

1895
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND
CHAPTER
of
Royal Arch Masons
of
ALABAMA



A.D. 1895 / A.I. 2425

This volume digitized by



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC
NATIONAL MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

MASONIC DIGITAL ARCHIVES PROJECT

•

A.D.2017, A.L.6017

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Royal Arch Chapter

—OF—

ALABAMA.

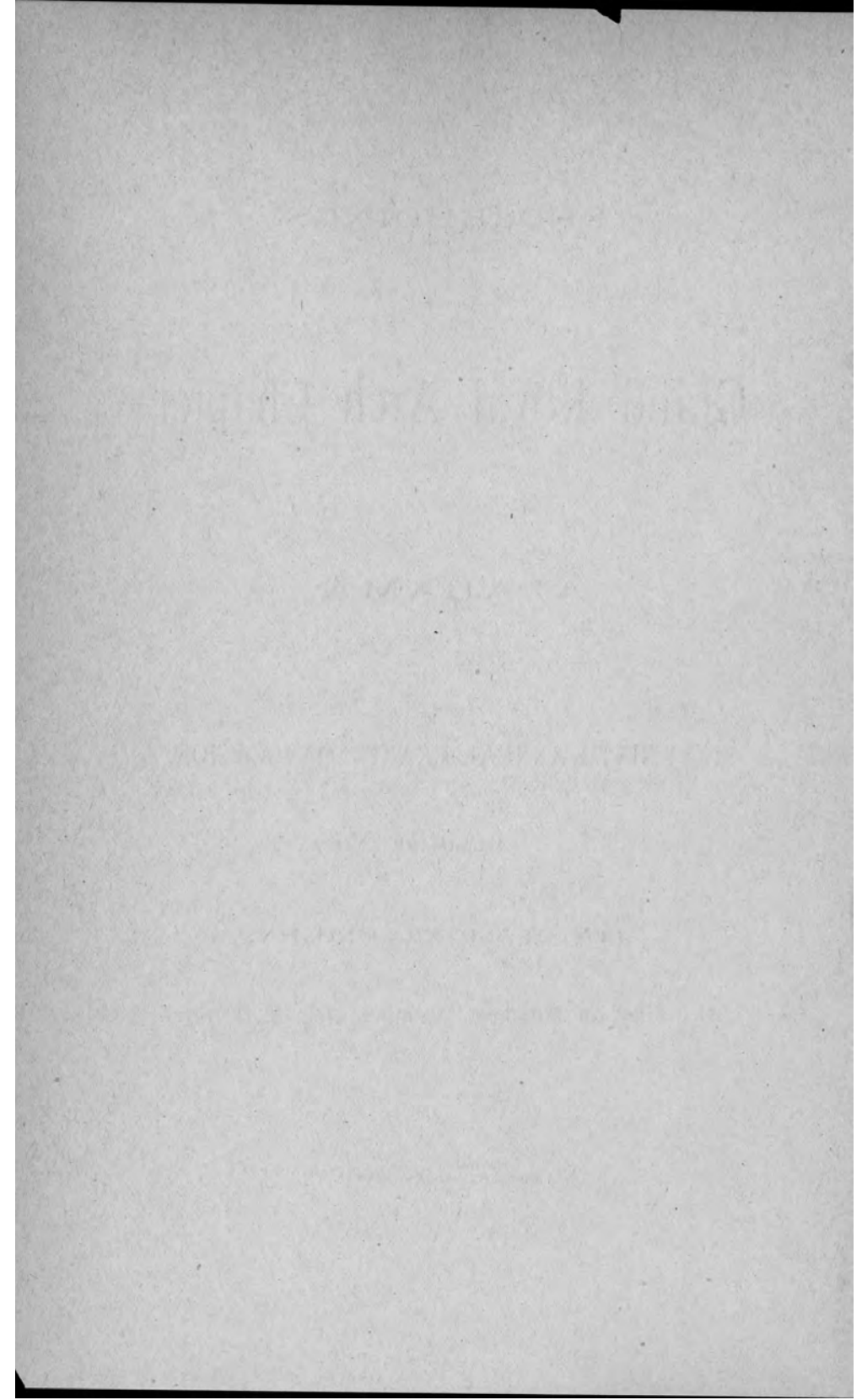
SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL GRAND CONVOCATION,

HELD IN THE

CITY OF MONTGOMERY,

Beginning on Monday, December 2nd, A. D. 1895.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
ALABAMA PRINTING COMPANY.
1896.



