter were forbidden to recognize any person or persons having received the Mark Degree in any organization holding under the Grand Lodge of M. M. M. above ; nor would we, being a component part of this G. G. Chapter, have noticed the proceedings upon our desk, but for a passage in the report of the General Board and some remarks thereon which we think it is well for our companions to be apprised of. They are as follows :

The General Grand Chapter of the United States of America, acting in support of the unconstitutional pretensions of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, have withdrawn their recognition of this Grand Lodge. It is satisfactory to find that a minority of 65 against 99 refused to concur in this attack on ancient landmarks. Should, however, this action of the General Grand Chapter be found to involve any practical injury to English Mark Masters in the United States, which it is earnestly hoped may not be the case, this Grand Lodge will be reluctantly compelled to give them its support in working the Mark Degree.

On the debate for adopting this report, the following was said :

Bro. Alfred Williams moved that the report be adopted.

Bro. W. J. Hughan, P. G. W., Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, objected to the paragraph with regard to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and regretted to find in it the concluding sentence—"Should, however, this action of the General Grand Chapter be found to involve any practical injury to English Mark Masters in the United States, which it is earnestly hoped may not be the case, this Grand Lodge will be reluctantly compelled to give them its support in working the Mark Degree." He submitted that if those words meant anything, they meant a threat to issue warrants for the working of Mark Masonry in the United States, and he was very sorry to read such in the report, because if they were adopted by this Grand Lodge they would widen instead of healing the breach which existed between the American brethren and the Mark Masons of this country. He had for many years taken a very deep interest in Mark Masonry of the United States, with respect to English brethren visiting Mark Lodges and Chapters there and becoming joining members, and had given a very careful study to the whole question. He had heard it said that in considering the matter of the difficulties between the Grand Chapter of Quebec and Mark Grand Lodge of England, it would be on the same lines as that of the Grand Lodge of Quebec and the Grand Lodge of England, but he begged to differ from that view. With respect to the Grand Lodge of England, he considered that body was wholly in the right, whereas the Grand Lodge of Quebec was wholly in the wrong, but with regard to the Grand Chapter of Quebec, and the Mark Grand Lodge of England, his opinion was that *both were in the wrong*, and that being the case, the members of the Grand Mark Lodge of England should be very careful how they proceeded. There were some 38 Grand Chapters and 124,000 Mark Masons who were Royal Arch Masons, under the General Grand Chapter of U. S. A. They would be virtually cut off from all those bodies by passing this portion of the report. It was true there were three Grand Chapters not connected with the United States G. G. Chapter, one being Pennsylvania with which he was connected and had offered its good offices in bringing about a better feeling between the two bodies, but it seemed to him that if Grand Mark Lodge of England used this threat they would only do so in order to carry it out, hence such a treat at the present stage of the proceedings would do

very much harm instead of doing good. He was very sorry that M. W. Bro. Canon Portal was not present, as he was so well informed on the subject. He could not help thinking that if they carefully considered the whole question, they would see that by virtually threatening the United States Grand Chapters they entirely cut themselves off from association with them. With respect to the action of the Grand Lodge of England, let them bear in mind that though edicts of non-intercourse had been issued against it, that Grand Lodge had not threatened to issue warrants in the United States, and he did not suppose it ever would. He thought it was outside the province of Grand Mark Lodge to do so, and he hoped for the sake of the brethren who were Mark Masons in this country who desired to visit lodges and Chapters in the United States, that the words he had read would be obliterated from the report. He did not propose any amendment, but he put it to the Vice-President of the General Board, whether he did not think under the circumstances, for the sake of good feeling between the Mark Masons of England and the Royal Arch Masons of the United States the sentence had better be omitted. Even if the matter were postponed till the December meeting it would be better than to deal with it now, but he believed it would be a mistake to adopt that clause at any time, under any circumstances.

Bro. Major Woodall wished to say a few words as one who had been a visitor at lodges in Pennsylvania, and in support of Bro. Hughan's remarks. Speaking from experience of the brethren in the United States he felt sure they would be unwilling there should be any difference of opinion. They might adopt the somewhat Fabian policy of waiting for the turn of events, and he believed if they did that, matters would be smoothed over. He was quite conversant with the question between the Grand Lodge of Quebec and the Grand Lodge of England, but he must say he thought time would get over the difficulty. He hoped they would not take a different position with regard to their brethren of the United States.

Bro. Binckes, G. S., was fully conversant with Canon Portal's mind on the matter, and no one more than he (Bro. Binckes) regretted he was not present to support the paragraph in the report; but, after Bro. Hughan's forcible argument, he would venture to suggest to Grand Lodge that this last paragraph be deferred till December, when it was to be hoped Canon Portal would be with them. This would not eliminate it from the report, and it would not be adopting anything hostile to the views of the President of the Board.

A Brother suggested that the whole paragraph be left out.

Bro. W. Beach, P. G. M., thought not. It would be better to refer the matter back.

Lord Egerton of Tatton thought it would be very undesirable that they should have words in the report which would have the effect of wounding the feelings of their American brethren, and therefore, on those grounds, if not on more substantial grounds, he thought that the whole paragraph had better be deferred. Before the next meeting of Grand Lodge the question would be fully gone into, and meanwhile the forcible words used would not in any way be carried into effect. If it was the pleasure of Grand Lodge, he would suggest that the whole of the paragraph be referred back to the General Board.

This was agreed to, and the report, as amended by the omission of the paragraph commencing "The General Grand Chapter of the United States" down to "in working the Mark Degree," was adopted.

FLORIDA, 1887.

This Grand Chapter held its Forty-first Annual Convocation on 17th January, 1887, with Companion Angus Patterson, Grand High Priest.

An evident increase of prosperity is indicated by the returns, so that the opinion of the last Grand High Priest Anderson that "I (he) can report a renewal of interest which promises good results," and of the Grand Secretary last year that "the tidal wave of improvement appears to be in sight," were not without foundation.

Two dispensations for the organization of new Chapters were issued, and three charters were granted at this Convocation.

The Committee on Returns and Credentials make the following remarks, and we join in the hope expressed most fervently :

The signs of prosperity are with us ; for a time it may yet be slow, to be followed with pleasant acceleration in time not very far distant. Such, at least, we may all agree, is our fervent hope.

The finances show evident improvement.

Companion Angus Patterson, Madison, Grand High Priest.

Companion DeWitt C. Dawkins, Jacksonville, Grand Secretary.

No report on Correspondence.

GEORGIA, 1887.

In Annual Convocation on the 27th April, 1887, met the Grand Chapter of Georgia, Companion James W. Taylor, being M. E. Grand High Priest.

The Grand High Priest says of the Craft :

Companions, the outlook for Capitular Masonry is very flattering, and the signs of the future propitious ; old charters are being revived, old members enthused, new ones espousing the cause, and waste places being built up.

In the Chapters that I have visited there seems to be a stronger desire for more Masonic light than usual, and among the additions to our order a higher grade of morals and intellect. Chapters are purging themselves of unworthy members who never contribute anything to the cause, morally, financially or intellectually. This is as it should be, and we exhort you to go on the good work and give us an unadulterated brotherhood.

The returns show an increase, though we have been unable by any system of cyphering with which we are acquainted to make it out quite so great as the Grand Secretary.

We are delighted to find the following :

WHEREAS, The labors of a Committee on Foreign Correspondence tend strongly to bring about and perpetuate these desired ends ; therefore,

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand High Priest be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to appoint annually a Committee on Foreign Correspondence, who shall report, from year to year, on the proceedings of such Grand Chapters as may be in fraternal correspondence with this Grand Body.

That Companion Blackshear has been appointed the Chairman.

The Committee on the Address well remark that "Masonry without morality is an empty, unmeaning bauble, unworthy the consideration of an intelligent mind."

Companion James W. Taylor, Luthersville, Grand High Priest.

Companion A. M. Wolihin, Macon, Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS, 1886.

The Thirty-seventh Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 28th October, 1886, with Campanion John O'Neill, Grand High Priest.

Capitular Masonry still continues its growth within this jurisdiction.

We would call the attention of Grand High Priests, and if possible of Grand Masters also, to the conservative views of the Grand High Priest as below expressed, for we are satisfied that much injury is done to our noble Craft through the exceeding amiability of presiding officers. Thus the multiplication of weak Chapters, and such as having lingered a while in debt, decline and throw upon the Masonic community a horde of unaffiliated companions, is avoided :

In every case where I have been called upon to issue a dispensation for the formation of a new Chapter, as I strongly oppose the organization of any more Chapters, there being, at present, one Chapter to four Blue Lodges throughout the State, it has been done only after careful inquiry as to the condition and needs of the Craft in the vicinity, and then not upon the recommendation of only the nearest Chapter as required by the Grand Chapter by-laws, but upon the recommendation of all the Chapters that would have to cede territory. This also accompanied with the recommendation of the Deputy in charge of the district in which the new Chapter was to be

located. This has been done to avoid organizing Chapters when they were not really needed, and when they would not receive ample support to insure permanent success.

Yet with all this caution three dispensations for the formation of new Chapters were issued, and charters granted at this Convocation.

The Grand High Priest stated that a "Masons Widows' and Orphans' Home" had been established in Chicago, and hoped the Grand Chapter would take some step in recognition and aid of it; no further notice of it, however, do we find.

The Grand High Priest furnished four statistical tables which give a full history of Capitular Masonry in that jurisdiction.

Among the decisions of the Grand High Priest is one that rules that the presence of a charter is not necessary, and if lost or destroyed by fire, the Chapter "does not lose any of its powers granted." We are pleased, however, to find the Committee on Jurisprudence announcing the true doctrine in the following :

Your Committee are of the opinion that the actual possession of the Charter or Warrant of Dispensation is necessary, while it may be conceded that a Chapter loses no rights or powers by the loss of that instrument by fire or otherwise, yet, until the issuance and delivery of a duplicate or a Dispensation from the Grand High Priest authorizing the Chapter to meet and work, all its rights and powers are held in abeyance.

Companion George W. Curtis, Peoria, Grand High Priest.

Companion Charles W. Barnard, Chicago, Grand Secretary.

Companion John M. Pearson presented the report on Correspondence, reviewing ours for 1885. He does not like a constitutional provision limiting the duration of the office of Grand High Priest, because circumstances might arise when it might be deemed advisable, and even desirable to continue a deserving companion in the office. He thinks this might be left to the discretion of the companions, members of the Grand Chapter.

Thanks, Companion Pearson, for your good opinion, but if you had to limit your production to an annual cost of a very few dollars, or have it committed to the waste basket, we think you would learn how to condense.

INDIANA, 1886.

Held the Forty-first Annual Convocation of its Grand Chapter on 20th October, 1886, with M. E. Companion Mortimer Nye, Grand High Priest.

Returns show no loss in this jurisdiction, and there was dispensation for the organization of one new Chapter, to which, though after protest from another Chapter, a charter was granted at this Convocation.

Upon an application for an appropriation in aid of an aged and indigent companion, the Committee on Claims to whom it was referred say that "in its opinion it is the duty of resident companions to aid and assist the distressed companion. We further believe that it is not the duty of Grand Bodies to afford relief, but the duty of subordinates," which was concurred in by the Grand Chapter. This is the view entertained in Alabama.

During the Convocation it was reported to the Grand Chapter that Benjamin F. Dawson, a P. G. H. P., had been guilty of gross unmasonic conduct, that of gross intoxication. Whereupon a committee was appointed to make investigation who preferred the charges, and upon confession of guilt by the defendant, he was expelled from all rights and privileges of R. A. Masonry.

Companion Christian Fetta, Snow Hill, Grand High Priest.

Companion John M. Bramwell, Indianapolis, Grand Secretary.

Companion Thomas B. Loug presented the report of the Committee on Correspondence, reviewing Alabama for 1885. We give below his collection of opinions as to the value of these reports. It is in answer to what might have been an adverse opinion of Companion Innes, of Michigan :

The writer differs with Companion Innes as to the interest and value of the discussions carried on by the corps of correspondents. They are, in the language of High Priest Blatt, of Dakota, "the educational force of the institution." Companion Dadmun says of them : "Our periodicals, histories and reviews are sweeping away the cobwebs of ignorance, and opening up the basal structure, so that we may see upon what a solid foundation our superstructure is erected." Companion Pierson says of the reports : "The latter is generally prepared by reading, thinking Masons, and their opinions are oftentimes worth more than the action of the Grand Bodies." Companion Savery has called them "the beautiful gardens of Masonic literature," containing "fragrant flowers of brotherly love, relief, morality, and truth." And even Companion Innes, himself, has said : "They have been found unusually interesting," and that he "has endeavored to extract the choicest portions, and place them before the companions of our (his) jurisdiction, that they might enjoy in part the pleasure that we (he) had in its entirety." Now, all these things are said principally of the addresses of Grand High Priests and the opinions and essays of correspondents, and not of the dull dry details of the business transacted at the annual convocation. If every correspondent would extract only these, and then remain silent, and give no expression to thought or sentiment sug-

gested by them, or cognate to them, Companion Innes would, it is feared, fail to collect many three hundred page reports.

Yet, circumstances may be such that the Reporter may desire rather to show to his companions the opinions of others than his own, as perchance an exhausted treasury.

IOWA, 1886.

The Thirty-third Annual Convocation was held on October 20th, 1886, with Companion Sylvester S. Bean, Grand High Priest, presiding. We find Capitular Masonry becoming stronger here annually.

The Grand High Priest expresses the opinion that in whatever degree the work to be done, the Chapter must be first opened, and having accomplished the work of the degree and work resumed in the Chapter, it will then be closed. This is approved by the Grand Chapter.

He issued some dispensations for balloting out of time, and accompanies his report of them with these words : " While I am opposed personally to the prerogative, yet it seems in some cases almost indispensable." He thinks that before advancement the candidate should " make himself absolutely proficient in all the lectures up to and including the O. B.'s of each degree as he advances, and Grand Chapter adopted the following :

Resolved, That no High Priest shall confer any of the degrees belonging to Capitular Masonry, as practiced in this jurisdiction, until after the candidate therefor shall have submitted himself to an examination in open lodge and shown such proficiency in the preceding degree as shall be satisfactory to the membership of the Chapter in which such degree is to be conferred.

From the Grand Lecturer's report, we copy the following :

The ark used in the Chapter should represent the substitute ark said to have been found in the arch at the rebuilding of the temple, and should bear upon its sides and top the inscriptions which the lectures teach were on it when found. But the ones used in our Chapters, for the most part, are not so marked ; and some have no marks thereon that convey any intelligent information. And very few are correctly marked ; and when the candidates are informed that the inscriptions on the ark are to be read thus and so, and the High Priest is asked to read and explain the same, he is compelled to answer that he cannot, for the reason that he does not know the meaning of the characters. The ark in the Chapters should be correctly and uniformly marked. The contents of the ark should in

some measure represent what the lectures say they are intended to represent. But if the contents of all in the state could be collected they would furnish a sufficient stock to supply a curiosity shop.

I found in one piece of broom-handle which, although it never "budded and blossomed," yet it may have borne fruit in the hands of some irate spouse when her liege lord did not walk in the straight matrimonial path. And in one a pill-box, which on opening I expected to find something in the shape of pellets, but I found it empty, and whether the contents had been used to help some tardy brother over the "rough and rugged roads in his journey," or otherwise, I could not ascertain; but it did not afford even a smell of that article of food which it purported to represent.

With such emblems exhibited to illustrate the teachings of the order, the intelligent candidate is disposed to look upon the whole ceremony as a farce.

From which it would appear that Chapters are constituted when not prepared for work.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, By this Grand Chapter, that in accordance with the recommendation of the Grand Lecturer, that an edition of three hundred copies of Sheville's work, known as the "—————," be procured for the use of Chapters in this jurisdiction; that the proof-sheets of the edition be submitted to the Grand High Priest and Grand Lecturer, for revision, before the printing is completed; that one copy be furnished to each subordinate Chapter, and additional copies be sold to such Chapters as desire them at such price as shall be fixed by the Grand High Priest

Now we do not know whether this is a monitor or a cypher or what it is, but as its name as known seems to be concealed, we think it fishy.

Companion Thomas R. Ercanbrack, Anamosa, Grand High Priest.
Companion John C. Parish, DesMoines, Grand Secretary.

