

1893

PROCEEDINGS
of the

GRAND CHAPTER

of
Royal Arch Masons
of

ALABAMA



A.D. 1893 / A.I. 2423

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OF THE
Grand Royal Arch Chapter
--OF--
ALABAMA.

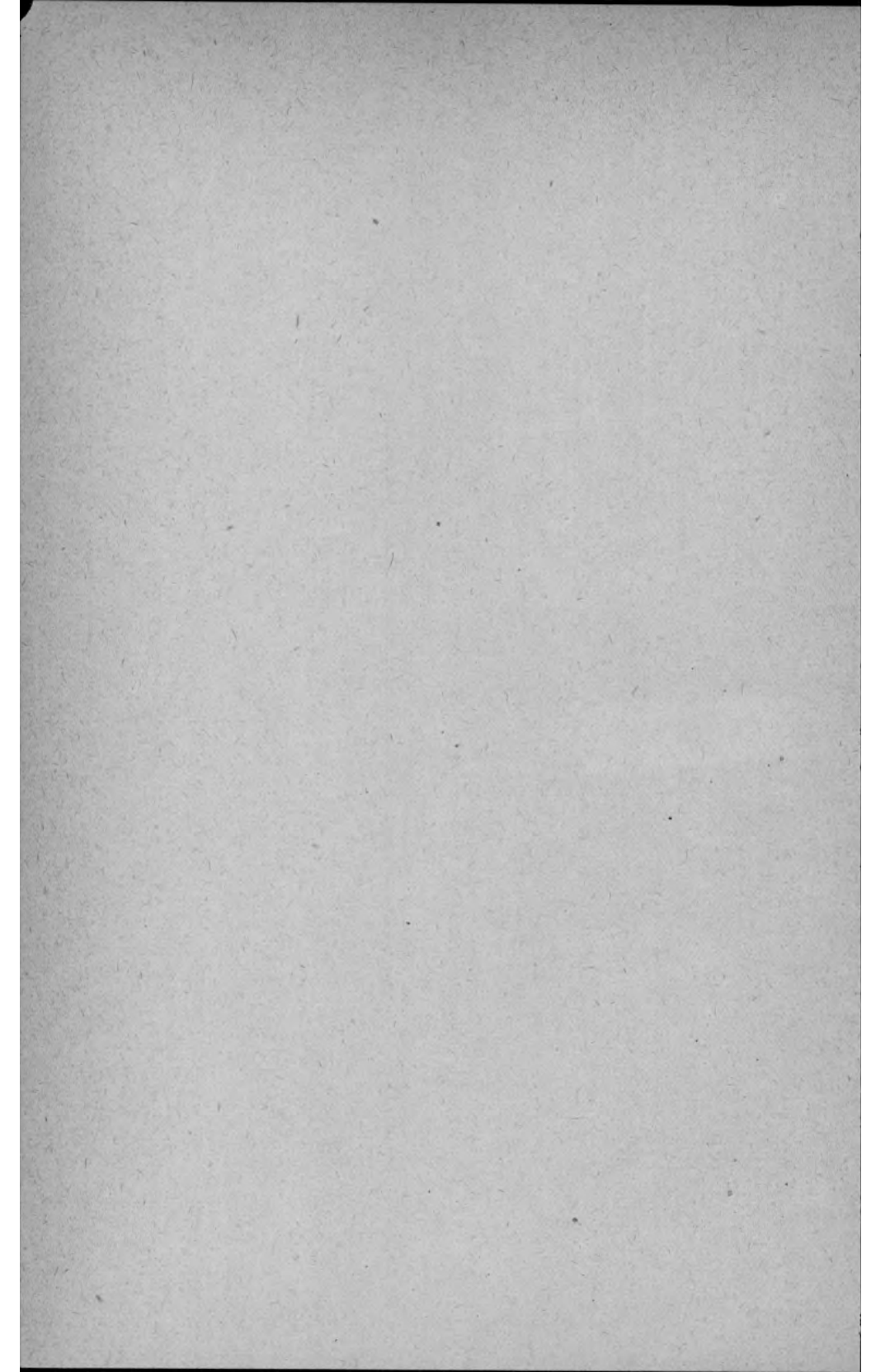
SIXTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL GRAND CONVOCATION,

HELD IN THE

CITY OF MONTGOMERY,

Beginning on Monday, December 4th, A. D. 1893.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
THE ALABAMA PRINTING COMPANY.
1894.



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama,

SIXTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION,

HELD AT

Montgomery, December 4th, A. D. 1893, A. I. 2423.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama met in Annual Convocation at Masonic Temple, in Montgomery, December 4, at 10 o'clock a. m.

PRESENT:

JOHN A. MCKINNON.....	M. E. Grand H. Priest.
WM. S. FOSTER.....	as M. E. Deputy Grand H. P.
ANDREW J. NUNNELLY.....	R. E. Grand King.
JOSIAH JERNIGAN.....	R. E. Grand Scribe
WM. H. DINGLEY.....	R. E. Grand Treasurer.
H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	R. E. Grand Secretary.
WM. C. CLEVELAND.....	R. E. Grand Chaplain.
WM. J. RHODES.....	R. E. Grand C. of Host.
ED S. GATCHELL.....	E. Grand P. Sojourner.
GEORGE F. MOORE.....	as E. Grand R. A. Captain.
JOHN G. SMITH.....	as E. Grand M. of 3 Vail.
CHARLES R. BRICKEN.....	E. Grand M. of 2 Vail.
JOHN R. BARR.....	E. Grand M. of 1 Vail.
CHARLES A. ALLEN	E. Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	M. E. Grand H. Priest.
WM S FOSTER.....	M. E. Grand H Priest.
JAMES T. BECK.....	M. E. Grand H. Priest.
WM W. MCCOLLUM.....	M. E. Deputy G. H Priest.
JAMES M. BRUNDIDGE.....	R. E. Grand King.
PALMER J. PILLANS.....	R. E. Grand Scribe.

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

Benjamin F. Pope.....	Florida.
Wm Smaw.....	Iowa
John A. McKinnon.....	Indiana.
Palmer J. Pillans.....	Louisiana.
Wm. J. Rhodes.....	Maine
Wm. S. Foster.....	Maryland.
John G. Smith.....	Nebraska.
Lawrence H. Lee.....	New Brunswick.
John R Barr.....	New Jersey.
H. Clay Armstrong.....	Pennsylvania.
Henry H Matthews.....	Quebec.
James T. Beck.....	Rhode Island.
George P. Harrison	Texas.

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

No. 4. Monroe.....	{ J. D. Roberts.....K.
	{ W. J. McCants*.....H. P.
" 19. Mt. Moriah.....	{ J. P. Barclay.....H. P.
	{ Wm Smaw.....K.
	{ H. M. Judge.....S.
" 20. Livingston.....	{ John G. Harris*.....H. P.
" 21. Mobile.....	{ W. S. Foster*.....H. P.
	{ Oscar J. Cohen*.....K.
	{ S. J. Anderson.....H. P.
" 22. Montgomery.....	{ W. J. Orum.....K.
	{ Chas. R. Westcott.....S.
" 23. Talladega.....	{ W. J. Rhodes.....K.
	{ J. R. Barr.....H. P.
" 24. Eufaula.....	{ James Milton.....K.
	{ R. M. White.....S.
" 26. Union.....	{ J. B. Christian.....S.

*Proxies.

No. 28	St. Johns.....	Ed. S. Gatchell.....	H. P.
" 32	Fulton.....	John R. Carter*.....	H. P.
" 37.	Concord.....	W. C. Bedloe.....	K.
" 38.	Decatur.....	S. G. Burke*.....	S.
" 40.	Camden.....	Wm. E. Oakley*.....	H. P.
" 48.	McKinley.....	James M. Brundidge*.....	K.
" 54	Tyrian.....	James T. Beck.....	H. P.
" 56	Zerubbabel.....	Sol D. Bloch.....	K.
" 62	Rockford..	John H. Bobannon.....	H. P.
" 63.	Clayton.....	Josiah Jernigan.....	H. P.
" 64.	Central.....	R. F. Galloway.....	K.
" 71.	Landmark.....	E. G. Chaffin.....	S.
" 73.	Gordon.....	W. R. Dawson.....	H. P.
" 79.	Hillabee.....	Wm. L. Johnson.....	H. P.
" 80.	Myles J. Green.....	A. D. Bentley*.....	K.
" 83.	Bell.....	T. Fred Pitts.....	H. P.
" 85.	Gaston.....	Bunyan Davis*.....	S.
" 86	Coosa.....	James L. McCaughy.....	K.
" 88	Springville.....	John N. Sansbury*.....	H. P.
" 92.	Notaulga.....	Newell M. Thornton.....	H. P.
" 96.	Daniel Pratt.....	John W. Foster.....	K.
" 99.	Thomas M. Bragg.....	S. M. Pearson*.....	H. P.
100.	Rock Mills.....	J. M. Amason*.....	K.
" 101.	Mineral City.....	Chas. M. Simpson*.....	S.
" 102.	Piedmont.....	B. Dixon Armstrong.....	H. P.
" 105.	Anniston.....	Robert D. Evans*.....	H. P.
" 106	Graham.....	Thomas W. Allen*.....	H. P.
" 107.	Fort Payne.....	James A. Bilbro*.....	H. P.
" 108	Pratt City.....	Benjamin F. Pope*.....	K.
" 109.	Blocton.....	B. M. Hill.....	H. P.
		C. L. C. Atkeson*.....	H. P.
		George L. Smith.....	H. P.
		C. A. Edwards.....	K.
		Charles R. Bricken.....	H. P.
		W. M. Allison*.....	H. P.
		D. Henderson.....	K.
		Simon Kloz.....	H. P.
		W. J. Pierce.....	K.
		Lew Lazarus.....	S.
		Thomas P. Savage*.....	K.
		John M. Caldwell.....	H. P.
		T. J. Thomason.....	H. P.
		John W. Doe.....	H. P.
		R. M. Cunningham.....	H. P.
		Charles H. Mandy*.....	K.
		B. F. Jones*.....	H. P.
		Robert Vance*.....	K.
		Eli Shortridge*.....	S.

*Proxies.

OPENED.

The Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter was opened in Ample Form.

Prayer by the R.: E.: and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The M.: E.: Grand High Priest delivered his Annual Address, and it was referred to a Special Committee.

COMMITTEE ON GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

JOHN G. SMITH,

JAMES MILTON,

SOL. D. BLOCH.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Companions of the Grand Chapter:

Again in Grand Annual Convocation we have assembled, and another year is numbered in the pages of the history of Chapter Masonry in our State. And now I extend to each of you a cordial greeting, and congratulate you all in being blessed with strength, health, and an inclination to come here at this time, to review the past, improve the present, to legislate for the future, and to cultivate that social intercourse so essential to loving attachment for each other.

Thanks to the Giver of all good and perfect gifts, voiced by our worthy and reverend Chaplain, have been re-echoed, I am sure, in every heart here this morning for His continued manifestations of his kind care and love for us.

I see among you many familiar faces whom I love, and whose zeal for Masonry has now, and in days gone by, caused you to lay aside your pursuits and pleasures annually, to come to this Hall to learn, to cultivate and to teach Royal Arch Masonry, and all that it embodies.

Young men and strangers are among us, who are here, some of them for the first time—to you I extend a warm welcome. As you

must necessarily take our places eventually, in the natural order of events, I hope you heartily cherish the enjoyment and improvement that is connected with our Annual Grand Convocations. I assure you, from past experience, and I know the assertion I am about to make will be corroborated by all the venerable companions who have so often traveled over rough and rugged roads to come here, that these re-unions and their associations are the sweetest and most glorious events in our lives.

While we record this, the most prosperous of years in Chapter Masonry in our State, yet shadows intrude, whose presence makes dim the otherwise brightness of our prosperity. Past Grand High Priest

JOSEPH H. JOHNSON,

whose face was so familiar, especially as one of the Committee on Work—a Companion of extraordinary merit, erudite in all the mysteries of our Order, intuitively as gentle as a child; the glance of his eye, the touch of his hand, or a word, which was always gently spoken by him, made us feel akin. There was an electrical influence which drew all men to him as if by magic. This good man was called over the river of death May 5th, A. D. 1893. We miss him here to-day in our social intercourse, and in our deliberations. We miss his counsel and his service, we miss his smiles of approbation in our work. The Masonic Bodies of Alabama seem to have thoroughly appreciated the work of Companion Johnson. I believe he was the only Mason in Alabama, for a great many years past, who has filled all the principal chairs, viz: Grand Master, Grand High Priest, Grand Master of Royal and select Masters and Grand Commander.

Lonely must be the reflections of the only remaining one of that grand trio, which for so long a time imparted instruction to us by the light of morn, mid-day and by night, as he thinks of those genial and excellent Companions, Greene and Johnson, in the world beyond, so long intimately associated with him on the Committee of Work. Companions, we should hold up his hands as age creeps over him, and his shoulders are stooped by the burden of life.

Friend and Companion, *Requiescat in Pace.*

He who sat by me, on this rostrum, at our last Annual Convocation, full of mirth, jovialness and congeniality possessed by few, entering into every measure introduced, with a zest and earnestness

that almost characterized the man, with buoyant hopes and aspirations to fill the highest office of this Grand Body, is no more.

On the 4th day of April, A. D. 1893,

HENRY CLAY WILEY,

Most Excellent Deputy Grand High Priest, died in the City of Troy, after a brief illness. Being apprised of this sad fact, I caused the following Circular to be published, and read in each Subordinate Chapter in the State:

GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS,
STATE OF ALABAMA.
SELMA, April 12, 1893. }

To the Officers and Members of the Grand, and Subordinate Chapters of Alabama:

COMPANIONS:

It becomes my sad duty to communicate to you the sorrowful intelligence of the death of our beloved Companion, M. E. Deputy Grand High Priest, at his home in Troy, Ala., on Tuesday morning, the 4th day of April, 1893, after a brief illness.

In the death of Companion Wiley, a great loss has befallen us; it has come to us not as Masons only, but to society and to the State as well.

Of the many excellencies of our deceased Companion, of his strong character, his upright walk, his purity of life, I may not here attempt a portrayal. He was known to all as an earnest, zealous, intelligent, accomplished Mason, in whose heart dwelt every manly sentiment, and every noble, generous and tender impulse.

It becomes us to cherish his memory and to imitate his virtues, that our lives may be as was his life—pure and unselfish, and our deaths as triumphant as was his death.

Companion Wiley was 52 years of age; was made a Master Mason in Troy Lodge No. 56, in 1864; a Royal Arch Mason in Tyrian Chapter in the same year. Was elected W. M. of Troy Lodge No. 56 in 1870, and served the Lodge in that capacity for five years. Was elected High Priest of Tyrian Chapter No. 54, in 1891, and R. E. Grand Scribe in 1888-89; Grand King in 1890-91,

and M. E. Deputy Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter in December, 1892.

In memory of our departed Companion, and as a testimonial to his worth, it is directed that this communication be read in open Convocation, and suitable minute made thereof on the Records of the Subordinate Chapters of this Grand Jurisdiction, and that their jewels and altars be draped in mourning for the period of six months.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand Chapter, this the twelfth day of April, A. D. 1893, A. L. 2423.

JOHN A. MCKINNON,
Grand High Priest.

[Seal]

Attest:

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG,
Grand Secretary.

In New Orleans, La., on Tuesday, the 24th, of January, 1893,

JOSEPH POTTS HORNER,

General Grand High Priest, died at his home surrounded by his family.

The rank which he attained in our Order is evidence that he possessed qualities of mind and heart commensurate with the high station he filled. No encomiums I could confer would add to the lustre of his name, nor would it assuage a single pang from the grief-stricken hearts that he left behind him. A record like his is an assurance, that beyond the cold stream of death, his soul, with our Grand High Priest, is rejoicing in happiness unspeakable and beyond measure. I recommend that this Grand Chapter set aside a page in its minutes to be inscribed to his memory.

Past Grand High Priest

SYLVESTER S. BEAN,

of Iowa, died December 17th, 1892.

The Grand Jurisdiction of Iowa has our sympathy in the death of our Companion. From his history, no doubt can be entertained as to his zeal and activity as a Royal Arch Mason. His having officiated as High Priest for six years in his Subordinate Chapter, in itself bespeaks zeal and devotion to our cause, and his eminence in his attainments in the Laws and Ritual of our Order is truly commendable.

DISPENSATIONS.

On April 14, I issued a Dispensation to Companion Russell M. Cunningham, and ten other Companions, to open and hold a Chapter at Pratt City, to be known as Pratt City Chapter No. 108. From the known interest and zeal of Companion Cunningham, and the officers and members associated with him in this Chapter, and its excellent location for future growth, I am satisfied the near future will demonstrate the wisdom of its organization.

On May 13th, I issued Dispensation to Companion Samuel Hartly, and nine other Companions, to open and hold a Chapter at Blocton, to be known as Blocton Chapter No. 109. Under its efficient officers and excellent location and surroundings, I predict for this Chapter a future of great usefulness.

On June 22nd, I granted Dispensation to Companion L. A. Darsey, and eight other Companions, to re-organize Concord Chapter No. 37, at LaFayette, Ala.

SPECIAL DISPENSATIONS.

On April 14th, I granted Special Dispensation to Pratt City Chapter No. 108, to receive petition, ballot for, and if elected, to confer the degrees on nine candidates at one and the same Convocation.

On May 13th, I granted Special Dispensation to Blocton Chapter No. 109, to receive petitions, and ballot for, and if elected, to confer degrees upon six candidates at one and the same Convocation.

On May 25th, I granted Special Dispensation to Fulton Chapter No. 32, to receive petitions, ballot for, and if elected, to confer degrees on three candidates, at one and the same Convocation.

In every instance, where Special Dispensations have been granted for conferring the degrees out of the usual time, the Chairman of the Committee on Work, in the Grand Chapter, Companion H. Clay Armstrong was present, and assisted in the work; and it was with the view of enabling the companions to take advantage of such opportunity, to improve and perfect themselves in the work of the Grand Chapter; and from information received from these Chapters, I am sure that the interest of Chapter Masonry has been promoted by granting the above Dispensations.

On June 20th, I granted Special Dispensation to H. P. of Tyrian Chapter No. 54, to elect officers.

On July 12th, I granted Dispensation to Myles J. Greene Chapter No. 80, to elect officers.

On July 20th, I granted Dispensation to Hillabee Chapter No. 79, to elect officers.

On July 20th, I granted Dispensation to Camden Chapter No. 40, to elect officers.

On November 18th, I granted Dispensation to Anniston Chapter No. 105, to elect officers.

On August 1st, I granted Dispensation to Elyton Chapter No. 86, to elect officers.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES, APPOINTED AND RECEIVED.

On April 8th, I issued Commission appointing E. Companion Allison B. Connell, of Woodstock, New Brunswick, as our Representative near the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick.

On April 24th, I received a Commission appointing E. Companion Lawrence H. Lee, of Clayton, as the Representative of the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick, near this Grand Chapter.

On May 13th, I received a Commission appointing E. Companion William Smaw, of Eutaw, as the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, near this Grand Chapter.

On July 20th, I received a Commission appointing E. Companion John R. Barr, of Eufaula, as Representative of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, near this Grand Chapter.

I am quite sure that it will be your pleasure, at some suitable time during the present session, to extend to these Companions official recognition.

A vacancy having occurred on the Committee on Work, in consequence of the death of Companion Joseph H. Johnson, I appointed Companion Edward S. Gatchell, of St. John's Chapter No. 28, to fill the vacancy.

DECISIONS.

Orrville, Ala., June 16, 1893.

M. E. J. A. McKinnon, G. H. P.

Dear Sir and Companion:

Since the re-organization of our Chapter in 1890, there has been no provision or By-Laws to suspend for non-payment of dues, and some few members have never paid dues. I will also state that

there has been a Special Committee on Finance, during the past year, who have notified delinquent members, and urged them to come forward and settle up, but even this has failed in some instances, to accomplish the desired result.

To-day the question was sprung and a motion was read, and laid over to be voted upon at our next regular meeting, by which, at the Regular Convocation in June, hereafter, all members who are two years in arrearage for non-payment of dues, shall be suspended, etc.

It was also insisted upon, that the above motion be so worded as likewise to *suspend all* who may, *at this time*, be two years in arrearage. This latter clause I ruled as inadmissible, and promised to write to you, so as to obtain your views, as well as those of the Committee on Jurisprudence, upon the subject. That is, upon the legality of such a measure.

Please reply at your earliest convenience, as our Chapter will await your answer.

Truly and Fraternally,

JOS. A. GROVES, H. P.,
Fulton Chapter No. 32.

REPLY.

Selma, Ala., June 20, 1893.

Jos. A. Groves,

High Priest, Fulton Chapter No. 32,

Dear Companion:

Yours of 16th to hand. Contents noted.

Chapter Code, 1891, page 29—two last lines—read: "Subordinate Chapters have the right to enact By-Laws suspending members for non-payment of dues."

Masonic Code—Art. 6, Sec. 24 of Constitution—Duties of Master (Blue Lodge) read: "Two years," as you see, is the limit, *then suspension*. Where we have no written law in the upper Bodies of Masonry, we have to be governed by the Laws of the Subordinate Bodies.

Fraternally,

JNO. A. MCKINNON,
G. H. P. of Ala.

Royal Arch Masonry is prosperous in this Grand Jurisdiction. A greater interest is now felt and manifested in the work of the Chapters than there has been for several years. This interest, to a

great extent, is attributable to the untiring energy, tact, and zeal of our worthy Companion and Grand Secretary, H. Clay Armstrong.

Companions, this closes my labors for the year in my official capacity. I lay them before you for your inspection and scrutiny. Our mission in life is but a short one, our lives influence others. With our present environments, we should direct the minds and hearts of others in a proper direction. The responsibility placed upon me, by you, has, I hope, made me a better man. If I have given aid and solace to others, I am sincerely thankful. I now declare the Grand Chapter, of the State of Alabama, open for the transaction of business.

JNO. A. MCKINNON,
Grand High Priest.

REPORTS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary submitted their Reports, and they were referred to the Committee on Finance. (See Appendix.)

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Companion Palmer J. Pillans, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, submitted his Annual Report. It was received and ordered printed with the Proceedings. (See Appendix.)

SPECIAL REPORT OF GRAND SECRETARY.

R. E. Grand Secretary H. Clay Armstrong submitted the following Report, which was, on motion, received and ordered to be printed with the Proceedings, and the Resolution accompanying the same was *unanimously* adopted:

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

I beg leave to submit herewith the following report:

Up to this date, November 30th, Returns of only fourteen Chapters have reached this office, hence I am unable to approximate with accuracy what the full returns from the Chapters will dis-

close, but I am of the opinion that they will show a gratifying increase in membership and interest in Capitular Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction. I would suggest that it would be well for the Grand Chapter to require the Subordinate Chapters to forward their Annual Returns by November 1st, of each year, having the year to end October 15th, instead of the first Monday in November, as is now the case, in order that they may be examined and tabulated before the meeting of the Grand Chapter. If this was done correct conclusions could be reached, and valuable information furnished the Grand Chapter as to the condition and progress of the several Subordinate Chapters.

It has been my privilege to visit several Chapters during the past year, and it gives me great pleasure to report a marked increase in interest in Royal Arch Masonry in Alabama. There seems to be a settled and fixed determination on the part of a large number of High Priests and other Officers of the Subordinate Chapters to become more proficient in the Work and Lectures of the Chapter Degrees. This is as it should be, and I am quite sure another year will show a great advance in the proficiency of the Officers of the various Subordinate Chapters in the Work and Lectures, and a corresponding increase in the amount of work done by them. I have been unable, by reason of the demands upon my time during the past year, to visit several Chapters from which I had invitations, but I hope during the coming year to be in a position to devote more time to visiting and instructing the Chapters in the Work. We have made, during the past year, a net gain of three Chapters; two by Dispensation, and one by Reorganization, and I hope during the coming year, we will be able to reorganize at least four Chapters that are now dormant; infuse new energy into some that are moving along without animation and with very little life; and probably institute one or two new Chapters. With a view to having the Grand Chapter consider the matter of a change in the time of making Returns by Subordinate Chapters, I submit the following Resolution:

Resolved, That hereafter the Returns from Subordinate Chapters required by Section 6, Article 4, of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, shall be made up on the fifteenth day of October, of each year, and that said returns shall be forwarded to the Grand Secretary's office, on or before the first day of November following, and that it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to examine said Re-

turns and tabulate and prepare the same for printing, before the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter held next thereafter."

Fraternally submitted

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG,
Grand Secretary.

REPORT ON WORK.

Companion H. Clay Armstrong, Chairman of the Committee on Work, made the Report on the M. M. Degree, and the Report was adopted.

The same Committee made the Report on the P. M. Degree, and the report was adopted.

On motion of Companion John G. Smith, the further Report of the Committee on Work was made the special order for 7:30 P. M.

COMMITTEES.

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the following Committees :

On Chartered Chapters No. 1.—Oscar J. Cohen, Thos. P. Savage, Chas. R. Westcott.

On Chartered Chapters No. 2.—James P. Barclay, T. J. Thomson, John R. Carter.

On Chartered Chapters No. 3.—John R. Barr, W. L. Johnson, Robt. Vance.

On Dispensations.—John W. Doe, Wm. Smaw, Samuel Henderson.