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama,

SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION,

HELD AT

Montgomery, December 2d and 3d, 1895, A. I. 2425.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama met in Annual Convocation at Masonic Temple, in Montgomery, December 2, at 10 o'clock a. m.

PRESENT :

JOHN G. SMITH.....M.'. E.'. Grand H. Priest.
JOSIAH JERNIGAN.....R.'. E.'. Grand King.
WM. J. RHODES.....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.
ED. S. GATCHELL.....R.'. E.'. Grand C. of Host.
GEO. F. MOORE.....E.'. Grand P. Sojourner.
C. R. BRICKEN.....E.'. Grand R. A. Captain.
WM. J. PEARCE.....E.'. Grand M. of 3 Vail.
GEO. A. BEAUCHAMP.....as E.'. Grand M. of 2 Vail.
CHAS. F. WHITE.....as E.'. Grand M. of 1 Vail.
CHAS. A. ALLEN.....E.'. Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.....	M. E. Grand H. Priest.
WM. S. FOSTER.....	M. E. Grand H. Priest.
W. W. SCREWS	M. E. Grand H. Priest.
JOHN G. HARRIS.....	M. E. Grand H. Priest.
JAS. MILTON.....	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.
Palmer J. Pillans.....	Louisiana.
Wm. J. Rhodes.....	Maine.
Wm. S. Foster	Maryland.
John G. Smith.....	Nebraska.
H. Clay Armstrong.....	Pennsylvania.
Henry H. Mathews	Quebec.
John G. Smith.....	Ohio.
Wm. C. Cleveland.....	Washington.
Josiah Jernigan.....	Indian Territory.
George A. Beauchamp	Oregon.
Philip C. Candidus.....	Virginia.

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

No. 4.. Monroe	W. J. McCants*	K.
" 21.. Mobile	{ Oscar J. Cohen*.....	H. P.
	{ W. S. Foster*	K.
" 22.. Montgomery	{ Wm. J. Orum	H. P.
	{ Chas. R. Westcott.....	K.
" 23.. Talladega.....	{ W. W. Screws*.....	S.
	{ W. J. Wright*.....	K.
" 24.. Eufaula.	{ Geo. A. Beauchamp....	H. P.
	{ James Milton*.....	K.
" 25.. Courtland	{ Reese B. Porter*.....	H. P.
	{ Louis J. Adler	H. P.
" 26.. Union.....	{ W. J. Vaiden*.....	K.
	{ J. N. Sadler*	S.
" 28.. Sts. John	{ Ed S. Gatchell	H. P.
" 32.. Fulton	{ John R. Carter*.....	H. P.
" 38.. Decatur	{ Wm. E. Oakley.....	H. P.
	{ Thos. F. Turley*.....	K.

*Proxies.

		{ Josiah Jernigan.....H. P.
"	54..Tyrian	{ F. J. Cowart*.....K.
		{ Chas. F. White*.....S.
"	57..Collinsville	{ S. D. Hallbrook*.....K.
"	63..Clayton	{ T. F. Pitts*.....H. P.
		{ Monroe Warren*.....K.
"	64..Central	{ T. J. Haskins.....S.
"	71..Landmark	{ Wm. A. Arnold.....H. P.
"	79..Hillabee	{ F. M. Patridge*.....H. P.
"	80..Myles J. Green	{ H. Clay Armstrong.....H. P.
		{ C. L. Hair.....K.
"	86..Coosa.....	{ Benj. F. Pope*.....H. P.
"	88..Springville	{ Basil M. Hill.....H. P.
"	92..Notasulga.....	{ Wm. T. Duke.....H. P.
"	96..Daniel Pratt.....	{ Geo. L. Smith.....H. P.
"	99..Thos. M. Bragg.....	{ Chas. R. Bricken.....H. P.
"	100..Rock Mills.....	{ John A. Walden*.....H. P.
"	101..Mineral City	{ Wm. J. Pearce.....H. P.
		{ Ben M. Jacobs*.....K.
"	108..Pratt City	{ Russell M. Cunningham*.....H. P.
		{ R. F. Lovelady*.....K.
"	109..Blocton	{ B. F. Jones.....H. P.
		{ J. T. Reed*.....K.
		{ John C. Hicks*.....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.