This last made the report on Correspondence, reviewing Alabama for 1885, giving full extracts from our proceedings. In reference to the remark that soon a man without a head may be made a Mason, he piquantly remarks :

And yet, if we stop to analyze the membership of a lodge or Chapter, we will be astonished at the number of Companions of the acephalous class who have been permitted to pass within the veils, although they were regarded as physically perfect on their reception into the order; but when the test of mentality is applied, their headlessness becomes apparent, and of the two, we believe physical headlessness is preferable.

KANSAS, 1887.

The Twenty-second Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State was held on 15th February, 1887, with Companion Andrew M. Callahan, Grand High Priest. The growth of Capitular Masonry here is very rapid and large. During the year dispensations for the formation of six new Chapters were issued, and at this Convocation five of them were chartered.

The Committee on Correspondence made a special report on the difficulty between the G. M. M. Lodge of England and the Grand Chapter of Quebec, concluding with the hereinafter quoted resolution, which was adopted. The Grand High Priest, in his address, had stated that "in our (his) judgment among the wise things that it (the G. G. Chapter) did, it withdrew its recognition of the Grand Lodge of M. M. Masons of England and Wales." Ought not this action of the G. G. Chapter to which we are subservient have been sufficient? Are we not bound as much by this action as if we make the same announcement, and could we recognize and fraternize any one of obedience to that Grand Lodge without ourselves being guilty of a serious masonic crime? Why, then, such a resolution.

Companion William D. Thompson, Minneapolis, Grand High Priest.

Companion John H. Brown, Wyandotte, Grand Secretary.

The latter made the Correspondence Report, including in it Alabama for 1885. In his introduction he gives a key as to what a report should be :

In preparing this report, the wants of home readers have been the sole guide, and if more has been selected than written, it was because such selections were deemed the best torches to spread light. We therefore invite perusal, and trust it will in some measure incite our companions to make resolute efforts to reach the highest plane of masonic thought and work.

KENTUCKY, 1886.

Held her Seventy-first Annual Convocation on 19th day of October, 1886, Companion Bernard G. Witt, being Grand High Priest. The numbers of the craftsmen are diminishing in this jurisdiction. One dispensation for a new Chapter was issued.

Business entirely local.

Companion Hiram Bassett, Millersburg, Grand High Priest.

Companion Joseph H. Branham, Louisville, Grand Secretary.

The present Grand High Priest prepared and submitted the review of proceedings, including those of Alabama for 1885.

This is his seventh report, and as he tells us his last. We would have seen this without being told, as we find him elevated to the supreme position. We regret parting with an old friend, but such things happen every day ; yet we wish him as much pleasure in his new position as we know he enjoyed in the old, and that his years may be many. Adieu ! Companion.

LOUISIANA, 1887.

The Fortieth Annual Convocation was held on February 16th, 1887, Companion Dennison Stockton, Grand High Priest, presiding. We fear that Capitular Masonry is slowly diminishing here. This we deplore, and still hope a revival will begin soon to be displayed. The Grand High Priest himself seems burthened with the same fear, which draws from him these words :

Such is the summary of the year's labors of your Grand High Priest. It seems of itself to indicate that the sublime degree of the Royal Arch, the crowning mystery of American Masonry, does not awaken that interest to which its excellence entitles it. Too many companions attain our degrees and become inmates of our Chapters simply with a view of passing onward with as rapid a pace as possible to the most exalted masonic stations. These solemn mysteries, which were once the cherished possession of the devoted few, are now the property of the careless and indifferent many. It would be well if advancement could be made to depend upon proficiency in preceding degrees. It behooves our subordinate Chapters to elect men to official positions who will be faithful and diligent ; who will provide that the work be conducted with dignity and interest, and that the lessons be so enforced that companions shall be helped forward over the rough and rugged path of life, and taught to live humbly before God, so that in due time, when this earthly pilgrimage is over, they may look to be exalted unto the heavenly habitations.

The finances are in good shape.

Companion Richard Lambert, New Orleans, Grand High Priest.

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

There was no report on Correspondence.

MAINE, 1887.

The Sixty-second Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 3d May, 1887, with Companion James M. Nevans, Grand

High Priest. The number of members continues to increase in this jurisdiction.

The Grand High Priest recommended that an applicant for the degrees should have been a resident of the State one year, and of the jurisdiction of the Chapter before his petition be received.

There was exhibited some little friction on the movement made in G. G. Chapter to prepare and promulgate a complete Ritual for the several degrees.

Grand Chapter adopted the following :

"SEC. 36. *Rejection.*—No candidate whose application may have been rejected in any Chapter under this jurisdiction, shall be received in any Chapter other than that to which he first applied, except after five years from such rejection, unless the Chapter recommend him to another Chapter by an unanimous vote, taken by the secret ballot;" have attended to the duty assigned, and beg leave to report that said amendment ought to have a passage.

Which thus gets rid of perpetual jurisdiction.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom had been referred the question of advisability of exchange of jurisdiction with border Grand Chapters, reported :

That they hold that the concession of concurrent jurisdiction in any part of the State to another Grand Chapter, is in conflict with the doctrine of exclusive territorial jurisdiction, and would be likely to lead to serious complications, and they cannot recommend any change in our law which would give general permission to candidates resident in Maine to apply to Chapters out of the State.

Companion James M. Nevans, Buckport, Grand High Priest.

Companion Ira Berry, Portland, Grand Secretary.

Companion Drummond made one of his very able reports on Correspondence. In it we find Alabama for 1886, and commenting on a part of Grand High Priest Screws' address, he says :

We are at a loss to account for the continuous decadence of Masonry in Alabama for the past few years. It is not confined to the Chapters. The Grand Council has ceased to exist, and unless the downward course is soon arrested, the Grand Chapter must follow its example, and even the Grand Lodge is in danger.

So are we, but we think that we see some evidences of the dawn of a better day, and brighter times.

We copy for the benefit of the Craft what he says on the admissi-

bility of the records of civil courts in masonic trials, because the question has annoyed us :

But returning to the main question, we admit that in most courts it is held that a record of a conviction is technically hearsay, and is excluded because both parties are not bound by it. A record, however, is always admissible to prove a fact necessarily found by it, when offered in another case between the same parties. When the parties are not the same, the record is excluded because the one not a party to it is not bound by it ; and it is held to be unjust that one party to the new case should be bound by the record of the old case, when the other party is not so bound. As prosecutions for offenses in our civil courts are in the name of the State or of the people, a judgment of the conviction or acquittal of a man is admissible in another prosecution when the same fact or allegation is in question. If masonic prosecutions were in the name of the State or the people, a judgment of the civil court would be admissible under the strictest rules of evidence ; and not only admissible but conclusive. Now, while a masonic prosecution is not technically in the name of the State, it is essentially so : in both cases the public weal is what is represented in the prosecution : and a mere technicality ought not to exclude evidence, that would be admissible but for the technicality, especially as Masonry does not of necessity adopt all the rules of the civil law. In a trial in court, a specific charge is made ; the accused is heard ; the testimony is taken upon oath under strict rules of law ; the jury are sworn to base their verdict upon the law and the evidence, and must be satisfied of the guilt of the accused beyond a reasonable doubt. Their decision is entitled to weight. It is said that the evidence produced in the civil court may be equally produced before the lodge. This is not true, theoretically or practically : the civil court can compel the attendance of witnesses, while the lodge can have only those who testify voluntarily ; and it is well known that very, very often it is impracticable to obtain the testimony of profanes. We hold, therefore, that the judgment of the civil courts should be admitted in masonic trials, to receive such weight as each member of the lodge deems just, leaving the accused or the prosecutor, as the case may be, to overcome the effect of it by other evidence if he can.

To him we are indebted for a general statistical* table, which we append with thanks :

GRAND CHAPTERS.	Members.	Exaltations.	Admissions & Restorations.	Dismissions.	Expulsions.	Suspensions.	Sus. for Non-payment dus.	Deaths.
Alabama.....	464	23	8	9	0	0	15	6
Arkansas.....	1,235	112	42	21	2	1	59	25
California.....	4,180	241	81	72	1	....	*75	63
Canada.....	3,658	148	24	103	0	....	*92	31
Colorado.....	1,264	114	15	36	0	....	*7	9
Connecticut.....	4,227	150	14	21	0	0	36	67
Dakota.....	958	159	32	44	0	....	*11	8
Delaware.....	275	15	1	1	0	....	*8	6
District of Columbia.....	1,259	113	35	21	0	....	*22	21
Florida.....	259	26	9	5	0	....	*6	13
Georgia.....	1,084	65	26	29	0	....	*18	15
Illinois.....	12,341	834	121	303	5	....	*235	141
Indiana.....	4,912	238	48	182	13	4	89	61
Iowa.....	6,382	501	94	247	8	....	*152	47
Kansas.....	3,155	296	70	94	1	....	*15	36
Kentucky.....	2,260	152	34	87	2	....	*99	44
Louisiana.....	682	21	7	3	0	6	9	29
Maine.....	4,362	183	20	44	0	0	35	53
Maryland.....	1,202	61	29	32	2	....	*32	19
Massachusetts.....	9,897	557	....	205	14	....	110	107
Michigan.....	8,738	565	69	182	3	3	123	109
Minnesota.....	2,844	200	34	74	0	0	55	23
Mississippi.....	1,134	42	20	20	0	0	64	25
Missouri.....	4,786	193	73	80	0	....	*77	45
Nebraska.....	1,706	246	128	67	2	....	*33	9
Nevada.†.....	352	32	12	17	0	0	17	4
New Brunswick.†.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
New Hampshire.....	2,517	115	126	17	0	0	4	38
New Jersey.....	2,465	104	26	70	0	....	*57	29
New York.....	15,267	900	173	238	4	1	562	231
North Carolina.....	930	41	7	6	0	2	1	8
Nova Scotia.†.....	507	38	2	18	0	2	....	6
Ohio.....	10,584	629	187	239	17	0	440	120
Oregon.....	706	34	18	23	1	0	14	8
Pennsylvania.....	11,769	618	77	96	1	....	*228	146
Quebec.....	454	29	3	13	0	....	*16	6
Rhode Island.....	1,758	72	4	3	1	0	3	20
South Carolina.†.....	354	21	8	3	0	0	14	4
Tennessee.....	1,904	68	40	56	0	2	64	29
Texas.....	3,882	317	111	147	6	....	*91	89
Vermont.....	2,190	98	6	18	0	....	*16	44
Virginia.....	1,323	104	21	32	0	....	35	26
Washington.....	329	77	29	9	0	0	0	3
West Virginia.....	529	69	5	10	0	1	11	7
Wisconsin.....	4,137	266	78	96	1	....	*57	41
General Grand Chapter.....	1,118	82	32	32	0	....	*3	7
	146,339	8969	1999	3125	84	22	3110	1878

* Including all suspensions. † No returns; last year's figures.

† Just organized; no statistics given.

MARYLAND, 1887.

The Ninetieth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 8th November, 1887, with Companion C. C. Isaacs, D. G. H. P. as Grand High Priest.

Of the condition and growth of the Craft, the committee on doings of Grand Officers use these words :

The increase in membership, small as it is, is greater than that of several years past and is a subject of congratulation, as also the interest manifested by the companions in the acquisition and practice of the work of the Chapter.

A dispensation had been granted for one new Chapter, which at this Convocation was chartered.

We have never seen our own views on changes in Ritual so clearly set forth as by the Grand High Priest H. C. Larrabee, which was read to Grand Chapter, he being unavoidably absent. Our experience is that what he doubted might result therefrom is what necessarily takes place, and the Chapter languishes. We give his words :

The Committee has revised the work, as required by the Grand Chapter, and worked part of the degrees on actual candidates ; the incoming Council can take it up at once ; I doubt the wisdom of frequent changes in the Ritual, for although they may not be enough to change the sense, yet they do confuse, and the P. H. Priests, who should constitute an effective reserve are rendered useless, unless they apply themselves to unlearn and learn ; how many will ?

Companion E. T. Schultz made the report on Correspondence, reviewing Alabama for 1886, though it is noted therein as having been held on September 7th, 1887, while in truth the Sixtieth Annual Convocation was held in Montgomery on December 7th, 1886.

He quotes liberally from Grand High Priest Screws' address, and agrees that—

There can be no doubt, official as well as unofficial visits to the Subordinate Chapters by Grand Officers and those competent to instruct and advise, result in good.

Companion C. C. Isaacs, Baltimore, Grand High Priest.

Companion Geo. L. McCahan, Baltimore, Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS, 1886.

The Eighty-sixth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of this State was held on December 7th, 1886, M. E. Companion Frederick

T. Comee, Grand High Priest, presiding. There was a reasonable growth within the jurisdiction. Of the condition of the Craft, the Grand High Priest says :

The reports of the D. D. Grand High Priest justify a liberal degree of satisfaction with the general condition of the Chapters comprising this jurisdiction. No intimation of discord or complaint existing between any of our Chapters has reached me—a conclusive evidence of the existence of that contentment and unity of purpose “which is the strength and support of all institutions.” Many Chapters have not increased their membership, but, Companions, I do not regard an increase of membership the prime object of Capitular Masonry. Let our first efforts be to improve ourselves and our Companions already within the Royal Arch, in the practice of the principles so freely professed in our Ritual—cultivating that fraternal spirit which recognizes all as brethren—meeting upon the level—among whom no contention should ever exist, but peace and brotherly love abound.

He also recommends some reasonable compensation be given to the Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, who has for many years produced such admirable reports—Companion John W. Dadmun.

At this Convocation a new Chapter was admitted within the fold, which in a year had attained giant proportions, numbering 162 members.

Companion Frederick T. Comee, Boston, Grand High Priest.

Companion Alfred F. Chapman, Boston, Grand Secretary.

Companion Dadmun again presented the report on Correspondence, reviewing Alabama for 1886. If there is a “growing practice of soliciting candidates,” of which we are not aware, it doubtless “is unmasonic and reprehensible.” From his introduction we are led to infer that some such information must have reached our Companion.

Of our expressing the opinion that there might be doubts as to the prerogatives of a Grand High Priest, he says this :

Companion P. J. Pillans presented a brief but good report on Correspondence. He seems to vacillate between the “inherent dispensing power” of a Grand Master and that of Grand High Priest. In Massachusetts, Capitular law is based upon general Masonic law and usage, and in all cases where there is no specific Chapter law to govern, the law and usage of the Grand Lodge governs, even to the extent of the dispensing power.

The same rule governs us here in Alabama.

MICHIGAN, 1887.

The Thirty-eighth Annual Convocation was held on 18th day of January, with Daniel Striker, M. E. Grand High Priest. The total number of Chapters within the jurisdiction, 111, had their returns all in, and quite a large increase in membership appears from them. One dispensation for a new Chapter was granted.

The Grand High Priest submitted the following decision to the Committee on Jurisprudence :

Can anything be done with a Companion in a Chapter who repeatedly has, and persistently declares his intention to, continue to cast a black ball against an applicant for the Chapter degrees, on account, as openly expressed, of political or personal differences?

Answer. No.

On this the Committee say :

Your committee cannot agree with the Grand High Priest in this ruling, for the reason they do not believe it to be good Masonic law. A Companion has no right to disclose his ballot under any circumstances, and if he does, he is liable to be dealt with for making such disclosure. In the case as presented, we have a Companion who repeatedly has, and persistently declares his intention to, continue to cast a black ball. Such a Companion is guilty of gross unmasonic conduct in disclosing how he voted, and in stating what he would do in the future, and thereby disturbing the work of the Chapter, and the peace and harmony of his Companions, and should he be put on trial for gross unmasonic conduct, and if found guilty, ought to be hove over among the rubbish, that the prosperity, peace and harmony of the Royal Craft be not retarded by such an obstruction.

While your committee greatly regret to differ with the decision of Grand High Priest, still we fraternally submit that this decision ought not to be approved, and instead of being answer No, it should be answered by an emphatic Yes!

The Grand Chapter authorized the remission of dues by its subordinates to all R. A. M. members who had attained to 70 years of age, and remitted per capita tax in such cases.

Companion Eugene P. Roberson, Albion, Grand High Priest.

Companion William P. Innes, Grand Rapids, Grand Secretary.

The latter, as usual, presented the report on Correspondence, and we therein find Alabama for 1885.

Of the amendment to the Constitution adopted at that Convocation limiting the occupancy of the office of Grand High Priest not to exceed two years, he says :

We don't think much of the amendment. We believe the Grand Body ought to have authority over its own officers. Might as well say the Companions must be elected two successive years. It is not good law, in our humble judgment.

MINNESOTA, 1886.