On By-Laws, Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals—John G. Smith, T. Fred Pitts, Geo. L. Smith.

On Masonic Jurisprudence.—John M. Caldwell, Sol. D. Bloch, Benj. F. Pope.

On Finance.—Simon Klotz, Charles R. Bricken, B. F. Jones.

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING OF GRAND CHAPTERS.

Companion John R. Barr offered Resolution as to Time and Place of Meeting of Grand Chapter, which was, upon motion, referred to a Special Committee consisting of Companions John G. Smith, R. M. Cunningham, John M. Caldwell, Geo. F. Moore and Sol. D. Bloch.

ROCK MILLS CHAPTER, NO. 100.

Companion W. J. Rhodes offered the following Resolution, relative to Rock Mills Chapter, No. 100, and it was adopted :

“Resolved, That Rock Mills Chapter, No. 100, be allowed sixty days in which to pay dues for the year 1893.”

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until 7 o'clock this P. M.

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

MONDAY EVENING, December 4, 1893.

The M.: E.: Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 7 o'clock.

Prayer by the R.: E.: and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The Minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

REPORT ON WORK.

The hour of 7:30 having arrived, Companion H. Clay Armstrong, Chairman of the Committee on Work, made Report on the M. E. Degrees, and the Report was adopted. The same Committee made report on R. A. Degree, and it was adopted.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

Companion John G. Smith, Chairman of the Committee on Grand High Priest's Address, submitted the following Report, which was adopted:

To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama :

Your Committee to whom was referred the Address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, begs leave to make the following Report:

1. We have carefully examined the Address of the Grand High Priest, and find that Capitular Masonry in Alabama is in a healthy and prosperous condition, and that more interest is being manifested in the work than there has been for a number of years. The address shows two new Chapters formed and one re-instated,

which makes a net gain of three for the Masonic year, while a number of Chapters report a large increase in membership. When we take into consideration the financial condition of the country, we certainly have cause to rejoice, as words of good cheer come to us from every direction, and nothing, in the opinion of this Committee, remains to be done but for each member of this Grand Body to do his duty, and at the next Annual Convocation each of us will be agreeably surprised at our great success.

2. We would recommend that so much of the Address as refers to Dispensations be referred to the Committee on Dispensations.

3. We would recommend that so much of the Address as refers to the rulings of the Grand High Priest on Masonic Law, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

4. We would recommend that the order of the Grand High Priest, under date of April 12, 1893, on the death of Companion Henry Clay Wiley, be incorporated and made a part of the Proceedings of this body.

5. Your Committee would further recommend that a Committee of three be appointed to draft suitable Resolutions on the death of Past Grand High Priest Joseph H. Johnson, and Most Excellent Deputy Grand High Priest Henry Clay Wiley, and that the Resolutions and Report of said Committee be made a part of the Proceedings of this Grand Body, and that a copy of the Resolutions so reported be suitably engraved and presented, with the signatures and seal of the Grand Secretary attached, to the families of our deceased Companions.

6. In conclusion, your Committee begs leave to commend the work of our Most Excellent Grand High Priest in behalf of this Grand Body, and as he leaves us soon, in search of health, we commend him to our Companions abroad, and humbly pray that the Supreme High Priest of Heaven and Earth may watch over him and soon restore him to us.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN G. SMITH,
Chairman.

CHARTERED CHAPTERS, NO. 1.

Companion Oscar J. Cohen, Chairman of Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 1, made the following Report, which was adopted:

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 1, respectfully report, that they have examined the Returns submitted to them and find the following

CORRECT :

Fort Payne.....No. 107 Pratt City.....No. 108.

The Returns of Notasulga, No. 92, are defective, not being signed by the H. P.; the word "none" is omitted where it should be found in the blanks, and the Recapitulation is not filled out.

Thomas M. Bragg, No. 99, defective, the word "none" being omitted where it should be found; annual dues to Subordinate Chapter not reported in specified place; post-office address not given.

Rock Mills, No. 100, defective, the word "none" being omitted where it should be found, and Recapitulation not filled out.

Mineral City, No. 101, defective, the word "none" being omitted where it should be found, and Delegates to Grand Chapter not named in specified place.

Anniston, No. 105, defective, the word "none" being omitted where it should be found; Delegates to Grand Chapter not named in specified place, and Recapitulation not filled out.

Graham, No. 106, defective, the word "none" being omitted where it should be found.

Fraternally submitted,

OSCAR J. COHEN,
Chairman.

REJECTION OF APPLICATION.

Companion Benj. F. Pope offered Resolution, as to the time an applicant, who had been rejected by a Chapter in this Jurisdiction, should be required to wait before making another application, which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

CHARTERED CHAPTERS, NO. 2.

Companion J. P. Barclay, Chairman of Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 2, made the following Report, and it was adopted:

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 2, beg leave to report, that we find the Returns from the following Chapters

CORRECT:

Camden.....	No. 40	Tyrian.....	No. 54
Collinsville.....	No. 57	Central.....	No. 64
Elyton.....	No. 76	Hillabee.....	No. 79
Myles J. Greene.....	No. 80	Gaston.....	No. 85
Springville.....	No. 88.		

INCORRECT:

Clayton, No. 63; no seal.

Fraternally submitted,

J. P. BARCLAY,
J. R. CARTER,
T. J. THOMASON,
Committee.

CHARTERED CHAPTERS, NO. 3.

Companion Jno. R. Barr, Chairman of Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 3, made the following Report, which was adopted:

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

We, your Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 3, report the following correct and neatly kept:

Eunomia.....	No. 5	Mt. Moriah.....	No. 19
Livingston.....	No. 20	Mobile.....	No. 21
Montgomery.....	No. 22	Eufaula.....	No. 24
Saint John's.....	No. 28	Fulton.....	No. 32
Decatur.....	No. 38.		

Fraternally submitted,

J. R. BARR,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON DISPENSATIONS.

Companion John W. Doe, Chairman of Committee on Dispensations, made the following Report, and it was adopted:

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

Your Committee on Dispensations begs leave to report, that it has examined the Minutes of Pratt City Chapter, No. 108, and Blocton Chapter, No. 109, under Dispensation.

The Minutes of Pratt City Chapter contain very few mistakes. We note an error in the date of R.: A.: Masonry, i. e., A. I. 2430, instead of 2423.

It would appear from their Minutes, that an applicant is required to make separate application for each Degree conferred by the Chapter, which is not a requisite of this Grand Chapter.

The Secretary makes separate Minutes for a Lodge of M.: M.:, or P.: M.:, or M.: E.: M.:, when held on the same evening of the R.: A.: Chapter, which should be incorporated in the Minutes of the Chapter, and not under a separate head for each Lodge.

The Minutes of Blocton Chapter, No. 109, contain a great many errors, but these are chiefly in matters of form in writing up the Minutes. We have made the necessary corrections, in so far as to show the regular forms, but suggest that the Secretary read and learn the forms from the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Chapter.

We recommend that Charters be gaanted the said Chapters.

Fraternally submitted,

JNO. W. DOE,
Chairman.

BY-LAWS, SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS AND APPEALS.

Companion Jno. G. Smith, Chairman of the Committee on By-Laws, Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals, made the following Report, which was adopted :

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama :

Your Committee on By-Laws, Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals, begs leave to submit the following report :

We have had no business before us, except the By-Laws of Pratt City Chapter, No. 108, and Blocton Chapter, No. 109, both of which we have carefully examined, and find them in conformity to the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Chapter, hence we would

recommend their approval, and that each of them be granted Charters.

Fraternally submitted,

JNO. G. SMITH,
Chairman.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labors to refreshment, until to-morrow at 8:30 a. m.

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

TUESDAY MORNING, December 5th, 1893.

The M.: E.: Grand Royal Arch Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 8:30 o'clock.

Prayer by the R.: E.: and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The Minutes of last evening's session were read and approved.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Companion Benj. F. Pope, on behalf of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following Report, which was concurred in, and the Resolution adopted:

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

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the Resolution of Companion Benj. F. Pope, beg leave to report, that they have carefully considered the same, and recommend in lieu thereof, the adoption of the following Resolution, to-wit:

Resolved, That an applicant for the Chapter Degree, whose application has been rejected by a Chapter, under this Grand Jurisdiction, must await the expiration of six months before his petition can be again received, unless the objection is withdrawn, and that such subsequent petition must be made at a regular stated Convocation of the Chapter, referred to a Committee, and take the same course as the first.

Your Committee further report, that they have also carefully considered that portion of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest's address relating to the ruling and decision made by him during the year, and fully concur in the decision rendered.

Fraternally submitted,

JNO. M. CALDWELL,
BENJ. F. POPE,
Committee.

REPRESENTATIVES TO GRAND CHAPTER.

Companion Oscar J. Cohen offered the following Preamble and Resolution, and they were adopted :

WHEREAS, As by Resolution heretofore adopted by the Grand Chapter, Returns from Subordinate Chapters will, in future, be made out and forwarded to the Grand Secretary on or before the 1st of November in each year ; and

WHEREAS, It is not possible to state, with certainty, such a period before the Grand Convocation, who will attend as Delegates ; and

WHEREAS, It is both desirable and necessary to have an official statement of the Delegates to the Grand Chapter ; therefore, be it

Resolved, That in the forms for future Returns, the blank for Delegates to the Grand Chapter, and certificate for proxies, be omitted ; and that separate blanks be furnished to the Subordinate Chapters, containing forms for credentials for the three highest officers, or their proxies. These credentials, properly filled out, shall be brought by the Delegates to the Grand Convocation, and by them deposited with the Grand Secretary.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Companion Simon Klotz, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, made Report, which was adopted.

(See Appendix, Exhibit C.)

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

Companion Jno. G. Smith, on behalf of the Special Committee, appointed on the Resolution offered by Companion Jno. R. Barr, made the following Report, which was concurred in :

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your Committee, to whom was referred the following Resolution : *Be it resolved*, That the Annual Grand Convocation of this Body shall be held on the—Monday of—, of each year, at such place as may be decided upon by the Grand High Priest,

King and Scribe; notice of such place of meeting to be, by them, given through the Grand Secretary, on or before the 1st day of ———, in each year, begs leave to submit the following report:

We deem it inadvisable to make the changes contemplated by said resolution, for the following reasons:

1. Any such change would necessarily separate the Grand Lodge and M. E. Grand Chapter, and multiply the expenses of Delegates attending these Grand Bodies, whereas, now the same Delegates may represent both a Subordinate Lodge and Chapter.

2. This Grand Body has no assurance, that at other places it could be furnished with so suitable a building as the one now in use.

3. The plan proposed might prove to be a cause of contention, in the selection of places for holding the Grand Convocations. "Harmony being the chief support of all well regulated institutions, more especially this of ours," we would avoid every possible cause for inharmony.

4. A circulating Grand Chapter could have no safe abiding place for its Grand Secretary and its records.

Fraternally submitted,

JNO. G. SMITH,
JNO. M. CALDWELL,
GEO. F. MOORE,
R. M. CUNNINGHAM,
SOL. D. BLOCH,
Committee.

TESTIMONIAL TO P. G. H. P. JAS. E. BECK.

M. E. Grand High Priest Jno. A. McKinnon, on behalf of the Grand Chapter, presented Past Grand High Priest Jas. E. Beck with a beautiful P. G. High Priest's Jewel, accompanied by appropriate and eloquent remarks. The Jewel was graciously accepted, and the remarks of Grand High Priest McKinnon were gracefully and feelingly responded to by Past Grand High Priest Beck.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The Grand Chapter then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers, with result as follows:

Jno. A. McKinnon.....	M.: E.: Grand High Priest.
Jno. G. Smith.....	M.: E.: Deputy Grand H. P.
Andrew J. Nunnally.....	R.: E.: Grand King.
Josiah Jernigan.....	R.: E.: Grand Scribe.
Wm. H. Dingley.....	R.: E.: Grand Treasurer.
H. Clay Armstrong.....	R.: E.: Grand Secretary.
Wm. C. Cleveland.....	R.: E.: Grand Chaplain.
Wm. J. Rhodes.....	R.: E.: Grand C. of Host.

The Grand High Priest subsequently appointed the following:

Ed. S. Gatchell	E.: Grand P. Sojourner.
Geo. F. Moore	E.: Grand R. A. Captain.
Chas. R. Bricken.....	E.: Grand M. of 3 Vail.
John R. Barr.....	E.: Grand M. of 2 Vail.
John M. Caldwell.....	E.: Grand M. of 1 Vail.
Charles A. Allen	E.: Grand Sentinel.

CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON WORK.

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

"Resolved, That the sum of Twenty-five Dollars of the amount appropriated to the Committee on Work be paid to Companion H. Clay Armstrong, the Chairman of said Committee, for reporting the Work, and that the thanks of this Grand Chapter are hereby tendered to Companion Armstrong for the full, entertaining and instructive manner in which he reported the Work."

SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

The Grand High Priest then announced the following Committees to prepare fitting memorials of the M.: E.: Past Grand High Priest, Joseph H. Johnson, and M.: E.: Deputy Grand High Priest, Henry Clay Wiley:

On Memorial of P. G. H. P. Johnson: P. G. H. P. W. W. Screws, P. G. H. P. W. S. Foster, and P. G. H. P. John G. Harris.

On Memorial of Deputy G. H. P. Wiley: P. G. H. P. H. Clay Armstrong, P. G. H. P. James T. Beck, and P. Dep. G. H. P. James Milton.

INSTALLATION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The Grand Officers were duly installed by P. G. H. P. Wm. S. Foster, Companion Sol. D. Bloch acting as Grand Marshal.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

R. E. Grand Secretary H. Clay Armstrong introduced the Grand Representatives as follows:

Lawrence H. Lee, Grand Chapter of New Brunswick.

John R. Barr, Grand Chapter of New Jersey.

William Smaw, Grand Chapter of Iowa.

The M. E. Grand High Priest duly received and recognized them in a manner becoming their official stations.

The Grand High Priest then announced the following as the

STANDING COMMITTEES.

ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Palmer J. Pillans	Belknap.
James A. Bilbro	Gadsden.
Simon Klotz	Birmingham.
George F. Moore	Montgomery.
Sol. D. Bloch	Camden.

ON WORK.

H. Clay Armstrong	Montgomery.
Wm. S. Foster	Mobile.
Ed. S. Gatchell	Selma.

CUSTODIAN OF THE WORK, *ex officio*.

John A. McKinnon.....Grand High Priest Selma.

ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

John M. Caldwell Anniston.
 Benjamin F. Pope.....Gadsden.
 Oscar J. Cohen Mobile.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

The Committee on Memorial to the memory of M.
 E.. Past Grand High Priest Joseph Henry Johnson
 made the following Report, which was adopted by a
 rising vote of the Grand Chapter:

IN MEMORIAM.

JOSEPH HENRY JOHNSON.

BORN OCTOBER 16TH, 1832. DIED MAY 5TH, 1893.

This Grand Chapter is called upon to mourn the loss of one who, in every relation of life, exemplified in the highest degree the Masonic virtues.

Past Grand High Priest Joseph H. Johnson was born October 16, 1832, in Madison, Ga., and entered into rest at Talladega, Ala., 5th of May, 1893. As soon as his age permitted, he became a Mason, and throughout his useful life was a zealous member. Settling in Talladega in 1858, he became identified with the State's great charity, the education of the children deprived of sight and speech. To this great work his life was entirely devoted, and in every locality of the State his name will ever be recalled with affection by those who, through his instrumentality, were furnished the means of gaining a livelihood. As soon as he became identified with Talladega, he organized a Lodge, Talladega No. 261, and was its first Worshipful Master.

He filled the highest positions in the Grand Lodge, and in the Grand Chapter, bringing to the discharge of the duties imposed upon him his fine intelligence, and that fervency and zeal which ever characterize the true Royal Arch Mason.

He was prompt in attendance upon the sessions of the Grand Chapter, and in the various positions which he filled, there was always work to do which required time and patience. He never failed to do his whole duty. As long as his health permitted, he was an active participant in the deliberations of this Grand Chapter, and his wise suggestions ever carried great weight with them.

It is seldom that so well rounded a character is presented for the affection and admiration of his fellowmen. Companion Johnson as citizen, Mason and patriot, discharged his whole duty. The world was better for his living, and having passed away, we are cheered with the reflection that his good life here secured him a home beyond the skies.

Fraternally submitted,

W. W. SCREWS,
Chairman Committee.

The Committee on Memorial to the memory of M.: E.: Deputy Grand High Priest, Henry Clay Wiley, made the following Report, which was adopted by a rising vote of the Grand Chapter :

IN MEMORIAM.

HENRY CLAY WILEY.

BORN OCTOBER 4, 1840. DIED APRIL 6, 1893.

Regret for the loss of those we love, is not only natural, but proper; and one of the most melancholy duties, we, as members of this Grand Body, are called upon to perform, is to record the virtues and worth of departed Companions, with whom we are never to commune again in Grand or Subordinate Chapter.

And although we are aware that every hour brings us nearer and nearer to the final one which shall close our earthly career, yet when the Dark Angel of Death approaches us, and places his cold and unrelenting hand upon an intimate associate and loved Companion,

one we have been accustomed to meet in Annual Grand Convocation for many years, and whose presence we have always greeted with pleasure on account of his genial manners, quiet and unassuming deportment, and sterling integrity; one whose counsel we have often sought and profited by, and whose devotion to the interests of all the branches of Masonry was recognized and esteemed; such a man, indeed, was our late Companion Henry Clay Wiley, who departed this life at his home in Troy, Alabama, on April 5, 1893, after a brief illness.

Companion Wiley was elected Grand Captain of the Host of this Grand Chapter in 1887, and being regularly promoted, was, at the time of his death, M. E. Deputy Grand High Priest. In the discharge of his duties he was attentive, faithful, and accomplished; in his attachment to the institution of Freemasonry, and in fidelity to its principles, he was zealous and sincere;—in his relations with the brethren, whether private or official, he was at all times patient, polite and gentle; yet he was sensitive to a slight put upon him, and quick to repel the repeated affront; and though of the most modest and unassuming character, he was, of all his Brethren, *the least, as either a time or place server.*

We bow in humble submission to the will of Him who doeth all things well; no suffering or bereavement is a messenger of wrath or injustice; for our very sorrows proclaiming the loss of those inexpressibly dear to us, but demonstrate our Creator's goodness.

Life and death, riches and poverty, pleasures and sorrows, are all lessons to teach us patience, fortitude, cheerfulness and implicit confidence in God's Providence. Even death, stern, cold inexorable, teaches us our frailty and feebleness; a fearful lesson that never becomes familiar.

How true it is that, 'Life is the vestibule of death, and our pilgrimage on earth but a journey to the tomb.' And still, we are passing away; and as we have filled the places made vacant by those who have preceded us in their passage to the Shores of Eternity, so there will come after us those who will supply the places made vacant by our departure to the great hereafter.

Happily, the melancholy task of preparing this Memorial imposes no defense of human frailties, no palliation of human follies, but the simple exhibition of a character pure in its elements, and brilliant in the measure of its usefulness.

Without an enemy and beloved by all who knew him, COMPANION WILEY truly exhibited the virtues of one strong in generous

emotions and large-hearted in sympathies, and governed by upright principles.

Kind, tender and affectionate as a husband and father; true, faithful and steadfast as a friend; unsullied in his integrity, he always acted under a sense of duty, serving his fellow-men to the full measure of his opportunity; he afforded a bright example that the quietest life may be full of nobility; and that beneath the plain garb of the *true Mason*, may beat a heart as pure and noble as those under the costly decorations of princes and potentates.

The Committee fraternally submit the following Resolutions:

WHEREAS, Man cannot increase the number of his days, nor add to the length of his stay upon Earth; and

WHEREAS, Youth does not instil, nor age stay the coming of death and the grave, but the shadows of the tomb do fall as certainly upon the strong as upon the weak, because it is appointed unto all men once to die; therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of our late Most Excellent Deputy Grand High Priest, Companion HENRY CLAY WILEY, this Grand Chapter has lost a member whose fidelity to every trust reposed in him, claimed our admiration, and secured for him our highest confidence and esteem.

Resolved, That the purity of his conduct and the rectitude of his life, commanded our admiration and secured our love, and we now inscribe this testimony upon our records, in mourning of his many virtues.

Resolved, That as he entered Masonry in the morning of his days, like a fragrant flower, so he lived without spot or blemish till the summons, "Come up higher," came from the Supreme Grand High Priest of Heaven.

Resolved, That to the bereaved widow and fatherless children we tender our sincerest sympathies in their afflictive bereavement, and that a copy of these Resolutions be furnished them in testimony thereof.

Fraternally submitted,

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.

Chairman Com.

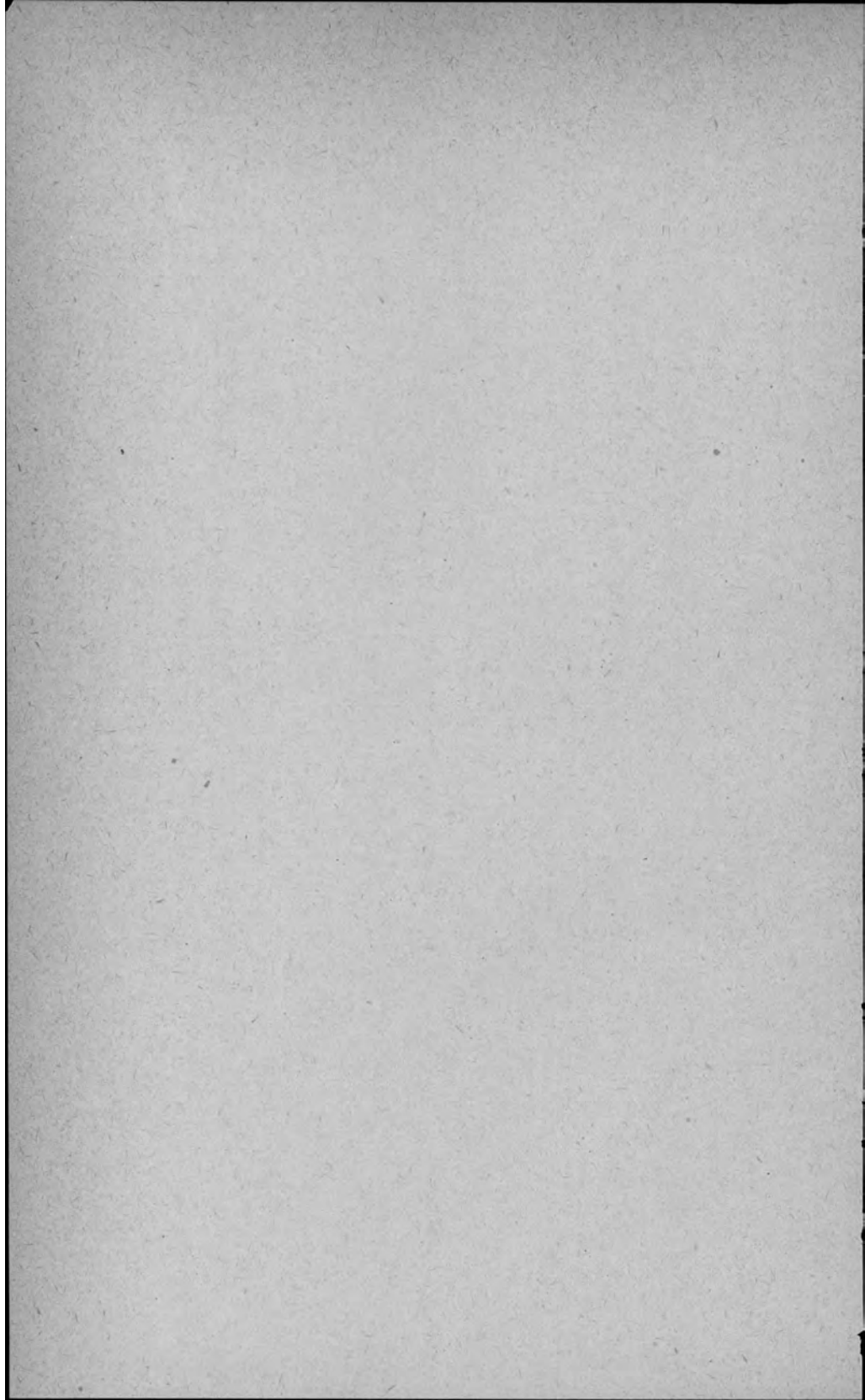
There being no further business to come before the Grand Chapter, the minutes were read and approved.

CLOSED.

After solemn prayer to the Throne of Grace by R.
E. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Wm. C. Cleveland, the
M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of
Alabama was closed in ample form.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG,
Grand Secretary.

APPENDIX.



REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

P. J. PILLANS, CHAIRMAN.

*To the M.:. E.:. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of
Alabama :*

Your Committee on Correspondence expresses deep regret that the Proceedings of so many of the Grand Chapters have failed in reaching its hands, and if this knowledge had not been so lately received, exertion to enlarge the number would have been made, but the Report has been prepared during the days immediately preceding your Convocation, rendering this impossible, without, perhaps, delay, such as the Grand Secretary and the Grand Chapter itself would reluctantly tolerate.

From those received, there is apparent constant growth, and an exhibition of zeal truly commendable. "Holiness to the Lord" seems inscribed upon their banners, and an active benevolence beams throughout almost the entire proceedings. Harmony and Brotherly Love seem to be greatly encouraged and apparently practiced.