W. W. SCREWS,

WM. S. FOSTER,

JOHN G. HARRIS.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Companions of the Grand Chapter:

I greet you and extend to each of you a cordial and fraternal welcome to this, the Sixty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama.

With the hand on the dial pointing to high twelve, let it remind us that another year is gone and another mile post in our journey of life has been past, and while it has been attended with many sorrows and disappointments, it has not been without its lessons, blessings and joys.

It has been said that three-score and ten years marks the allotted time of man on earth, then how necessary it is for each of us to earnestly strive to do our whole duty to God and our fellow man, and try to complete our work ere the week closes and the Sabbath of Eternity sets in.

My Companions, the year of probation allotted by you to me is gone, and the time given me to complete my work as your Grand High Priest is past, and I appear before you prepared to surrender into your hands the gavel of authority, and give a full account of my deeds, be they good or bad, and in doing so, I am not unmindful of the fact that it is an easy matter to make a record, but when we come to review it and expose our acts to those whose duty it is to pass upon them, we often find that we have come short of our duty, and that they will not stand the test of the Grand Overseer's square.

As we leave the old year, a new one opens up before us bringing glad tidings, hearty greetings and renewed responsibilities to us all. Then as good men and true, let us renew that friendship that all true men have when united in purposes that tend to elevate their natures and fit them for a higher and nobler manhood.

Animated as we all should be by such feelings, let us fairly meet every question presented for the good of the Order, doing only that that is best for the greatest number, and bear in mind the fact that it is human to err, and if we differ from our Companions, it is always in order to gracefully submit to the will of the majority, that the results of our labors may be to the honor and glory of God, and our advancement in knowledge and virtue.

Companions, in coming together to-day, pray earnestly that you may gather restoration from the past and refreshment from the future, that we may be better prepared to bear the heat and burdens of the day, as well as the frowns and misfortunes of life, ever remem-

bering that piety to God and love for our fellow man are the two grand immovable pillars of Masonry.

Companions, in your social and friendly intercourse, bear in mind the fact that a Masonic Lodge is a temple of peace where harmony and brotherly love should prevail, and nothing allowed to enter that has the remotest tendency to disturb the quietude of our labors. Let the lessons of virtue, which proceed from the East like the brilliant rays of the rising sun, animate and encourage you to do your whole duty, that we may accomplish a good work that will bring blessings to the Craft, and will, like the precious ointment when poured upon the head, make our souls light and our faces shine like unto the perfect day.

Finally, my Companions, as you pass over the tessellated pavement of this fleeting existence, remember that we are all fast hastening to the common end of man, along the downward stream of time, and while it is true that we are all descending, some more smoothly and rapidly than others, yet we are all descending with no less sure and quick transition, then let us not be unmindful of the merciful end of our creation and redemption, that we may be prepared as living stones for that spiritual temple eternal in the heavens.

OUR FRATERNAL DEAD.

Notwithstanding the fact that the Sentinels at the outer door of our Sanctuaries have neither slumbered nor slept, death with the all-devouring scythe of time has entered our temples and removed some Companions of sterling worth, hence it is meet and proper that we, at the opening of this Convocation, stop for a moment and let our minds dwell upon the solemn thought of death, for it is through the gates of death that we must all find the place of wages, refreshment and rest.

When we to-day call the roll of the Craft for this jurisdiction, I fear we will find that quite a number have passed the confines of time; but they now have their names inscribed on the roll of immortality, and are at refreshment and rest in the Supreme Grand Chapter above, where we shall see their faces again, to part no more forever, then let us pause while we pay the last sad tribute of respect to their memory.

Among those of our beloved dead who have fought the good fight and kept the faith, I find the name of our excellent Companion, Peter Zinszer, of Mineral City Chapter, No. 101. Of him it can be truly said that he was always ready to lend a helping hand to a

brother, as well as to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and speak sweet words of consolation in the ear of those in trouble and distress.

He died October 29, 1895. Rest to his ashes and peace to his soul.

Our sister Grand Jurisdictions have lost a number of prominent members, among whom are the following :

M. E. William Bryan Isaacs, Past Grand H. P., Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Virginia and Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment of the United States.