The Twenty-fifth Annual Convocation was held on the 12th day of October, 1886, M. E. Companion Nathan Kingsley, Grand High Priest. If our friend and Companion, the venerable Grand Secretary, had given us a recapitulation of his tabular statement from the returns of the Chapters, or had given us the footings, we might have arrived at a conclusion as to whether there had been an increase in membership or a decrease, for we do not like to bother over this clerical work.

Dispensations were granted for six new Chapters, and charters were issued to five of them, one only being continued under dispensation.

The finances are in excellent condition.

Companion John H. Brown, Willmar, Grand High Priest.

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

Companion Pierson again submitted one of his admirable reports on Correspondence, reviewing Alabama for 1885 in it.

From this we give below both his opinion and our doubts about the prerogatives of a Grand High Priest.

Under the head of Connecticut, relative to the powers of a High Priest, he (Companion Pillans) says :

He seems to differ with us as to the powers of a Grand High Priest. While presiding over a Grand Chapter he is presiding over a representative body having, to be sure, judicial as well as legislative powers. We have never for a moment hesitated in our view of the inherent rights of a Grand Master. Yet we believe that he is as much bound by the constitution, so far as his own powers are prescribed by that instrument, as others ; but we claim that when that instrument forbids subordinate lodges to do any act, or commands them to do one, these may be set aside by the Grand Master, and this is his inherent dispensing power. But whether a Grand High Priest possesses the powers rightfully belonging to a Grand Master is a question the affirmative of which we are not prepared to accept.

The Grand Master was before the existence of written constitutions ; he possessed inherent rights of which written constitutions could not deprive him. In our form of Capitular Masonry the constitutions were made first and the Grand High Priest came afterwards ; hence we opine that he has only such powers and privileges as the constitutions confer upon him.

MISSISSIPPI, 1887.

The Thirty-ninth Annual Convocation was held on 7th day of February, 1887, Companion Richard Bowen, being Grand High Priest.

The Grand Secretary gives in his report a comparative statement of the condition of the Craft in Mississippi, as we did in our last report of it in Alabama. We know how to sympathize with our zealous Companions over there. As misery is said to love company, we give to you, our Companions, what he has said :

In my first report to the Grand Chapter, in 1871, the receipts for the preceding year amounted to \$3,131.70; but the Pay Roll, \$1,936.30, and other expenditures in like proportion, kept the Treasury exhausted, so that there was then a balance due the Grand Treasurer of \$263.58. There was also an indebtedness of nearly \$3,000 to other parties. Retrenchment in expenses, and very generous remission of mileage on two occasions, relieved the Grand Chapter of its embarrassments; but it will be noticed that the receipts are annually diminishing, so that the severest economy is necessary in order to relieve the Grand Chapter of the unpleasant record of deficits, however small. There appears to be a general stagnation in Capitular Masonry in our Jurisdiction. In 1870 the Royal Craft in Mississippi numbered 2,583 members in 74 working Chapters. In our last report this was reduced to 1,195 members in 43 Chapters, and if the returns to this Grand Convocation aggregate 1,000 affiliated Royal Arch Masons, it will come fully up to my estimate. One fruitful cause for this steady decline is, in my opinion, the want of proper instruction in the work and lectures. Companions elected to the office of High Priest, who know that they are not qualified to open the Chapter in due form, and confer the degrees in a proper manner, have a natural reluctance to making an exhibition of their lack of Masonic knowledge, and hence are indifferent about holding regular meetings of the Chapter. We have an accomplished and zealous Grand Lecturer, and if the ways and means could be provided by the Grand Chapter or the subordinates to compensate him for a thorough visitation and instruction of the Chapters, the good results would soon be apparent in the revival of Capitular Masonry in Mississippi. It is hoped that something may be done, and that speedily, to arrest the process of disintegration now so painfully manifest.

It certainly behooves us to look well into this matter and enquire rigidly into the cause, that if found it may be removed or a remedy applied to neutralize its effect. As an attempt at a remedy the Grand Chapter—

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer be instructed to hold a school of instruction for the period of one week next preceding the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, and at the same place said Con-

vocation shall be held. That for his services the Grand Lecturer shall receive the sum of five dollars per day and no mileage; and that each Subordinate Chapter pay into the Treasury of the Grand Chapter the annual sum of one dollar and fifty cents to constitute the instruction fund; and that each Chapter be urgently requested to send a delegate or delegates, at their own expense, to attend said school of instruction.

Upon the presentation of the report of the Committee on Correspondence, it was ordered to be "printed with the proceedings, and the resolutions accompanying the same were unanimously adopted by a rising vote." We fail, however, to find the resolutions which produced such unanimity.

Companion Charles T. Chamberlain, Natchez, Grand High Priest.

Companion John L. Power, Jackson, Grand Secretary.

Companion P. M. Savery made the report on Correspondence, reviewing our proceedings for 1885 fraternally. The shrinkage of revenue, as in Mississippi, must account for only this short notice.

MISSOURI, 1886.

The Grand Chapter of this State was convened in its Thirty-ninth Annual Convocation on May 13th, 1886, Companion Lee A. Hall, being Grand High Priest.

There was a reasonable increase in numbers during the year.

The movement for the establishment of a Widows' and Orphans' Home by the Masons of Missouri seems to be taking shape to produce good results, and the Grand Chapter stands pledged to give its assistance.

The Grand Chapter of Washington was recognized.

Companion R. F. Stevenson, Kansas City, Grand High Priest.

Companion William H. Mayo, St. Louis, Grand Secretary.

Companion Mayo presented a very short report on Correspondence. In it he acknowledges the receipt of our proceedings for 1885, among others. He apologizes for the report made, because of an accident to himself and sickness to his family. For these we pray him to accept our sympathies.

From the report we extract his condensation of the constitution of the Grand Lodge of England. This is brought out by the new views which occasionally startle us, projected by some brother:

Still, new theories have been started, and we are sorry to perceive that the spirit of innovation is still strong, one writer, whom we have always considered conservative, speaking of certain usages as "old

wives' fables." While there is ground for encouragement, therefore, there is still call for earnest and faithful effort in order to preserve our Institution in its ancient purity and simplicity.

We have had occasion to examine with some care, the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England. As that Grand Lodge is the original source, or at least the successor of the original source of Masonry in this country, and has always been a very conservative body, we may well expect to find in its Constitutions the old laws of the craft. We, therefore, have taken pains to ascertain its bearing upon the questions which now agitate Masonic circles in this country.

1. The Grand Lodge is the source of all power in Masonry. It alone has the inherent power of enacting laws for the government of the craft. The proposition, which some Masons are attempting to establish, that the Grand Lodge is the creature of its subordinates finds no support; on the contrary, under its provisions, lodges are the creatures of the Grand Lodge, and receive all the rights and powers from it.

"2. The Grand Lodge has also the power of investigating, regulating and deciding all matters relative to the craft, or to particular lodges, or to individual brothers, which it may exercise, either of itself, or by such delegated authority as, in its wisdom and discretion, it may appoint; but the Grand Lodge above has the power of erasing lodges and expelling Brethren from the craft, a power it does not delegate to any subordinate authority in England."

The original jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge to try cases of discipline, is herein expressly declared.

The significance of the words "in England" is, that while Provincial Grand Lodges cannot exercise the power of erasure and expulsion, "District Grand Lodges," on account of their distance from the Grand East, are given, in their respective districts, the full powers of the Grand Lodge in relation to discipline, to be exercised "of themselves" or by delegation.

3. No attempt is made to enumerate the powers and privileges of the Grand Master. The idea of granting power to the Grand Master is not found in the constitution. It is assumed that his powers and privileges are inherent in the office.

The only reference to them is in the provision, that in the absence of the Grand Master and Pro. Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master has "all the powers and privileges of the Grand Master."

4. The powers of Grand Wardens and Wardens are more limited than with us. In case of the death, etc., of the Grand Master, the Pro. Grand Master, if there is one, completes the term; if there is none, the Junior Past Grand Master, who is willing to act, succeeds to the office; but if none will accept, the Grand Wardens call a meeting of the Grand Lodge to elect a Grand Master for the remainder of the term.

If the Master die, the Senior Warden, and in his absence, the Junior Warden, and in the absence of both, the Immediate Past Master, and in his absence the Senior Past Master acts in summoning the lodge until the next installation of a Master. In the absence of the Master the Immediate Past Master, or in his absence the Senior Past Master of the lodge present, or if there is no Past Master, of the lodge present, any Past Master, who is a member of the

lodge, takes the chair ; but if there is none present, the Wardens according to seniority, preside, but cannot take the Master's chair or confer a degree.

5. The Master Mason's degree, "including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch," is expressly declared to be a part of "pure Oriental Masonry."

We commend this to the attention of our Illinois Companions, who are asked to declare that the Royal Arch degree is not a "Masonic" degree, and therefore that a Royal Arch Chapter is not a "Masonic body."

6. At each quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge, the minutes of the last quarterly and every intervening communication of the Grand Lodge are read and "put for confirmation."

7. While, as before stated, nothing is said in relation to the power of the Grand Master, Provincial and District Grand Masters are expressly authorized to suspend brethren from Masonic rights. That the Grand Master is held to have the power, as an incident inherent in his office, is well known.

8. With the exception of two old lodges, every lodge must have a warrant, "which is to be specially entrusted to the Master, for the time being, at his installation, who is responsible for its safe custody and shall produce it at every meeting of the lodge." If a warrant is lost, the lodge must suspend its meetings until a warrant of confirmation has been received by it.

9. Visitors can be admitted only upon voucher, examination or certificate of a Grand Lodge with proof of identity, and as we interpret the provision, producing vouchers that he has been initiated in a regular lodge.

10. A lodge may "exclude" a member, after due trial for non-payment of dues, or other cause. If such "excluded" member apply to another lodge for admission, the lodge must be "made acquainted with his former neglects," so that the brethren may use their discretion in admitting him, and any lodge, failing to make due inquiry in such case, is liable to pay the arrears of such brother, if any, to the lodge from which he was excluded."

Massachusetts, Maine and some other jurisdictions retain this old law, but have added a greater limitation than the Grand Lodge of England, as a brother excluded, or deprived of membership, can be received in another lodge only upon payment or remission of all arrears.

But the constitution provides that when a Brother* has left a lodge in any manner, he is entitled to a certificate, stating the circumstances under which he left the lodge, and this certificate must be produced in any lodge to which he may apply for membership before the ballot is taken upon his petition.

11. Neither lodges nor brethren can appear in public in Masonic clothing, on any occasion, without permission.

12. The ceremony for laying corner stones is given. The Grand Lodge does the work, while open as a Grand Lodge, thus appearing in public as a Grand Lodge, contrary to the doctrine recently announced in Pennsylvania, that the craft have no public Masonic ceremonies.

It is very gratifying to find the law and usage upon all these

points under the jurisdiction of the mother Grand Lodge, in accord with them in our own jurisdiction. It is not strange that it is so: the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was almost contemporaneous in origin with the Grand Lodge of England, and yet derived its origin from that Grand Lodge. It would naturally maintain the same usages and laws; and the fifty years during which Masonry in Maine was governed by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts would as naturally lead us to maintain the law and usages of our "Mother Grand Lodge."

There is always a tendency among men to endeavor to improve everything; but it is one of the fundamental principles of Masonry that we should hand it down to those who come after us the same as it came to us from the fathers, and in its name we appeal to those who would accommodate Masonry to modern methods to call a halt, lest they "remove the ancient landmarks," and "make innovation in the body of Masonry."

We have also the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for its Fortieth Annual Convocation held on 12th May, 1887, with Companion R. F. Stevenson, Grand High Priest. The Craft continues its increase.

There appears nothing of general interest in the proceedings.

Companion Reuben Barney, Chillicothe, Grand High Priest.

Companion William H. Mayo, St. Louis, Grand Secretary.

Companion Mayo again made the Correspondence Report, containing Alabama for 1886. This he reviews fraternally.

NEW BRUNSWICK, 1887.

We have received the proceedings of a convention of representatives from seven Chapters within the Province, which—

Unanimously Resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention, it is in the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry in this Province that a Grand Royal Arch Chapter should be now erected in and for the Province of New Brunswick.

Thereupon a Grand Chapter was organized, and on same day, 22d March, 1887, opened with Companion B. Lester Peters, first Grand Principal. At the election for officers for the subsequent year the same first Grand Principal was re-elected, and T. Nisbet Robertson, G. S. E.

A committee was appointed to draft a constitution to be presented at the next Annual Convocation. In the meantime the government of the Craft is left to the "controlling power and discretion of the M. E. First Grand Principal, yet subject to the general usages of Capitular Masonry."

The following was also adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Principals, Deputy Grand Principal and Grand Scribe E. be authorized to take the necessary steps to secure the recognition of the Grand Chapter by the several Grand Chapters of the world; and also to notify the several Subordinate Chapters in the Province of New Brunswick of the erection of this Grand Chapter.

Having, however, no other papers pertaining to this Grand Chapter, and being ignorant of the state of Capitular Masonry in that Province, and of how many Chapters are in esse, then we are compelled to forego any recommendation.

NEBRASKA, 1886.

The Twentieth Annual Convocation was held on December 15th, 1886, Companion John D. Moore Grand High Priest. The increase in membership during the year was very large, and the Grand High Priest during that period issued eight dispensations for new Chapters.

The complete surrender of all control over the Cryptic Degrees was also perfected, and the Grand High Priest congratulates the Grand Chapter that it is relieved of a "bone of contention."

Before receiving the degrees, this Grand Chapter requires:

"Before advancement each candidate shall prove himself to be a skilled workman as a Master Mason, by examination before the Council; and as a Mark Master and Most Excellent Master in open Chapter, to the entire satisfaction of the Chapter in which he seeks advancement, by examination in the degree last conferred. No Mark Master shall be exalted to the Royal Arch until his mark is recorded."

No Chapter can be "named after any living person, or after any city, town, or village situated in this jurisdiction."

Charters were granted to six new Chapters.

Companion Ithamar T. Benjamin, Crete, Grand High Priest.

Companion William R. Bowen, Omaha, Grand Secretary.

Companion Bowen made the report on Correspondence, reviewing Alabama for 1885. He violently opposes the idea that a man enters the order of "his own free will and accord," and thinks it a heresy. We give you his views on what he terms relative membership in full:

The doctrine that each and every Freemason should be a member of a lodge is claimed, by some correspondents who have reviewed Nebraska's proceedings, to be strange doctrine, modern Masonry, and a delusive departure from the Freemasonry of (our) early days. To the undersigned, this doctrine, for many years, has seemed equitable and for the best interests of Freemasonry.

Our active interest in the society began in 1863; in 1872 we aided in forming by-laws for our particular Chapter, and secured the enactment of the following provision: "Any member of this Chapter who for the term of six months is unaffiliated with a Blue Lodge, ceases to be a member of this Chapter on the announcement and proof to the Chapter of his status, unless he shall give to the Chapter satisfactory reasons for his non-affiliation." That law remains in force to this day, and Freemasonry in Omaha is the better for it.

At the triennial convocation of the General Grand Chapter in 1883, we were a member of the Committee on Charters and Dispensations, and it fell to our lot to write and present the report of that committee. As the particular Chapters under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter needed some guidance, we incorporated in the report several principles, including the requirement that each petitioner for the Capitular Degrees must be an affiliated Master Mason; we drew the particular attention of the General Grand Chapter to this requirement, and, after some inquiry and a little dissent, it was adopted. In the course of the discussion, we stated our more radical belief that "every Freemason should belong to a lodge;" we were openly urged to present that view for consideration, and at that time consented to do so, thus giving notice of our intention. At the earliest practicable moment we introduced the following: "*Resolved*, That membership in a Chapter should be dependent upon, and co-existent with, membership in a lodge of Freemasons;" which was considered, and laid upon the table by a vote, on call of Grand Chapters, of 40 to 36. Away from home, in a bigger body than we were accustomed to, we hadn't all of our few wits about us, and the motion we should have made, "To postpone until the next triennial convocation," was kindly made by the Grand High Priest of Nebraska, but was swallowed up by the motion "To lay on the table." Having given notice that we would present the doctrine of "Relative Membership" [we thank thee, Companion Fox, for giving us those words] we had no thought of deferring its presentation until the Grand Chapter was about to close, as is unkindly claimed by one reviewer; we had been busily at work in committee, and brought the matter up as soon as it was possible to do so.