Assuming that we would have had the usual number, great effort was made, as we proceeded, to keep within very straitened limits, that the draft upon the Treasury for publication might be as little as possible. This, in view of the evident desire of the Brethren of our Jurisdiction to establish a Home for the indigent and the orphans. Under these circumstances, it was believed better that only such matter as should be of absolute interest to our Companions be noted, rather than extended views of the Committee on any mooted questions. Of these there are but few, and none of a very vexed character, although there will always exist differences of sentiment on various of the questions that must arise in this period of great mental activity.

The Committee, therefore, now lays before you its work, in the

hope that it will meet your approbation, and to some extent, at least, prove profitable. The proceedings reviewed are as follows:

Arkansas.....	1892	Missouri.....	1893
California.....	1893	Montana.....	1892-1893
Colorado.....	1892	New Hampshire.....	1893
Canada.....	1893	New Jersey.....	1893
Connecticut.....	1893	New York.....	1893
Delaware.....	1893	North Carolina.....	1893
England and Wales.....	1892	Ohio.....	1893
Florida.....	1893	Oregon.....	1893
Georgia.....	1893	Quebec.....	1893
Illinois.....	1892	South Carolina.....	1893
Louisiana.....	1893	South Dakota.....	1893
Massachusetts.....	1892	Tennessee.....	1893
Michigan.....	1893	Texas.....	1892
Mississippi.....	1893	West Virginia.....	1892

ARKANSAS—43RD ANNUAL, NOVEMBER, 1892.

The first on our list of Grand Chapters is Arkansas, over whose 43rd Annual Convocation M. E. G. H. P. Fay Hempstead presided, this being the first in the new Temple, a picture of which graces these Proceedings. The Grand High Priest was jubilant over the fact that the Masons of Arkansas now had a home, and a right handsome one, too. Well may he and they be and we, of Alabama, cannot but envy them (wrong though it may be), while we have been compelled to convene so many years in what is esteemed to be a death-trap, to such an extent as to have induced the Grand Chapter of Alabama, at its last Convocation, to determine to convene elsewhere at the next.

Upon the receipt of the Proceedings of the G. G. Chapter, the Grand High Priest issued "a circular setting forth the official acts of that Body."

He issued two Dispensations for new Chapters, each of which received charters at this Convocation.

He made many visitations, at each of which he gave the lectures as required by the Grand Chapter, but was dissatisfied with this method of imparting instruction, and recommended a radical change. He is not in love with the work of the General Grand Chapter, and says of it:

"Before I received the work I was in favor of adopting it for the work of this Grand Jurisdiction, supposing it would prove to be

something like our own; but after making a close study of its features, I regretfully came to the conclusion that it would not suit us in this Jurisdiction, and that, even if adopted, we would hardly be able to get it worked as prescribed, so different is it from our own methods. Hence I have concluded that the best thing we could do would be to adhere to our own old work, only modifying it in a few slight particulars to exactly conform to certain essential features adopted and promulgated by the General Grand Chapter. Of this matter I will not speak further at this time and place, but will present the subject orally at another time."

The Grand Chapter subsequently appointed a Committee on Ritual, who recommended that the signs, grips, and words, as given by the General Grand Chapter, be used, and that a Special Committee be appointed on this subject, to report at the next Annual, which were adopted.

There are 68 Chapters, 1,959 members, whose gain was 78 within this Jurisdiction.

Jasper M. Pinnell, Hope, G. H. P.

James A. Henry, Little Rock, G. Sec'y.

Companion Reuben J. Laughlin, P. G. H. P., presented the Report on Correspondence, on behalf of the Committee. This "was *adopted* and ordered published with the proceedings" (the italics ours). Alabama finds no place, however, in it. This we regret, and cannot account for it.

CALIFORNIA—39TH ANNUAL, APRIL, 1893

The Grand Chapter of this State was opened in ample form by the M. E. G. H. P., Wm. Buckley Davis, at San Francisco, at the above date, Representatives from 56 Subordinates being present.

During the year Dispensations for 2 new Chapters were issued, and the work of each passing inspection, Charters were granted to them. The Grand High Priest announced that "all the Chapters are in a prosperous condition," and the Grand Secretary stated that they had "been more than usually prosperous." The number of affiliated R. A. Masons is 5,033, with a net increase of 190. The returns show that here, as elsewhere, the dimissions are numerous.

This Grand Chapter has invested somewhat over \$41,000, a small part of which, however, seems to be amount paid on shares in the Masonic Temple stock, about which there seems to be some fric-

tion. In consequence of this, a Committee was appointed with power to investigate and if deemed advisable, to continue the payments.

Charles Ray Gritman, Napa, G. H. P.

Thomas H. Caswell, San Francisco, G. Sec'y.

Companion Wm. A. Davies, Past Grand High Priest, though called on by the Grand High Priest at a late hour, to prepare the Report on Correspondence, in lieu of the regularly appointed, because of the illness of the latter, nevertheless promptly responded, and presented such as many of us might envy. His pen is ready, and his Masonic information great, and united with abundance of generous feeling—these insure good work in that line.

Alabama, for 1892, opens the review, and is fully and fairly and courteously dealt with by our Companion. In it, he pays tribute to the virtues of our late lamented Grand Secretary Greene, and tenders the sympathy of the Companions of California in our bereavement.

No! Companion Davies, California did not reach us last year, perhaps, because of the necessary changes that took place in the office of Grand Secretary. Little did we suppose that when we bid our Companion Brown, of Kansas, "Good night," that indeed, he was about to pass through the dark valley where all is yet night to us. By this, however, we are again reminded, that we must ever keep in mind the injunction, "Be ye also ready, for ye know not the day nor the hour when the Son of man cometh."

We doubt the laws of California touching membership in a Lodge being necessary to membership in a Chapter, to be good and "founded on justice," and we believe that it will yet be productive of evil, for we think that the knowledge that the applicant for the Capitular Degrees must, after he obtains them, still retain his membership in the Lodge, would deter many from applying. Nor do we see why the Chapter should be constituted the guardian of the Lodges.

We hope that our fears are not well founded. We give below his remarks on the subject, with the resolution on which they are founded, preceding them. Our comment is contained in the paragraph attached to the resolution:

"The Grand Chapter, however, was not ready to commit suicide, so it resolved as below, although the Committee on Jurisprudence reported favorably upon this ruling:—

'Resolved, That so much of the Most Excellent High Priest's Address as relates to enforced membership in a Master Mason's Lodge as a prerequisite to Chapter membership, be not approved.'

And here we chip in for California, and venture the assertion that the decision of the Grand High Priest is good Masonic law, founded on justice, and for the general good of Masonry. True it is that the local law of Texas may be framed for the protection of those who 'toil not, neither do they spin,' and answer 'roll call' only when there's glory in it—a banquet, or if there's a band of music, and the subject is a prominent one. A funeral, but the law will be changed to meet the growth of Masonic opinion in Texas yet, and if the Grand High Priest, with his endorsers, the Committee on Jurisdiction, shall be vindicated. So mote it be."

CANADA—35TH ANNUAL, JULY, 1893.

Last year we missed the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, but are compensated in some measure by having them now. The G. L. Z. L., J. E. Harding, in his Address, let us infer that dual membership is tolerated in Canada, and we learn it by finding that a Companion having been elected to office in one Chapter, the other having suspended him for non-payment of dues, a question arose as to the legality of the election. He decided it to be null and void.

He received application for Dispensation for three new Chapters in Australia, which were awarded warrants by the Grand Chapter, as the Grand Z. L. referred the matter to it for the exercise of its wisdom.

As the funds in hand amount to over \$20,000, the Grand Treasurer thinks the time has arrived for the preparation of a Home for the indigent. This Grand Chapter has for some time supplemented the aid given by Chapters to their needy, but find that this aid is very small, which induced the Committee on Benevolence in its report, to make this remark:

"The Committee would recommend that as grants for aid by Grand Chapter are only supplementary to those of Subordinate Chapters, that in all cases for relief local aid must be given before a grant can issue from Grand Chapter."

The reports of the several Superintendents of Districts are published in full, and from them the fact that the Craft is in a fairly prosperous condition, but the committee for examination of these reports do not mince their words, but plainly award praise where

this is due, but never fail to administer reproof where such is merited. They are "not profoundly impressed with the devotion or concerns which, taken as a whole, characterizes the labors of these Companions, for the reports tell their own story, and truth compels the admission, that it is "a cheerless relation." They add elsewhere:

"Where the Superintendents comment upon the work, they invariably praise in a general way without furnishing information as to the qualifications of the several Officers. One swallow does not make a summer, neither should an efficient first Principal bear the sole weight of responsibility. Lack of enthusiasm on the part of the Companions is largely attributable to laxity in the working of the Subordinates Officers and results in a carelessness that becomes epidemic. Where statistics are furnished, the painful fact is made clear that the attendance is sadly disproportionate to the membership, and in many instances is barely above the necessary quorum."

Still, the Committes find some consolation in the hope that the dormant or inactive Chapters are only taking a "siesta which is a prelude to a refreshed awakening." We have copied thus much to show that the Committee fearlessly and honestly did its duty, and because we admire the frankness and candor apparent throughout the report, and as a pattern for others.

It was

"*Resolved*, That a Committee consisting of the present Council and the Past Grand Z.'s be authorized to finally settle and print the work."

The recognition of the Grand Chapter of Victoria was declined at this time, because it refuses recognition of the Canadian Chapters established there.

The Report on Correspondence is by Companion Henry Robinson, a Nestor in the Guild, this being his twenty-sixth, while this of ours will make the twenty-seventh, consecutive report made by us to the Grand Chapter of Alabama. Our Proceedings for 1892, are therein found, but when he says that "the Chapters are in as flourishing condition as usual," whether he is dealing with sarcasm or fact, is not clear.

John E. Harding, Stratford, G. Z.
Thomas Sargent, Toronto, G. S. E.

COLORADO—18TH ANNUAL, SEPTEMBER, 1892.

The Proceedings of this Grand Chapter came to us in a garb in harmony with its name and colored, as if the whole State had been "painted red," not as the face of the maiden is when harassed or put to the blush, however, for it has nothing of which to be ashamed. M. E. Grand High Priest Wm. W. Roller presided over its deliberations, and informs us that:

"The work accomplished during the year has been the largest since the organization of the Grand Chapter, and I am informed that the material has been selected with care, taken from among the best and noblest citizens of our State; that only good work, true work, just such work as will strengthen and beautify our grand old Masonic edifice, has been chosen."

He attributes this happy condition, in part, to the conclave of Knights Templar, held at Denver a short time before.

He issued a Dispensation for the formation of a new Chapter, and this received a Charter from this Convocation. He is troubled at the contumacy of such Companions as still neglect to select a mark, though so required by the Grand Chapter, and recommended more stringent regulations in the matter. The Committee on Jurisdiction, however, thought it sufficient for the High Priests of the Chapters to be "authorized to use such measure as in their judgment may be necessary to enforce" existing statutes. He seriously (and properly, too,) objects to the "rough usage practiced in some of the Chapters," in conferring the Capitular degrees, and thinks it inflicts "an irreparable injury upon Masonry."

Treasury balance; \$2,544.

Chartered Chapters, 27; membership, 2,252; gain, 306.

Thos. Nichols, Denver, G. H. P.

Ed. C. Parmlee, Denver, G. Sec'y.

That pleasant, agreeable and discriminating writer, E. LeNeve Foster, Past Grand High Priest, presented his Report on Correspondence, in which Alabama, for 1891, finds her usual place, and meets with appropriate kindness and consideration. The report gives a most excellent view of the condition of Capitular Masonry.

CONNECTICUT—95TH ANNUAL, MAY, 1893.

It grieves us to find that the Royal Craft in this Jurisdiction is shrinking, as is displayed by the Returns. We have not had the Proceedings before us now for two years, but we believe until this last the increase has been constant, but now the year closed with these Proceedings, shows a decrease of 68. Membership now, 4,862, and number of Chapters, 38. Of these, all but two were represented, betokening life still there—the embers still afire, and that there is strong probability that they will soon again burn brightly upon the altars. That this unfortunate condition should have been found within our Southern borders, was not surprising, when the condition of our people, after their unfortunate experience, is fairly considered.

M. E. Companion H. H. Green, Grand High Priest, notices the loss of Companions, both within and without the Jurisdiction—also, that the Grand Chapter of West Virginia had become a component part of the General Grand Chapter, of which he had received official notice. He placed before the Grand Body the application for recognition of the Grand Chapter of Victoria, and the Grand Chapter of Connecticut extended to her her "fraternal salutations," and welcomed her to the roll of Grand Chapters.

The Deputy Grand High Priest of New York was received with honors on his visit to the Grand Chapter of Connecticut.

It was resolved to extend an invitation to the General Grand Chapter to hold its Convocation of 1891 at Hartford, the place of its organization, it being its Centennial Anniversary.

The officers elected for the following year are:

Samuel Bassett, New Britain, G. H. P.

J. K. Wheeler, Hartford, G. Sec'y.

Our esteemed Companion, J. H. Barlow, Past Grand High Priest for the sixth time, made the Report on Correspondence, which, however, though very complete, is more restricted than usual. Alabama finds no place in it—did not come to hand, we presume. More's the pity, for we are pleased with his criticisms, though they be severe, for they are never otherwise than just.

We agree with him when he thinks that a member objecting ought not to be compelled to submit his objection to the judgment of the Companions, for surely the harmony of the family is of more

moment than the feelings of an applicant. And we fully concur with the following :

"We think Grand Bodies have, in case of discipline, Original Jurisdiction and may inflict a penalty of suspension or expulsion, not only from the Grand Body, but from the rights and privileges of Masonry, especially if as in the case alluded to, (if we remember correctly) the offence was against the Grand Body. The Grand Lodge of Connecticut at its last Annual Communication, passed the sentence of expulsion from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, upon one who was not a member of the Grand Body, but whose offence was of such a nature as to call for such an action. We would like to notice further this excellent report, did time and space allow."

DELAWARE—25TH ANNUAL, JANUARY, 1893.

Chapters 4, members 452, gain 63.

One Dispensation for a new Chapter was issued by Grand High Priest Francis L. Carpenter, and to this was awarded a Charter at this Convocation. The Grand High Priest speaks of the Craft as having been "prosperous and united during the year just closed."

The recording of marks troubles this Jurisdiction, so few having recorded their marks.

George W. Andrews, Wilmington, G. H. P.

James H. Price, G. Sec'y.

Companion V. V. Harrison made the Report on Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of forty-four Grand Chapters, besides those of the G. . M. . M. . Lodge of England and Wales, and of the General Grand Chapter, very pleasantly, and in a manner betokening his industry and sound discretion.

This being the twenty-fifth anniversary of the formation of this Grand Chapter, after its close, the members with the invited guests repaired to the banquet hall and had a most enjoyable time. Some excellent speeches were made, and, on the whole, we wish we had been there, too.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

The usual publication issued by the Grand Lodge of M. . M. . Masons, for the year 1892, lies before us. From it we learn that this branch of Masonry is alive and active in good deeds, and gen-

erous in the distribution of its benevolence. It is strong in the countries giving it its name, but it also is strong in the several dependencies of the British Crown. Wherever the British flag flies there are to be found Lodges of its creation.

A few of our Grand Chapters are in correspondence with it, and at any rate, good feeling prevails among us all.

H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, was again elected with unanimity the Grand Master.

Bro. Chas. Fitzgerald Matier, B. G. W., is the Grand Secretary.

FLORIDA—47TH ANNUAL, MAY, 1893.

Clothed in mourning, and bowed with grief at the loss of her distinguished Companion, Grand Secretary DeWitt C. Dawkins, comes the pamphlet from this Jurisdiction. With this Grand Chapter and its Companions well, too well, do the Grand Chapter and the Companions of Alabama know how to sympathize, for have we not also most recently suffered as she has?

Thirteen Chapters, with a membership of 496, and a gain of but one, constitute this Grand Chapter.

One Dispensation for a new Chapter was issued, and two were found worthy of Charters.

Grand High Priest Erving E. Webster ruled, as is the rule here, that for all purposes except opening, closing and conferring the degrees, there must be present nine R. A. Masons, members of the Chapter. Right.

Silas B. Wright, DeLand, G. H. P.

Wm. A. McLean, Jacksonville, G. Sec'y.

The Grand Secretary usually made the Report on Correspondence, and an apology, quite satisfactory, for its non-appearance, is made by the present one, the tone and style of which promises well for the future. Well does he, in it, observe:

"That an interchange of views and opinions, through the medium of correspondence, is a very effective means of dispensing Masonic light, does not admit of a doubt, as a careful reading of these reports, emanating as many of them do, from well filled treasuries of superior knowledge, is well calculated in its nature and tendency to impress upon the mind wise and serious lessons; at the same time no argument is required to demonstrate the fact that few, very few, men possess the requisite qualifications so essentially necessary to the successful prosecution of this important service."

Indeed, we are satisfied that no one can faithfully discharge the duties without in the end being impressed with the vast amount of Masonic knowledge gained, and Masonic inspiration imbibed. Yes, truly these demonstrate that we are a band of Brothers.

GEORGIA—71ST ANNUAL, APRIL, 1893.

The Grand High Priest, James W. Taylor, thus introduces his address :

"Since Cyrus, the Conqueror, conceived the plan of changing the course of the great Euphrates and utilizing the channel of the river in capturing Babylon, the execution of that conception has never been rivaled. The journey of the liberated captives, in making their way to Jerusalem to assist in rebuilding the Temple—'the house of God'—without the hope of fee or reward, through so many trials and difficulties, beset by dangers on every hand, still singing the songs of deliverance during their perilous journey, has never been equalled for energy and perseverance.

In repairing the walls around the city, with working tools in one hand and bearing arms of defence with the other, to resist the assaults of the enemy that threatened their destruction, these faithful Companions showed their devotion to a noble cause, and fidelity to a trust unsurpassed by any people of any clime in past or present ages. Notwithstanding the fact that success had been promised them, still some few doubted the favorable result of their undertaking, while others, with joyful hearts, looked forward to the time when the old Temple would be finished, and restored to its former greatness; and when it was finally completed, the last piece of work brought up for inspection, received and laid in place, the Cherubim hovering above the Mercy Seat, the cope-stone placed in position, and the ark resting in security upon the altar within the 'Holy of Holies,' their joy and gratitude were exemplified by the worship of Israel's God, in falling upon their faces and saying, 'For he is good; his mercy endureth forever.'"

He issued four Dispensations for the formation of new Charters, and these received Charters. So that there are 80 Chartered Chapters, with a membership of 3121, the gain having been 374. In view of the Capitular revival that has of late taken place in Georgia, and the number of new Chapters recently organized, the Grand High Priest says:

"To all such calamity howlers my only reply is, that Georgia is a great and grand old State, with an intelligent, wide-awake and progressive citizenship, with good Masonic material sufficient to keep up her present rate of advancement in scientific research for many years to come, and then not exhaust the quarries or forests of

Lebanon. The stones we are presenting are true and tried stones, all bearing the mark of the Craft upon them. Masonic zeal and energy has taken the place of inertia, and progress and enterprise the place of lethargy, and the grand old cause of benevolence, charity and brotherly love, is still marching on to new fields of conquest, doing good and diffusing light and knowledge to the world of mankind."

There was but one case of grievance before the Chapter.

A Chapter having lost everything, property, records, etc., had its dues remitted and a new Charter given to it, and a resolution was passed urging the other Chapters to contribute towards its rehabilitation, a collection was also taken up among the members present.

The Treasury balance is good.

James W. Taylor, Luthersville, G. H. P.

Andrew M. Wolihin, Macon, G. Sec'y.

Companion W. S. Ramsey makes his bow as Chairman of Committee on Correspondence, and pleads for leniency if he should not prove equal to his immediate predecessor. We know him as an expert. We regret that Alabama was not received by him.

ILLINOIS—43RD ANNUAL, OCTOBER, 1892.

This is a great Grand Chapter, great in its numbers and its wisdom. Its Chapters number 178, with a membership of 14 788, the increase having been 679.

Under these circumstances, the Grand High Priest, Jacob Krohn, may well say that as the prosperity of the country had been unprecedented, so "the prosperity of our beloved Order has kept pace with it," and the Committee on Address desire "to congratulate the M. E. Grand High Priest and this Grand Chapter upon the unusual prosperity, peace and harmony that prevails throughout our Jurisdiction."

He pays a fitting tribute to our late Grand Secretary and the Committee on Memorials, as "a man of ability, an active and devoted Mason, and by his zeal and fidelity in various honorable stations, won the respect and esteem of his Companions."

He earnestly appeals to the Companions in behalf of the Masonic Home, and the Grand Chapter again appropriated five hundred dollars toward that object.

The Treasury balance, like that of last year, exceeds \$12,000.

Two Chapters received Charters, the same having been working satisfactorily under Dispensations from the Grand High Priest.

No action was taken on the application of the Grand Chapter of Victoria, as there were two Chapters warranted by the Grand Chapter of Canada, which had not joined in its organization.

This year, as last, the Committee on Grievances reports that there is no business before it. Oh, happy Illinois!

An instructor of the work was provided for, who, when professionally engaged, shall receive four dollars per day and traveling expenses.

Richard T. Higgins, Vandalia, G. H. P.

Gil. W. Barnard, Chicago, G. Sec'y.

Companion John M. Pearson, Past Grand High Priest, once more brought forward one of his most excellent Reports on Correspondence. His views on all subjects treated are fearlessly, yet most courteously expressed, neither is he chary in expressing them. We are pleased to find that he was in possession of our Proceedings for 1891, and that they receive fair and full notice. Alluding to ourself he thinks that "a change has come o'er the spirit of our dream," which is by no means improbable, for "the times change, and we are changed in them." We were young then, and possibly indiscreet, but now age has added to whatever little wisdom nature had endowed us, and we now think less of ourself and more of our Companions. The fact is, that there is a very complete lull in all questions on which there is not full agreement among the Grand Chapters. And indeed, where there is only an unimportant difference of opinion, and no disregard of the fundamental principles of Masonry, too much discussion leads to no good result.

Alluding to the conclusion reached by Iowa, that the money required for a Home could probably be made productive of far more good, if properly used, as a benevolent fund, we find him saying:

"In the present state of thought and feeling among the Craft, it required a good deal of backbone to make the above report, but we do not think the positions taken by the committee can be successfully attacked. Our Grand Lodge, several years ago, investigated the same matter, and although a very able committee reported favorably to the establishment of the Home, the Grand Lodge itself refused to undertake it. The very able Committee on Correspondence, of our Grand Lodge, has repeatedly shown, both by facts and arguments, that there is a better way to extend charity. The M. M. M.'s of England and Wales yearly devote large amounts to charity, but they do not undertake the management of a 'Home.'

The 'Illinois Masonic Home' is a beautiful monument to the disinterested labors of love of a few great-hearted Brethren, aided by the grateful appreciation of the great body of the Craft, wherever they and their work are known."

We copy the following that we may say he has the sympathy of every Companion in Alabama who may read it, but of none more truly and sincerely than of him who pens these lines, who has himself suffered in the same way, and as the years pass the way gets darker and lonelier to him, yet there is consolation in the thought that the time is getting shorter when he and the one gone before may be united to part no more.

The rule as laid down by him for Illinois prevails here in Alabama, and we can imagine no reason why it should not be so:

"When made a Royal Accepted Mason he must be a resident within the Jurisdiction of the Chapter that exalts him; but having dimitted he can affiliate with any regular Chapter that will take him, and he had better do so, than remain unappointed."

The report invites and merits a careful reading, for it is full of good thoughts, happily expressed.

LOUISIANA—45TH ANNUAL, FEBRUARY, 1893.

We are greatly pleased at the present condition of this Grand Chapter, which only a few years back seemed almost to be struggling for existence. For the last three or four years, however, Capitular Masonry seems to have taken on a new life, and the prospect now is, that like us of Alabama, our Companions of Louisiana have taken on new life, and have emerged from darkness, and now will grow with vigor again. There are now 18 chartered Chapters, whose membership reaches 765; the gain during the past year reached 101. This contrasts strikingly with the last decade. Besides this, two new Chapters having worked U. D., were chartered at this Convocation. Well may Grand High Priest T. J. Heard say:

"It is with pride that I announce to you the information furnished me by our Grand Secretary, that the Chapters report much more work and make better returns than for a number of years past."

This Grand Chapter has been called on to mourn the loss of one of her brightest jewels, Companion Joseph Potts Horner, General

Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and Past Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter Companion Horner had distinguished himself in every position in which his Brethren or Companions had placed him, and in none more than as Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence. We well remember the ring of his reports written before the great depression had fallen on the finances of this Grand Chapter. Peace to his ashes.

There now appears a fair balance in the Treasury.

We do not understand the following:

"Resolved, That the work of the General Grand Chapter is licensed for twelve months in this Jurisdiction, and that the procurement and dissemination of the same be made the duty of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest."

Licensed means tolerated, we suppose, which is doing a great favor to a superior.

George J. Pinkard, New Orleans, G. H. P.

Richard Lambert, New Orleans, G. Sec'y.

In the body of the Proceedings, there is under the heading of Foreign Correspondence, "No Report," yet in the Appendix, Companion Herman C. Duncan, Past Grand High Priest, publishes an excellent condensed statement of the acts and doings of other Jurisdictions. Alabama, however, finds no place there. At the close of his report he recommended the postponement of the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Victoria until more was known of its origin, &c. Also another Resolution that Representatives must be P.: H.: Priests, affiliated, and absence from any Convocation of a Grand Chapter to which he is accredited, should vacate the commission. With still another Resolution, no action, however, seems to have been taken on them.