M. E. Joseph A. Manning, Grand High Priest of Indiana.

M. E. Stephen J. Young, Past Grand High Priest of Maine.

M. E. Thomas Davidson, Past Grand High Priest of Delaware.

M. E. Charles F. Goodman, Past Grand High Priest of Nebraska.

On November 22, 1895, we received notice that the Grand Jurisdiction of New South Wales had suffered a severe loss in the death of the Grand Secretary, Companion Francis Burnand Davidson, who died on Tuesday evening, June 25, 1895, at the age of 71 years. I would respectfully recommend that the notice sent be published in the proceedings of this Grand Chapter.

SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER,
OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

MASONIC HALL, Castlereagh St, Sydney, N. S. W., 30th Sept., 1895. }

The Grand Secretary Grand Chapter of Alabama :

It is my painful duty to officially notify you of the decease of most Excellent Companion, Francis Burnand Davidson, late Grand Scribe E. of this Supreme Grand Chapter, which took place suddenly on Tuesday evening, 25th June, 1895, at the ripe age of 71 years.

At the Half Yearly Convocation of this Supreme Grand Chapter in August last I was elected to the position as long and honorably filled by our deceased Companion, and now respectfully ask you to be good enough to address all future correspondence to me as above.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

ALF. J. BURBIDGE,
Grand Scribe E.

OFFICIAL WORK.

There has been but little official work for me to do the past year, hence I shall consume but little of your time with this portion of my report.

In the early Spring of the present year (with the view of getting up more interest in the order) I made propositions to visit several

Chapters and see them work, and at the same time render them any assistance in my power, but to my surprise and astonishment, failed to find but two Chapters with work on hand.

These were the Mineral City No. 101 and Pratt City No. 108. Both of these I visited and saw them do good work, and their Convocations were well attended. Capitular Masonry with these Chapters is flourishing, as it should be with every Chapter in the State.

The want of interest that pervades some of the Chapters does not, in my opinion, come from a want of interest in the order, but for the want of zeal and the proper instruction of the officers.

A Chapter to be a success needs careful study and attention, to the end that every member may become so familiar with the work as to feel that its success depends on him, and then he will not only attend and assist the officers in their various duties, but will never fail to invite other Companions and visitors to attend. Speaking from a personal standpoint, let me say to you that attending Masonic meetings is like attending Church or doing good to our fellowman. The more you attend the Convocations the more you will want to attend, and the more distress you relieve the more charity you will want to do, and the more you know of the work the greater your love, zeal and admiration will be for it.

Cultivate the habit of going, and my word for it, the social and friendly intercourse will do you good.

GOOD OF THE ORDER.

After a working experience of twenty years in the Chapters of this State, I feel it incumbent on me to frankly say to you that there is a stern necessity for the Ritual of the General Grand Chapter in this jurisdiction. My observation in life has been that there is but a small number of men who can ever obtain the work correctly from mouth to ear. Men not only hear but see differently, hence in these busy days of the world it is almost impossible for any two men who get the work from hearing to have or practice the same work. Again, there are but few men who have or could spare the time necessary to make them proficient workers without help.

I have carefully studied the situation and watched the growth of the Chapters in this State, as well as those of our sister jurisdictions, and I am fully satisfied that they have advantages and have reached points in proficiency which we can never obtain unless we get out of the old rut and adopt the same methods they have. Something must be done to start us up grade again; hence, to meet the necessities of the hour, I feel it to be my duty to recommend that this

Grand Chapter authorize the Secretary to purchase of the Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter of the United States a sufficient number of Rituals to supply three to each Chapter, the same to be distributed under such regulations as may be prescribed by the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America.

TO THE OFFICERS OF THE CHAPTER.

I trust you will pardon me for a little digression here, for I feel it to be a duty I owe to the Craft to say a word to you, and in doing so, believe me when I tell you in all sincerity and truth that I do it because I love you and for the good of the order. Have you complied with your vows? Have you studied the work? Have you been punctual in attendance? Have you tried to impress upon your members that the presence of each one is necessary to success? If you have not, my Companion, you have failed in your duty. Remember that it is your duty to lead, and if you do your duty your Companions will loyally support you and hold up your hands until success is assured. Don't accept offices to become a stumbling block in the way of others, but, like the faithful sentinel upon the outer wall, be alert and ever ready to go when duty calls. Let me say to you, if you succeed you must be loyal to your trust and never disappoint your members, unless Providentially prevented, as nothing tends to demoralize a Chapter so much as the failure of officers to attend and do their duty.