In our Grand Chapter we have always favored an intimate connection between the lodge and Chapter, and have opposed non-affiliation. Our Grand Chapter records show that in 1872 we secured a requirement that candidates for the Chapter degrees must be proficient in the work of a Master Mason; in 1876, we sought to reduce the tendency to non-affiliation and suspension, by requiring the payment at the date of exaltation, of a sum covering all future dues; in 1877, we urged that "the Grand Chapter should aid the Grand Lodge by making membership in the Chapter dependent upon and co-existent with membership in the lodge;" in 1883, we included the following in a report to our Grand Chapter:

I invite attention to the following resolution which was presented in the General Grand Chapter at its last triennial convocation (page 100, proceedings of 1883): "*Resolved*, That membership in a Chapter should be dependent upon, and co-existent with, membership in a lodge of Freemasons."

I recommend that the Grand Chapter of Nebraska enact a law in

accordance with the resolution quoted. The tendency of to-day is to enrich the so-called "higher degrees" at the expense of the lodge, which in turn weakens the advanced degrees by creating jealousy thereof. In the United States the Lodge, Chapter, and Commandery make up an American System which it is the duty of each component part to maintain and perpetuate, it being plain that that which weakens any part must eventually weaken the whole. Many whose progress through these bodies is induced by the most praiseworthy motives, afterward lose sight of and neglect the duty they owe to the lodge; and it will not be denied, I think, that many deem the lodge a mere stepping-stone to the Chapter, and the Chapter but an avenue to organizations further along. The strongest Master Masons become Companions, and the most active Companions become Sir Knights; this is natural, and inevitably draws away from the lodge many (not all) of those who thus advance. To this progress we should offer no objection; but when thereto is added demission from and utter neglect of the lodge, it becomes our duty, I think, to declare that Royal Arch Masonry will not consent to such sapping of our foundation, such destruction of our corner-stone, such neglect of the regulation of Freemasonry which declares that "every brother ought to belong to a lodge"—to declare that when a companion, from any cause whatever, ceases to be a member in good standing of a lodge, he then ceases to be a member in good standing in his Chapter, due allowance of time being made to cover transfer from one lodge to another, when necessary. I have considered this matter in its many phases and can find no real objection to the enactment of the law I advocate; clearly Royal Arch Masonry has the right to determine what shall be the qualifications of its members; and if by our example we can induce organizations more advanced than ours to adopt this scheme of reciprocity, we shall have done much to strengthen, cement, and perpetuate the American System. I submitted essentially the same proposition as this to the Grand Chapter in 1877 (page 589, Nebraska proceedings), but it was lost in committee.

At the same convocation we offered the following as an amendment to the constitution, asking that it be laid over for consideration at the next annual convocation, which was granted; and in 1884 it became a part of the law of Royal Arch Masonry in Nebraska:

Article VI. Sec. —. Membership in a Chapter is dependent upon, and co-existent with, membership in a lodge of Freemasons

Any Mark Master, Past Master, Most excellent Master, or Royal Arch Mason who is suspended in or expelled from his lodge is *ipso facto* suspended in or expelled from his Chapter. Any Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, or Royal Arch Mason, who for six months remains unaffiliated with a lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons is *ipso facto* suspended in his Chapter, such suspension to be terminated by his affiliation with a lodge.

We have conversed on this subject with many of our better informed companions, and have found no sufficient reason for changing our views. From the landmark of Ancient Craft Masonry which declares that every brother shall belong to a lodge (and "should" meant "must" in those days, we take it) on up to-day, every principle and every well-grounded policy of our society in-

culcates the necessity for relative membership. Freemasonry is one society ("the three degrees, including the Royal Arch"), not a confederation of Orders; "once a Mason always a Mason" is as true to-day as it ever was; as well claim that when one becomes a Royal Arch Mason he is absolved from the obligations of "brotherly love, relief, and truth," as to claim that he need not continue to be a member of a lodge; the edifice can't stand if the foundation-stone be removed; and we fancy that Adoniram, or even Hiram himself, would have been promptly discharged from King Solomon's service if either of them had withdrawn from his lodge.

We do not attempt to localize this latter-day liberalism that opposes relative membership, although it is limited in extent; but it seems to us that it springs from about the same source as the free-will doctrine of the present decade—the doctrine that a man comes into Freemasonry of his own free-will and accord, and has therefore a right to withdraw of his own free-will and accord—than which (we think) no greater heresy is to-day held regarding our society. No man comes into Freemasonry of his own free-will and accord; the self-constituted teachers of to-day preach many half truths which do more harm than whole errors; the whole truth is, that every petitioner seeks admission of his own free-will and accord, but his admission is a very different matter.

Relative membership can do no harm, and may do much good; it does not affect the Mason who wants to do his whole duty, but it may prevent the progress of those who seek the so-called "higher" degrees, and, having attained same, desire to abandon the lodge or Chapter. If it be claimed that the lodge asks no such legislation at the hands of the Chapter, we reply that no such request should be necessary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1887.

The Sixty-ninth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 17th day of May, 1887, Companion John Francis Webster, being Grand High Priest.

The Grand High Priest congratulates the Grand Chapter "on the continued prosperity of R. A. Masonry" in the State. He, however, calls the attention of the Grand Chapter to the condition of the finances, which, without help, promise to be entirely too small for the coming year, and recommends an increase of the per capita tax from 20 to 30 cents. The Committee on Finance recommended, and it was adopted, a special tax of 15 cents per capita, and also an amendment to the existing law raising this annual tax to 35 cents. This necessarily lies over for a year.

Companion John Francis Webster, Concord, Grand High Priest.

Companion George P. Cleaves, Concord, Grand Secretary.

Companion A. S. Wait presented the report on Correspondence. In it Alabama for 1886 finds a place.

NEW JERSEY, 1887.

Held the Thirty-first Annual Convocation of her Grand Chapter on the 11th day of May, 1887, Companion Charles Belcher, Jr., being the Grand High Priest.

We find here also that the number of affiliated live R. A. Masons is diminishing, those dimitted and expelled amounting to almost the number exalted.

The Grand High Priest, in reporting his attendance upon the G. G. Chapter, makes use of the following language :

In September last I attended the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter at Washington, but business engagements prevented my remaining until the end of the session. As a governing body its functions appear to be limited and prescribed ; as an advisory body it may be of possible advantage and tend toward the advancement and welfare of Capitular Masonry. From observation, it appears to be merely a fungous growth of the State Grand Chapters, living upon and deriving its substance and vitality from them, and returning to them no adequate equivalent for their investment.

It certainly affords a pleasant opportunity for representatives from different sections of the country to meet in social intercourse and accept the bountiful hospitalities and fraternal courtesies that are so freely extended to the visiting Companions. This may be of sufficient importance to prolong its existence.

He says of the Craft : " Of late we have not increased numerically as we should. Various causes have been and still are assigned for this abnormal condition." The finances, however, are still in good shape.

Companion Isaac C. Getheus, Camden, Grand High Priest.

Companion George B. Edwards, Jersey City, Grand Secretary.

Companion Henry Vehslage again presented the report on Correspondence, reviewing Alabama for 1886 in it.

NEW YORK, 1887.

The Ninetieth Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the first day of February, 1887, with Companion Richard H. Huntington, Grand High Priest.

The Craft is large in this Empire State, and of it the Committee on Correspondence say :

The jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York is a large one, not the largest in area of territory, but, judged by the real test, the population at large, their wealth, intelligence, business

and commercial importance, and by the number and the membership of Royal Arch Chapters she stands first and greatest. This, we think, as a simple matter of fact, will not be contested, and we mention it not to draw invidious distinctions, but rather to hold it up to our own people, that they may understand their responsibilities to the Royal Craft in the Empire State, and to incite them to renewed and continued efforts to make themselves, by their work and spirit, an example to all the Craft in all the land. While we are strong we would be humble, and, while in numbers we be many, we would live in fraternal unity at home, and in brotherly love with all our companions outside of our own broad jurisdiction.

Its increase during the year was, however, but small.

Many interesting questions arose and were disposed of.

Companion William Sherer, Brooklyn, Grand High Priest.

Companion Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Chaplain, Rev. James Byron Murray, delivered a very lengthy and elaborate address on Architecture. In it we find thoughts extremely novel, and we may add, ingenious.

The Committee on Correspondence, through its Chairman, Companion Darius A. Ogden, presented a report, reviewing in it Alabama for 1885. We regret to find ourself under the ban, because we thought that as a Grand Chapter we ought to await the dictum of our superier as to the course to be pursued towards the G. M. M. Lodge of England, because of the Quebec imbroglio. Our own opinion we never hesitated to express in terms unmistakable, and we knew these to be but a reflex of those of our Grand Chapter. Yet we thought it improper to have our G. Chapter, acting as an independent body, when in reality she is but a component part of a grand whole. Suppose, however, our Grand Chapter were to differ with us and hold that Quebec was wrong, could those of obedience to her hold Masonic intercourse with those of obedience to the G. M. M. Lodge after the action had by our G. G. Chapter? We don't care about "flying off the handle" on all occasions. We never have thought that this G. M. M. Lodge ought to have been recognized by our Grand Chapters as a part of or equivalent for our degree, and we part with this off-shoot without regret.

The Committee concludes with the following :

Our work for 1886 is done. The Proceedings of all the Grand Bodies on this side of the Atlantic have been reviewed, and also the Proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. It has been a laborious, but a pleasant work, and we are glad to say at the conclusion that the general condition of the Royal Craft on the western continent was never more prosperous, more harmonious,

more influential ; never has there been so great unity in work and feeling, and, we think it safe to predict an era of renewed and continued prosperity. With this feeling in our hearts, we submit our work to our companions, craving therefor indulgence and charity, for the latter will, if rightly applied, "cover a multitude of sins ;" and, we trust, a much less number than a "multitude will be found in our humble effort embodied in the report. Many errors and mistakes doubtless will be found, but for those the head, and not the heart, is responsible.

NORTH CAROLINA, 1887.

The Thirty-ninth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 24th day of May, 1887, with Companion Charles R. Jones, Grand High Priest.

The returns show decided improvement, and doubtless our Companions of the old North State have passed the crisis and are now on the grade upwards. It was a hard struggle, but their zeal is being rewarded. Of this the Grand High Priest says :

As exhibited by the report of the Grand Secretary the order for the past year show a healthy growth. North Carolinians are of a conservative character, and are slow to adapt themselves to changed conditions, and hence, while we have not exhibited the activity and advancement shown by some other Grand Jurisdictions, we have made a steady advancement toward the goal of progress, and constantly added to our members, character and influence, and extended our power for good.

At this Convocation the resolution for the mergement of the Cryptic degrees with the Chapter was repealed, and provision made for their surrender to the last presiding officer of the Grand Council. Unless more fortunate than in Alabama, these degrees will be lost, for our Grand Council is, we opine, without a quorum of councils.

Companion George H. Bell, Bell, Grand High Priest.

Companion Donald W. Bain, Raleigh, Grand Secretary.

No report on Correspondence.

NOVA SCOTIA, 1886.

We have also the proceedings of the Seventeenth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, which was held June 1st, 1886, with Rev. Henry D. deBlois, Grand High Priest.

Some increase in numbers has taken place in the Craft during the year.

The Grand High Priest threw out the suggestion that probably a

little persuasion or invitation only would induce the various Chapters in New Brunswick to place themselves under the care of this Grand Chapter. The Grand Chapter, however, took no notice of the suggestion, and as we have reported under its proper head the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick was organized.

Companion Rev. Henry D. deBlois, Annapolis, Grand High Priest.

Companion Benjamin Curren, Halifax, Grand Secretary.

There is no report on Correspondence.

OHIO, 1886.

The Seventieth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on 7th October, 1886, with Companion Jacob L. H. Long, Grand High Priest, in the East.

The numerical condition of this Grand Chapter could only be ascertained by footing up various long columns of figures, which, at this late hour, we have not the heart to do. We presume, however, that it is good.

We find dispensations for the formation of two new Chapters were granted, and that they were found worthy of charters.

The Grand High Priest, however, seems himself to be in doubt, for he says :

One, if not the principal, of the causes of the stagnation in Chapters is the want of accurate knowledge of the esoteric work of the Craft. Men take an interest in and are glad to do that which they know that they can do well. It is the bright Mason who is always on hand at the meetings of the Chapter. It is not entirely true that he is bright because he attends, but in most cases he attends because he is bright. In my opinion, no more effectual means could be used to excite an eager interest in the work of the Chapter than a provision for the proper diffusion of an accurate knowledge of the esoteric work. In some of the States, in New York notably, the Grand Chapter has taken steps, at its own expense partially, to disseminate the correct ritual to the Chapters within its jurisdiction. I would recommend that this Grand Chapter consider this question, and adopt some means by which this object can be accomplished.

A resolution repealing the one recognizing the G. M. M. Lodge of England and Wales, was adopted in order to place this Grand Chapter in line with the G. G. Chapter.

Companion Jacob L. H. Long, Ottawa, Grand High Priest.

Companion Emmet V. Rhoades, Saint Paris, Grand Secretary.

We are deeply grieved at learning of the affliction of the Grand Secretary, Companion James Nesbitt, and to him and his we tender our heartfelt fraternal sympathy.

Companion Graff M. Acklin brought forward the report on Correspondence, reviewing in it Alabama for 1885. He says :

An innovation to an Ohio R. A. M. was the report of the Committee on the Grand High Priest's address, in which the official acts and decisions were *approved*.

In which we think he is entirely right, and can only account for it by supposing, as there had been no decisions to be submitted to the Committee on Jurisprudence, it was *lapsus penne*.

OREGON, 1887.

This is the Twenty-seventh Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, which was held on June 13th, 1887, Companion Wallace Baldwin, being Grand High Priest. Capitular Masonry continues its growth there.

The Grand High Priest shows a deplorable condition of the finances, but we confess our inability to discover it in the Grand Treasurer's report, and the Committee on Finance declined to increase the per capita tax.

Companion Rupp F. Gibbons, The Dalles, Grand High Priest.

Companion Rockey P. Earhart, Salem, Grand Secretary.

The report on Correspondence is again from the pen of our friend and Companion, T. McF. Patton. In it Alabama for 1885 is found.

In his introduction we are advised to use his own language :

You all know, Companions, that the heavy hand of affliction has been laid upon me within the last few months. That my home and my heart has been made desolate. The angel of death has again visited our home circle and summoned my dearest and truest friend, my loved and loving wife, to everlasting rest.

You know not, our dear Companion, how these words weigh on us, for have we not drank of the same cup? Have not our eyes been dimmed and our brain reeled while preparing a report under similar circumstances? Yet 'His will be done,' for he knoweth better than we, and "doeth all things well." In your bereavement, the greatest and most crushing that can befall any one, be sure you have the sympathy of at least one loving, fraternal breast. Very dear Companion, you have our fullest sympathy.

We know not why it is that occasionally some one of the proceedings get adrift, and we do not see them. Such was the case then, and Oregon, which we prize so highly, came not, but we have it now.

We find him agreeing with us in the opinion that most applicants for degrees out of time are prompted to take the degrees from motives of personal interest, and adds :

And he might have added (and be within the bounds of truth) that Companions thus favored by special dispensation are the "poorest sticks" in the lot. Never trouble themselves afterwards to acquire even a passable knowledge of the ritual—which is the smallest part. They generally visit by avouchment, and then only on election and festival occasions. There may be, and doubtless are, exceptions, but as a general rule, so far as our experience and information goes, they constitute poor timber for a permanent edifice.

PENNSYLVANIA, 1886.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Chapter of this State was held on 27th December, 1886, with Companion George W. Kendrick, Jr., Grand High Priest. At the Quarterly Communication immediately preceding the annual election for officers takes place, and at the annual they are installed. Before the installation the outgoing Grand High Priest delivered an address, in which he states :

Our finances are in a most healthy condition, each year showing an improvement over the preceding one. This year is specially marked by an increase in our membership, proving activity, zeal and general regard for our prosperity by the craft.

No discordant elements have manifested themselves ; no grievances have been presented ; harmony and goodwill prevail all along the line.