MASSACHUSETTS—94TH ANNUAL, DECEMBER, 1892.

At the Quarterly Convocation, on March 8th, a plan for a Past Grand High Priest's jewel was adopted, and seven ordered to be obtained and presented to the Past Grand High Priests, and at the Quarterly in June the presentation was made. At this Convocation a Dispensation for a new Chapter was authorized.

We notice in the Report of the Committee on Finance a charge for "sale of Traveling Cards, \$7.00." What are these? The same Committee, however, also reports funds in hand to the extent of near \$11,000.

Grand High Priest J. Albert Blake informs us:

"That no new Chapter shall be constituted in this Commonwealth unless it can meet in suitable apartments for conferring the Capitular Degrees, and with the necessary funds in hand to open the same free from debt."

This is the rule of that Jurisdiction, which we think most excellent, and, if adopted by all Grand Chapters and all Grand Lodges, too, would relieve Masonry of so many weak and feeble and useless bodies.

The Returns show 62 Chapters, with a membership of 12,196, and a gain of 534. The number dimitted was 137, against 878 exaltations. And the Committee on Returns state "that all have been examined, and, with the exception of one subject, have been found generally complete." How many Jurisdictions can say the same?

J. Albert Blake, Haverhill, G. H. P.

Seranus Bowen, Boston, G. Sec'y.

This latter presented the Report on Correspondence, in which we find the Review of Alabama, for 1891. We thank him for his kind words and hopes of us, but we are drawing too near the end to be able to entertain the same, but if the Companion will only come here, right warmly (we had almost said, right royally), would we hail him, for we would assure our Companion that, notwithstanding the latitude and the late inconveniences, there is warmth, true warmth, in our hearts yet.

Arkansas requiring Chapters to send notification to Councils and Commanderies of suspensions and expulsions, draws from him these remarks, which we heartily endorse:

"This is in line with a number of other Grand Chapters and *may* be wise legislation, but we doubt it. It seems to us that each Masonic Body ought to stand or fall by its own merits. A membership that stays in Lodge, Chapter, or Council only in order that it may keep in some other Body is a membership that we believe is worse than useless. It seems like working at the wrong end of the line. Make your Bodies attractive and you will draw a membership that can be retained. The incentive to make them so is lost when you depend on the attractions afforded by some other Body to keep your members. This is not theory, but we find that it works

well in Massachusetts, where we have no forced membership in any of the Bodies of the Rite, and where there is a much smaller percentage of non-affiliated in either Lodge, Chapter, or Council than in many of the Jurisdictions where the membership seems to be retained 'by force and power.'

We believe that a Brother ought to retain his affiliations all along the line, and experience shows that this end is best attained by making the Bodies sufficiently attractive to him to make him wish to do so 'of his own free will and accord.' "

And further on, under Maine, he speaks of "this reprehensible tendency to legislate for other Bodies."

Of uniformity of Ritual, we copy :

"In regard to uniformity of Ritual we believe in uniformity in essentials, but that each Grand Chapter should be permitted to decide for itself how the dramatic portions of the degrees should be filled in. There is nothing so bad as constant tinkering with the Rituals.

No Ritual was ever yet made that cannot be picked to pieces by critics, and our feeling is a very strong one that a fairly good Ritual had better be let alone if you want your members to have any respect for it. In this Jurisdiction there has been practically no change since we received the degrees. We served for fourteen years as Grand Lecturer, and while there are minor points in our Ritual that might be made to sound better to our ears, we have always deprecated any change, because the minute you begin to alter the phraseology you are launching out on a sea of change that may land you in regions of which you have never thought."

"Tinkering with the Rituals!" language of our own, used in the Grand Bodies themselves, and which led to unpleasant consequences for a while. There is too much disposition displayed towards such tinkering. Why this peculiar and wide-spread spirit of unrest? Surely that which was good enough for our forefathers ought to do for us. But, they say, this is a progressive age, and Masonry cannot afford to stand still. It is this very antiquity and immobility that has so largely extended the Order, then why modernize it? Why begin its dissolution?

MICHIGAN--44TH ANNUAL, JANUARY, 1893.

One hundred and twenty-five Chapters, with a membership of 11,245, with the gain during the year of 453, constitute this Grand Chapter, and Companion John F. Barrows, Grand High Priest, presided over its deliberations at this Convocation. In his address the death of Companion Myles J. Greene, with a host of others, was

mentioned, and a page in the Proceedings is set apart in memoriam.

He issued Dispensations for two new Chapters, which received Charters at this Convocation.

He said, among other decisions :

"A Brother Master Mason petitions for the degrees in our Chapter, the ballot is passed, and the High Priest announces the Brother entitled to another ballot. Question. Have the Companions the privilege to make any remarks before continuing the ballot a second time.

Answer. No. If only one black ball appears, the High Priest may order another ballot to avoid a possible mistake. There should be no remarks made unless by the High Priest, and then only a few words of caution to the Companions."

We hold this to be the true and correct position, and it is that which prevails here in Alabama, but the Committee on Jurisprudence reported as copied below, and this was approved by the Grand Chapter :

"Your Committee cannot concur in this decision, as we believe that it is proper to have the Chapter informed fully regarding the standing, reputation and qualifications of a candidate for whom they are about to deposit their ballot. In small towns, where candidates are well known, but little need be said ; but in large cities, for instance like Detroit, with only two Chapters, and a population of 210,000, it is not fair to presume that the Companions know the applicants personally, and the only methods of ascertaining their standing as men, and their qualifications for the degrees, is through information derived in the Chapter room, regarding the qualifications for the favors sought. The Report of the Committee appointed to ascertain the fitness of material is meagre, not satisfactory, and if the Companions cannot be informed of their standing as men and citizens, the result would most likely be a liberal use of the black ball, and perhaps the rejection of worthy material, which might be obviated had suitable information been given regarding the candidate. Your Committee recommend that this decision be not approved."

We are seriously impressed with the belief that this is in violation of the secrecy of the ballot, and will at sometime lead to serious annoyance and complication.

The Grand Chapter declined to adopt the titles of officers of Subordinate Chapters, as prescribed by the General Grand Chapter.

The further consideration of the application of the Grand Chapter of Victoria was postponed until the next Annual, in the hope of further and more satisfactory information in that period.

The Grand Chapter donated \$1,000 to the Masonic Home.

Charles R. Bagg, Detroit, G. H. P.

Wm. P. Innes, Grand Rapids, G. Sec'y.

The Report on Correspondence is the joint production of Companions Innes and Allen G. Bruce, another member of the Committee. Long have we been accustomed to reviewing the reports from Companion Innes, but, alas! this will be the last, for since writing it he has gone "to that bourne from which no traveller returns." That, when he appeared before the Great High Priest above, he merited and received the plaudit, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant—enter thou into the joy of thy Lord," and was awarded a seat on the right hand of the great white throne, we do not doubt.

We copy:

"Companion Brown says of this same State, that in Kausas 'subs' are permitted in cases of emergency, and while to an intelligent Companion the ceremony may seem disfigured by their use, such use seems unavoidable in some cases. For example, when exaltation is not common, and Chapters are far apart. Oh, John Brown, my dear boy, how can you even countenance a thing of this kind, when you acknowledge yourself that the use of substitutes may disfigure the ceremony. Out with it. We should like to see a law prohibiting them in every respect, even if it came to the hanging of the 'sub.'"

MISSISSIPPI—45TH ANNUAL, FEBRUARY, 1893.

Seldom have we derived as much pleasure from the perusal of an opening address as we have from that of M. E. Grand High Priest P. M. Savery, who opened and presided over this forty-fifth Convocation. From it we make copious extracts, because we believe they will be not only interesting, but instructive to you, my beloved Companions. The finest and most truthful, as well as concise, tribute to the memory of Companion J. P. Horner introduces it, and here it is:

"We mourn. 'Our Prince has fallen.' M. E. Companion Joseph Potts Horner, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America, laid down the gavel of authority and bid farewell to earth at home in New Orleans, January 23, 1893. A Mason of thirty-two years, courteous in demeanor, faithful in friendship—learned in Masonic law and literature, an expert Most Excellent Master, esteemed and beloved not only by the Masonic Fraternity, but by all who knew him personally. In the quarries—as an overseer, or presiding as Grand Master—he was ever an example of fidelity and skill. His mission on earth is over, but his good deeds live after him and will adorn the pages of Masonic history."

We give you all he says of the Dispensations declined by him, because many times the same is true in other localities.

DISPENSATIONS DECLINED.

Several applications made for Dispensations to receive petitions, ballot and confer degrees on applicant at one and the same Convocation. Some of these applications were very urgent, and backed up by some of the stronger sticklers for Capitular Law in Mississippi. Appeals were made that it was for the *interest* of the Craft, and the petitioners might have truthfully added—and for the *interest* of the *Order of Knighthood, specially*.

My sympathy as a Knight Templar was with petitioners for Dispensation, but under the Mississippi law, the prohibition is so positive that such Dispensations could not be granted. One Companion wrote: '*We intended to have that restriction removed at last Grand Convocation.*' Nevertheless, it was not done, and even now I cannot recommend a complete abrogation of the present restrictions. We do not think any Dispensation should be granted *for the convenience of a candidate*. If the Degrees are worth anything, they are to be conferred for instruction derived therefrom, and not as a prerequisite to succeeding Degrees or Orders.

Dispensations might, with propriety, be granted for the welfare of the Chapter, in exemplification of the work and rehearsal of Lectures by the Grand Lecturer; or one of his Special Deputies, and I fraternally recommend that the Committee on Capitular Law be requested to so amend and report the statutes, that a Dispensation may be granted for purposes referred to when necessary for the exemplification of the work in the presence of the Grand High Priest, his Special Deputy, or the Grand Lecturer, and for no other cause. In some Grand Jurisdictions, fees are charged for Dispensations, the amount being paid into the Grand Treasury. We do not recommend a fee for such Dispensation. We submit, it is unnecessary—the object being to circumscribe the right to Dispensation to actual necessities of the *Craft*, and not desires of *candidates*."

He recommended the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Victoria, which the Grand Chapter fraternally extended to it.

Again we copy:

"No wonder that some Chapters have no life in them, when 'tis known that their High Priest offers strange ritualistic fire upon the altar. He imparts no instruction, for the Ritual he uses is a conglomeration of crude forms filled with emptiness—ashes of the beautiful Ritual, instead of its burning coals. No incense arises, for there is no fire to ignite it; the bread he offers the Craft is indeed a stone—one crushing out all the zeal and the love of those who, if they had opportunity, would gladly sit at the feet of Wisdom and learn. He who would have disciples of intelligent beings, must understand the lessons he teaches—not the Ritual alone, but the lectures that explain it.

Companions: We are reminded that within the corporate limits of this beautiful city, there is a jewel of great price.

Sculptors with chisel indented in marble the story of charity—bronze letters moulded into expressions of fraternal love, adorn many a statue—but Masonic charity, silent and still as the growth of a flower, is wonderful in its results. Masons indented their lessons on the hearts of their fellow-craftsmen—moulded the character of their Brethren by example and precept, into more enduring monuments than bronze or stone; it is more like flowers, kissed by the dew of heavenly love, fresh from the breath of the Great Creator. Masons of Mississippi *ought* to love and *do* love this Orphans' Home, and we are proud of the fact that this Institution has for many years past received an annual donation from the Grand Lodge, of which we are all members. If there is any surplus in the Treasury of the Grand Chapter, let us help the orphans. May the God of our fathers bless the Institution, its managers and inmates, and bless the charity bestowed to the present and future good of the giver and the recipient, and let us remember—

‘Kindly deeds, unseen, unknown,
Dropped in darkness—trampled down,
Lost, are they? Not one, not one,
Each shall shine in some one's crown.’”

The Grand Secretary urged great caution in expenditures, and the Grand Treasurer's Report shows a somewhat decreasing balance.

Chapters, 42; members, 1,174; gain, 60.

The Law Committee, on the subject of forced membership in the Lodge, says:

“4. We are in hearty sympathy with the proposition that a Royal Arch Mason should be a member of a Lodge, and a candidate ought also, but we do not understand that the Resolution of the General Grand Chapter is mandatory; it simply declares a principle which is to be found in Sec. 38, of our own Regulations, which not only declares ‘Membership in a Chapter *should* be dependent upon and co-existent with membership in a Lodge of Master Masons,’ but prohibits non-affiliated Master Masons from receiving the Chapter Degrees. We do not think it advisable to add anything to our law on the subject, for it may be that there is sometimes a good reason why a Royal Arch Mason should not want to remain in affiliation with a Symbolic Lodge, but it must be remembered that the law of the Grand Lodge cuts all such off most effectually, by declaring that all non-affiliates who do not contribute to the support of the Lodge under whose jurisdiction they reside, shall not be permitted to ‘associate with the regular members of the Lodge,’ which cuts them out, also, as Chapter Masons. Now, if a Chapter member desires to pay Lodge dues without receiving the benefits of Lodge membership, we don't see that he is doing any one but himself an injury. We do not recommend that any change be made in our Regulations.”

J. K. McLeod, Moss Point, G. H. P.

J. L. Power, Jackson, G. Sec'y.

We have filled so much space with these Proceedings we are forced to only say of the Report on Correspondence, by the Grand High Priest, Savary, is such as we must expect from such a source, and deserving of being fully read, as we have done, being full of merit. Alabama, for 1891, appears in it.

MISSOURI—46TH ANNUAL, APRIL, 1893.

Upon opening these Proceedings, we are struck with the evidences of mourning on every side, to the memory of Joseph Potts Horner, G. G. H. P., who died during the year.

Chapters, 94; membership, 6,268; gain, 416.

Grand High Priest John R. Parson lets us know that since an officer of a Chapter in this Jurisdiction is neither allowed to "resign or die," he had refused a dispensation to elect a King in place of one who had died.

Objection to a candidate who had received all save the R. A. Degree, "must be respected, but that unless charges were preferred within thirty days, the remaining Degrees could be conferred unless objection should be made on other grounds." So says the Grand High Priest, and so, also, says the Grand Chapter.

One new Chapter was organized under Dispensation, and this received a Charter.

The Grand High Priest recommended contributing to the building and support of a Hospital and Sanitarium in connection with the Home, and the Grand Chapter appropriated \$1,000 for this purpose, and appealed to the several Chapters to contribute at least twenty-five cents per member to this noble and humane cause."

Says the Grand High Priest:

"It having come to my knowledge that some of the Chapters were in the habit of having persons, who were not Masons, assist in the music during the conferring of the Degrees, I issued the following circular:—

STATE OF MISSOURI,
GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS. }
OFFICE OF GRAND HIGH PRIEST, }
St. Louis, Nov. 12, 1892. }

To the Subordinate Chapters of Royal Arch Masons of Missouri:

COMPANIONS—*Whereas*, It has come to my knowledge that some Chapters have allowed persons who are not Masons to enter the

Lodge room (although not in view) for the purpose of assisting in singing during the conferring of Degrees;

Therefore, This is to notify all Royal Arch Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction that the practice must be discontinued.

The hall must be carefully tiled and no one admitted to the room during the sessions except those who have been or are being initiated.

Faternally,

JOHN R. PARSON,
Grand High Priest.

Attest:

WM. H. MAYO,
Grand Secretary."

He has no good opinion of the Committees on Correspondence, and thus speaks of them and their efforts:

"There is one expense that it seems to me might be considerably reduced, not only without detriment to the Proceedings, but with a positive benefit. I mean by shortening the Report on Correspondence. It has grown to such large proportions that it completely overshadows the proceedings proper, and is many times made up largely of mutual compliments among correspondents, or expressions of the personal opinions of the writers, oftentimes not in accord with the sentiments of the Jurisdiction. My idea is that a brief outline of the doings of other Grand Chapters, noticing only important events, is all that is necessary. I am satisfied that a very small proportion of the members read these long reports."

Well, we agree with him in part, and there may be evils to be complained of, but also a vast amount of good to be admired in them.

Allen McDowell, St. Louis, G. H. P.
Wm. H. Mayo, St. Louis, G. Sec'y.

Companion Mayo presented his usual interesting Report, but we miss his most interesting tables of Grand Chapters, which, doubtless, involved a vast amount of labor. Alabama, for 1892, is found therein, and of Companion Beck's only ruling he says:

"He had made only one ruling, which is this:

'Does suspension in the Blue Lodge for the non-payment of dues operate as suspension from all the privileges of Royal Arch Masonry. I ruled that it did. See p. 35, Digest of Grand Chapter of Alabama, 1891.'

Of course he could not have answered otherwise. We would as soon think of asking the question: "If a member of the "Blue" Lodge dies, is he also dead in the Chapter?"

And of his Report as follows:

"Having selected about everything that in our judgment seemed of general interest, from the various pamphlets reviewed, we need not indulge in a lengthy summary or conclusion; but express the hope that those into whose hands this pamphlet may come, and those who have the interests of the Royal Craft in view, who desire to know what other Grand Chapters are doing, and how they do it, will read carefully the whole Report. We know it to be interesting and instructive. It is good work, fair and impartial work, just such work as we think ought to be received. We are perfectly willing to have it laid side by side and compared with similar work from the other Grand Jurisdictions."

MONTANA—2ND AND 3RD ANNUAL, OCTOBER, 1891, AND
SEPTEMBER, 1892.

This Grand Chapter, under the supervision of M.^c. E.^c. Grand High Priest Richard O. Hickman, was just emerging from its swaddling clothes and preparing to assert its right to full and fair treatment by its relatives, its age being but little more than a year. Yet its step was firm, and its attitude erect. The Grand High Priest thus early recommends the preservation of all historical records regarding R. A. Masonry.

For lack of funds, economy was enforced upon the Grand Chapter, and its Proceedings being few, and of local interest only, no publication was made.

Joseph A. Hyde was made Grand High Priest, and Cornelius Hedges Grand Secretary.

Companion Hyde presided over the Third Annual Convocation. There were 10 Chapters, with one U. D.; members, 581; gain, 26.

The Chapter U. D. received a Charter.

A. H. Barrett, G. H. P.

Cornelius Hedges, G. Sec'y.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—74TH ANNUAL, MAY, 1893.

It gives pleasure to learn, as we do, from the address of Companion Horace A. Brown, Grand High Priest, that "the Chapters have made wise choice of officers to govern and instruct, and the members have given them helpful support." This contrasts

strongly with the usual deploring of the ignorance of the officers, etc.

There are 22 Chapters, 3,047 members, and a gain of 158. This shows strong Chapters, the average membership exceeding 132.

Treasury balance exceeds \$2,500.

Business local in character.

Dispensation was issued for one New Chapter, but upon presentation of its work to the Grand Chapter, it was deemed advisable to continue it under probation another year.

Wm. H. W. Hinds, Milford, G. H. P.

G. P. Cleaves, Concord, G. Sec'y.

Our very esteemed Companion, A. S. Wait, made the Report on Correspondence, and we therein find Alabama for last year. We are pleased to find ourselves in accord with him on most subjects, and delighted at meriting his approval. We copy:

"The Report on Foreign Correspondence is, as for many preceding years, furnished by Companion William R. Singleton, in which he reviews ably the Proceedings of forty-seven sister Grand Chapters, including those of New Hampshire for 1892. He takes a tilt with Companion Drummond, of Maine, upon the prerogative of the Grand Master to grant Dispensations, maintaining the position that no such power exists, except where conferred by express enactment. His argument is interesting, and must, we think, be conceded to have much force. We were educated upon this question in the school to which Brother Drummond belongs, and it may be for that reason that we are better satisfied with his reasoning than that of our District of Columbia Companion. They should both be read and studied by the candid Masonic student."

And, as instructive, the following:

"Under Maryland, Brother Drummond discusses the subject of Dispensations for Lodges, and states the result of his examination to be, that such Dispensations were unknown in Masonry previously to its introduction into this country, nor in this country until after the revolution and the formation of independent Grand Lodges. We are surprised, however, to find in his discussion of the probable origin of the practice of issuing such Dispensations that, 'in Connecticut it did not exist till after the anti-Masonic excitement; nor in New Hampshire.' We cannot say as to Connecticut, but the statement as to New Hampshire is certainly a mistake. The Grand Regulations of the latter, adopted in A. D. 1803, nearly twenty-five years before the anti-Masonic excitement, expressly recognized the power of the Grand Master to issue such Dispensations, and in the Grand Lodge transactions of the same year such a Dispensation appears entered at length upon the records. Such a Dispensation was issued by the Grand Master of Virginia, on the

22d of May, 1792. We discussed this topic somewhat in our Grand Lodge report of 1892, under Connecticut, and referring to our Regulation of 1803 recognizing the power, and to the Dispensation issued by our Grand Master in that year. The observation we then made is equally pertinent here, namely: 'We do not suppose the practice originated in New Hampshire, but that our Grand Regulations followed a pre-existing practice.' "

To meet the claims of some Companions of extreme authority for Capitular Masonry, we give you what he says of the origin of Chapters. The earliest Chapter was in Pennsylvania:

"We have since made some examination of the rise of Royal Arch Masonry in Pennsylvania, and of the history of the Grand Chapter of that Jurisdiction, and there could be no more triumphant vindication of what we submitted as to the origin of the Royal Arch degree than is there found. Its first inception as a separate degree does not appear, but it is found in connection with the Blue Lodges, and was under their control and government, and as a consequence was subjected to the laws of the Grand Lodge. It evidently, as time went on, grew more and more distinct as a degree, and finally, in the ritualistic sense, became by a process of differentiation distinct from the degrees of the Lodge as they now appear. Still, it remained under the government of the Lodges, as a fourth degree, and with them was subject to the Grand Lodge, but as an incident in the progress, when assembled for work, the Bodies at length came to be called Chapters.

These were the conditions in 1795, when Companion Drummond assumes that the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania was formed. In the recently published *History of Freemasonry and Concordant Orders*, it is stated, page 627:

'The Grand Lodge then proceeded to open the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, under the immediate sanction of the Grand Lodge on November 23, 1795.'

We have been furnished by our Grand Secretary with a publication entitled, 'Minutes of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania from its organization, 1796 to 1812.' It was published in February, 1882, by the Grand Secretary, Companion Charles E. Meyer, and is said by him, in an introductory note, to have been found among the old papers of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. By this it clearly appears that not only was the Grand Chapter of this Jurisdiction formed, and until as late as 1812 (Companion Drummond says 1825, which is probably correct), was governed by the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master being ex-officio its first officer, but the Subordinate Chapters were, during all that time, formed, not by the Grand Chapter, or the Grand Lodge, but by the Lodges working under the Grand Lodge, and when thus formed, that they made application to the Grand Chapter to be admitted to affiliation with it. The following is one instance of many occurring in

this publication. It appears in the record of the meeting of the Grand Chapter held January 20, 1797 :

'Companion Nelson informed the M.: E.: Grand Master that a Royal Arch Chapter had been established under the warrant of Lodge No. 71, with the approbation of the said Lodge and of the R.: Wl Grand Master, which was approved of. Companion Neilson presented the return of the officers of the said Chapter.'

It appears, also, that in one instance the Grand Lodge repealed one of the Regulations of the Grand Chapter. And it is clear that during all this period neither Grand nor Subordinate Chapters had any independent or separate existence from the Grand and Subordinate Lodges: Both were an outgrowth of Blue Lodge Masonry. Neither was the Grand Chapter formed by the Chapters, nor were the Subordinate Chapters formed by the Grand Chapter."

NEW JERSEY—37TH ANNUAL, MAY, 1893.

Chapters, 37; members, 2,033; gain, 79. Average membership, 82.

Grand High Priest Edwin Mills states that "the interest in Capital Masonry appears to be increasing," and that "there appears to be an earnest effort on part of officers to perfect themselves in the standard ritual."

An application for a Dispensation for a new Chapter was made to him, which, however, he referred to the Grand Chapter, and it was by it authorized.

He recommended the devising an apron for officers of the Grand Chapter and P.: H.: Priests, which was referred to a committee. We like, much, this :

"Companions, there is one feature in Masonry, I think, is not as fully appreciated by us as it should be—the social and fraternal features of the institution. With us there is no distinction of position or rank. All meet on one common level. 'Tis this that binds us in one strong Brotherhood. Our various symbols and means of recognition ofttimes attract men—perfect strangers towards one another—and the warm, fraternal clasp of the hand, the quick glance of the eye, forms an acquaintance which ripens into a friendship that remains so long as life shall last. If among you differences arise, reconcile them; if jealousies spring up, bury them, and all labor for one common end—to promote our own happiness and welfare and of every one who has a claim on our sympathy. Cultivate this social, fraternal feature of our Order. It is the life of

Masonry or any organization founded on the noble principles of Charity and Brotherly Love."

The Treasury balance continues to increase.

Andrew J. Bale, Baleville, G. H. P.

Geo. B. Edwards, Jersey City, G. Sec'y.