Finally, my Companions, if you would succeed, put your shoulders to the wheel and work in season and out of season, ever remembering that nothing succeeds like success.

DISPENSATIONS.

On February 27th, 1895, I granted a Dispensation to Companion James D. Edwards and eight other Companions, formerly members of Columbus Chapter No. 93, located at Newton, Dale County, the charter of which had been forfeited, to reorganize the said Chapter and to elect officers for the current Masonic year.

On September 11th, 1895, I granted a Dispensation to Companions formerly members of Choctaw Corner Chapter No. 70, the charter of which had been forfeited, to reorganize the said Chapter, elect officers and remove the Chapter from its location at Choctaw Corner to Thomasville, in same county.

SPECIAL DISPENSATIONS.

On September 16th, 1895, I granted a Special Dispensation to Myles J. Green Chapter No. 80, to elect officers, the Chapter hav-

ing, for good cause shown, failed to elect at the time prescribed by law.

On October 1st, 1895, I granted a Special Dispensation to Elyton Chapter No. 96 to elect officers for the current Masonic year.

On October 4th, 1895, I granted a Special Dispensation to Collinsville Chapter No. 57 to elect officers.

On November 27th, 1895 (the regular Convocation being on Thursday, November 28th, Thanksgiving Day), I granted a Special Dispensation to Mineral City Chapter No. 101, to convene and transact the regular business of said Chapter.

DECISIONS.

It has not been necessary for me to make any new decisions of law. The revised prints of the Constitution and edicts of the General Grand Chapter in the hands of the High Priest of the various Chapters has proven to be a sufficient guide to all subordinate Chapters to transact their business without further decisions from me.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES, APPOINTED AND RECEIVED.

E.. Companion Geo. A. Beauchamp, Oregon.

CLOSING.

This closes my official work for the year, and while it is not as encouraging as it might be, still we are not without hope for the future.

As times change and improve, men change and learn lessons from experience that they will not soon forget; so let us hope that we will gain inspiration from the past, and as the bright star of prosperity seems to hover above us now, let it cheer us on to duty, neither looking to the right nor the left, but always having in view the promise, "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life."

In closing my official career, permit me to say that I am under lasting obligations to this Grand Body for the confidence in me reposed. That I have made mistakes I will not deny (Who has not? In the language of the Emaculate, "Let him without sin cast the first stone,") but my confidence in the Order leads me to believe that you are ever ready to forgive and forget.

Yes, throw the broad mantle of charity over them, and say, "Requiescat in pace."

Let me assure you, my Companions, that the sweet remembrance that I shall still live in your affections will cheer and comfort me in

the lonely hours of life, and will always furnish sweet consolation to my soul that the world can neither give nor take away. Then, as we look forward and contemplate the close of life, may the gates of Heaven stand ajar to admit us into the Supreme Grand Chapter Eternal in the Heavens.

JOHN G. SMITH,
Grand High Priest.

R.: E.: Companion Wm. J. Rhodes announced to the Grand Chapter the regret of M.: E.: Deputy Grand High Priest A. J. Nunnally that owing to reasons beyond his control, it would be impossible for him to be present in person, although he would be with them in spirit at the present Annual Grand Convocation.

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

Grand Treasurer Wm. H. Dingley submitted the following as his Annual Report, and moved its reference to the Committee on Finance, and it was so ordered:

WM. H. DINGLEY, GRAND TREASURER,

In Account with Grand Chapter of Alabama, R.: A.: M.:

1894.		DR.	
Dec. 3.	To balance.....		\$468 32
1895.			
July 2.	To Grand Secretary.....		241 53
Nov. 15.	To Grand Secretary.....		155 25—\$865 10
1894.		Cr.	
Dec. 4.	By Grand Chaplain.....		20 00
	5. Committee on Correspondence.....		75 00
	5. Committee on Work.....		10 30
	8. Grand Sentinel.....		22 00
	8. Grand Treasurer		50 00
1895.			
July 2.	Expenses Grand Chapter.....		36 30
	Reimbursed to Grand Secretary..		16 89
	Contingent Fund.....		150 00
Nov. 15.	Grand Secretary, salary.....		400 00
	Balance.....		84 61—\$865 10

WM. H. DINGLEY,
Grand Treasurer.