Companion Matthias H. Henderson having been previously elected, was installed Grand High Priest, and in his address he pointed out a difference in the working of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania from the usual American system. In this, that the candidate must have previously "passed the chair" before he can apply for the Chapter degrees ; while in other jurisdictions this degree is conferred in the Chapter. He contended for the Pennsylvania method. As this may prove of interest to you, Companions, we extract on this subject from his address liberally :

As I am just entering upon the administration of the affairs of this office, I have no record of duties done to submit to your consideration, but I desire to call your attention in a few plain words to some points in regard to the working of subordinate Chapters which have at various times come under my observation. Our Chapters are sometimes applied to for the degrees by brethren who are members of Lodges in other jurisdictions. Some of these applications—and

the word application in this sense does not mean petition—are to frontier Chapters by brethren residing across the line, who are nearer the Pennsylvania Chapter than they are to one in their own jurisdiction; the remainder are from brethren residing in our own territory. The obstacle to the reception of these petitions is, that the applicants have not passed the chair. We call it "Passing the Chair," while our contemporaries call it the "Past Master's Degree," and for the purposes of this address we will adopt that form of expression. In Pennsylvania this is done in the Lodge. In all the other jurisdictions of this country it is conferred in the Chapter, except in the comparatively few instances where it is given to the elected Worshipful Master of a symbolic Lodge. Our Constitution, in section 107, says that an applicant for the degrees must be a "Past Master either by election or dispensation." The case of an applicant who holds membership in a foreign Lodge is therefore governed by three different conditions, as follows:

1. If he is not a Past Master he cannot present a petition.
2. If he is a Past Master and resides within our jurisdiction he can present a petition.
3. If he is a Past Master residing outside of our jurisdiction, the consent of his own Grand High Priest must be obtained in the usual manner before he can present a petition.

The remedy for those who are not Past Masters is to withdraw from their Lodge, unite with a Pennsylvania Lodge and pass the chair by dispensation, when they will be qualified to make application to the Chapter. It is to be regretted that uniformity of usage regarding the Past Master's Degree cannot be established, and as this is the principal point of difference between the other American Grand Chapters and ourselves, for which we have been mildly referred to as "conservative," "old fogey," and our position alluded to as an isolated one, it may be well to contemplate the subject and ascertain to what extent our practice is supported by common sense and ancient usage and custom. I have taken pains to examine authorities and find that some very eminent ones express views inconsistent with the practice of their respective Grand Chapters. A well known author of New York says:

"In point of fact, the degree of Past Master is out of place in the Chapter, and has no right there. It belongs to the Blue Lodge.

"In the Chapter it has no significance nor pertinence whatever—it is simply an act without meaning, and mars greatly the beauty of "Royal Arch Masonry."

A distinguished Masonic writer of the District of Columbia, says that originally it was always conferred in Lodges, and that "the jurisdiction over it by Chapters is altogether an assumed one."

An English author in a letter to Grand High Priest Meyer, dated October 1st, 1872, and published in our proceedings of that year, says:

"It seems to have been the custom (in fact was) of the Grand Lodge according to the old Constitutions (called the Ancients') to confer the Past Master's Degree in a Craft Lodge to candidates for Royal Arch Masonry," which is precisely what we in Pennsylvania do to-day. In another part of the same letter he says:

"Until recently, in Scotland the system of Capitular Free Masonry

prevailing in the United States was adopted, but at the Grand Lodge held the 5th of February last, it was decided to return to the old English system, and hence the Grand Chapter of Scotland has retired from the control of the Past Master's Degree, and left it entirely in the hands of the Grand Lodge."

I regret that I have not the space to quote this letter in full, and would refer those to it who desire to pursue the subject further. Its whole tenor is that the degree originated in the Lodge, that it was designed for the use of the Lodge, and that it is out of place anywhere else. I might multiply quotations and enlarge upon them, but enough has been said to show that the practice of conferring the degree in Chapters is a modern innovation and that our Grand Chapter is the only one in this country that has observed that time-honored precept which admonishes us to reject all attempts to improve Free Masonry and to adhere strictly to ancient usage, custom and landmark. The name, Past Master, signifies that it is an honorary distinction given to a brother who has passed through the office of Master, and as Lodges are the only Masonic bodies governed by Masters, a sensible view of the matter would indicate that it should be given to the brother entitled to it by the body in which he has attained the distinction, and why it should be conferred by any other authority, or how two different bodies can consistently exercise jurisdiction over the same degree is something which our friends have never explained.

Companion Matthias H. Henderson, Grand High Priest.

Companion Charles E. Meyer, Grand Secretary.

Companion Samuel Harper again presented the report on Correspondence, and we regret to find that from some unknown cause our proceedings had failed to reach him.

QUEBEC, 1887.

We have before us a very neatly gotten up pamphlet containing the proceedings of the Tenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, held on the 25th day of January, 1887, Companion John P. Noyes, being the G. Zerubbabel. Within this jurisdiction there has been a somewhat greater loss than increase in the Craft.

The Grand High Priest recommends the adoption of the Ritual of the G. G. Chapter of the U. S., and that it may be appreciated by the Grand Chapter he invited the officers of one of the subordinates which uses this work to exemplify the work before the Grand Chapter, that its members may be the better enabled to select with discretion.

He recommends the formation of a G. G. Chapter of Canada or British North America, and the Committee on the address agree with

him as to the advisability of such a move, but think it would be inadvisable for the suggestion to be made by this Grand Chapter.

This Grand Chapter adopted the three year limit for Representatives.

Companion Edson Fitch, Quebec, G. Z.

Companion Joseph Mitchell, Montreal, G. S. E

The report on Correspondence was prepared and presented by Companion C. A. Humphreys, reviewing with others the proceedings of Alabama for 1885.

RHODE ISLAND, 1887.

The Eighty-ninth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 8th day of March, 1887, with Companion Rev. Henry W. Rugg, Grand High Priest. "By information," says the address, "from various sources I reach the conclusion that Capitular Masonry in Rhode Island is in a generally prosperous condition." So, also, says the abstract of returns of Chapters. The Grand High Priest, however, deplors the fact that a sufficient amount of interest is not manifested in the degrees, and fears that many esteem the Chapter only as a halting place on the road to the Commandery.

The Committee on Correspondence made a report on the resolution of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana cutting off all intercourse with those owing allegiance to either the G. M. M. Lodge or the Grand Chapter of England. In this they assert that they never did recognize the Masonic existence of the G. M. M. Lodge, hence no action is necessary thereon. With reference to the Grand Chapter of England they deem it improper at this time to take any action, believing that the matter will yet be amicably settled by the Grand Chapter of Quebec. At the same time they stoutly maintain the doctrine of exclusive sovereignty.

Companion George M. Carpenter, Providence, Grand High Priest.

Companion William R. Greene, Providence, Grand Secretary.

SOUTH CAROLINA, 1887.

We have the proceedings of the Seventy-sixth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held on 15th February, 1887, with J. E. Breazeale, Grand High Priest.

We regret to see that the Craft in this jurisdiction is diminishing in numbers. The suspended for non-payment of dues almost equals the number exalted.

Alluding to the terrible calamity (the earthquake) which befell the city of Charleston and vicinity, and the consequent unparalleled distress consequent thereon, the Grand High Priest says :

In their hour of distress it was, indeed, *consoling and encouraging* to receive substantial *tokens of sympathy* from abroad.

The G. G. Chapter, the Grand Chapter of Ohio, and that of Scotland promptly responded to the noble instincts of true Masons and forwarded substantial aid to the distressed Companions, which is gratefully acknowledged with the hope that they "may never need such sympathy as they have so freely extended."

The Committee on the address on this subject say :

They have learned with heartfelt gratitude of the liberal donations made by the General Grand Chapter of the United States, the Grand Chapter of Ohio, the Grand Chapter of Scotland, United Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, of Norfolk, Va., and Hiram Chapter, No. 129, of Louisville, Ky., for the relief of Royal Arch Masons who suffered by the earthquake of August 31st last. The Committee can command no language which will adequately express the grateful emotions that animate each Companion's heart as he thinks of the loving, fraternal hands stretched out from distant homes, bearing substantial gifts of kindness, sympathy and affection to aid those whose homes were wrecked on that fearful night of terror. The earthquake of 1886 is of the *past*—the remembrance of these unknown Companions' loving sympathy and assistance is a living, always abiding *present*. This Grand Chapter can only say to each, in the words of a gifted woman :

"Few, simple words! Amid the blurs and blots
Of erring language, ye have goodly birth;
Ye form the consecration of the spots
Which memory kneels upon as hallowed earth.
Feeling—too deep to sport on gossip air;
Pity—too eloquent to blame or teach;
The *Joy* we tremble at, the *Grief* we share,
The *Angel tones* that live in *Human* speech
Breathe in—'God bless you.'"

W. T. Branch, Abbeville, Grand High Priest.

J. E. Burke, Charleston, Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE, 1887.

The Fifty-eighth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 24th day of January, 1887, Companion Bradford Nichol being Grand High Priest. We find that notwithstanding the efforts

of previous Grand High Priests to arrest it the shrinkage still continues. The balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, however, continues to increase. We are pleased to see that a new Chapter has been started under the most favorable auspices, and gives promise of great success.

The Grand Chapter appropriated \$100 towards the putting an elevator in the Temple. We wish our Masonic Grand Bodies would thus save the terrible climb we have to make at Montgomery.

The business was purely local, and there was no report on Correspondence.

Companion Wm. R. Shaver, New Middleton, Grand High Priest.

Companion John Frizzell, Nashville, Grand Secretary.

TEXAS, 1886.

On December 14th, 1886, the Grand Chapter of Texas held its Thirty-seventh Annual Convocation with Companion B. F. Frymier, Grand High Priest. Notwithstanding the denunciation of our G. G. Chapter, we find that the numbers increase in this jurisdiction, and that dormant Chapters are reviving, while new Chapters are being formed.

The Grand Chapter passed a resolution approving the final action of the Grand Chapter of Quebec towards the G. M. M. Lodge of England.

The following was referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence :

Resolved, That the resolution adopted by this Grand Chapter, June 17, A. D. 1861, dissolving all connection between this Grand Chapter and the General Grand Chapter be, and the same is hereby repealed.

This Committee made the following report, which was adopted :

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, beg leave to submit the following report :

We have carefully considered the resolution offered by Companion E. C. Bartholomew proposing to repeal the resolution of this Grand Chapter adopted in 1861, dissolving all connection between this Grand Chapter and the General Grand Chapter.

We recommend that the resolution offered by Companion Bartholomew be not adopted, and refer our Companion to a very able report on this subject, in 1878. (See Printed Proceedings of this Grand Chapter for 1878, pages 29 to 41 inclusive.)

Companion W. L. Sartwell, Comanche, Grand High Priest.
Companion Robert Brewster, Houston, Grand Secretary.
No report on Correspondence.

VERMONT, 1887.

The Seventieth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on June 17th, 1887, with Companion Kittredge Haskins, G. H. Priest. There was a palpable increase in membership of the Craft during the year.

Of the craft and the finances of the Grand Chapter the G. H. Priest says :

The amount of work done by the subordinate Chapters during the past year is a little in excess of that of the year immediately preceding, yielding an amount which places the Grand Chapter in a very respectable condition financially. This is as it should be; for a Grand Body of Masons, like an individual engaged in business, constantly struggling under financial embarrassment, can be regarded only with feelings of the deepest commiseration.

And, he might have added, that when either a Lodge, Grand Lodge, Chapter or Grand Chapter become burthened with debt the interest of the members is visibly much slackened.

A proposition was submitted allowing a Chapter to hold its convocations alternately in two different places and agreed to.

The committee on finance recommended that hereafter the report on correspondence should be limited so as not to exceed fifty pages, which was also agreed to.

We have found it necessary to bring it down to a much smaller figure to remain within the ability of our Grand Chapter to publish it.

Companion Marsh O. Perkins, Windsor, G. H. P.

Companion Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington, Grand Secretary.

Companion Frederick S. Fisher again made the report on correspondence, covering 83 pages, reviewing therein Alabama for 1885.

VIRGINIA, 1886.

The Seventy-ninth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on November 17th, 1886, Companion Ro. T. Craighill being the Grand H. P.

A larger increase in membership during the year is shown than for

the preceding year. One dispensation for a new chapter was granted, and at this convocation to it a charter was granted.

Business entirely local.

Companion Philo Bradly, Harrisonburg, G. H. P.

Wm. B. Isaacs, Richmond, Grand Secretary.

This latter presented the report on correspondence, and Alabama for 1885, finds a place in it. It is now a goodly number of years since we have heard from the companion. His ring then was bright, yea brilliant, and to him is the reportorial corps indebted for the soubriquet of Mutual Admiration Society. From his conclusion we copy :

We have finished our labors. The work is before you. We have no time to rub it down, to revise, to strengthen, to correct, or to round off the periods. We are not satisfied with it, nor can we expect, nor do we expect, others to be. There are few disturbing elements throughout the country. Except for the Quebec muddle and the A. and A. S. R. contentions, all would be peace and harmony. With the first of these we have nothing more to do save to express our regrets that it exists. With the last, as Royal Arch Masons, we conceive we have nothing to do. We regret, most deeply regret, to read the personalities and accusations made by the different aspirants to establish their respective claims to "Simon pure-ship." In our opinion the use of such appellations as "miserable liars," "knaveish scoundrels," "lying, impudent, brassy falsehoods," &c., &c., are not calculated to give force, or impressiveness, or conviction, to an argument. If such things are in the A. and A. S. R. Ritual, we have nothing more to say, except to advise a revision and purgation. We never joke on matters Masonic.

WASHINGTON, 1887.

The proceedings before us are of the Third Annual Convocation of this vigorous young sister, held on 30th May, 1887, with Comp. Andrew McCalley, Grand High Priest. The morning session was pretty much occupied with the presentation of a cane to the M. E. G. H. P. ; in the afternoon work was commenced, and the Grand High Priest delivered his address. In it he says, "Notwithstanding this, we have had a year of prosperity, each chapter showing an increase of members ; also two dispensations have been granted."

Charters were granted to two new chapters.

The Grand High Priest recommended that the Grand Constitution be amended to conform to the laws of the G. G. Chapter, and adds :

Notwithstanding, it appears strange to me that the General Grand Chapter should single us of Washington out in this matter, when

our Constitution and By-Laws are the same as that of Illinois. Why not make the same request of that Grand body? Were they afraid to do so?

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom this was referred, made a special report upon it which we subjoin for the better illustration of the whole subject. We think our little friend Washington has the best of the bargain. It is long, but important, hence we do not curtail it:

SPECIAL REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Comp. T. M. Reed also presented and read the following special report of the Committee on Correspondence, which, on motion, was received as embodying the views and conclusions of this Grand Chapter upon the subject matters therein referred to, and as such was unanimously adopted:

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Washington:

In response to the recommendation of the Committee on Reports of Grand Officers, adopted by this Grand Chapter, *ante* p. 281, your Committee on Correspondence fraternally submit the following special report:

The request is made that this Committee make a special report upon this whole question of "apparent conflict" between the Constitution and laws of this Grand Chapter and those of the General Grand Chapter, as referred to in the proceedings of that General Grand Body, for 1886.

In the Annual report of this Committee, just presented, will be found a "review" of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter at its Twenty-Sixth Triennial Convocation, 1886. The particular subject now before your Committee upon which a special report is desired, was duly, and, we believe, carefully considered in that report. As "time" and the economy of space, at the present juncture, are important considerations, your Committee has deemed it best to eliminate from the general report those portions which refer, either by extract or comment, to this question, and to incorporate them herein as the full text of this report.

Referring to the address of M. E. General Grand High Priest Chapman, we remark as follows: "The new Grand Chapters of Washington and Dakota, established under his authority, are referred to in general terms of kindness and respect, although with a seeming doubt as to the propriety of his course in the premises, under the provisions of the law of the General Grand Chapter relative to such cases. He gives in full his official letters of authorization in each case. We quote from his address a few brief extracts, as follows:

"During the first six months of the year 1884, approval was asked for proceedings already taken to organize a Grand Chapter in the Territory of Dakota, and another in that of Washington. I was re-

spectfully reminded that "Three subordinate Chapters" were competent to form a Grand Chapter, but my own inclination was to be governed by the entire terms of the Constitution,—see Section 23, Article II.

"In each of these territories a convention was held, the proceedings thereof were forwarded to my address and approval solicited."

In his correspondence with Comp. Blatt, of Dakota, on this subject he says :

"In so important a matter as that of forming a Grand Chapter we ought to avoid all cause for present and future unfavorable criticism, and, as I should like to establish a good precedent, and correct one also, I trust you will aid me, even though it may cause slight delay.