Companion Henry Vehslage continues to make the Report on Correspondence, but in a greatly condensed style, much to be admired where there is nothing of moment agitating the Royal Craft. Alabama, for 1892, meets with courteous notice. He closes with :

"There remains but little to add, except to join in the general and justifiable congratulation upon the unusual prosperity of Capitular Masonry. In the almost universal report of accessions to membership, and the assurance that these additions are of a desirable class of men, it is reasonable to expect a more extended diffusion of the beneficent influences that have heretofore commended the sublime principles of the Fraternity. Appreciating the power committed to our hands for noble ends, we may rejoice in the fraternal spirit evident in all these reports, and hopefully look for the realization of the ideal which has stimulated to past endeavors and can inspire to future achievements."

NEW YORK—96TH ANNUAL, FEBRUARY, 1893.

Chapters, 186; members, 17,865; gain, 814.

The Address of Grand High Priest J. Leavitt Lambert, deals concisely with matters pertaining to the well-being of the Craft within this grand and noble Jurisdiction, but closes with a beautiful allegory, which we copy:

"We are told in this ancient story that three maidens had disputed as to which had the most beautiful hands. One had washed hers in the stream as it bounded down the rocks of the hillside; another had picked berries and fruit till her fingers were tinted as the rainbow; the other had gathered roses and other flowers till the fragrance of her hands rivaled that of the blossoms she had plucked.

A decrepit old woman who was passing by, solicited their assistance, which the three disdainfully refused. But another maiden standing near, plain in appearance, and making no pretense to beauty, cheerfully granted her request and relieved her necessities. The aged dame then turned to the three maidens, who had refused her petition, and said: 'The most beautiful hand is not the one 'which is bathed in the mountain stream, nor that which is tinted 'as the rainbow, nor yet that which is highly perfumed; but rather 'the one that does the bidding of a kind and charitable heart.' And as she spoke her staff was gone, her wrinkles disappeared, and as

an angel light, while pronouncing a benediction upon the benevolent one, she vanished from their eyes. The hand is a prominent emblem in our symbolic art. By it comes the fraternal grasp, bringing every member of the Royal Craft into close relationship. It forms the arch of union: it is the seat of fidelity, and the agent for the performance of those acts of benevolence incumbent upon us as Brethren. The legend recalls to us the great lesson of charity which was taught us after crossing the threshold of Freemasonry. It is an expression of great thought which pervades all Freemasonry from foundation to cap stone. Charity—the world's most precious boon—demands the subjugation of all selfishness, a true consideration of the needs of others, and a constant loyalty to duty and the dictates of conscience. It points out the satisfaction which must attend the accomplishment of good deeds, and it promises the favor of the Supreme Grand High Priest, as our recompense. Take the lesson home to your hearts—never turn a deaf ear to the cry of the distressed and the destitute."

The Grand Secretary, R. E. Christopher G. Fox, in his Report, made a number of statistical deductions of great interest, doubtless, to the Companions. Of this, we take a part to show the strength of Chapters where Capitular Masonry flourishes most:

"Of the entire number of Chapters (186) 52 have a membership of less than 50; 78 from 50 to 100 members; 21 from 100 to 150; 21 from 150 to 200; 4 from 200 to 250; 4 from 250 to 300; 4 from 300 to 350; one Chapter has a membership of 384, and one of 610. The smallest number of members in any Chapter is 21."

Upon the dedication of the Masonic Home building to its purposes, a vast number of Lodges and of Chapters appeared as such in the procession, and the Grand Chapter appropriated \$75 for a suitable testimonial to a Chapter in Utica, "for the courtesies extended to the Officers" of the Grand Chapter on that occasion.

The Degree of M. M. was exemplified, and the Grand Lecturer recommended some additions, and the Committee on Rituals reported as follows, and it was adopted:

"In reference to the addition to the Ritual in the first section of the Degree of Mark Master, as suggested by the Grand Lecturer, your Committee do not feel justified in recommending the proposed addition to the work of that Degree."

This course betokened the wisdom of the Committee and of the Grand Chapter, for our rather extended observation has induced the belief that nothing tends more powerfully to produce inattention and indifference of members than a constant effort to (as it has been termed) tinker with the work.

The Grand Chaplain, Rev. James Byron Murray, delivered an excellent oration on Masonry, its purposes and the sublimity of its teachings. These Proceedings contain, also, Addresses delivered in 1800, 1801 and 1802.

J. Leavitt Lambert, Hoosick Falls, G. H. P.
Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, G. Sec'y.

Companion George J. Gardner again made Report on Correspondence, courteously reviewing the Proceedings of Alabama, for 1891, among the fifty-three received and reviewed. When the writer of this, in another report, spoke of having performed his task "with care and faithfulness," no self-glorification was felt or intended, but simply absolute honesty and industry, nothing more, nothing less.

He approves the Report of our Committee condemning the too frequent use of the dispensing power, and adds a little proper hint to us and Committees generally:

"The Committee on Dispensations in considering the matter of an application for a Charter, say that they find *many* irregularities in the work of the Body applying, and specify four, which would be considered of vital importance in most Jurisdictions, yet, notwithstanding the crooked work, in consideration of being informed by the Representatives that the Body 'has the necessary furniture and paraphernalia, and are qualified to work in all the Degrees, and a promise that they will in the future' do better, they recommend that a Charter be granted, which was accordingly done."

We think he is correct in his views against requiring one objecting to the advancement of a candidate to state his objection, and allow the Chapter to be the judges of its efficiency, as he does under Arizona:

"Is not this in contravention of an ancient Landmark and customary usage? Has it not been a privilege, from time immemorial, for each individual member to pass upon the material to be used in the construction of our moral edifice? Is it not a violation of his inalienable right, in exercising the prerogative of the secret ballot, to be compelled to state the grounds of his objections thus publicly? If so, by what parity of reasoning can he thus be deprived of that right? We question the legality of this proceeding, but leave it for wiser heads than ours, to agree or differ with us in our conclusions."

We find him doubting the practicability of abolishing the per diem and mileage, and devoting the sum thus saved by a Grand Chapter

to aiding a home. How we of Alabama never receive either, nor have we even done so either from Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter, yet our attendance is by no means very small.

NORTH CAROLINA—44TH ANNUAL, JUNE, 1893.

We received the pamphlet of these Proceedings with a fly-piece, conveying the news of the death of the Grand Secretary, Donald W. Bain, with whom we have corresponded for many years. His loss we deplore, and in sympathy believe that as is said of him in a memorial page, which the appointed Grand Secretary devoted to him, he was "ever faithful to his trust." Alabama has mourned as North Carolina now does, and her sympathies go out to her bereaved sister.

Grand High Priest Benj. F. Briggs speaks encouragingly of the Craft, and thinks it has taken on "a vigorous growth," and the Returns show a considerable increase, it being 82; Chapters, 18; membership, 717. Five Chapters have been revived, and the prospect for a continuance of the revival is good.

The Grand High Priest follows that *ignis fatuus* of uniformity of work. An undertaking never to be accomplished so long as minds are differently constituted by the great Father, and if similarly constituted there would, perhaps, be no work to do.

He granted several Dispensations to confer degrees out of time, and the Grand Chapter adopted the Report of the Committee on this subject, which was as follows:

"With regard to the other special Dispensations, the Committee are of the opinion that while all are according to law, they cannot recommend the policy of granting Dispensations to elect and confer degrees out of the usual course, and Dispensations for such purposes should be granted only for most urgent reasons and with abundant caution, as they tend to prevent a careful inspection and due trial of the material offered for the Temple."

With this we fully concur, and fear that the use of the dispensing power is becoming too frequent for the good of the Craft. From the number of such Dispensations granted, we must infer that Cryptic Masonry has, indeed, taken a new departure in this Jurisdiction and is now being much sought for, while for sometime it had been greatly neglected by the Brethren.

How any moderately well informed, or thinking Mason should have enquired of the Grand High Priest if the degrees could legally be conferred on a Brother who had lost his right arm, is, to us, most astonishing. How could he have conformed to the ceremonies of such? Yet, on such a question, was the Grand High Priest called to rule.

The Grand Chapter adopted the following :

"On motion of Companion James Southgate, the Grand Secretary was instructed to notify the Chapter with which the Grand Chapter shall meet from year to year, to have a team of actual candidates in readiness, that the work of the Grand Chapter may be exemplified on the first night of each meeting after the reading of the Address of the Grand High Priest, provided such exemplification of work shall not interfere with any important routine business of the Grand Chapter."

Are Chapters able to furnish teams at will? or shall the Chapter drum a team up?

The finances of the Grand Chapter are very much improved, as the Finance Committee report, yet the Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence says that no itemized report will, or can be made, because the appropriations exceed the receipts, hence he gave no review.

Daniel P. Mast, Winston, G. H. P.

Horace H. Munson, Wilmington, G. Sec'y.

Companion James Southgate, from the Committee on Correspondence, hoping, as we think correctly, favorably for the future, presented a short report acknowledging the receipt of various Proceedings, among which we find Alabama. Of uniformity of work, he says most truly :

"We are not agreed even upon the essentials, and we despair of ever living to see the day when the same capitular language shall be spoken from Maine to Texas, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans. It is like the interpretation of Masonic law and usage. The minds of men differ, and unless all will assent to be governed by one tribunal of last resort, from which there can be no appeal, there can be no uniformity."

OHIO—77TH ANNUAL, SEPTEMBER, 1893.

Upon the outside of these Proceedings is placed in contrast 1816, the date of the origin of this Grand Chapter, and 1893, that of this Convocation, and Grand High Priest Wm. W. Savage opens his

Address with a review of the wonderful changes that have been made Masonically during that period. We, too, upon seeing this first date are reminded that this was the beginning of our actual existence, and of the wonderful strides that have been made in all things demonstrating the progress of the human race.

One Dispensation for the formation of a new Chapter was granted, but at a period so near the convening of the Grand Chapter that it was deemed advisable to continue it U. D.

The Grand Treasurer reports a balance in hand of over \$11,000, and of this the Grand Chapter appropriated near \$3,000 to the Masonic Home.

The affairs of the Home seem to be progressing finely—\$34,000 have thus far been expended upon it, and when completed, \$39,000 more will have been. Of this sum the Secretary is in possession of more than \$26,000, and with over-due subscription collected, will be able readily to meet all obligations. This is, indeed, a fine showing. May we be able to make as good a one shortly.

There are 144 Chapters, with a membership of 13,024, and an increase of 535.

The Grand Secretary complains of the remissness and carelessness of Secretaries—a very common complaint. Yet the Committee on Subordinate Returns reports having found all the papers examined correct, which speaks volumes for the Grand Secretary and his industry and perseverance.

There were no grievances to refer, and the decisions called for were few and corresponded with the usual rulings of the Order.

Orestes A. B. Senter, Columbus, G. H. P.

Chas. C. Kiefer, Urbana, G. Sec'y.

The Report on Correspondence is from the fertile and facile pen of Companion S. Stacker Williams, P. G. H. P., who is a close and discriminating student of Masonic History, which is exhibited on many pages of this most interesting report. Having in a previous report given you the supposed origin of R. A. Masonry, we now extract what so close a student also says on this subject:

ROYAL ARCH DEGREE.

As with many other degrees in Masonry, it is impossible, after all the efforts that have been made, to fix upon the date of the origin, or definitely the birth-place of the Royal Arch Degree. We have had theories enough and learned accounts by rainbow chas-

ers as to its origin. But these, together with the story of its having been stolen from the Degree of Master Mason, have, for want of proof, been abandoned by Masonic students. The best efforts of Brothers Hughan, Gould and others, in the Old Country, to settle the question of date, have been unavailing, except approximately; and the place where it first appeared is in equal doubt. Availing ourselves of the results of the investigation of these Brethren, and relying wholly upon their valuable works, we will devote a small space to the subject. In the light of recent investigation, it is not safe to claim an earlier date for the Degree than 1740; and, while it has generally been considered to be of English origin, now the indications are very strong that Scotland is entitled to the honor of giving it birth. Although, on the authority of Brother Hughan, we note that the *Third Degree* cannot be traced to a date earlier than 1735, in that country. The very first reference to the Degree in any book or record, so far as known, is found in a work published in Dublin, in 1744, by Dr. Fifield Dassigny, entitled a "Serious and Impartial enquiry into the cause of the present Decay of Freemasonry in Ireland." Of the author of this work, little or nothing seems to be known, and few writers seem to have even referred to the book. In fact, it was for a long time lost sight of; and of another book, said to have been published by him previous to the publication of this one, entitled "The Impartial Answer to the Enemies of Freemasons," it is said that not a copy is known to exist. A copy of the "Enquiry" was observed by Brother Hughan, in 1867, bound up with a first edition of Dermot's *Ahiman Rezon*, which, at the time, was the only copy known in the world. This copy was the property of the late Brother Robert F. Bower, of Iowa, and is now in the famous library of the Grand Lodge of that Jurisdiction. Twenty-five years later another copy turned up, which is now in the very select library of West Yorkshire, England. From this a *fac simile* has been made by Richard Jackson, of Leeds, England, and an edition limited to three hundred copies, printed, one of which is in our possession. As there appears in the original work a list of over *four hundred* subscribers, the edition was not small. This list is headed by the Right Hon. Lord Allen, Grand Master, and his name is followed by that of "Hon. Elizabeth Alldworth," the celebrated lady who is said to have been initiated into Masonry as the "Hon. Elizabeth St. Leger," about the year 1739.

In Dr. Dassigny's work we find in a foot-note, under a quotation from the York legend, these words:

"I am informed, in that city is held an assembly of Master Masons, under the title of the Royal Arch Masons, who, as their qualifications and excellencies are superior to others, they receive a larger pay than Working Masons."

Further on in his work, we learn that at least as early as 1744, the Degree was worked by the Brethren in Dublin; that an imposter from York was "*detected, despised and excluded.*" We learn, furthermore, that the Degree was at least at that time worked in London, and that the members thereof had "passed the chair."

This last is, to our mind, the most important hint we find in reference to the Degree; and although the information that the Degree was worked in England at that early date, is valuable, yet no other evidence that we know of shows it to have existed there prior to 1752.

As a very fitting introduction to the *fac simile*, we are furnished with a sketch of the Royal Arch Degree, by Brother Wm. J. Hughan, from which we obtain the material facts which follow.

Addressing ourselves now to the claim of Scotland to the paternity of the Degree, we remark that it is made in favor of the "Ancient" Lodge of Sterling. As is so often the case, unfortunately, the early records of this Lodge are lost. Other evidences, however, partially make up the loss. Two old rudely engraved brass plates have been discovered at this old Masonic seat, which are described by Brother Hughan, as follows:

"They are some three inches wide and nine long, and weigh together, nearly two and three-quarter pounds.

The first appertains to Craft Masonry, both sides being virtually alike as respects design, only on one the name of the 'Stirling Ancient Lodge' is also engraved. The second plate partakes of the same character as respects the obverse, with the figures 1 to 12 enclosed within a circle. The reverse is altogether different, and is certainly a remarkable kind of 'Tracing Board,' on which the names of the Degrees of 'Redd Cross of Ark,' 'Sepulchre,' 'Knights of Malta,' and 'Night Templar,' are rudely engraved."

Both sides of the plate just described have been photographed, and plates made therefrom. Through the courtesy of our esteemed friend, Brother G. W. Speth, Secretary of Lodge Quatnor, Coronati, No. 2076 London, we are the fortunate possessor of impressions of these plates. Brother Hughan is of the opinion that the plates were made not earlier than the middle of the last century, though others claim for them an earlier date.

From a Copy of a Code of By-laws of this venerable Lodge, which bear date of May 14, 1745, we are furnished the following section with reference to dues:

8TH BY-LAW.

	s. d.
For an Entered Apprentice Lodge.....	10—
Dues to the Grand Lodge.....	2 - 9
To the Tyler.....	1—0
Passing Fellow Craft.....	2—6
Passing Master.....	7—6
Matriculation, all Sterling.....	2—6

Excellent and Super-Excellent, five shillings sterling;
And that each Entered Apprentice shall treat the Lodge to the extent of five shillings sterling, if demanded.

From the same source we learn that the Lodge meetings were always required to be held in a Brother's house, that no Brother was permitted to *inter* the Lodge without the *badge of the Craft*, and that he must be *cloathed* in a proper manner.

It was also the practice, after the Lodge was formed, and while it continued, a certain portion of time was spent in the instruction of prentices in the Royal Art, and in a way not to be expressed in writing. On the authority of Brother R. S. Brown, Grand Scribe E. (Grand Secretary) of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, who visited Sterling in person, at the instance of Brother Hughan, we observe that in the early records, so far as discovered of this Ancient Lodge, no mention of the Royal Arch Degree is made; but there is, as is found in the By-Law quoted, mention of and fees fixed for the Degrees of "*Excellent and Super-Excellent*."

This distinguished Brother is of the opinion that the Degree of "*Royal Arch*" and "*Super-Excellent*" were *one and the same*, and there are good reasons in support of his opinion, though it also seems that the Royal Arch was *the important* Degree, and that the Degrees of Excellent, Super Excellent and Knight Templar were appendent thereto. It is also clear that in the Old Country and in this country, during the early life of these Degrees, there was no regular order of sequence, as sometimes the Royal Arch was conferred before that of the Super-Excellent, and sometimes the reverse. Sometimes the Degree of Knight Templar was conferred before the Royal Arch, and sometimes after.

There is further evidence of favor of the claim of the Ancient Lodge. When the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland was or-

ganized in 1817, a Committee was appointed to arrange the Chapters on the Roll, the question of precedence or seniority being settled according to documents then presented. Due notice was given to all Chapters, and full instructions to forward all evidence in their possession in support of their claims to dates. This Committee, which consisted of *thirty-six* members, submitted its report on March 21, 1818, as follows:

"After very mature and deliberate consideration of the several documents produced in support of their respective claims. they find that the Chapters holding of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter have produced satisfactory evidence of their having existed in the knowledge and practice of Royal Arch Masonry, and have held regular meetings as Chapters of that Degree since the periods set against their respective names, as follows, viz.: "Stirling Rock Royal Arch Chapter, from the July 30, 1743."

Then follows a list of others. The path of the Royal Arch Degree is difficult to trace in England, as well as in Scotland, references to it here and there being about all that we have for a long series of years.

The claim that it was fabricated by the Schismatic Grand Lodge of England *cannot be sustained*.

Lawrence Dermott, so active in the affairs of this Grand Body, declared that he had received it in Dublin in 1746, while the Grand Lodge aforesaid did not appear upon the scene till 1851-52, and never *recognized or patronized* the degree till 1756.

But leaving all these references to the existence of the degree, and its consequent working in the mother country in those early days, we come home to America, to find the *oldest known record* of the conferring of it. Such record is found in the minutes of the Lodge in which Brother George Washington was initiated, passed and raised, and the date, December 22, 1753. Our information is derived from the valuable historical sketch of Fredericksburgh Lodge, Virginia, by Brother S. J. Quinn. We give his extracts from the minutes:

"December 22d, 5753. Which night the Lodge being assembled, was present of Royal Arch Lodge Righ Worshipful Simon Frazier, G. M., do John Neilson, S. Warden, do Robert Armstead, Junior Warden.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE NIGHT.

Daniel Campbell, Robert Halkerson, Alex'r Wodrow, Raised to the Degree of Royal Arch Masons. Royal Arch Lodge being Shutt, Entered Apprentices' Lodge opened, etc."

A *fac simile* of the foregoing remarkable minutes is in our possession, for which we are under obligations to our esteemed Brother Hughan. The candidates upon this occasion appear to have been the Worshipful Master, the Junior Warden and the Secretary of the Lodge.

Brother Hughan informs us that minutes of a Lodge, (now extinct) located at York, dating back to 1762, record transactions in connection with the Royal Arch degree. Nothing appears to be known as to the source whence a knowledge of the ceremonies of the degree were derived; and, though its original members belonged to the regular Grand Lodge, they abandoned it and attached themselves to the York Grand Lodge—the Grand Lodge of all England, so-called. Information following is to the effect that this York Chapter assumed the character and prerogatives of a Grand Chapter of all England, was officially recognized by the York Grand Lodge, and issued Charters to a number of Subordinates. This York Grand Lodge in 1780 recognized *five degrees*, the two additional degrees being those of the Royal Arch and Knight Templar, and was the only one of the four contending Grand Lodges then existing in England which extended protection to these two additional degrees. On the final demise of the York Grand Lodge, during the last decade of the eighteenth century, Chapters under its wing, of course, shared its fate, if they were not already dead. Taking the hint from Brother Hughan, we would impress upon the minds of our Companions this fact, viz: The York Grand Lodge never had any connection whatever with the Grand Lodge, which arrogated to itself the title of "*Ancient*," and which has so often been erroneously termed the Grand Lodge of *Ancient York Masons*.

The York Grand Lodge never Chartered a Subordinate *outside of England*, hence the term York, or Ancient York, as applied to Lodges, established by the said so-called Ancient Grand Lodge in Pennsylvania, South Carolina and elsewhere in America during our early history, *never was appropriate*. There never was a Lodge in America to which the term York, as designating its descent from that Grand Lodge, would apply. So far as America is concerned, the term York, or Ancient York Masons, *is and always has been a misnomer*, monitors and fiction writers to the contrary, notwithstanding.

At the risk of extending this sketch beyond our intended limit, we venture a return to the mother country to note that, while it is

impossible to determine the date of the first working of the degree in London, there are minutes of a *Royal Arch Chapter* dating from March 22, 1765, which record the arching of *three candidates*, whose names are given on that date. References to the early working of the degree in America will be found elsewhere in this review, hence we leave the subject for the present, hoping, that brief and disjointed as this sketch is, yet that it may prove of sufficient interest to whet the appetite of such Companions as may read it, and thus stimulate them to feed in the pastures and explore the mines to which we have introduced them. To such as may be thus moved, we can give no better advice than to read the works of Brothers Hagan and Gould, of England, to whom we are under obligations for practically all we know in reference to the subject in hand.

We now take up the Proceedings for review, commencing, as usual, with—

Alabama, for 1892, receives friendly and fraternal notice. In this he gives a synopsis of the history of the trials and tribulations of our Chapters in their various efforts to establish a permanent Grand Chapter. We are not near the records and cannot either endorse or dispute it, though from his known careful research we presume he is correct, yet on this account we do not copy it. Should we have opportunity to confirm it we will do so, or be able to point out error if there be any.

OREGON—33RD ANNUAL, JUNE, 1893.

The Proceedings of this Grand Chapter for this Convocation come to us so put up as to be serviceable and durable and fitted to adorn a library. M. E. Companion Geo. E. Chamberlain, Grand High Prest, presided.

Twenty-five Chapters made returns, showing a membership of 1,218, and a gain of 64. A Dispensation for the formation of one new Chapter was granted, which was awarded a Charter, and also one for the revival of a dormant Chapter.

The Grand High Priest decided that the use of substitutes was allowed by the laws of Oregon, and thinks "if a different rule prevailed, exaltations in the remote Chapters would, of necessity, be very rare."

A resolution was adopted limiting the term of Grand Representatives to three years. Another providing a committee "to formulate

or adopt a system of uniform work, etc., securing, if possible, the work of the General Grand Chapter."

George McD. Stroud, Portland, G. H. P.

Jas. F. Robinson, Eugene, G. Sec'y.

Companion J. M. Hodson presented the Report on Correspondence, reviewing in it Alabama for 1892, in a style both courteous and felicitous. He approves our allowing an officer of a Chapter to resign and demit, and thinks he ought to be allowed to carry with him a certificate of his Masonic standing and not be forced "to rely upon other means for social recognition," but he objects to our allowing unaffiliated Master Masons to remain members of the Chapter, and notices us in this way:

"He endorses the position of Texas in allowing non-affiliated Master Masons to remain members of Chapters, which we think is wrong, as it only encourages the rapid climb and then the repudiation of the ladder; besides, there should be no encouragement whatever extended to non-affiliates except the proper encouragement to stay with the Order in full or get entirely out of it and surrender all claims upon it. These half Masons and half profanes we do not admire, neither do we feel under any more moral obligations to one who tries to hold his claims upon the Order and yet fails to do his part in maintaining the foundation of the system, than we do to the entirely profane who never assumed any obligations. We regret that so good and wise a Masonic writer should endorse such a go-as-you-please, slip-shod style."

He expresses opposition to the idea beginning to be prevalent, that re-installation need not follow re-election, and adds:

"Just as well neglect to re-elect satisfactory officers as to neglect to re-install them after they have been re-elected. If a majority of the Lodge or Chapter is satisfied with the officers, why not entertain a motion to indefinitely postpone the whole matter and thus in a lazy way get rid of so much trouble?"

We have long thought as he expresses in the following:

"Our idea is that Chapters U. D. have, or ought to have, all the rights of Chartered Chapters, except that of permanency, which should be decided, and in fact is decided, by the Grand Chapter after they have shown specimens of their work; and as we consider the proper choice of material and the correct working of it into the Capitular building by far the most important function exercised by either Chartered Chapters or Chapters U. D., it is to our mind an absurdity to refuse a Chapter U. D. the right to purge itself of a bad stick when found in its circle, and yet leave it with full

authority to work upon others. If these ideas were adopted in all Jurisdictions the discussion would end and the muddles that Committees on Jurisprudence get themselves into would be dried up."