REPORT OF GRAND SECRETARY.

H. Clay Armstrong, Grand Secretary, submitted his Annual Report and moved its reference to the Committee on Finance, and it was so ordered :

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG, GRAND SECRETARY,

In Account with Grand Chapter of Alabama.

1894.

Dec. 3. To amount of dues collected\$721 45.

1895.

Nov. 30. To amount of dues collected..... 535 50—\$1,256 95

Cr.

By amount paid Grand Treasurer, as per vouchers, 876 70

Dues received since settlement..... 380 25— 1,256 95

CONTINGENT FUND.

Dr.

To amount received from Grand Treasurer..... 150 00— 150 00

1895.

Cr.

March 22. By amount paid Alabama Printing Co. -

for Proceedings..... 106 25

By Postage..... 10 00

June 8. By Postage Stamps..... 5 00

Oct. 8. By amount paid for printing forms for

returns..... 18 85

By Postage..... 4 00

Nov. 12. By Postage Stamps 3 75

By cash on hand..... 2 15—\$ 150 00

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG,

Grand Secretary.

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.)

COMMITTEES.

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

On Chartered Chapters No. 1.—L. J. Adler, L. J. Wright, R. B. Porter.

On Chartered Chapters No. 2.—Basil M. Hill, Chas. F. White, Monroe Warren.

On Dispensations.—Chas. R. Bricken, Thos. F. Turley, J. S. Edwards.

On By-Laws, Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals.—W. J. Pierce, T. F. Pitts, J. M. Sadler.

On Masonic Jurisprudence.—Benj. F. Pope, Geo. F. Moore, Oscar J. Cohen.

On Finance.—Fletcher J. Cowart, B. F. Jones, Wm. E. Oakley.

REPORT ON WORK.

Companion Wm. S. Foster, from the Committee on Work, made Report on the M. M. Degree, and the Report was adopted.

On motion of Companion Benj. F. Pope, the further Report of the Committee on Work was temporarily dispensed with and made a special order for 7:30 o'clock this evening.

REVENUE FOR GRAND CHAPTER AND OFFICIAL VISITATIONS.

Companion Geo. F. Moore offered resolutions pertaining to Revenues and Official Visitations, which, on motion, were referred to the Committee on Finance.

CHARTERS RESTORED.

The Grand Secretary offered the following preamble and resolution, which was adopted:

WHEREAS, The Charters of Columbus Chapter, No. 93, and Choctaw Corner Chapter, No. 70, have heretofore been declared forfeited by this Grand Chapter for non-payment of dues; and

WHEREAS, The said Chapters have paid all dues required by the Grand Chapter; therefore,

Resolved, That Columbus Chapter, No. 93, and Choctaw Corner Chapter, No. 70, are hereby restored.

On motion of Companion Pope, the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until 7:30 o'clock p. m.

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

MONDAY EVENING, December 2, 1895.

The M.: E.: Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 7:30 o'clock.

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

The Minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Companion H. Clay Armstrong made Report on the P. M., M. E. and R. A. Degrees, and the Report was adopted.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

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

To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Alabama:

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

1. We have read with interest the words of admonition and can but express the hope that all Companions will adopt them as their own. Especially do we commend that part of the address urging attendance of every Companion upon every local Convocation. If this is done there will be no further complaint of lack of increase in membership, and we recommend that the portions of the address on securing better and prompter attendance be taken seriously to heart by every Companion in this Jurisdiction.

2. We would recommend that the Grand Secretary furnish as early as possible to Grand or Local Secretaries after the close of

this Grand Chapter certified copies of that portion of the Address relating to deceased Companions.

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

4. Your Committee cannot agree with the M. E. Grand High Priest in his views as expressed in that portion of the Address which recommends the use of printed rituals in the Subordinate Chapters, believing as we do that it will lead to great confusion and possible disaster. At the last meeting of the General Grand Chapter resolutions were adopted looking to changes in the Ritual adopted by that body.