"At the proper time I gave the necessary letter in each case. * * *

"It is probable that in both cases the companions directly concerned thought their respective proceeding in June to be regular, and chafed somewhat under the delay imposed ; indeed, mild expression to this effect appeared in the printed proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Washington * * *

"In the Territory of Washington, the Chapters were at once agreed, the only question was one of regularity, aside from that of their convenience and the dictation of "propriety" in establishing a Grand Chapter of such limited proportions. If doubts existed in my own mind, I gave the companions interested the benefit of them ; trusting that their knowledge of Freemasonry and their attachment to the institution will be ample to make their Grand Chapter useful and honorable."

In order to make this subject clear to all, we give in full the section of the Constitution referred to by General Grand High Priest, Chapman, as follows :

"SECTION 23. Whenever there shall be three subordinate Chapters regularly chartered and constituted in any State, district, or Territory, by virtue of authority derived from this Constitution, a Grand Chapter may be established, as soon as convenience and propriety may dictate ; *Provided*, That the approbation of the General Grand High Priest shall have been first obtained. And any Grand Chapter thus established, shall have and possess all the rights, privileges and prerogatives conferred upon the Grand Chapters by this Constitution."

In explanation of what would appear from the foregoing, as irregular action and "undue haste" on the part of the actors in the formation of the Grand Chapter of Washington, it may be proper for the writer of this report, to say, at least for himself, that we do not feel aggrieved or "chafed" at the action of the General Grand High Priest in this matter. We believe him to have been actuated by feelings of conscientious duty, of proper caution and fraternal kindness. But, at the time of the occurrence, the long delay of the response to our petitions was a matter of some surprise and concern, and especially so to some of our companions, who, perhaps, did not look at the spirit of the law of the General Grand Chapter, on this point, in exactly the same light, as it appears to have been understood by the General Grand High Priest. We were fully aware of the existence of the law, as the interpretation of its sense and import was discussed before any definite action was taken. We believed, and have found

nothing since to change that belief, that neither the letter nor spirit of the law denied the right of those "three subordinate Chapters" to proceed in the manner, and to the extent, they did.

The section of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter referred to says, that "a Grand Chapter may be established as soon as convenience and propriety may dictate: *Provided*, 'that the approbation of the General Grand High Priest shall have been first obtained."

Now, what does this language signify? Does it mean that no formal steps or measures can be taken, by the requisite number of regularly chartered Chapters, preliminary to the establishment of a new Grand Chapter? We think not. Then, if any formal action may be taken, to what extent shall it go? It appears to us that those three Chapters had the undoubted right, agreeably to the usages and customs of the Fraternity, to meet in convention as they did, and to go through all the preliminary forms of organization, and to do all things necessary and requisite in the formation of a Grand Chapter, but not to establish or constitute a Grand Chapter. This they did not assume to do; for they recognized that no such power was given them under the Constitution. In other words, they were restricted from the exercise of such powers, had they been so disposed. This could only be done after "the approbation of the Grand High Priest had been obtained," and by his order and direction, without which, all their efforts for the time being must fail. There is quite a material and distinct difference in the meanings of the words "organize" and "establish" in the sense here employed; the one is to formulate and bring together the elements of the body, to be established; or, as Webster has it, "to endow with the capacity for the formation of life;" and the other "to make stable or firm; to fix or set unalterably; to confirm," etc. It was not the purpose, therefore, of those three subordinate Chapters that their proceedings of organization should be taken or considered as constituting an established Grand Chapter. Had they so considered it, they would not have applied for the approbation of the General Grand High Priest to establish it under the law of the General Grand Chapter. It will be seen, therefore, that our interpretation of this law was not such as the General Grand High Priest appears to have construed it. It is certainly apparent to all that some formal preliminary proceedings in the organization and for the establishment of a Grand body are necessary. If our views of this law are wrong, it would be well for the General Grand Chapter to establish a boundary line and say how far such preliminary proceedings should go, and where to stop.

Pertinent to this question and to the construction placed upon some provisions of the General Grand Chapter Constitution by the Committee on Jurisprudence, which we shall notice further along in this report, we give the following extract from M. E. Comp. Chapman's address, relative to certain decisions. He says:

"It has been my earnest desire to construe the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter as being, in its general tone, more permissive than mandatory, believing also, that a too familiar or too frequent interference with State Grand Chapters carries with it an element of danger to the harmony which invites mutual respect and confidence between the superior body and its subordinates."

In this we believe the General Grand High Priest has expressed the full compass and import of that instrument in its present governmental powers.

We now notice, as briefly as the circumstances and importance of the matters considered appear to warrant, the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, to which reference is made by our Grand High Priest. The report was submitted and doubtless prepared by Comp. Frederic Speed, of Mississippi, and the report adopted by the General Grand Chapter. It appears to have been signed by all the members of the committee, namely : Companions John Frizzell, John W. Dadmum, Thomas H. Caswell, Frederic Speed, George L. McCahan, Jose M. Yznaga, and Kittredge Haskins. The particular features of the report to which we call attention are its references to the Grand Chapter of Washington. Holding the committee in such high esteem for their learning, ability and Masonic experience, their knowledge of Masonic law and methods, it is far from a pleasant task for one so humble as your reporter to offer any criticism upon what might be considered the wise deliberations of that committee. But simple and plain justice to the Grand Chapter of Washington—to the common sense of its members—demands that we “have a hearing” in respect to this matter. We cannot believe it was the deliberate intention of Comp. Speed, or any other member of that Committee, through any ill will, to inflict chastisement upon the new-born infant—the Grand Chapter of Washington—or to do it palpable injustice ; yet it is a matter of much surprise, and beyond our comprehension, how so intelligent a committee could have fallen into such egregious blunders, as we believe the sequel will show. We will extract from the committee's report such portions as refer to the establishment of the Grand Chapters of Washington and Dakota. Had the committee stopped with the introductory clause of their report, in their reference to these Grand Chapters, they would have done exact and full justice to us, and reflected credit upon themselves. The introduction is as follows :

“The Committee on Jurisprudence to whom was referred so much of the General Grand High Priest's address as refers to the establishment of Grand Chapters in the territories of Washington and Dakota, respectfully report that the constitutional requirements having been complied with, said Grand Chapters are regularly established and entitled to all the rights, privileges and prerogatives conferred upon Grand Chapters by the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter.”

After having disposed of some other matters before them, new light appears to have dawned upon the vision of the committee, in respect to Washington and Dakota, and hence the following remarkable deliverance :

“Although we have, in another portion of this report, stated that the new Grand Chapters of Washington and Dakota have complied with the Constitutional requirements and are regularly established Grand Chapters, we have, since that portion of the report was written, had our attention called to the Constitutions and regulations of these Grand bodies, which we find in a few unimportant particulars not to conform to the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and which for this reason we might find grounds upon which to reject their applications for recognition as constituents of the General

Grand Chapter. We think it the wiser course to trust the companions of Washington and Dakota on having their attention called thereto to make the necessary amendments so that their Constitutions and regulations will conform to the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and therefore we adhere to our former recommendation. We particularize the respects in which there is a conflict as follows :

"Grand Chapter of Washington—Section 2 of Article II, Section 9 Article III, Article V of the Constitution, and Section 5 of the By-Laws are in conflict with Sections 16, 29 and 32 of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter. These provisions give to the Deputy Grand High Priest equal powers with the Grand High Priest in granting dispensations for the formation of Chapters, while the theory of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter is that with the Grand High Priest is vested the sole executive authority, which can be exercised by his deputy only in the event of the disability or absence of the principal.

"Section 7 of the By-Laws, relating to rejected candidates, conflicts with Section 43 of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter.

"Section 40 of the By-Laws, relating to the use of substitutes, conflicts with the decision of the General Grand Chapter upon that subject in 1871.

"Section 10, Article I, of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Dakota conflicts with Section 43 of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and Section 3 Article III, is in conflict with Section 16 of the same instrument, Chapters U. D. having all the powers of chartered Chapters, except as to the election and installation of officers and the rights growing out thereof."

It will be seen from the foregoing that the provisions of the Constitution and By-laws of the Grand Chapter of Washington which, it is alleged, are in conflict with the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, relate principally to the powers given to the Deputy Grand High Priest. To show the relative sections of the two Constitutions in question, we quote, first from the General Grand Chapter Constitution, sufficient for illustration, as follows :

"SECTION 16. The General Grand High Priest shall have power and authority, upon the petition of nine or more R. A. Masons, to grant dispensations, for a limited time, for the formation of subordinate Chapters, under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, etc."

Section 29, relating to the duties of officers, reads :

"SEC. 29. The officers of Grand Chapters shall severally perform such duties and shall possess and enjoy such powers, prerogatives and privileges within their respective jurisdictions as are required, possessed and enjoyed by the officers of the General Grand Chapter of like grade, under the provisions of this Constitution, so far as the same may be applicable.

"Grand Chapters may require their Grand Officers to perform such other duties as may be deemed appropriate, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution, or the usages of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction."

Section 32 of the same instrument reads :

"SEC. 32. Grand Chapters in the formation of subordinate Chap-

ters in their respective jurisdictions, shall observe the requirements and provisions of this Constitution in relation to the establishment of subordinate Chapters under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, so far as the same may be applicable."

We now quote from the sections of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Washington which are said to conflict with the foregoing. Section 2, Article II, reads :

"SEC. 2. The Grand High Priest and Deputy Grand High Priest, severally, have authority and power, during the recess of the Grand Chapter of which they are officers, to grant letters of dispensation under their respective hands and private seals to nine or more competent petitions, empowering them to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, etc."

Section 9, of Article III, reads :

"SEC. 9. The officers of all new Chapters in this jurisdiction, after they shall have received their charter, shall be duly installed by the Grand High Priest or Deputy Grand High Priest, or a past or present High Priest may be appointed a proxy for the purpose, etc."

Article V reads as follows :

"Whenever it shall be inconvenient for the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priest, respectively, to attend in person to constitute a new Chapter, and install the officers, they shall severally have power and authority to appoint some worthy High Priest or Past High Priest to perform the necessary ceremonies."

Section 5 of our By-Laws referred to by the committee, simply requires Grand High Priest and Deputy Grand High Priest to make reports of their official action, during the recess of the Grand Chapter.

It will be seen that the sum of the objection made by the Committee in this reference rests on the fact that the Grand Chapter of Washington gives to its Deputy Grand High Priest powers, which, in a corresponding degree, the Deputy General Grand High Priest has no authority to exercise. This objection, which is but technical, appears to be based on sections 29 and 32 of the General Grand Constitution referred to. There is nothing whatever in these sections or any other prohibiting the granting by State Grand Chapters such powers to their Deputy Grand High Priests, but upon the contrary, clause second of section 29 seems quite clearly to warrant this, especially when construed in connection with other portions of the General Grand Constitution (which the committee failed to notice,) and with "the usages and customs of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction." (Sec. 29.)

We fully agree with the Committee that the "theory of the General Grand Chapter is that in the General Grand High Priest is vested the whole executive authority," and believe also that this is correct in principle, but in this case we are to be controlled by facts, and not by mere idealistic theories. The Constitution of the General Grand Chapter in its declaration of powers must be construed as an entirety, and as a system of powers, inconsistent in no part or section with the terms and purposes made known in its sovereign declarations. To determine the correctness of the Committee's analogy, in respect to the powers that a Grand Chapter may assume to confer on its Grand Officers, it is important to consider the limitations of the

imperial powers of the General Grand Chapter as set forth in its own Constitution. Now let us for a moment call the attention of that Committee to the section of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, which clearly defines the nature and extent of its own powers in respect to State Chapters, and generally. We quote but a part of the section, but sufficient for intelligent comprehension of its scope and as affecting this subject. Will the Committee read and ponder:

"Sec. 7. The General Grand Chapter has and possesses no other powers than such as are indispensably necessary to the exercise of its general powers and consistent with the relations subsisting between the State Grand Chapters. It can exercise no doubtful powers, nor any powers by implication merely; and all Masonic powers not hereby granted to it are reserved to the Grand and subordinate Chapters of the several States, or to Royal Arch Masons individually.

"It shall have and maintain jurisdiction over all Chapters established by itself in those states, districts, republics and territories which recognize this jurisdiction, and where there is no Grand Chapter established.

"It shall have power to decide all questions of Masonic law, usage and custom which may arise between any two or more Grand Chapters, or in any of the subordinate Chapters under its own immediate jurisdiction, and all that may be referred to it for its decision by any Grand Chapter by formal vote; and its decisions so made shall be deemed and regarded as those of the supreme judicial tribunal of Royal Arch Masonry in the last resort.

"It shall have no power of discipline, admonition, censure or instruction over the Grand Chapters, nor any legislative powers whatever, not hereby specially granted, nor any authority to suspend the proceedings of any State Grand Chapters, nor shall entertain any complaint against a Grand Chapter preferred by any subordinate Chapter or individual Mason in that jurisdiction or elsewhere."

It would seem that further comment here would be superfluous. But, if, as stated in the above extract, the General Grand Chapter "can exercise no doubtful powers, nor any powers by implication merely," and that it has "no powers of discipline, admonition, censure or instruction over the Grand Chapters, nor any legislative powers whatever," and there is no clause in any of its Constitutional provisions, prohibiting State Grand Chapters from investing their Deputy Grand High Priests with powers to grant dispensations, we fail to see in what respect the Grand Chapter of Washington has transcended its authority. If it has done so, it is not an "unimportant" matter, as stated by the Committee; and our Grand Chapter might humbly submit to the chiding rebuke so graciously bestowed, as a charitable reminder of the forbearance of still greater visitations which "might" have fallen on the Grand Chapters of Washington and Dakota. But, listen, Companions! Even in that extremity, these Grand Chapters, youthful pretenders though they be, would have been in "good" company. When the Grand Chapter of Washington was organized, the writer hereof was appointed a Committee to submit a Constitution for its adoption. Having a copy of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Illinois at hand, and little time to look further, he thought that good enough for trial at least.

He eliminated all those portions referring to the Criptic degrees, and submitted the Illinois Constitution as an entirety, *mutatis mutandis*, and it was thus adopted as the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Washington. And furthermore, we have taken the pains to examine all the State Grand Chapter Constitutions at our command, touching this question, and find that about three out of every five are either in the exact language of our Constitution, or substantially the same. We mention the following: Connecticut, Colorado, Dakota, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, Oregon, Texas, Vermont and Wisconsin. Doubtless there are many others, but unfortunately, at this writing, we have access to only about one-third of the State Grand Chapter Constitutions. We propose to examine into this matter further hereafter. But if the provisions of those we have examined afford any index to the whole, a large majority must be in accord with the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Washington. If the Committee's position on this question be correct, and their report received due consideration in the General Grand Chapter, it is a matter of no little surprise that "silence prevailed" from each valley represented, and not the less remarkable that the Committee failed to arraign this large coterie of Representatives present, the laws of whose respective Grand Chapters were alike at variance with the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter. It is quite clear to us that the General Grand Chapter never would have sanctioned the report had it been properly understood, or these facts made known. Had the Committee themselves a knowledge of these facts?

But the Committee does not stop with the foregoing objections. It attacks our By-Laws "relating to rejected candidates," and says that Section 7 of the By-Laws conflicts with Section 43 of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and that Section 40 of the By-Laws "relating to the use of substitutes conflicts with a decision of the General Grand Chapter upon that subject made in 1871." We will not impugn the motives of the writer of that report, but simply say that these statements are erroneous.

Section 7 of our Grand Chapter By-Laws has no reference whatever to "rejected candidates," but relates wholly to the duties of the Grand Secretary. But this doubtless was a clerical error. Section 7 of Article III of our Constitution, which was the law of Illinois Grand Chapter when adopted by us, and is substantially the same now, with some conditions subsequently added, was as follows:

"SEC. 7. No candidate whose application may have been rejected in any Chapter under this Jurisdiction, shall be exalted or advanced in other Chapter, which shall have received official notice of such rejection, without the unanimous permission of the Chapter rejecting, expressed by ballot."

The above, it is alleged, conflicts with the following of the General Grand Chapter Constitution:

"SEC. 43. No Chapter under this Jurisdiction shall confer the degrees on any candidate previously rejected by any other Chapter, without the consent of such rejecting Chapter, provided such Chapter be in existence."