We have never seen the ideas herein expressed, but because of the neatness and apparent clearness with which this is done, we copy :

"In ancient days no organization, either social, religious or secular, could exist without the authority of some one who enjoyed the 'divine right of kings to rule,' and to a very large extent Masonry in all its branches has ever been under the Royal wing and prospered or failed in proportion to favors extended. In our modern organizations greater liberality has been shown, and even the principle of the 'consent of the governed' has been recognized as the basis for the exercise of governmental powers; hence, the mixture of the two theories in Masonic laws. Our sympathy is with the thought that the first source of all power is the unit, the single Companion, then the delegation, the Chapter, the Grand Chapter, etc.; but we must admit that so far as we know, all Masonic authority comes the other way and is held and guaranteed by Charter voluntarily granted from power more or less ancient and universally acknowledged to have the right to grant such authority."

QUEBEC—16TH ANNUAL, JANUARY, 1893.

We are informed by M. E. Albert D. Nelson, Grand Z. of this Grand Chapter, that the "membership is about as heretofore, though I think a great deal more interest has been shown throughout the Jurisdiction." The (Grand Secretary) Grand Scribe Ezra, tabulates the Chapters as 11; membership, 425; showing a loss of five. If, however, the G. Z. is correct in thinking that there is now "a greater interest" shown than formerly, there is no doubt of the eventual revival of interest among the Brethren, and a sure and steady increase of numbers in the future. For where the membership is tame and indifferent, anxiety to become a member must certainly cease and fail to become operative. We regret to see that there was a loss for last year, the gain was but trifling. Yet if this stimulates those remaining to fresh zeal, the result will be consoling. From the reports of the Grand Superintendents, there appears to be unfinished work on hand, which remains in that state because of the smallness of reliable attendance. This should not be, and would not be, if proper zeal were displayed by the members, and a full appreciation of the beauty, sublimity and symbolism of the Degree were displayed.

A Resolution was adopted requiring the Grand Superintendents of Districts to visit all the Chapters in his District "and instruct them in the work." This is a most excellent move, and will doubtless stimulate them to renewed life and activity.

Companion Joseph Mitchell, Grand Scribe E., who had been the Secretary for six years, announced that he could not longer attend to the duties of the office, whereupon a Committee was appointed to present that officer with a suitable testimonial in recognition of his services.

Companion E. R. Johnson was elected Grand Z., but before installation, was called to membership in the Supreme Grand Chapter above, in consequence of which fact the late G. Z.,

Albert D. Nelson, remains Grand Z.

Will. H. White, Montreal, G. Sec'y.

Heavily, indeed, has the hand of affliction been laid on our Sister of Quebec, having been called to mourn the loss of her chosen chief, and also of her Third Principal Grand J., within a few months of their election.

The Report on Correspondence is from the ready pen of Companion E. T. D. Chambers, who furnished a fair review a second time, the first having been destroyed by fire while going through the press. A glowing and well merited tribute is paid by him to the memory of the officers named above.

Alabama receives full notice.

SOUTH CAROLINA—82ND ANNUAL, FEBRUARY, 1893.

This sister of ours has been struggling for some few years past, and seems even yet not fully to have recovered her wonted activity and growth, but her altars still burn, and we hope in the near future to hear of her increased and increasing prosperity. Her Chapters number 18, while the membership reaches 653, thus giving a fair average to each. We have no means of ascertaining the growth last year, as we have no detailed statement, nor had we the Proceedings of 1892. But taking the past two years together, and we find that it was about 33 per annum. Peace and harmony have prevailed, and no grievances appear to mar this condition. In two instances there appear to have been spasmodic efforts to revive dormant Chapters, but without effect.

The work of this old Jurisdiction, we learn from Grand High Priest W. H. Withenow, was most different from that of the General Grand Chapter, and the work as promulgated by it was adopted, and being in cipher, uniformity and harmony will doubtless result.

The treasury balance, though small, is still an increasing one. This is also a good sign.

The Grand Chapter assembled at 12 m., on the 14th, and closed at 10 a. m., presumably, on the 15th, yet the Record shows but one period of refreshment, that between the morning and evening session. We hope, however, that it did not continue all night.

W. H. Withenow, Winsboro, G. H. P.

J. E. Burke, Charleston, G. Sec'y.

There is no Report on Correspondence, the space being occupied by the "Digest of the Decisions of the General Grand Chapter."

SOUTH DAKOTA—4TH ANNUAL, JUNE, 1893.

With the photo-type of the retiring Grand High Priest, Edward B. Bracy, who opened and presided over this Convocation, this pamphlet comes ornamented. He tells us that "from every part of this Grand Jurisdiction comes cheering accounts of the prosperity of the Craft," whose numbers now reach 1,426, with a gain of 121, the Chapters being 26.

He granted Dispensations for two new Chapters, both of which were found worthy of Charters.

He granted a few Dispensations for other purposes, among which were three "to ballot upon petitions without waiting the prescribed time," and declared that "such infraction of the law on the part of the Grand High Priest, instead of being an abuse, is a beneficence, and he should not be expected to apologize for this necessary part of his official labors." But the Grand Chapter, though it approves these particular acts, says:

"The approval of his action, but must reiterate our disapproval of a violation of Section 10 of Article 2 of the By-Laws of this Grand Chapter. We believe the unqualified approval of the Dispensation granted, to establish a hazardous precedent."

He recommended the adoption of the Ritual of the General Grand Chapter, but thinks the caution of that General Grand Body utterly useless.

Most properly does he rebuke unseemly frivolity in conferring the Degrees.

The Grand Chapter of Victoria was duly recognized and welcomed, and congratulations were extended to that of West Virginia, upon her joining with the General Grand.

There were no grievances to adjust or appeals to be settled.

Robert T. Sedam, St. Lawrence, G. H. P.
Geo. A. Pettigrew, Flandreau, G. Sec'y.

Companion Pettigrew made the Report on Correspondence, including in it the Proceedings of Alabama, for 1892. He credits another member of the Committee with perhaps half of the Report.

It is well for those who live in glass houses not to throw stones, as we see how like circumstances produce like results. In South Dakota, the law prohibits the granting of Dispensations, except as provided for, while in Alabama the prerogatives accorded to a Grand Master are also allowed to a Grand High Priest, notwithstanding the prohibition, such we see were granted and approved in South Dakota, yet he objects to the exercise of the same powers in Alabama, though his advice is good, and should be heeded:

"Granted, several Dispensations, among them two (2) to act on petitions waiving Constitutional time.

It seems to us that if you have a law, it should be lived up to—when material is brought up for inspection it should be duly examined, and when candidates appear for the Sublime Capitular Degrees, their character and standing should be scrutinized thoroughly, to see if they are worthy of being admitted within the Vails. This can only be done by permitting the Constitutional time to elapse, in order that due examination be had of the fitness of the material under inspection.

Make haste slowly, Companions, it pays better in the long run."

The writer of the Alabama Report quoted the exact language of the General Grand Chapter on the subject of aprons, and this said "cotton or linen will not do." Better luck next time, Companion, for now adieu.

TENNESSEE—64TH ANNUAL, JANUARY, 1893.

We know of no truism more perfect than that uttered by Grand High Priest John B. Garrett, in the opening of his Address, when he said, "I have found from personal experience that the most flourishing Masonic Bodies are those who promptly collect their dues." This has been our observation, also, yet Secretaries will be remiss, unless the High Priest will personally see to the proper enforcement of the By-Laws.

We find him refusing Dispensations for acting out of time, and in each instance the application assigned no reasons, or such as were not sufficient to warrant such exercise of power.

He granted Dispensation for the formation of one new Chapter, which was chartered at this Convocation.

Chapters, 59; R. A. Masons, 2,472; gain, 95.

Announcing the completion of the Home, he urged the donation of as much as could be spared from the revenues, and the sum of three hundred dollars was appropriated.

John T. Williamson, Columbia, G. H. P.

W. A. Clendening, Nashville, G. Sec'y.

Companion G. C. Connor prepared the Report on Correspondence, in which Alabama does not appear. This, we greatly regret, for though, an acute and searching critic, and unsparing as to faults and foibles, yet his work is always most courteously done, and Brotherly love shines throughout. We have known him in other correspondence, and have learned to love him for his worth and evident gentleness of character, and his true Masonic love pervading his reports. He is a Past Grand Master, and has visited many European Lodges and traversed the Holy Land. This has made much of what he has written both interesting and instructive.

He deploras "the tendency in Masonic Bodies to increase membership by the introduction of new and green material at the expense of the old and seasoned."

He states that the Mark Lodge of England "has little, if any relation to R. A. Masonry, either in England or America," "and its interest is in no wise like unto the Mark Degree of the United States."

We had marked a goodly number of passages from this interesting Report, but being desirous of giving you his condensed history of the journey of the children on their return from captivity at Baby-

lon, believing that it will prove instructive and enable you Companions "to appreciate the beautiful, instructive and profound ceremonies of the Holy Royal Arch, we are forced to forego any allusion to them, lest we become too prolix. We now copy it without curtailment, lest we injure its influence:

THE HOLY ROYAL ARCH.

Pride and Haughtiness are among the chief curses inherited by humanity. Man's first duty might well be discharged in an act of humility. It is meet that we should continually humble ourselves before God, but there does not appear to be any special mortification of the flesh in bowing the neck to the Creator, since it is to infinite superiority.

To bow the stiffened neck to one's equal, and possible inferior, is the most crushing demand that can be made on our nature. Cheerfully will we walk under the arch of the heavens, for He who formed it is God, but with keenest mortification do we bow our heads and walk under the arches formed by our living associates. Ah, yes! He that humbleth himself shall be exalted. Hence, humility is a necessary preparation for the blessings of exaltation.

The foundation of that remarkable nation that occupied the country along the eastern shore of the Mediterranean, which they conquered from the Canaanites, was laid when the angel called to Moses out of the Burning Bush, while he was keeping the flocks of the Midian priest, his father-in-law. From that day the Hebrews became "the chosen people!" When they escaped from their slavery, they established themselves in the fertile plains of Canaan.

This nomadic tribe, originally pastoral, but coming into a knowledge of architecture, by their enforced labors in Egypt, builded then a chief city on the very edge of the loftiest tableland of the country they so gallantly conquered to themselves. It was known as Mount Salem. In that city their great King David chose the threshing floor of the ancient Ornan, the Jebusite, which was on the low eminence called Mount Moriah, as the site of a Temple for the worship of the One God of Israel.

Although David collected the larger portion of the expensive materials for the construction of that sanctuary, he, being a man of blood, was not permitted to erect it. To his wise son, Solomon, was this sacred task entrusted, and, assisted by his friend, the Tyrian King, Hiram, completed the magnificent structure in due time.

Solomon died, and his vicious son, Rehoboam, drove ten of the tribes into rebellion, and finally into secession. Only Judah and Benjamin remained in possession of Judea, Jerusalem and its treasures. The other tribes selected Samaria as their chief city, and finally built them a Temple on Mount Gerizim. The separation was complete and final.

After Nebuchadnezzar conquered Samaria, there removed to that city and country many colonists from Babylon, and other Chaldean towns, who became known as Samaritans also, and who brought with them their idolatrous religions. The races thus commingled, soon mixed their religions, and the Samaritans came to be shunned by the Judeans as idolatrous. It is not to be understood, however, that all the Israelites abandoned their ancient religion, though it is probable a great many did. Yet, because of the defection, and the association with the idolatrous, the Judeans looked upon the Samaritans as polluting, and therefore permitted no association with them.

Just four hundred and sixteen years after the dedication of the Temple by Solomon, the war-like monarch, Nebuchadnezzar, sent his great captain, Nebuzaradan, to besiege Jerusalem, and the result of the siege, which lasted during eighteen bitter months, is recorded in II Chronicles xxxvi:11-20. It fell into the hands of the Chaldeans B. C. 588, and the famous Temple of Solomon passed into history.

Eighteen years of what is known as the "Seventy Years' Captivity," had passed, when Nebuzaradan led the Jewish captives to his master, who was then camped at Riblah. Zedekiah, their wicked King, was already there, having been captured while trying to escape during the siege. Jehoiachin, who had been deposed to make way for Zedekiah, whom Nebuchadnezzar appointed King, and the High Priest, Seraiah, the three rulers of the Temple, and many rulers of the Jews, were among the mighty hosts of prisoners which the captor led unto Nebuchadnezzar.

The effeminate Belshazzar was King of the Chaldeans; and he reigned in the great city of Babylon, or rather, his mother, Nitocris, reigned for him, B. C. 533. Cyrus, King of Persia, and Darius, King of Media, swooped down upon the wonderful city, whose lofty

brick walls were pierced with twenty-five gates of molten brass, and whose summits were adorned with two hundred and fifty towers, and captured the same, after a persistent and stubborn defense. A mighty ditch, lined with bricks, surrounded the walls on the outside, and the river Euphrates flowed diagonally through the city from north to south, while magnificent streets stretched out from the brazen gates and terminated in six hundred and seventy-six splendid squares, each over two miles in circumferences. The double walls, eighty-seven feet thick, two hundred and fifty feet high, and sixty miles long, were impregnable, hence, the starving method was adopted by the besiegers. The course of the Euphrates was changed, and it no longer filled the ditch, or supplied the inhabitants with water. Stratagem overcame all resistance, and Belshazzar was surprised by the invaders on a feast day, while in the midst of a debauch. The Chaldean power was crushed forever.

The consolidating of the empire of the Medes and Persians, under Cyrus, made that warlike monarch their supreme ruler. Cyrus was kindly affected to the captive Israelites, and in the first year after the fall of the Assyrian power he ordered the liberation of the entire captivity. His decree is given in Ezra i: 1-3. Just what the motives were that prompted this decree of manumission can not be certainly related, but it is generally claimed that they were entirely pious. Indeed that opinion is strengthened by his decree for the rebuilding of the Temple, which is found in Chronicles and Ezra. And strange enough that very decree was the beginning of what we now call Judaism.

Shealtiel was dead, and Zerubbabel, his son, was the Prince of the House of Judah. He and Sheshbazzar organized the liberated people for their, as far as possible, safe return to Jerusalem. The roads they had to travel were bad in the extreme, the armies of the invaders having destroyed almost their semblance. Cities along the way lay in ruins, food and water were exceedingly scarce. Nevertheless, the journey began, and after much suffering the main body came in sight of Mount Zion, B. C. 535, four months having passed in the journey.

Jerusalem reached, the High Priest, who was chief of the theocracy, at once began preparations for the rebuilding of the Temple and city. He was assisted by the Crown Prince Zerubbabel and by the Prophet Haggai, whom modern usage calls Scribe. They

built houses for the workmen, and a temporary tabernacle near the ruins of the Temple. There this council of three made drawings, and issued instructions to the workmen.

Tradition relates that three important personages, descendants of the Giblemites, were detained in Babylon, and did not begin the journey to the ancient city for some months after the first deportation. The principal of those three sojourners is said to have given the following relation of the incidents of that wearisome journey :

Companions, it was the God of our fathers who put it into the heart of the great Cyrus to set us free, and this morning we can turn our backs upon the beautiful valley, and its splendid city of abominations, where we have been so long held as captives. Through the magnanimity of the new sovereign we are now permitted to return to Mount Zion, and to the desolated plains of Judea.

Let us three, who have been delayed in this undertaking, begin the journey with hopeful, thankful hearts. We have taken our harps from off the willows, and soon will sing the songs of Zion, when we will be no longer strangers in a foreign land. Let us move joyfully away !

We now cross the great ditch by which Cyrus changed the course of the Euphrates, causing it to flow outside the walls, instead of through the city, thus depriving the residents of water. And it was through the gate of that dry channel that the army of Cyrus entered Babylon, and surprised Belshazzar, and his court, in the midst of a drunken debauch.

At the beginning of this undertaking, and while remembering the long suffering of Jehovah, who is the author of our deliverance, let us kneel at this altar which our captive Brethren did build, offer up our thanksgiving, and invoke his protection and guidance in the perilous journey that is before us. !

Refreshed by prayer, let us arise and pursue our weary way. Our course lies along the Euphrates, the same road that was trodden by those whom Nebuzaradan carried away when he made Jerusalem desolate, and destroyed the Temple of Israel's God. There will be little danger until we near the desert, whose dry winds from off the scorching sands may parch our tongues and fill our hearts with anguish. But our trust is in God, and he will never forsake us.

We are now in sight of that level desolation of sand called the Arabian Desert. Let us move on, still seeking the aid of Him who alone is able to protect us during the passage of all the perils that are before us.

Having had our hearts strengthened by recalling the protecting care of the past, we will begin the passage of the rough and rugged way now at hand.....! Let us move over them with great carefulness lest our feet be lacerated, and in feebleness we fall by the way. Having safely passed that dangerous place, we may take courage for the road that I am told grows rougher, and more dangerous, as we advance. Lo, here is a specially perilous place, and over it we must pass with greater caution.....!

Thanks be unto God who hath given us the victory, and brought us unscathed out of all these dangers. Beyond an occasional sorrow there is nothing now to fear until we cross the river and enter the desert.

We are now in the desert, but our supply of water is sufficient to bring us without suffering to ancient Tadmor. Ah! yonder it stands, rising in snowy whiteness out of the groves of palms that cover the oasis which reposes so securely in this vast ocean of sand. We can almost hear the voice of laughter, and the singing of the birds. Now we are there, and the greensward is cooling to our heated sandals, and the moist air to our parched throats. Ere we enter its gates let us again bow, and return thanks for our protection.....!

Let us arise, and halt not, even in this beautiful city. It is a score of miles from here back to the Euphrates, but as we passed the desert waste that lies between in safety we need not fear for the shorter distance that lies between us and the valley in which stands Riblah.

At last the dangers of the desert are passed, and we have reached Riblah, city of darkest memories to our people. Here Nebuzar-adan delivered the captives to his master, King Nebuchadnezzar. Here that same wicked king had our High Priest Seraiah and the seventy rulers put to death. Here that same monarch first put the children of our own king to death in his presence, and then put out his eyes. Let us not linger amid such memories, but hasten away.

And now while descending the valley of the Leontes let us feast our eyes upon the scenery of glorious Lebanon, in whose forests

resounded the crash of falling timbers, the gift of King Hiram, and which were hewn into timbers for the Temple of our God.

We are now in the midst of these glories. Let us kneel again, and having rendered all praise to God, once more supplicate his guidance.....!

Arise and we will hasten forward to gaze upon the ruins of our ancient city. Soon we will be at the Jordan, and then pass through the clay grounds of Zaradatha, where the great Pillars were cast.

At last! At last! Yonder is Jerusalem, city of the Most High, whose splendors we have never forgotten. Alas! thy walls are broken down, and thy Temple is a heap of ruins. The olive waves above thy desolation, emblem of the hopes of thy restoration. Now we can sing the songs of Zion, for we no longer dwell in a strange land. Behold, we hasten to lofty Mount Moriah, to kiss the ruins of the former greatness of our people.

Here are the ruins, and in their midst is a curtained building that recalls the tabernacle of the wilderness. There is work going on beyond it. Surely this must be the abode of those whom Cyrus sent hither to rebuild the city, and the Temple of our God. Let us go up and offer our services to this noble and glorious work.

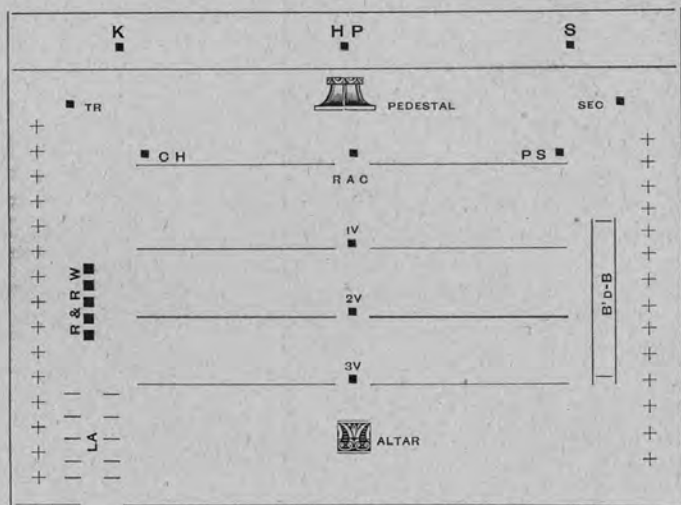
The antipathy which the Judeans felt toward the Samaritans was increased rather than diminished by the captivity. When those of Samaria who had remained loyal to Mosaism offered their assistance to the returned Judeans in rebuilding the Temple they were scorned in these bitter words: 'Ye have nothing to do with us to build an house unto our God.' This answer enraged the Samaritans, and from that day they annoyed the builders, and went so far as to attempt fraudulent entrance among the recognized workmen. To prevent such entrance precautions were necessary, and all artisans applying for employment were required to trace their genealogy to the tribes of Judah and Benjamin. Indeed the requirement went further. Each applicant, it is said, was required to trace his lineage back to those faithful stone masons who came from the town of Gebal, that once famous rendezvous of stone-squarers and architects, and who aided in the erection of the first Temple. These Giblemites were Phoenecians, and it is probable that those who worked so long on the Temple of Solomon had abandoned the worship of Adonis, and in its stead adopted Mosaism. The tracing of lineage to Gebal would not be sufficient, unless it ended with those artisans of that town who actually wrought on the first Temple.

The three famous Giblemites, to whose tardy return to Jerusalem we have alluded, passed the necessary examination, carefully traced their lineage, and having passed through the outposts of the tabernacle in which sat Joshua, High Priest, and his associates, the Crown Prince and the Prophet, were given employment. As a test of their skill, for mere lineage did not impart skill, they were set to work clearing away the debris that concealed the northeast corner of the Temple. They had not labored many days when they made discoveries that astounded even the Council itself.

The foregoing will be of material assistance to those who have not the leisure to investigate the events upon which the Holy Royal Arch is founded. It will aid many to lay aside some romantic notions they may have imbibed in concluding the ceremonials of that sublime Degree. It will explain the mode of entrance, and what constitutes the journey from Babylon to Jerusalem—a ceremony more ridiculously abused than any other known to this Committee. It will eject from the ceremonials the levity, rudeness and ignorance that make the work of the Royal Arch, in some places, a mere burlesque. It will aid in impressing High Priests with the true solemnities of the degree, and will prompt them to suppress those Companions who see only the ludicrous in all things Ritualistic. Such Companions are a horror to this Committee, and its Chairman earnestly prays for the early dawn of the day when the ceremonies of the Royal Arch will be as solemnly conducted, from beginning to end, as are the most tender observances of a church.

A ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

The following diagram will be of value to those of our High Priests who may be in doubt as to the proper array of the chamber for the opening and conferring of the Holy Royal Arch:



The symbolic color of the Royal Arch is scarlet. The clothing and badge of a Royal Arch Mason are: An apron made of white lambskin bound with scarlet, on the flap of which is the triple tau within a triangle, and these within a circle; and a jewel, which is a double triangle within a circle, and a triple tau within a triangle, and these surrounded by a circle.

These constitute the complete clothing of a Companion of the Royal Arch. If each Companion would provide himself with the same, he would more fully equip himself for work and visiting.

"*Nil Nisi Clavis Deest.*"—Nothing is wanting except the key!

A scarlet ribbon suspends the jewel from the left breast.

THE ROUTE OF THE CAPTIVES.

Nebuzaradan led away the captives from Jerusalem to his master, Nebuchadnezzar, who lay encamped at the ancient city of Riblah. They took the road that ran by Lake Gennesaret, water being an all important necessity of the melancholy journey, and continued northward to the exquisitely beautiful valley of the Leontes, a valley over one hundred miles long and only eight miles wide at the

broadest place. It was a valley almost literally flowing with milk and honey.

But there never was constructed a decent highway in Palestine until the Romans built their great road from Jerusalem, crossing the Jordan near Jericho, and continuing almost in sight of the desert, to Damascus. Hence, the poor captives toiled on with bleeding feet, their animals suffering from the bad roads, and the strong men scarcely able to endure their mortification and their sufferings. Not until the valley of Leontes was reached, was there the slightest rift in the cloud of their despair. Anti-Lebanon Mountains stretched out to join Mount Hermon on the right, and the tall, stately Mountains of Lebanon bounded the valley on the left. The Leontes flowed down this valley, spreading fertility and beauty all the way. The most desperate despair, however, cannot resist the beauties of the Creator's handiwork, and sorrow for a moment was partially laid aside.

The first glow of pleasure past, the weary captives lifted their eyes to the tall summits of Lebanon to recall that the cedars of their beloved Temple came from these mountains, the gift of the monarch whose country lay beyond and along the great sea they might never behold again. And then they remembered Zion, and the ruins of the house of the Lord. Onward they plodded, driven by the lash of the conquerer, their lacerated feet, keen distress and deep mortification affording the soldiers of Nebuzaradan the most exquisite pleasure. At last Baalbec was reached, the great city of the sun, builded upon rising ground, and watered with innumerable springs and fountains. It is probable the captives were rested there for recuperation, as not less than thirty days must have passed since they descended from the tableland of Jerusalem.

Leaving Baalbec (Greek *Heliopolis*), they journeyed due north to Riblah, where they arrived after a toilsome march, for the roads, wretched at best, had been badly cut up by the several armies that had moved along them. At Riblah they found the Chaldean King. That city had been the headquarters of the Babylonian Kings in their attacks upon Palestine and Tyre, and here Nebuchadnezzar awaited the success of the attack upon Jerusalem. It was not a remarkable city outside these associations. It stood on the east bank of the Orontes, that famous river which flowed by Antioch to the sea.