In our judgment there is no conflict here, for Section 43 above quoted, must refer to Chapters under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter. If it were not so that instrument is in-

consistent with its own declarations, given in Section 7, and instead of confining its authority to the exercise of "general powers, consistent with the nature and the relations existing between State Grand Chapters," it assumes to usurp those special and reserved powers which are, to say the least, generally recognized as belonging exclusively to State Grand Chapters, and which are natural and consistent with the autonomy of Grand Chapters. The several Grand Chapters and the subordinates of their obedient must, of course, strictly observe and conform to the "essentials" laid down by the General Grand Chapter, both in law and ritualistic work, but the Right of choosing such material as in their judgment will conduce to the harmony, growth and prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry in the respective State Grand Chapter jurisdictions, a right indefeasible in them, and cannot be invaded by the General Grand Chapter.

One more brief reference to the Committee's criticism and we have done. Section 40 of our By-Laws, referred to by the Committee, makes no allusion whatever to the use of "substitutes," but relates to "notices of appeal" and action thereon. We presume, however, that the objection refers to that section of our law which prohibits the use of "substitutes," unless by dispensation from the Grand High Priest, while the decision of the General Grand Chapter permits that use without any sanction of executive authority.

We have devoted more space to those questions than was intended, and though striving to avoid elaboration, the importance of the matters under consideration has made it necessary to thus enlarge. And now, in view of the report of that Committee, and the action taken thereon by the General Grand Chapter, it becomes the duty of this Grand Chapter to carefully consider the questions involved, and faithfully and intelligently to determine upon a proper course of action in the premises. In the relations we sustain toward the General Grand Chapter, we cannot afford to disregard her commands, constitutionally expressed, and at the same time claim unquestioned loyalty, as a constituent body. Even plain and palpable errors, if not subversive of the true principles and ground work of the order, may for the time being, be borne with submissive patience. In the opinion of your Committee, however, there is, in reality, no "conflict" or enlargement of powers, existing in any of the provisions of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, beyond that which the plain language and import of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter would clearly justify. If the terms of that instrument defining its powers mean anything, it becomes a serious question whether the adoption of the report of that intelligent Committee by the General Grand Chapter did not exceed the limitations of its authority. But, be this as it may, this Grand Chapter can well afford to amend its Constitution to the extent that no semblance of doubt can exist regarding any conflict with the provisions of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and to accord with the expressed views of that Committee. We will not endanger either our dignity or self-respect by so doing, however sanguine we may be in opinion that, both in the preparation and adoption of that report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, the result is alone attributable to "hasty and inconsiderate action."

T. M. REED, Committee.

Companion Walter James Thompson, Tacoma, Grand High Priest.

Companion Thomas Milburne Reed, Olympia, Grand Secretary.

The latter presented the report on Correspondence, reviewing Alabama for 1886. Had we not already given so much space to this G. C. we would be pleased to follow him.

WEST VIRGINIA, 1885.

The Fifteenth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held on the 9th day of November, 1886, Companion Andrew J. Stone, being Grand High Priest.

The G. H. Priest complained of not being able to obtain reports from the several chapters as to their strength, work done, &c., in time to make a statement to Grand Chapter, and recommended that with suitable blanks to be furnished by Grand Secretary, Chapters be required to furnish such information not less than ten days before the meeting of the Grand Chapter. A resolution to this effect was adopted.

Companion O. S. Long, who had been the Grand Secretary from the organization of the Grand Chapter, in closing his report, used the following language :

The removal of the State Capital from Wheeling to Charleston renders it necessary for me to transfer my home to the present seat of the State government and so removes me from the center of Masonic life in the State—the city of Wheeling. For this reason and for the further cause that I am and have been conscious that I cannot give and have not given to the affairs of the Grand Chapter that time and attention which its interests demands from the Grand Secretary, I must request you to relieve me from the duties of official position. Dear Companions, I love you all; I love the Grand Chapter which has been organized and conducted thus far upon its course of usefulness by your labors and mine; and I faithfully engage to labor still for the advancement of Capitular Masonry in West Virginia.

Whereupon the Grand Chapter made him G. H. Priest.

Grand Chapter of Dakota was formally recognized.

Companion Will H. Riggs was made Grand Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA, 1886.

In the same pamphlet are the proceedings of the Grand Chapter held on the 8th November, 1886, Companion Wm. G. Bennett, D. G. H. Priest, presiding. The Grand High Priest was prevented from attending by sickness, but sent a brief address to Grand Chap-

ter. There was a fair increase in members during the year. During 1885 it was 9, and in 1886, 41.

One new Chapter was organized with every assurance of success, and several dormant ones put to work again.

The Grand Secretary having removed permanently from the jurisdiction, one was appointed *pro tem.*, whom the Grand Chapter subsequently elected.

Comp. William G. Bennett, Weston, Grand High Priest.

Comp. John W. Morris, Wheeling, Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN, 1887.

Wisconsin held the Thirty-seventh Annual Convocation on February 15, 1887, with S. H. Alban, Grand High Priest.

The increase in membership within this jurisdiction has been fair. Dispensations for two new chapters were issued, and at this convocation one of them was chartered.

A Chapter during the year lost its charter by fire, whereupon, as soon as aware of the fact, the Grand High Priest ordered Grand Secretary to issue at once a duplicate, and recommended a remission of its dues.

The Grand High Priest says, "I am satisfied that the order is fairly prosperous; and while the aggregate amount of work accomplished during the past year has not been very large, the quality has been good, and in the highest sense the order is progressing."

Companion Norman C. Daniel, Watertown, Grand High Priest.

Companion John W. Laflin, Milwaukee, Grand Secretary.

Companion Wm. C. Swane presented the report on correspondence, embracing Alabama for 1885. From it we extract—

We have never heard any stickler for inherent rights claim that a Grand Master has the power to override the action of his Grand Lodge, either while in session or between sessions.

Nor do we know any such.

If our report is longer than your finances warrant, we can but say that it could be but little curtailed to have given you companions any idea of the views of others. In attempting to do justice to the "till" of the Grand Chapter, we fear that we do injustice to the Grand Chapter itself and to ourself.

Respectfully submitted,

P. J. PILLANS,

Committee.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA,

In account with DANIEL SARYE,

GRAND SECRETARY.

1886.	CR.		
Dec. 8.	By Dues at Grand Convocation.....	\$ 351 25	
	8. By amount of Contingent Fund.....	150 00	
1887.			
Feb. 5.	By Dues from Livingston No. 20.....	\$12 75	
June 6.	By Dues from Weogufka No. 104.....	25 50	
	By Dues from Coosa No. 86	6 00—	44 25
	By amount received from Certificates.....	15 00	
	Total.....	\$ 560 50	
1886.	DR.		
Dec. 24.	To amount paid Grand Treasurer. . . .	\$351 25	
1887.			
Feb. 26.	To amount paid W. D. Brown & Co....	94 90	
	To amount paid postage.....	5 00	
March 3.	To amount paid G. G. Chapter.....	4 64	
	To amount paid Grand Treasurer.....	104 71—	\$ 560 50
			DANIEL SAYRE, Grand Secretary.

GRAND TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

WILLIAM H. DINGLEY, GRAND TREASURER,
In account with GRAND CHAPTER.

1886.

DR.

Dec.	4.	To balance.....	\$107 39
	24.	To received from Grand Secretary.....	351 23

1887.

Nov.	26.	To received from Grand Secretary.....	104 71—\$563 35
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1886.

CR.

Dec.	8.	By Com. on Work, J. H. Johnson...36..	\$ 25 65
		By Com. on Work, M. J. Greene...37..	16 00
		By Com. on Corresp., P. J. Pillans...38..	50 00
		By Grand Sentinel.....39..	10 00
	24.	By Grand Secretary.....40..	150 00
		By Contingent Fund.....41..	150 00

1887.

Dec.	6.	By balance	161 70—\$563 35
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WILLIAM H. DINGLEY,
Grand Treasurer.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your Committee on Finance beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the accounts and vouchers of the R. Ex. Grand Secretary and R. Ex. Grand Treasurer, and find them correct.

The R. Ex. Grand Secretary received during the year the following amounts, viz.:

For dues at last Annual Convocation.....	\$351 25
For Contingent Fund.....	150 00
For dues since last Convocation	44 25
For Certificates.....	15 00
Total receipts.....	\$ 560 50

All of which has been paid on proper vouchers submitted to us as follows :

To Grand Treasurer	\$455 96	
Printing.	94 90	
Postage, &c.	5 00	
G. G. Chapter.	4 64	
Total.		\$ 560 50

At your last Annual Convocation the R. Ex. Grand

Treasurer had on hand.	\$107 39	
And has received from Grand Secretary.	455 96	
Total.		\$ 563 35

Of this amount he has paid to Committee on Work. \$ 41 65

Committee on Correspondence.	50 00	
Grand Sentinel.	10 00	
Grand Secretary.	150 00	
Contingent Fund.	150 00	
		\$401 65

Leaving a balance of. 161 70

Add to this dues at this Convocation. 424 00

Total.		\$ 585 70
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We recommend the following appropriations :

To Grand Secretary.	\$200 00	
Chairman Committee on Correspondence.	50 00	
Grand Sentinel.	20 00	
Contingent Fund to Grand Secretary.	150 00	

Total appropriation.		\$ 420 00
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Leaving a balance of.		165 70
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		\$ 585 70
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Fraternally submitted,

BENJAMIN F. POPE,
Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE DEATH OF P. G. HIGH PRIEST PELEG BROWN.

There comes a time in the life-page of every man when the line is drawn at the end of the work, the columns are footed and the account is made up. Then the page is closed for the last time, and men say, "He is dead." On the 21st of February, 1887, that time came for Companion Peleg Brown.

It is easy to make up this record for most men; measured by the flight of years, the columns may be long, but measured by the record of anticipations realized, of hopes fulfilled, of achievements rounded into perfect completion, the story is all too short, and the ability of the writer inadequate to do full justice.

Among the green clad hills of New York, at New Berlin, Chenango county, Peleg Brown was born, December 20th, 1806. He died in the same town on February 21st, 1887, 81 years old, most of his life having been spent in Mobile. His masonic career commenced by his initiation in Howard Lodge No. 69, at Mobile, on the 7th of June, 1853. He was Passed on the 10th, and Raised on the 14th of the same month. He was elected Worshipful Master of his lodge in 1856 and 1857; was "Advanced" in Mobile R. A. Chapter No. 21, March 2d, 1854, "Passed" the chair March 9th, and was "Accepted" and "Exalted" March 16th, 1854. He affiliated with Alabama R. A. Chapter No. 66, June 30th, 1858. He was elected High Priest of that Chapter in 1861-2-3-4-5, and again in 1870-1-2-3. At the consolidation of the Alabama Chapter with Mobile Chapter No. 21, he again became a member of the latter. He was elected Grand High Priest in 1867-8.

In Lodge and Chapter he retained his membership continuously from the day he became a member to the day of his death.

Our Past Grand High Priest is gone. His earthly work and mission is ended—called from "Labor" here to "Refreshment" above, he has exchanged the toils and trials of earth for the joys of Heaven. To him a blissful change is wrought, but to us the event brings sorrow and bereavement for our chosen and loved leader, our revered Companion. We may not despair, for we have hope in his death

that he lives again in the paradise of God, and that his example, so bright and pure, sealed by his death, will by the grace of God, lead us to the same haven of peaceful rest. We thank God for the life and works of our deceased Past Grand High Priest, for his fame as a wise and accomplished Free Mason, for his good name and perfect example, whether as a mason or citizen ; it is therefore—

Resolved, That we will ever cherish with grateful recollection, the masonic virtues, noble characteristics, and brilliant reputation and fame of Companion Peleg Brown, as a legacy of priceless worth to our fraternity, to our State and country, and that as Masons we will endeavor to so emulate his example as that its bright rays may light our pathway o^r life and lead us to Heaven at last.

That we tender to the Masonic Fraternity of Alabama our sympathy in this our calamity and affliction.

P. C. CANDIDUS,
WILLIAM S. FOSTER,
PALMER J. PILLANS,
Committee.

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF CHAPTERS,

With the number of Members, amount of Dues paid to the Grand Chapter, and the number of those Advanced, Presided, Received and Acknowledged, Exalted, Affiliated, Rejected, and Dimitted, since last Return.

Chapter Number.	NAMES OF CHAPTERS.	No. of Members.	Amount of Dues.	Advanced.	Presided.	Rec'd and Ack'd.	Exalted.	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimitted.
1	Tuscaloosa.	22	\$16 50							
4	Monroe.	30	22 50							
6	Cyrus	12	9 00							
10	Tuscumbia.	18	13 50							1
13	Gainesville.	18	13 50							
20	Livingston.	15	11 25							2
21	Mobile.	51	38 25	6	6	6	6	1		5
22	Montgomery	46	34 50							5
23	Talladega.	19	14 25							
26	Union.	20	15 00							
28	Saint Johns.	47	35 25	5	5	8	7	1	1	1
40	Camden	22	16 50							
54	Tyrian	25	26 25						1	
76	Elyton	20	15 00							
79	Hillabee.	35	25 00	10	10	10	10	1		
85	Gaston	20	15 00							
86	Coosa.	19	14 25							
87	Moulton.	28	20 25	1	1	1	1			
92	Notasulga	20	15 00	2	2	2	2		1	
96	Daniel Pratt.	15	11 25	3	3	3	3	2		
100	Rock Mills.	12	9 00							
101	Mineral City	31	23 25	9	9	9	6	2		1
104	Weogufka.	17	12 75							

AT REST.

“AFTER LIFE'S FITFUL FEVER, THEY SLEEP WELL.”

John W. Cotton, June 24, 1887.....	Monroe.....	No.	4
Hugh M. Finley, Oct. 4, 1886.	Tuscumbia.....	“	10
Peleg Brown, Feb. 21, 1887—80 years...	Mobile.....	“	21
John P. McNeil, Oct. 11, 1887.....	Mobile.....	“	21
John M. Houghton, June 17, 1887.....	Talladega.....	“	23
H. H. Hamill, Oct. 8, 1887.....	Talladega.....	“	23
J. R. Goldthwaite, Feb. 20, 1887—63 y'rs.	Tyrian.....	“	54
Isaac B. Nordgue, Sept. 20, 1887....	Coosa.....	“	86
Benj. H. Reynolds, Oct. 4, 1887—50 y'rs.	Notasulga.....	“	92
S. H. Burnham, Nov. 11, 1887	Mineral City.....	“	101

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

George A. Ketchum, Mobile No. 21.
 Frederick H. Warren, Montgomery No. 22.
 Edward E. Gouldman, Union No. 26.
 Henry D. Green, Tyrian No. 54.
 William D. Gilmore, Tyrian No. 54.
 Thomas H. Stout, Tyrian No. 54.
 Emit W. Solomon, Tyrian No. 54.
 Felix J. Hudson, Notasulga No. 92.
 L. Speigner, Daniel Pratt No. 96.

REINSTATED.

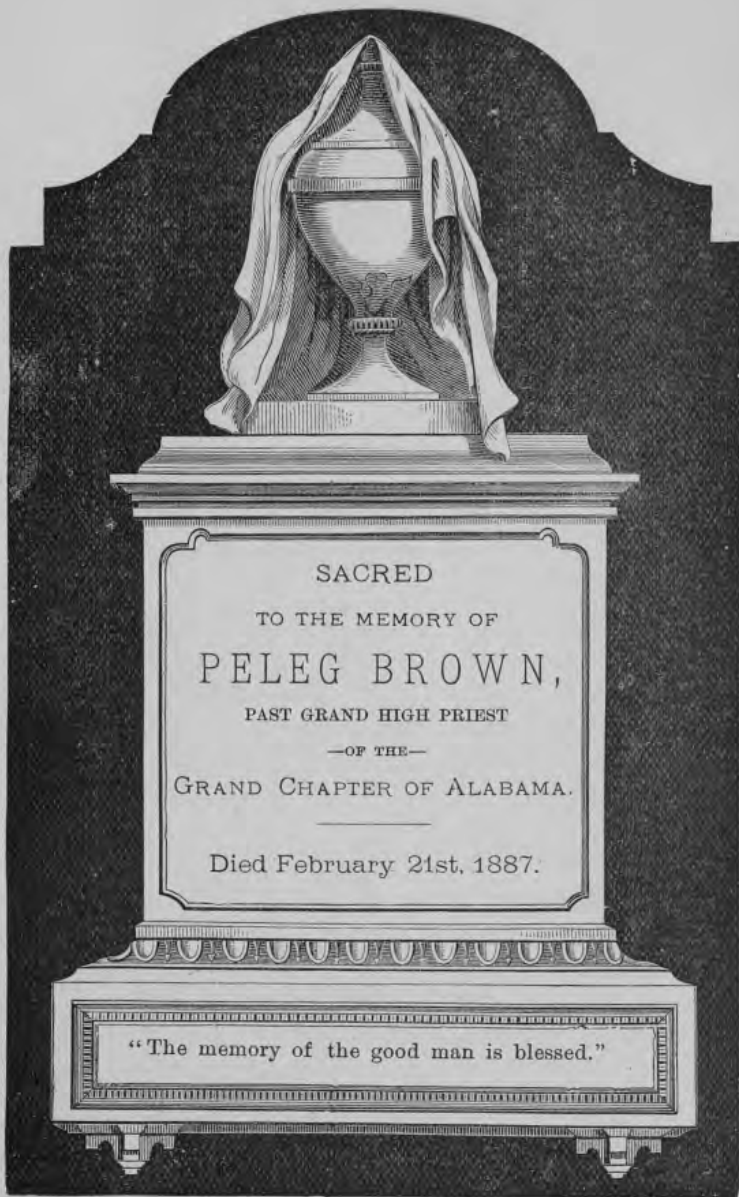
Jefferson Falkner, Montgomery No. 22.
Benjamin J. Sitton, St. John No. 28.
William H. Jolly, Tyrian No. 54.
George M. Morrow, Elyton No. 76.
Joseph W. Srygley, Moulton No. 87.
Richard B. Pickett, Moulton No. 87.
Thomas Moiterson, Moalton No. 87.
Jacob A. Dakeeminee, Moulton No. 87.
Edgar T. Simens, Moulton No. 87.
William E. Mabry, Moulton No. 87.
Lee F. Whitten, Moulton No. 87.
Samuel N. Radford, Moulton No. 87.
Satterwhite W. Shackelford, Moulton No. 87.

RECAPITULATION.

Chapters that made returns.....	23
Chapters that paid Dues.....	23
Chapters that were represented.....	19
Number of Representatives present.....	32
Members reported at this Convocation.....	572
Dues received at this Convocation.....	\$424 00

WORK OF THE YEAR.

Advanced since last Grand Convocation.	36
Presided since last Grand Convocation.....	36
Received and Acknowledged since last Grand Convocation.....	36
Exalted since last Grand Convocation.....	35
Affiliated since last Grand Convocation.....	7
Rejected since last Grand Convocation.....	3
Dimitted since last Grand Convocation.....	15
Suspended U. M. C.....	0
Suspended N. P. D.....	9
Reinstated.....	13
Chapters square upon the Books.....	23
Number of members that died.....	10

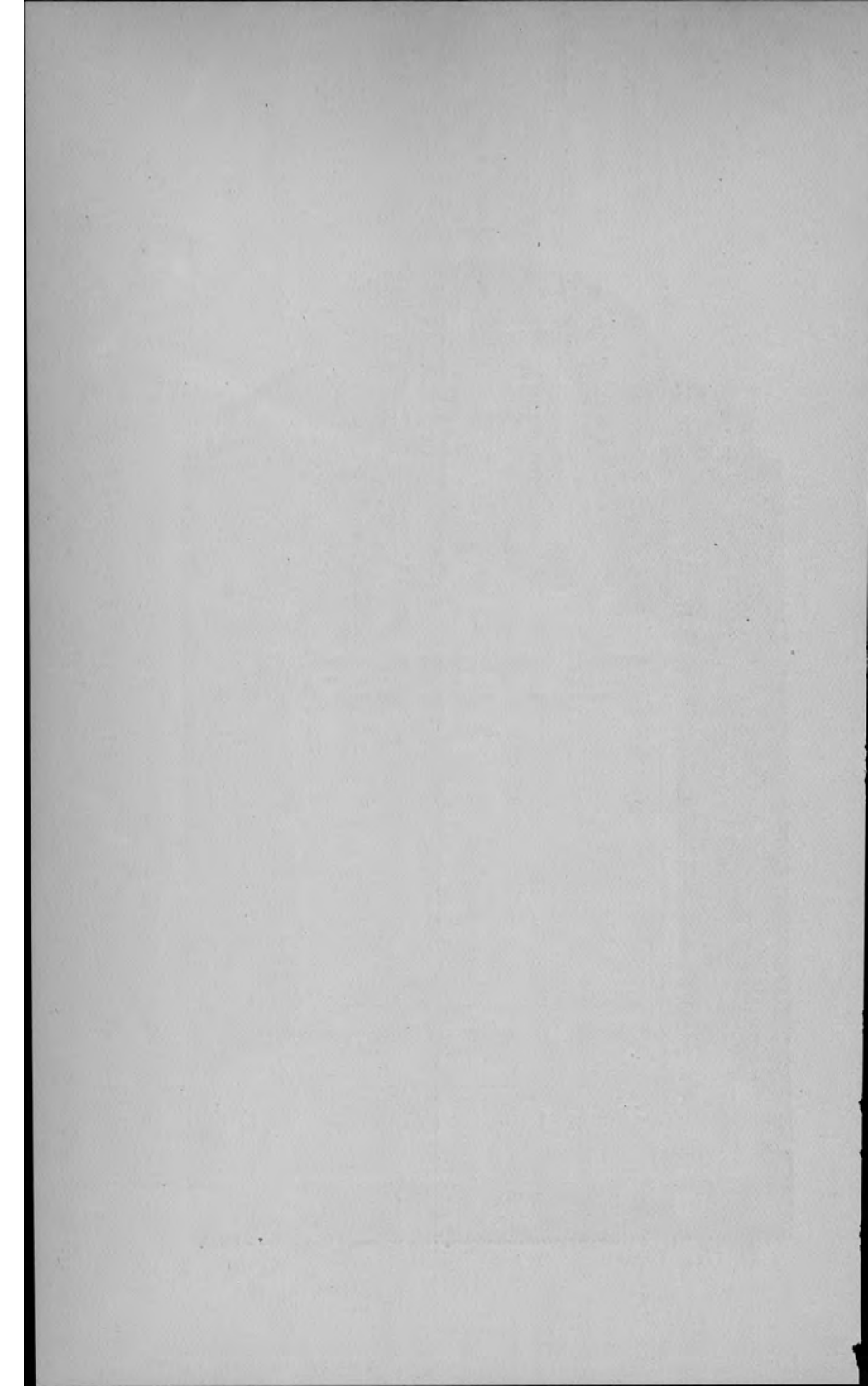


SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
PELEG BROWN,
PAST GRAND HIGH PRIEST

—OF THE—
GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA.

Died February 21st, 1887.

"The memory of the good man is blessed."



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.
DeWitt Clinton White	Moulton	District of Columbia.
Benjamin F. Pope	Gadsden	Florida.
Edward F. King	Gainesville	Georgia.
Lucky W. Jenkins, M. D.	Camden	Illinois.
John A. McKinnon, M. D.	Selma	Indiana.
Myles J. Greene, M. D.	Opelika	Iowa.
John Gideon Harris	Montgomery	Kansas.
_____	_____	Kentucky.
Palmer Job Pillans	Mobile	Louisiana.
William S. Foster	Mobile	Maryland.
Lucky W. Jenkins, M. D.	Camden	Massachusetts.
John Snow	Tuscaloosa	Minnesota.
David Clopton	Montgomery	Mississippi.
_____	_____	Missouri.
_____	_____	Nebraska.
_____	_____	New Jersey.
John W. Bush	Uniontown	New York.
William Cochran	Tuscaloosa	North Carolina.
_____	_____	Nova Scotia.
_____	_____	Ohio.
Daniel Sayre	Montgomery	Oregon.
William Henry Tancre	Huntsville	Quebec.
James Tait Beck	Camden	Rhode Island.
_____	_____	South Carolina.
Samuel Thompson	Birmingham	Tennessee.
_____	_____	Vermont.
Philip C. Candidus	Mobile	Virginia.
Noah A. Agee	Perdue Hill	Washington Territory.
_____	_____	Wisconsin.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GRAND CHAPTER NEAR THE
OTHER GRAND CHAPTERS.

W. W. Garland.....	Morrilton.....	Arkansas.
Isaac F. Toms.....	Godrich, Ont.....	Canada.
Charles W. Hancock.....	Washington.....	District of Columbia.
George H. Hallmark.....	Warrington.....	Florida.
William Abram Love.....	Atlanta.....	Georgia.
Silas O. Vaughan.....	DeKalb.....	Illinois.
Nicholas R. Ruckle.....	Indianapolis.....	Indiana.
Downing Baugh.....	McGregor.....	Iowa.
Albert D. McConaughey.....	Atchison.....	Kansas.
William Ryan.....	Louisville.....	Kentucky.
William Robson.....	Rabron's.....	Louisiana.
Joseph E. Tyler.....	Baltimore.....	Maryland.
Frederick G. Walbridge.....	Boston.....	Massachusetts.
William F. Dickinson.....	Redwood Falls.....	Minnesota.
Robert L. Saunders.....	Jackson.....	Mississippi.
Thomas E. Garrett.....	Saint Louis.....	Missouri.
John N. Westberg.....	Omaha.....	Nebraska.
Frederick G. Weise.....	Bordentown.....	New Jersey.
Thomas S. Kenan.....	Raleigh.....	North Carolina.
Samuel Porter.....	Halifax.....	Nova Scotia.
William Sherer.....	Brooklyn.....	P. O. Box 2065 N. Y.
Charles S. Ostranger.....	Columbus.....	Ohio.
Rocky P. Earhart.....	Salem.....	Oregon.
Angus Grant.....	Montreal.....	Quebec.
John P. Sanborn.....	Newport.....	Rhode Island.
Augustine T. Smythe.....	Charleston.....	South Carolina.
William S. Matthews.....	Memphis.....	Tennessee.
Justin W. T. Washburn.....	Montpelier.....	Vermont.
Alfred S. Lee.....	Richmond.....	Virginia.
Edward L. Ingraham.....	Seattle.....	Washington.
Alexander M. Evans.....	Middleway.....	West Virginia.
William G. Swain.....	Milwaukee.....	Wisconsin.

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

No	NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POST-OFFICE.	HIGH PRIEST.	SECRETARY.	CONVOCACTION.
1	Tuscaloosa.....	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa.	Tuscaloosa.....	John M. Martin.....	William G. Cochran.	3 Wednesday
4	Monroe.....	Perdue Hill.....	Monroe	Perdue Hill.....	Noah A. Agee.....	Isaac D. Roberts.	1 Thursday
6	Cyrus.....	Florence.....	Lauderdale.	Florence.....	Henry W. Sample.....	John A. Steele.	Wed on or bf fm
10	Tuscumbia.....	Tuscumbia	Colbert	Tuscumbia.....	Thomas T. Rowland.....	C. W. Millahan.....	1 Mon af 2 Sat
13	Gainesville.....	Gainesville.....	Sumter	Gainesville.....	E. N. Kring.....	John A. Steele.	Thurs af fm
20	Livingston.....	Livingston.....	Sumter	Livingston.....	Robert D. Webb.....	Josiah L. Scruggs.....	3 Friday
21	Mobile.....	Mobile.....	Mobile	Mobile.....	William S. Foster.....	Henry T. Goodloe.....	2 and 4 Fri
22	Montgomery.....	Montgomery.....	Montgomery	Montgomery.....	Henry C. Davidson.....	Edmund R. Hastings.....	2 Tuesday
23	Talladega.....	Talladega.....	Talladega	Talladega.....	Joseph H. Johnson.....	John R. Barrett.....	3 Friday
26	Union.....	Uniontown.....	Perry	Uniontown.....	Morritz L. Ernst.....	Junie Harwood.....	1 Thursday
28	Saint John.....	Selma.....	Dallas.	Selma.....	John D. Wilkins.....	Adolph Jacobson.....	4 Monday
40	Camden.....	Camden.....	Wilcox.	Camden.....	Luckie W. Jenkins.....	Joel T. Cook.....	Fri on or bf fm
54	Tyrion.....	Troy.....	Pike	Troy.....	Samuel R. Colton.....	Joel D. Murphree.....	Fri bf 2 Sab
76	Elyton.....	Elyton.....	Jefferson.	Birmingham.....	Samuel Thompson.....	Robert A. Terrell.....	2 Monday
79	Hillabee.....	Alexander City.....	Tallapoosa.	Alexander City.....	George W. Porter.....	Robert M. Templeton.....	Sat bf 3 Sun
85	Gaston.....	Desotenville.....	Choctaw	Desotenville.....	Benjamin F. Pope.....	William R. Horn.....	2 Thursday
86	Coosa.....	Gadsden.....	Etowah.	Gadsden.....	De Witt Clinton White.....	Samuel Orr.....	1 Monday
87	Mountain.....	Mountain.....	Lawrence	Mountain.....	George W. Arbery.....	William P. Chitwood.....	Fri bf 3 Sun
92	Notasulga.....	Notasulga.....	Macon	Notasulga.....	George W. Littlefield Smith.....	George W. Hardy.....	1 and 4 Sat
96	Daniel Pratt.....	Prattville.....	Autauga.	Prattville.....	George W. Taylor.....	George Cook Spigener.....	1 Mon nt af fm
100	Rock Mills.....	Rock Mills.....	Rock Mills.	Rock Mills.....	John Gilbert Smith.....	Charles W. Eichelberger.....	1 Saturday
101	Mineral City.....	Birmingham.....	Jefferson.	Birmingham.....		Silas A. Hine.....	2 and 4 Mon
104	Weogufka.....						

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 Carroll Parmelee..Pueblo.
5. Connecticut.....Joseph K. Wheeler.....Hartford.
6. Dakota.....Thomas J. Wilder.....Casselton.
7. District of Columbia..Lewis Guillian Stephens..Washington.
8. Delaware.....James H. Price.....Wilmington.
9. Florida.....DeWitt Clinton Dawkins..Jacksonville.
10. Georgia.....James Emmett Blackshear..Macon.
11. Illinois.....Gilbert W. Barnard.....Chicago.
12. Indiana.....John M. Bramwell.....Indianapolis.
13. Iowa.....Alfred Wingate.....Des Moines.
14. Kansas.....John M. Price.....Atchison.
15. Kentucky.....Joseph H. Brauham.....Louisville.
16. Louisiana.....Jas. Cunningham Batchelor..New Orleans.
17. Maine.....Ira Berry.....Portland.
18. Maryland.....George L. McCahan.....Baltimore.
19. Massachusetts.....Alfred F. Chapman.....Boston.
20. Michigan.....William Power Innes.....Grand Rapids.
21. Minnesota.....Azariah T. C. Pierson.....Saint Paul.
22. Mississippi.....John Logan Power.....Jackson.
23. Missouri.....William H. Mayo.....St. Louis.
24. Nebraska.....William Robert Bowen.....Omaha.
25. Nevada.....Chauncey N. Noteware.....Carson City.
26. New Brunswick.....Thisbat Robertson.....St. John.
27. New Hampshire.....George Perley Cleaves.....Concord.
28. New Jersey.....George B. Edwards.....Jersey City.
29. New York.....Christopher G. Fox.....Buffalo.
30. North Carolina.....Donald W. Bain.....Raleigh.
31. Nova Scotia.....Benjamin Curran.....Halifax, D. C. L.
32. Ohio.....Emmit V. Rhodes.....St. Paris.
33. Oregon.....Rocky Preston Earhart.....Salem.
34. Pennsylvania.....Charles E. Meyer.....Philadelphia.

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 35. Quebec | Joseph Mitchell | Montreal, B.1135 |
| 36. Rhode Island | William R. Greene | Providence. |
| 37. South Carolina | James E. Burke | Charleston. |
| 38. Tennessee | John Frizzle | Nashville. |
| 39. Texas | Robert Brewster | Houston. |
| 40. Vermont | Warren G. Reynolds | Burlington. |
| 41. Virginia | William Bryan Isaacs | Richmond. |
| 42. Washington | Thomas Milburne Read | Olympia. |
| 43. West Virginia | John W. Morris | Wheeling. |
| 44. Wisconsin | John W. Laflin | Milwaukee. |
| 45. United States | Christopher G. Fox | Buffalo, N. Y. |
| 46. England and Wales | Frederick Binckes | London, W. C. |
| 47. Ireland | Samuel B. Oldham | Dublin. |
| 48. England and Wales | Albert G. Goodall | N. Y., 142 B'y. |
| 49. Scotland | William Edwards | Edinburgh, S.H. |