Some have expressed the opinion that the captives were returned to Damascus, and that they crossed the desert to the Euphrates as a special punishment. Other enthusiasts seem to believe that the cap-

tors had chains forged with triangular links to manacle the captives, as a special indignity. There is no authority whatever for either story. Nor is it known that Nebuchadnezzar had any desire to specially humiliate his captives. His ambition was to make Babylon the Capital of the East, and thither he carried the captives that he made in all nations. That he used the Jews reasonably well, is demonstrated by his allowing them to have their own elders, and to be governed by their own rulers.

The captives again took up their weary tramp, traveling north-westward to Tadmor (Palmyra), passing through a narrow neck of the Arabian Desert. They found Tadmor in the center of a fertile, well-watered oasis, covered with palms, which suggested the name of the city, "The City of Palm Trees." There they halted to refresh themselves, and secure supplies of food and water. They were now at a point half way between the Orontes and the Euphrates, and the principal depot between the Mediterranean coast and the interior of the continent of Asia. And Tadmor formed a glorious picture in that boundless desert. The numerous columns of white marble rising out of the green oasis contrasted strongly with the low, level waste of sand.

The next halt was on the banks of the Euphrates, after another thirsty march through the ocean of sand. The river was crossed, and the journey continued down through Babylonia, on the eastern side of the river. They passed Aneth, Cunazza, and finally sat down in the far-famed valley, in the middle of which arose Babylon, the wonder of the world.

Babylon (Shinar) was then in the zenith of its glory, and was the metropolis of the East. Nebuchadnezzar had made it the wonderful place that it was. He had finished the Temple of Belus, which stood on the supposed site of the tower of Babel; had builded the enormous structure on which he planted the garden that gave rise to the legend of "hanging gardens," and erected several enormous palaces. The city was enclosed by double walls, averaging two hundred and fifty feet high, and the Euphrates flowed diagonally through it, in the general direction of north and south. In this valley the captives found many of their own people, carried there by various invasions of Palestine. And during fifty-two years they tilled the rich soil so well watered by the Euphrates and the Tigris (it is probable the Euphrates did not run into the Tigris at that period), continued the buildings within the walls, and

built neighboring cities and temples. They were slaves, but governed by their own judges, elders and rulers.

G. C. CONNOR,
Chairman.

G. C. CONNOR,
T. C. LIND,
J. W. N. BURKETT,
Committee.

CHATTANOOGA, January 1, 1893.

TEXAS—43RD ANNUAL, DECEMBER, 1892.

The Proceedings of this Convocation are of peculiar interest, because of the invitation of the General Grand Chapter for this Grand Chapter to renew its connection with that Grand Body, severed in 1861. Grand High Priest John McDonald, after laying before the Grand Chapter the letter of the General Grand High Priest, David F. Day, of date December 2, 1890, says: "I feel it to be my duty to recommend that the M. E. Grand Chapter of Texas shall renew its allegiance to the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America." At a later period of the session, a Committee from the General Grand Chapter visited the Grand Chapter, were introduced, and after making known the object of their visit, and its consideration being postponed to the following day, retired. The whole matter was then referred to a Committee who made majority and minority reports of great length, each reviewing the entire field. These reports, after some discussion, were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed together with a minority report of 1878, for the information of the Craft. It seems probable that when another report shall have been written of Texas, the writer will announce that she is one of our great and now harmonious family. At least, the indications point that way.

The Grand High Priest says:

"We have in our Jurisdiction one hundred and ninety Subordinate Chapters, with a total membership of about five thousand, composed of the very best, purest and strongest men in every community. We ought to exert a powerful influence in the cause of temperance and Christian civilization.

The membership is 5,120, and the gain 281.

He issued Dispensations for two new Chapters, and three received Charters. We also find that several heretofore dormant were awakened to life and activity. Grand High Priest refers rather gloomily to the annually decreasing balance in the hands of the Treasurer.

The general business of the Grand Chapter was local in its character, save only that heretofore spoken of.

S. J. Morriss, Atlanta, G. H. P.

Robt. Brewster, Houston, G. Sec'y.

Companion Geo. Lopas, Jr., produced the Report on Correspondence, in lieu of Companion J. C. Kidd, as heretofore, because of the sickness of the latter. He informs us that he undertakes the task with "fear and trembling." This we should not have inferred had we not been so informed. Alabama for 1891 received due notice. Referring to the Dispensations for conferring the Degrees out of time, and the report of the committee that they considered them of "doubtful propriety," he says:

"The necessity of such Dispensations might be avoided by amending the Constitution so as to allow 'time to be dispensed with by unanimous vote of the Chapter.' Texas has such a clause in her constitution."

Well, the report is bright and sparkling throughout, and we see no reason for the gloomy forebodings of his conclusions. Cheer, Companion, cheer up, and having done your duty conscientiously, leave the rest to your loving Companions.

"CONCLUSION.

It being the sixth hour of the sixth day of the week, we fall into the procession and bring our work up for inspection. So many beautiful designs have been on our trestle board, that we have spent our time in admiring them, and now realize that our rough ashlar will fall far short of the beauty and symmetry which could have been given to it by a more skilful craftsman. If it is received, we shall be happy; if rejected, we can not complain. Perhaps, on account of its singular form, certainly not on account of its beauty, it may be permitted to pass. That it may be found worthy to occupy an humble place in the great superstructure, is our most ardent desire."

WEST VIRGINIA—22ND ANNUAL, NOVEMBER, 1892.

This was the first Convocation of this Grand Chapter held since its incorporation into the family of the General Grand Chapter. A Resolution looking to this end had been passed, of which you have been notified, by these Reports appointing a Committee "to take such steps as are necessary to effect the admission of this Grand Chapter as a constituent of the General Grand Chapter of the United States," and the result was the full incorporation with the other Grand Chapters.

G. . H. . P. . Braxton W. Gibson issued one Dispensation for a new Chapter and this was Chartered at this Convocation.

With other G. . H. . Priests he is troubled with the unseemly conduct of Companions while conferring some parts of the R. . A. . Degree, and thinks it "misplaced amusement by mistimed roughness." Too true, alas, too true!

There are 19 Chapters, of which 14 made reports, showing a membership of 836, and gain of 69.

John W. Morris, Wheeling, G. H. P.

Odel S. Long, Charleston, G. Sec'y.

There was no report on Correspondence.

Having reviewed as succinctly as possible such proceedings as have been received from the Grand Secretary, the Committee respectfully submits the result of its labors with a full faith and confidence in the kind disposition of its Companions.

PALMER J. PILLANS, Chairman,
for the Committee.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG, GRAND SECRETARY,

In account with the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

1892.

DR.

Dec. 9.	To amount received from Geo. A. Joiner...	\$ 645 50
	To " " for Gr. Chapter Certif....	3 00
	To " " for Dispensations.....	180 00
Nov. 29.	To " Dues collected to date.....	202 85—\$1,031 35

CR.

By amount paid W. H. Dingley, Gr. Treasurer, as per vouchers numbered from 1 to 3.....\$1,031 35—\$1,031 35

CONTINGENT FUND.

DR.

To balance on hand from 1892	\$ 25 12
To cash.....	150 00—\$ 175 12

1893.

CR.

Mar. 27.	By amount paid Brown & Co.....	150 75
	By " " Postage.....	10 00
April 18.	By " " Postage.....	5 00
	By " " Brown Printing Co.....	6 00
	By " cash in office.....	3 37—\$ 175 12

GRAND TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

WM. H. DINGLEY, GRAND TREASURER,

In account with the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

1892.		DR.	
Dec. 5.	To balance.....	\$730	97
10.	Received from Grand Secretary.....	645	50
Sept. 22.	" " " "	183	00
Nov. 29.	" " " "	202	85—\$1,762 32
1892.		CR.	
Dec. 6.	By Grand Chaplain (1)	13	70
	Committee on Work—W. S. Foster (2).....	23	00
	" "Corresp'nce—P. J. Pillans (3)	100	00
	" "Work—J. H. Johnson (4).....	15	00
	" "Work—H. C. Armstrong (5)	25	00
	Grand Sentinel.....	25	00
	C. A. Allen, expense	9	60
	Grand Secretary—G. A. Joiner.....	167	00
1893.			
Jan. 7.	Otto Stoelker.....	100	00
26.	Contingent Fund.....	150	00
	Grand Treasurer.....	50	00
	Mrs. M. J. Greene.....	233	00
April 1.	Grand Secretary, salary 1st Quarter.....	125	00
June 8.	" " " 2nd "	125	00
	" " " 3rd and 4th Quar.	250	00—\$1,411 30
Balance		\$	351 02

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Alabama:

Your Committee on Finance have carefully examined the accounts and vouchers of R. E. Grand Secretary, H. Clay Armstrong and the Grand Treasurer, William H. Dingley, which we have found correct. We beg to tender the following report:

We find that the R. E. Grand Treasurer had a
balance on hand of.....\$ 730 97
Received from Grand Secretary..... 1,031 35
Making a total of.....\$1,762 32
He has expended as per vouchers 1,411 30
Leaving a balance on hand to date of..... \$ 351 02
We find that the R. E. Grand Secretary has paid to
the R. E. Grand Treasurer:

To amount Dues\$ 645 50
For Grand Chapter Certificates..... 3 00
For Dispensations..... 180 00
Dues collected to date (Nov. 29)..... 202 85

Making a total of..... \$1,031 35
Contingent fund for 1892.....\$ 25 12
" " " 1893..... 150 00—\$ 175 12
By amount paid Brown & Co..... 150 75
" " Postage 10 00
" " " 5 00
" " Brown Printing Co..... 6 00
Cash on hand Nov. 30..... 3 37—\$ 175 12

We recommend the following appropriations:

To Committee on Work.....\$ 75 00
Grand Chaplain..... 21 50
Committee on Foreign Correspondence..... 75 00
Grand Secretary's salary, payable monthly..... 600 00
" " Contingent fund..... 150 00
" " for two Charters..... 20 00
Sentinel..... 25 00
" Expenses this Convocation 7 80
Treasurer..... 50 00

Total \$1,024 30

Fraternally submitted,

SIMON KLOTZ, Chairman,
C. R. BRICKEN.

NAME AND NUMBER OF CHAPTERS MAKING RETURNS,
With the number of Members returned, Amount of Dues paid to the
Grand Chapter, and the number of those Advanced, Presided,
Received and Accepted, Exalted, Affiliated, Rejected and DIMIT-
ted since last return:

Chapter No.	NAMES OF CHAPTERS	No. of Members.	Am't of Dues.	Advanced.	Presided.	Rec'd and Ac'ed	Exalted.	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimited.
4	Monroe.....	27	\$20 25	3	3	3	3	..	..	..
5	Eunomia.....	24	18 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10	Tuscumbia.....	25	18 75	3	3	3	3	..	..	1
19	Mt. Moriah.....	39	29 25	2	2	2	2	..	1	..
20	Livingston.....	12	9 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21	Mobile.....	49	36 75	5	5	9	9	..	..	..
22	Montgomery.....	52	39 00	6	6	6	8	..	..	..
23	Talladega.....	51	38 25	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
24	Eufaula.....	42	31 50	7	8	8	9	2	..	..
26	Union.....	25	18 75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
28	St. Johns.....	53	39 75	1	1	1	3	1	..	2
32	Fulton.....	25	18 75	5	5	5	5	..	..	..
37	Concord.....	16	10 50	2	2	2	2	..	..	..
38	Decatur.....	40	30 00	2	2	2	2	1	..	..
40	Camden.....	12	9 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
48	*McKinley.....	16	12 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
54	Tyrian.....	52	39 00	3	3	3	..	1	..	..
56	Zerubbabel.....	13	9 75	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
57	Collinsville.....	15	11 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
62	Rockford.....	15	11 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
63	Clayton.....	24	18 00	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
64	Central.....	28	21 00	3	3	3	3	..	..	8
71	Landmark.....	19	14 25	3	3	3	3	..	..	..
73	Gordon.....	16	12 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
76	Elyton.....	20	15 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
79	Hillabee.....	20	15 00	3	3	3	3	..	..	2
80	Myles J. Greene.....	19	14 25	7	7	6	6	..	..	..
83	Bell.....	10	7 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
85	Gaston.....	29	21 75	1	1	1	2	..	..	1
86	Coosa.....	45	33 75	3	3	3	3	..	..	2
88	Springville.....	26	19 50	3	3	3	3	..	..	1
92	Notasulga.....	18	13 50	2	2	1	..	..	..	..
96	Daniel Pratt.....	12	9 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
99	Thos. M. Bragg.....	31	23 25	9	10	10	9	1	..	..
100	*Rock Mills.....	18	13 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
101	Mineral City.....	125	93 75	11	12	14	14	2	..	13
102	Piedmont.....	23	17 25	3	3	3	3	..	..	1
105	*Anniston.....	28	21 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
106	Graham.....	15	11 25	1	1	1	..	..	..	..
107	*Fort Payne.....	25	18 75	3	3	3	3	..	..	..
108	†Pratt City.....	26	.....	14	14	14	14	..	..	..
109	†Blocton.....	19	.....	9	9	9	9	..	..	..

*Working under Dispensation—No Dues.

†Paid Dues for 1892.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

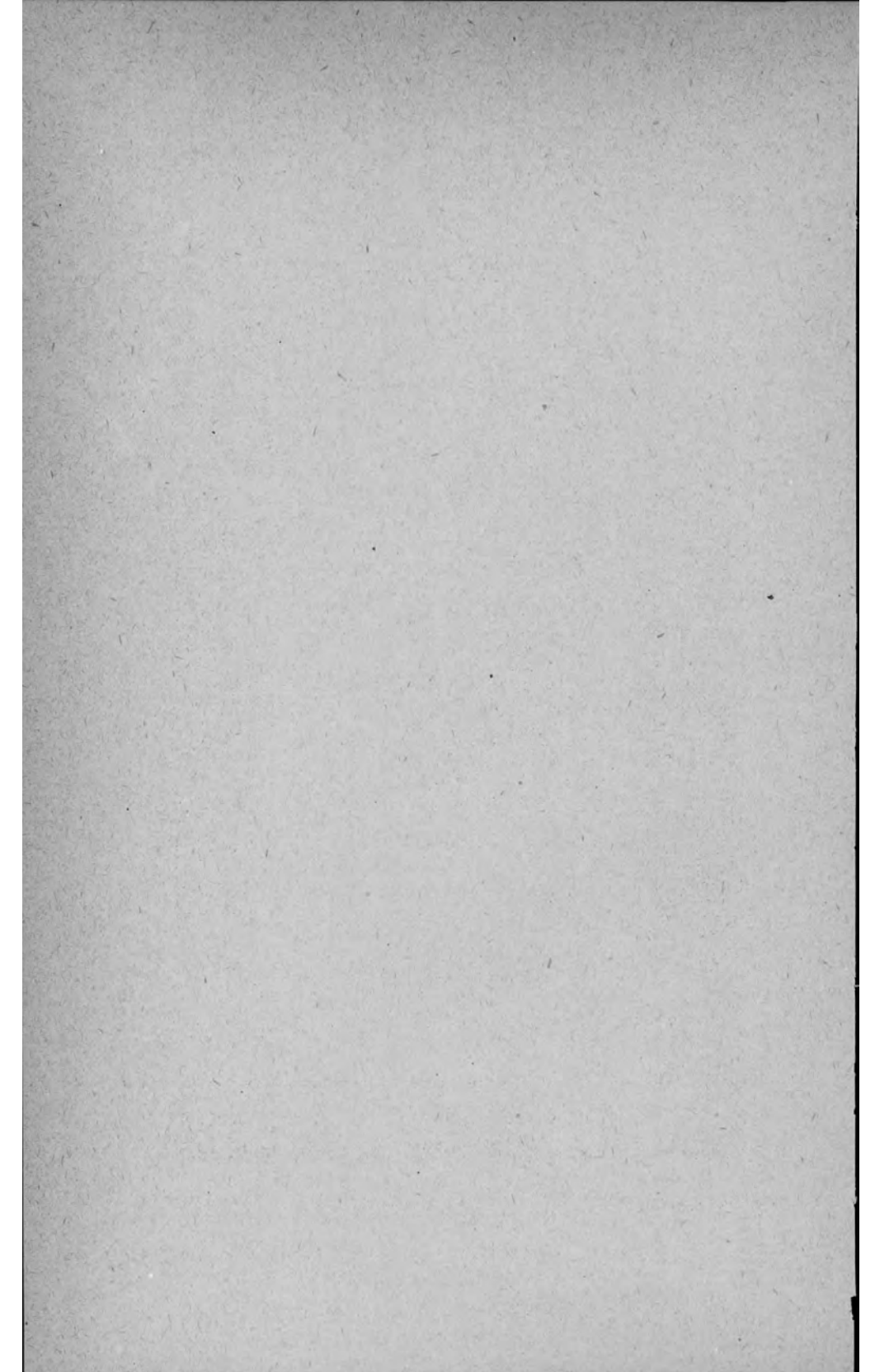
NAME.	CHAPTER.	No.	DATE.
Clarence L. McCartha.....	Mount Moriah....	19	June 9, 1893
Benjamin F. Gordon.....	" "	19	" " "
Orman A. Duke	Montgomery	22	June 13, 1893
Jacob A. Rampey.....	" "	22	" " "
W. L. Hancock.....	Talladega	23	June 9, 1893
George W. Hood.....	" "	23	" " "
J. A. Rice.....	" "	23	" " "
Hermann Fox.....	" "	23	" " "
D. H. Thweatt	" "	23	" " "
W. M. Costner	" "	23	" " "
J. B. Costner.....	" "	23	" " "
J. P. Costner.....	" "	23	" " "
W. D. Haralson	" "	23	" " "
Munford C. Clements.....	Saint Johns.....	28	May 22, 1893
George H. Craig.....	" "	28	" " "
Albert Herzfeld.....	" "	28	" " "
Albert P. Leiser.....	" "	28	" " "
R. Haywood Lockhart.....	McKinley.....	48	June 1, 1893
William B. Jackson.....	" "	48	" " "
John W. Gaston	" "	48	" " "
C. Harris Askew....	" "	48	" " "
Micajah L. D. Pittman	Zerubbabel.....	56	.....
Marcellas A. Trimble.....	" "	56	.....
James M. Smith.....	" "	56	.....
Wesley C. Wyatt.....	" "	56	.....
Wiley O. Horton.....	Collinsville.....	57	May 26, 1893
Frazer Cantelou	Rockford.....	62	June 24, 1893
B. C. Glenn.....	Clayton.....	63	June 24, 1893
E. R. Quillen.....	" "	63	" " "
Allen T. Crawford.....	Myles J. Greene..	80	Nov. 21, 1893
J. T. Wilson.....	" " "	80	" " "
Matthew A. Amberson.....	Coosa	86	Nov. 6, 1893
William T. Alexander.....	" "	86	" " "
Joseph T. Bazemore.....	" "	86	" " "
John B. Bass.....	" "	86	" " "
H. B. Ernest	" "	86	" " "
Noah Hood	" "	86	" " "
Joel D. Whittaker	" "	86	" " "
James H. Radney.....	Rock Mills	100	.....
Robert F. Meacham.....	" " "	100	.....
Joseph Brown.....	Mineral City.....	101	Sept. 28, 1893
John Carrington.....	" " "	101	" " "
John M. Farle	" " "	101	" " "
John E. Ellis.....	" " "	101	" " "
Silas Hine	" " "	101	" " "
Charles F. Hahn	" " "	101	" " "
William S. McCurley.....	" " "	101	" " "
R. A. Sedwick.....	" " "	101	" " "

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.—CONT'D.

NAMES	CHAPTER.	NO.	DATE.
William Thoroughbod	Mineral City	101	Sept. 28, 1893
A. J. McEachin	Graham.	106	.....
J. R. Caldwell	"	106	.....
B. O. Bridges	"	106	.....
Coke Weir	"	106	.....
J. B. Merrill	"	106	.....
William McMahan	"	106	.....
J. J. Lovvorn	"	106	.....
William L. Kemp	"	106	.....
C. B. Cole	"	106	.....
J. B. McCasper	"	106	.....

DIED.

NAME.	CHAPTER.	NO.	DATE.
John Cullen.....	Mt. Moriah.....	19	Sept. 1, 1893
Geo. M. Wrenn.....	Livingston.....	20	June 5, 1893
Joseph Henry Johnson.....	Talladega.....	23	May 5, 1893
Andrew J. Farmer.....	".....	23	.....
John J. Haigler.....	Eufaula.....	24	May 23, 1893
William H. English.....	Saint Johns.....	28	May 29, 1893
Frederick Goss.....	Decatur.....	38	Dec. 26, 1892
William O. Sewell.....	".....	38	July 30, 1893
Henry C. Wiley.....	Tyrion.....	54	April 4, 1893
Emil Jackson.....	".....	54	May 29, 1893
John A. Foster.....	Clayton.....	63	Jan. 27, 1893
Charles H. Spencer.....	".....	63	Oct. 9, 1893
M. R. Hill.....	".....	63	Apr. 16, 1893
John McMath.....	Central.....	64	Sept. 25, 1893
Joseph L. Cunningham.....	Coosa.....	86	Dec. 26, 1892
Monroe C. Herstein.....	".....	86	July 16, 1893
John W. Jeffries.....	".....	86	Jan. —, 1893
Thomas T. Halby.....	Rock Mills.....	100	Jan. 1, 1893





IN MEMORIAM.

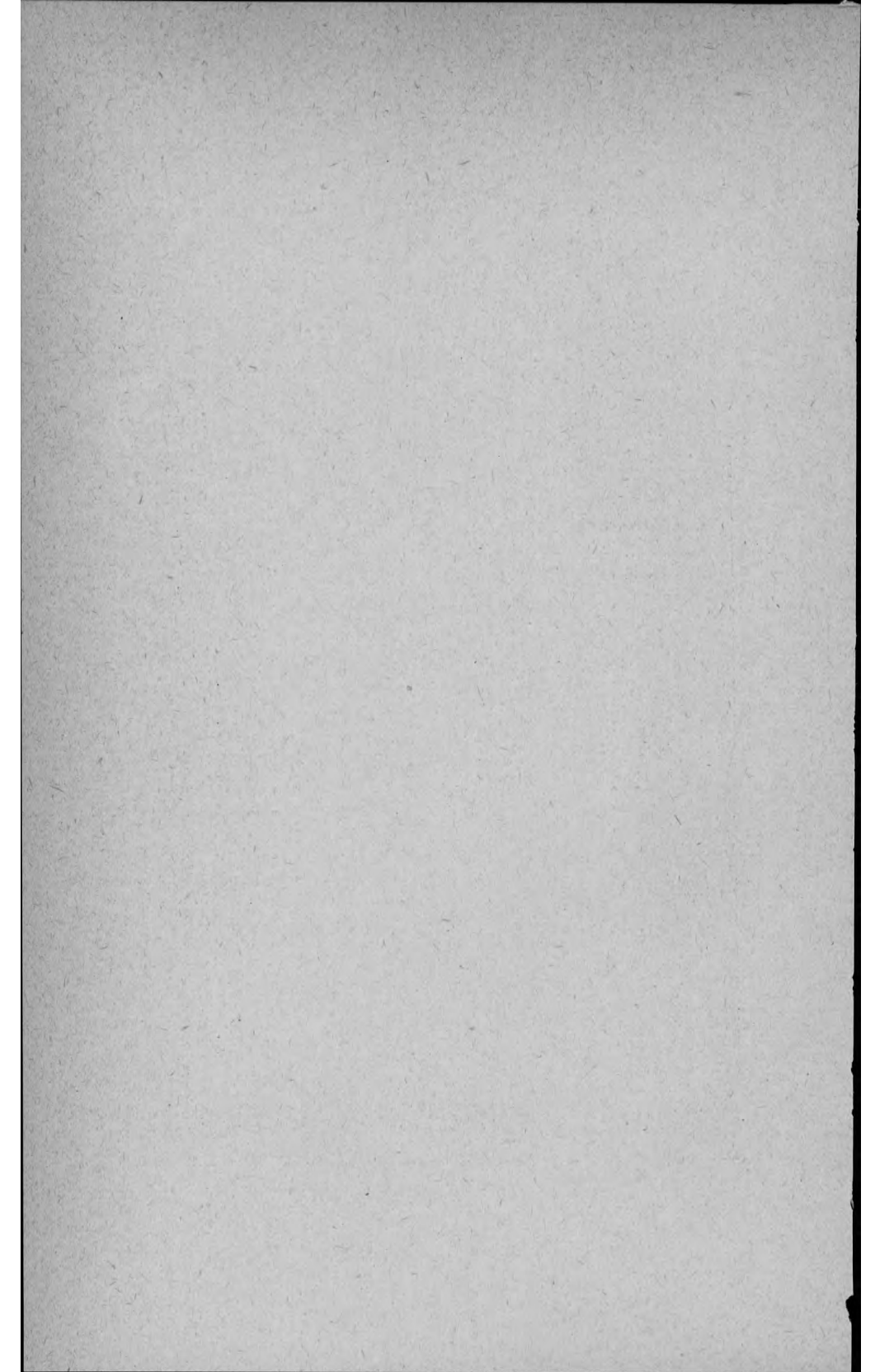
APRIL 5, 1893,

HENRY CLAY WILEY,

DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST,

Aged 53 Years.

Zealous, active and enthusiastic. A noble man.
A true Freemason





IN MEMORIAM.

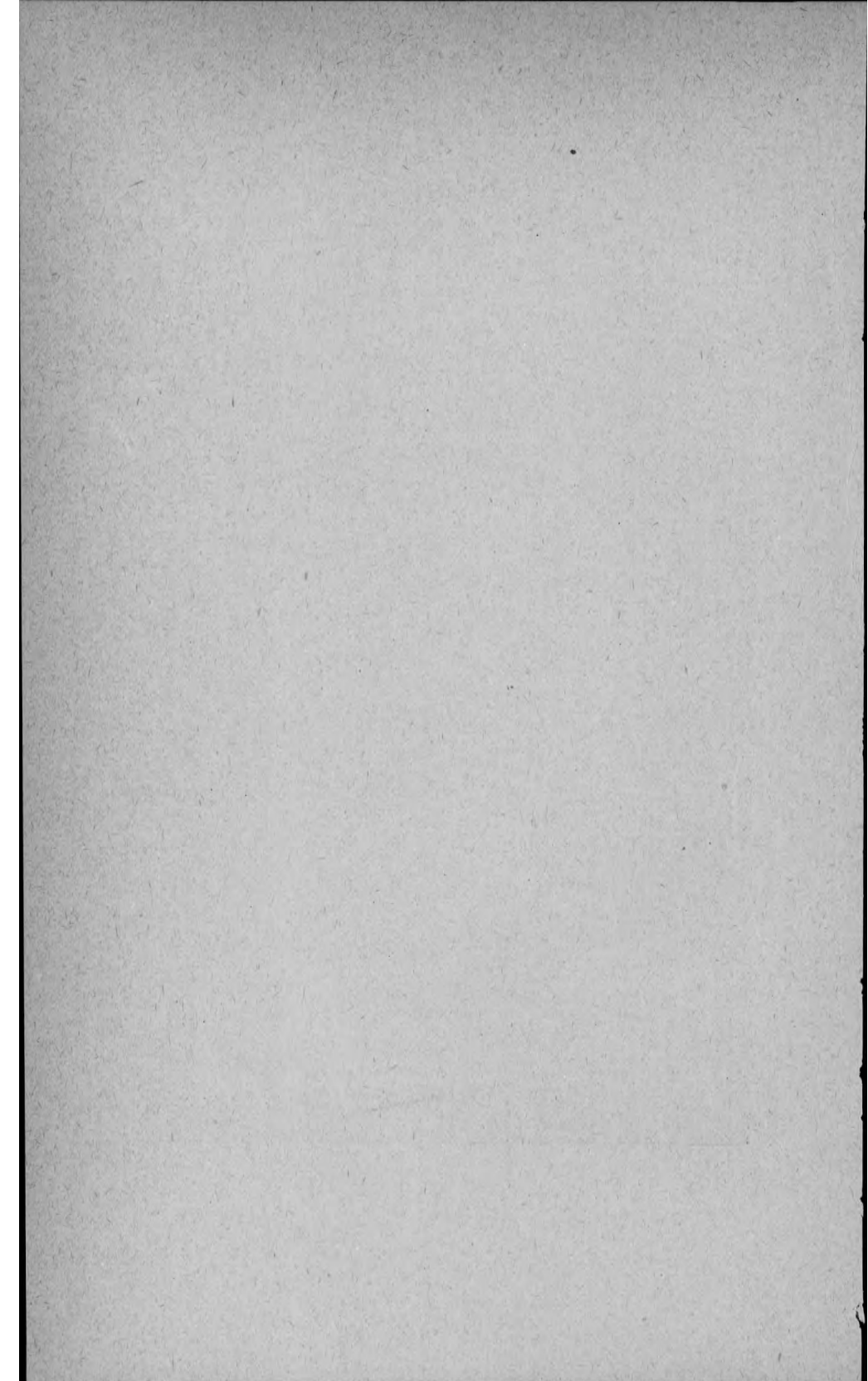
MAY 5, 1893,

JOSEPH HENRY JOHNSON,

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIEST,

Aged 61 Years.

Ardent and sympathetic; companionable and sincere.



RE-INSTATED.

NAME.	CHAPTER.	No.	DATE.
William L. Ward.,	Saint Johns.....	28	April 21, 1893
John W. Gibson.....	Elyton	76	April 10, 1893

EXPELLED.

NAME.	CHAPTER.	No.	DATE.
*Samuel R. Cotten.....	Decatur	38	July 25, 1893
John T. Davidson	Tyrian	54	June 26, 1893
Robert Watson.....	"	54	Oct. 24, 1893

*By having been expelled from Rising Sun Lodge, No. 29, A. F. & A. M.

REJECTED.

NAME.	CHAPTER.	No.	DATE.
Samuel Cohen	Mt. Moriah.....	19	March 10, 1893

RECAPITULATION.

Chapters that made returns.....	42
Chapters that paid dues	40
Chapters that were represented.....	38
Number of Representatives present.....	64
Members reported at this Convocation.....	1199
Dues Received at this Grand Convocation.....	\$864 00

WORK OF THE YEAR.

Advanced.....	115
Presided	117
Received and Accepted.....	121
Exalted.....	121
Affiliated	9
Rejected	1
Dimitted	40
Died.....	18
Expelled.....	3
Suspended for unmasonic conduct.....	0
Suspended for non-payment of dues.....	59
Re-instated ..	2

STATE OF THE CHAPTERS.

Chapters square upon the books.....	40
Chapters under Dispensation.....	0
Chapters delinquent.....	3
Charters forfeited	0

MEMORANDA.

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

Arkansas.....	Newell M. Thornton, M. D.	Abbeville.
Canada.....		.....
Connecticut.....	Wm. Y. Titcomb.....	Anniston.
District of Columbia.....	Thos. B. McKluskey.....	Montevallo.
Florida.....	Benjamin F. Pope.....	Gadsden.
Georgia.....	Edward F. King.....	Gainesville.
Illinois.....	William M. Boynton.....	Talladega.
Indiana.....	John A. McKinnon, M. D.	Selma.
Indian Territory.....	Josiah Jernigan.....	Troy.
Iowa.....	William Smaw.....	Eutaw.
Kansas.....	John G. Harris.....	Montgomery.
Kentucky.....	Edward S. Gatchell.....	Selma.
Louisiana.....	Palmer J. Pillans.....	Belknap.
Maine.....	William J. Rhodes.....	Talladega.
Maryland.....	Wm. S. Foster.....	Mobile.
Massachusetts.....	George A. Joiner.....	Talladega.
Minnesota.....	John Snow.....	Tuscaloosa.
Mississippi.....	Joseph A. Groves.....	Orrville.
Missouri.....	Wm. W. Screws.....	Montgomery.
Nebraska.....	Junie Harwood.....	Uniontown.
New Jersey.....	John R. Barr.....	Eufaula.
New York.....	John W. Bush.....	Uniontown.
North Carolina.....	Wm. G. Cochrane.....	Tuscaloosa.
Nova Scotia.....	J. J. Dement.....	Huntsville.
North Dakota.....	T. T. Rowland.....	Tusculumbia.
Ohio.....	William E. Oakley.....	Decatur.
Pennsylvania.....	H. Clay Armstrong.....	Montgomery.
Quebec.....	Henry H. Matthews.....	Montgomery.
Rhode Island.....	James T. Beck.....	Camden.
South Carolina.....		.....
Texas.....	George P. Harrison.....	Opelika.
Vermont.....	James E. Cobb.....	Tuskegee.
Virginia.....	Phillip C. Candidus.....	Mobile.
Washington.....	Wm. C. Cleveland.....	Montevallo.
Wisconsin.....	Lawrence H. Lee.....	Clayton.

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

W. W. Garland.....	Morrilton.....	Arkansas.
Isaac E. Toms.....	Godrich, Ont.....	Canada.
Isaac Baker, Jr.....	Hartford.....	Connecticut
Charles W. Hancock.....	Washington	District of Columbia.
George S. Hallmark	Warrington.....	Florida.
William Abram Love	Atlanta.....	Georgia.
Philander W. Barclay.....	Cairo	Illinois.
Nicholas R. Ruckle.....	Indianapolis.....	Indiana.
William Wilbraham.....	Creoso	Iowa.
T. P. Rodgers.....	Topeka	Kansas.
William Ryan.....	Louisville.....	Kentucky.
William Robson.....	Robson's.....	Louisiana
James M. Nevins.....	Rucksport	Maine.
Joseph E. Tyler.....	Baltimore.....	Maryland.
Frederick G. Watbridge	Boston.....	Massachusetts.
William F. Dickinson.....	Redwood Falls..	Minnesota.
Robert L. Saunders.....	Jackson	Mississippi.
Thomas E. Garrett.....	Saint Louis	Missouri.
John N. Westburg.....	Omaha.....	Nebraska.
Frederick G. Weise.....	Bordentown.....	New Jersey.
Thomas S. Kepan	Raleigh	North Carolina.
William H. Topping.....	Grand Forks.....	North Dakota.
Samuel Porter.....	Halifax	Nova Scotia.
William Sberer.....	Brooklyn	P. O. Box 2065, New York
C. C. Bates	Akron.....	Ohio.
Rocky R. Earhart	Portland.....	Oregon.
Michael Arnold.....	Philadelphia	Pennsylvania.
Angus Grant.....	Montreal.....	Quebec.
John P. Sanborn.....	Newport	Rhode Island.
Augustine T. Smythe.....	Charleston	South Carolina.
William S. Matthews.....	Memphis.....	Tennessee.
W. L. Sortwell.....	Comanche	Texas.
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.

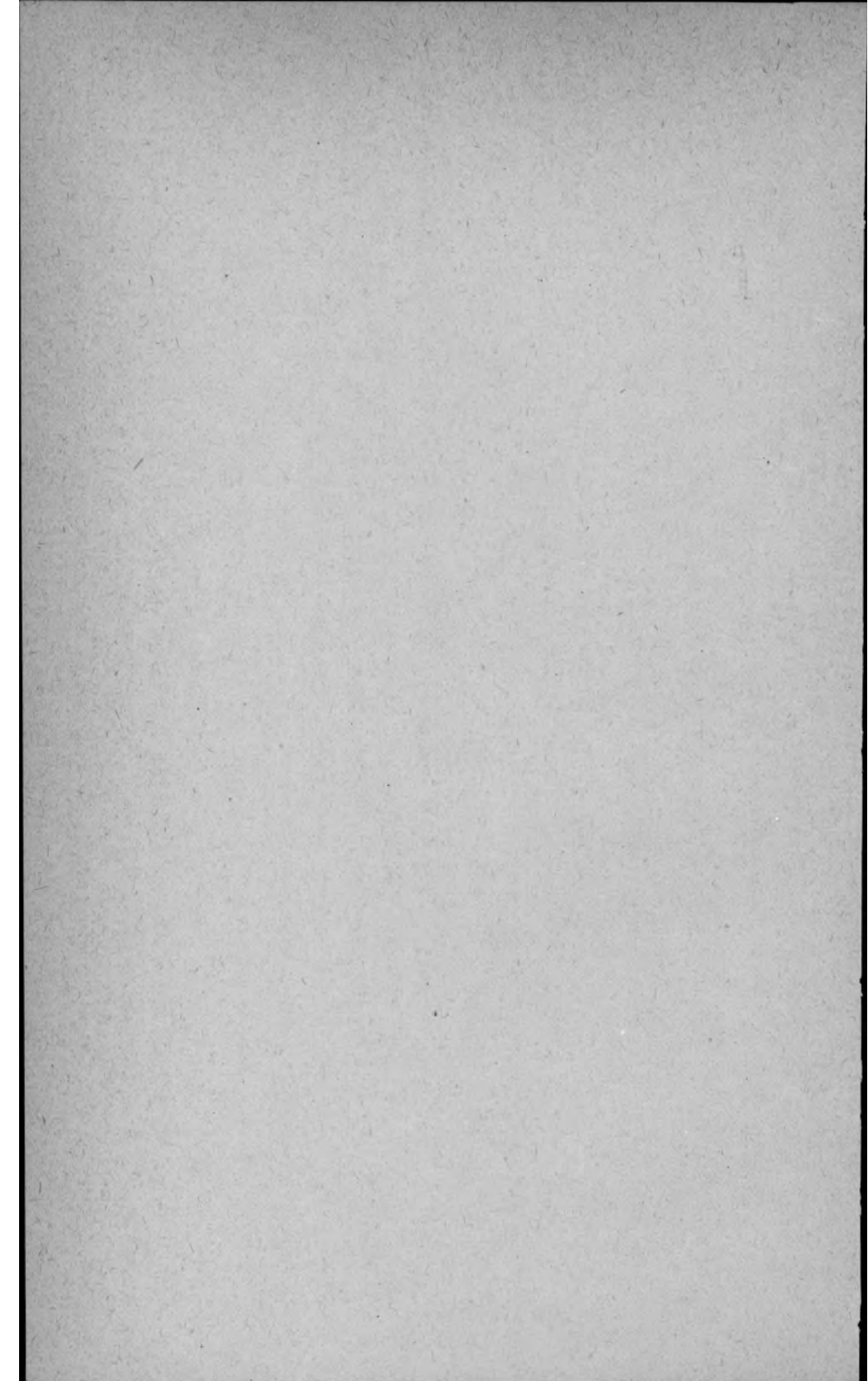
GRAND SECRETARIES AND THEIR ADDRESSES.

Alabama.....	H. Clay Armstrong	Montgomery.
Arizona.....	John M. Ormsby.....	Tuscon.
Arkansas.....	James H. Henry.....	Little Rock.
California.....	Thos. Hubbard Caswell	San Francisco.
Canada.....	Thos. Sargent.....	Toronto.
Colorado.....	Ed. Carroll Parmelee.....	Pueblo.
Connecticut.....	Joseph K. Wheeler.....	Hartford.
District of Columbia.....	Lewis G. Stephens.....	Washington.
Delaware.....	James H. Price.....	Wilmington.
Florida.....	W. A. McLean.....	Jacksonville.
Georgia.....	Andrew Martin Wolihin.....	Macon.
Illinois.....	Gilbert W. Barnard	Chicago.
Indiana.....	William H. Smythe.....	Indianapolis.
Indian Territory.....	Joseph S. Murrow.....	Atoka.
Iowa.....	Alfred Wingate.....	Des Moines.
Kansas.....	John Henry Brown	Kansas City.
Kentucky.....	Henry B. Grant.....	Louisville.
Louisiana.....	Richard Lambert.....	New Orleans.
Maine.....	Ira Berry.....	Portland.
Maryland.....	George L. McCahan.....	Baltimore.
Massachusetts.....	Seramus Bowen.....	28 Sch'l St. Bos.
Michigan.....	William Power Innes.....	Grand Rapids.
Minnesota.....	Thomas Montgomery.....	Saint Paul.
Mississippi.....	John Logan Power.....	Jackson.
Missouri.....	William H. Mayo	Saint Louis.
Montana.....	Cornelius Hedges.....	Helena.
Nebraska.....	William Robert Bowen.....	Omaha.
Nevada.....	Chauncy N. Noteware.....	Carson City.
New Brunswick.....	William A. Ewing.....	Saint John.
New Hampshire.....	George Perley Cleaves.....	Concord.
New Jersey.....	George B. Edwards.....	Jersey City.
New York.....	Christopher G. Fox.....	Buffalo.
North Carolina.....	Donald W. Bain.....	Raleigh.
North Dakota.....	Thomas J. Wilder.....	Casselton.
Nova Scotia.....	Alexander Ross.....	Halifax.
Ohio.....	Charles C. Kiefer.....	Urbana.
Oregon.....	James F. Robinson.....	Eugene.
Pennsylvania.....	Charles E. Meyer.....	Philadelphia.
Quebec.....	Joseph Mitchell.....	Montr'l B. 1135
Rhode Island.....	William R. Greene.....	Providence.
South Carolina.....	James E. Burke.....	Charleston.
South Dakota.....	George A. Pettigrew.....	Flandreau.
Tennessee.....	W. A. Clendening.....	Nashville.
Texas.....	Robert Brewster.....	Houston.
Vermont.....	Warren G. Reynolds.....	Burlington.
Virginia.....	William Bryan Isaacs.....	Richmond.
Washington.....	Young C. Blalock.....	Walla Walla.
West Virginia.....	Odell S. Long.....	Wheeling.
Wisconsin.....	John W. Laffin.....	Milwaukee.
United States.....	Christopher G. Fox.....	Buffalo, N. Y.
Ireland.....	Theophilus E. St. George.....	Dublin.
England and Wales.....	Albert G. Goodall.....	N. Y., 142 B'y.
Scotland.....	R. S. Brown.....	Edinburgh.

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

No.	NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POSTOFFICE.	HIGH PRIEST.	SECRETARY.	CONVOCAION.
1	Tuscaloosa.	Tuscaloosa.	Tuscaloosa.	Tuscaloosa.	John A. Savage.	Wm. J. McCants.	Thurs y on or bef f m
4	Monroe.	Perdue Hill.	Monroe.	Perdue Hill.	Isaac H. Wise.	Isaac H. Wise.	1 Tuesday
5	Eunomia.	Huntsville.	Madison.	Huntsville.	J. H. Rowland.	James E. Keenan.	1 Monday after 2 Sat
10	Tuscumbia.	Tuscumbia.	Colbert.	Tuscumbia.	Edward N. Kring.	David A. Williams.	Thurs after f m
13	Gainesville.	Gainesville.	Sumter.	Gainesville.	Wetumpka.		
17	Wetumpka.	Wetumpka.	Elmore.	Wetumpka.	Eutaw.		
19	Mt. Moriah.	Eutaw.	Greene.	Eutaw.	Livingston.	R. E. Watkins.	2 Friday
20	Livingston.	Livingston.	Sumter.	Livingston.	Sam'l H. Sprott.	Geo. C. Gowdey.	3 Friday
21	Mobile.	Mobile.	Mobile.	Mobile.	E. L. Merkel.	H. A. Lowe.	2 and 4 Thursday
22	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	S. J. Anderson.	Ed. R. Hastings.	2 Tuesday
23	Talladega.	Talladega.	Talladega.	Talladega.	A. J. Nunnally.	Geo. A. Joiner.	2 Friday
24	Eufaula.	Eufaula.	Barbour.	Eufaula.	John R. Barr.	Chas. H. Beach.	1 and 3 Thursday
26	Union.	Uniontown.	Perry.	Uniontown.	B. F. Harwood.	Junie Harwood.	1 Thursday eve
28	St. Johns.	Selma.	Dallas.	Selma.	Ed. S. Gatchell.	Albert S. Starr.	4 Monday eve
32	Fulton.	Orrville.	Dallas.	Orrville.	Ios. A. Groves.	John R. Carter.	3 Friday
37	Concord.	LaFayette.	Chambers.	LaFayette.	L. A. Darsey.	jas. E. Scarbrough.	1 Wednesday 3 p m
38	Decatur.	Decatur.	Morgan.	Decatur.	Thos. F. Turley.	Wm. R. Jones.	4 Tuesday
40	Camden.	Camden.	Wilcox.	Camden.	James T. Beck.	Green F. Spurlin.	Friday bef f m
44	McKinley.	McKinley.	Marengo.	McKinley.	Wm. K. Chapman.	Edward C. Coats.	1 Wednesday
54	Tyrian.	Troy.	Pike.	Troy.	Iosiah Jernigan.	Eben G. Chafin.	2 and 4 Saturday
56	Zerubbabel.	Camp Hill.	Tallapoosa.	Camp Hill.	Walter R. Dawson.	Cyrus A. Cowart.	4 Saturday
62	Collinsville.	Collinsville.	Dekalb.	Collinsville.	Wm. J. Roberts.	John B. Appleton.	4 Friday 1 p m
67	Rockford.	Rockford.	Coosa.	Rockford.	Wm. L. Johnson.	T. J. Pennington.	Friday bef 3 Sunday
63	Clayton.	Clayton.	Barbour.	Clayton.	Lawrence H. Lee.	B. Davie.	1 and 3 Monday
64	Central.	Aldrich.	Shelby.	Aldrich.	Wm. F. Aldrich.	jas. M. Hinoft.	1 Saturday after f m
71	Landmark.	Ozark.	Dale.	Ozark.	Wm. Garner.	Geo. H. Thomas.	3 Saturday
73	Gordon.	Abbeville.	Henry.	Abbeville.	N. M. Thornton.	John Grice.	Friday bef 1 Saturday

76	Elyton.....	Jefferson	Elyton.....	Horace J. Salter...	Geo. W. Harrell...	2 and 4 Monday
79	Hillabee.....	Tallapoosa..	Alex'der City.	G. W. Porter. ...	G. M. Gamble.....	Saturday bef 3 Sundy
80	Myles J. Greene.	Lee.	Opelika.....	B. D. Armstrong.	James B. Collier..	1 Tuesday 3 p m
83	Bell	Clay	Lineville.....	Geo. W. Bartlett.	Robert D. Evans...	2 Saturday
85	Gaston.....	Choctaw	DeSotoville ..	Chas C. McCall...	J. C. Christopher..	2 Thursday
86	Coosa.....	Etowah.	Gadsden.....	Myron E. Lane...	James E. Wood ...	1 Monday night
88	Springville....	St. Clair ..	Springville. ...	Basil M. Hill.....	Ed. N. McLendon	Saturday bef 3 Sundy
92	Notasulga.....	Macon	Notasulga...	Geo. W. Arberry	John E. Cameron	2 and 4 Saturday
96	Dan'l Pratt....	Autauga	Prattville.....	Geo. L. Smith....	Geo. C. Spigener..	Monday eve after f m
99	Thos. M. Bragg.	Crenshaw..	Luverne.....	Chas R. Bricken.	Thos. W. Coston..	2 and 4 Monday night
100	Rock Mills....	Randolph..	Rock Mills ...	Richard J. Breed.	Hilary H. Pitts...	1 and 2 Saturday
101	Mineral City...	Jefferson ..	Birmingham ..	Simon Klotz.	Lew Lazarus.....	2 and 4 Thursday
102	Piedmont	Calhoun.....	Piedmont	Alex. McCollister.	M. T. Ledbetter...	Saturday bef 2 Sundy
104	Sylacauga.....	Talladega..	Sylacauga ..	John A. Edwards.	Jas. M. Lanning..	Friday bef 3 Saturday
105	Anniston.....	Calhoun.....	Anniston	John M. Caldwell.	Richard B. Kelley	2 Thursday eve
106	Graham	Randolph....	Graham	T. J. Thomason ..	A. C. Saxon.....	1 Saturday
107	Fort Payne....	DeKalb.....	Fort Payne....	John W. Doe.	John L. White... ..	2 Friday
108	Pratt City.....	Jefferson ..	Pratt City	R. M. Cunningham	Thos. H. Moore...	1 and 3 Tuesday
109	Blocton.....	Bibb	Blocton	Sam'l Hartley ...	Eli Shortridge	2 and 4 Monday



COUNCIL OF HIGH PRIESTS.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., Dec. 4th, 1893.

The Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood of Alabama met in Twenty-fifth Annual Conclave in the Masonic Temple, at Montgomery, on Monday, December 4th, 1893, at 3:30 P. M.

OFFICERS PRESENT:

H. Clay Armstrong	M. E. President.
James Milton	E. Vice-President.
Newell M. Thornton	E. Chaplain.
Benjamin F. Pope	E. Master of C.
Simon Klotz	E. Treasurer.
Edward S. Gatchell	E. Recorder.
William S. Foster	E. Conductor.
Charles R. Bricken	E. Herald.
John R. Barr	E. Steward.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

S. J. Anderson,	James T. Beck,
John M. Caldwell,	John A. McKinnon,
Josiah Jernigan.	

A Council of High Priests was opened in *Ample Form*.

Petitions for the Order of High Priesthood, accompanied by the proper and necessary vouchers of having been duly elected to preside over Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, together with the usual contribution, were presented by—

Wm. Smaw and J. P. Barclay, of Mount Moriah Chapter No. 19.

Sol. D. Bloch, Camden Chapter No. 40.

Walter R. Dawson, Zeruabbabel Chapter No. 56.

William L. Johnson, Rockford Chapter No. 62.

S. J. Townsend, Pine Level Chapter No. 75.

G. W. Porter, Hillabee Chapter No. 75.

B. Dixon Armstrong, Myles J. Greene Chapter No. 80.

B. M. Hill, Springville Chapter No. 88.

John G. Smith, Mineral City Chapter No. 101.

T. J. Thomason, Graham Chapter No. 106.

John W. Doe, Fort Payne Chapter No. 107.

R. M. Cunningham, Pratt City Chapter No. 108.

And the said petitions were referred to a Committee of three Companions, who made favorable report and recommended that they be admitted to the Order.

A ballot was had and they were elected.

The applicants were then introduced, set apart and consecrated to the Holy Order of High Priesthood in *Solemn Form*.

ELECTION.

The annual Election of Officers was held and the following Companions were duly elected:

H. Clay Armstrong.....	M.: E.: President.
William S. Foster.....	E.: Vice-President.
John G. Smith.....	E.: Chaplain.
James Milton.....	E.: Treasurer.
Edward S. Gatchell.....	E.: Recorder.
Charles R. Bricken.....	E.: Master of C.
John R. Barr.....	E.: Conductor.
Simon Klotz.....	E.: Herald.
B. M. Manly.....	E.: Steward.

The Minutes were read and approved and the Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood was closed in *Ample Form*.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG,
President.

EDWARD S. GATCHELL,
Recorder.

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