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. SCREWS,

W. S. FOSTER,

Committee.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Companion F. J. Cowart, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, made the following Report, which was adopted:

To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Alabama:

Your Committee on Finance beg leave to submit the following as their report:

We find that the R. E. Grand Treasurer had a balance on hand from last year of.....	\$468 32
Received from R. E. Grand Secretary.....	396 78
Making a total of.....	\$865 10
He has expended as per vouchers.....	\$780 49
Leaving a balance in the R. E. Grand Treasurer's hands.....	84 61
Total.....	\$865 10
We find that the R. E. Grand Secretary has paid the R. E. Grand Treasurer.....	\$396 78
We also find that the R. E. Grand Secretary has collected dues since settlement with the R. E. Grand Treasurer, amounting to.....	\$460 50
Balance in R. E. Grand Treasurer's hands.....	84 61
Total cash on hand.....	\$545 11

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
CONTINGENT FUND.

[1895]

DR.	
To Cash from Grand Treasurer.....	\$150 00
CR.	
By expenditures as per vouchers.....	147 85
Balance	\$2 15

We recommend the following appropriations :

For Grand Chaplain	\$ 20 00
" Committee on Correspondence	75 00
" Committee on Work.....	10 00
" Grand Sentinel.....	10 00
" Grand Sentinel (Labor and Laundry)	8 10
" Grand Treasurer.....	50 00
" Contingent Fund	150 00
" Grand Secretary's Salary	400 00
Total.....	\$723 10

Your Committee has also had under consideration a set of resolutions offered by Companion George F. Moore, proposing a plan for furthering the interests of Capitular Masonry in Alabama, reading as follows :

1. The revenue of the Grand Chapter shall consist of, and be derived from, the following sources :

(a.) There shall be paid to the Grand Secretary by each subordinate Chapter seventy-five cents for each member borne upon the roll.

(b.) There shall be paid to the Grand Secretary by each subordinate Chapter three dollars for each candidate upon whom the Royal Arch Degree is conferred, and this fee shall be paid to the Grand Secretary *immediately* after the conferring of the Royal Arch Degree.

(c.) There shall be paid to the Grand Secretary for each dispensation issued for a new Chapter the sum of ninety dollars.

1. The Committee on Work shall consist of five members, the additional two members to be appointed by the M.: E.: Grand High Priest upon a Certificate from the Chairman of the Committee on Work, that the Companion is competent to exemplify the work and give the Lectures adopted by this Grand Chapter.

2. It shall be the duty of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest to provide, so far as practicable, that each chartered Chapter in this Grand Jurisdiction shall be visited and inspected by a member of the Committee on Work at least once during each year.

3. Whenever any such visit and inspection is made, the Inspecting Officer shall make a full and detailed report thereof to the M. E. Grand High Priest, showing:

(a.) Whether the officers of the Chapter are familiar with the work and duties of their several stations.

(b.) Whether the Chapters are equipped with the necessary paraphernalia and accessories for conferring the degrees properly.

(c.) Whether the books and accounts are properly and accurately kept.

(d.) Whether the Chapter has a Book of Marks, and whether all the members have recorded marks.

(e.) The number of meetings held and the number exalted during the year preceding the inspection; the number of members on the roll, and any other matters of interest to the Grand Chapter.

(f.) The Inspecting Officer will make such suggestions as to the improvement of the work or condition of the Chapter as he may deem proper.

4. The expenses of such visits shall be paid by the Grand Treasurer on a warrant drawn by the Grand Secretary and countersigned by the M. E. Grand High Priest, and the Grand Secretary shall keep a record thereof and submit the same to the Grand Chapter at each annual Grand Convocation. The M. E. Grand High Priest shall require of each inspecting officer, before endorsing the warrant, a detailed statement of his expenses, which statement shall be filed with and kept by the Grand Secretary in his office.

Having carefully examined the resolutions, your Committee recommend their adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

F. J. COWART,

B. F. JONES,

W. E. OAKLEY,

Committee.

CHARTERED CHAPTERS, NO. 1.

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

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

Your Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 1

report that they have carefully examined the reports

submitted to them and find that the following

to re-

Chapters

made

CORRECT REPORTS:

Clayton	No. 63	Springville.....	No. 88
Luverne	No. 99	Mineral City.....	No. 101
Fort Payne	No. 107	Pratt City.....	No. 108
Blocton	No. 109		

Incorrect reports were made by :

Central, No. 64; name of Chaplain omitted.

Landmark, No. 71; name of limited member not given.

Elyton, No. 76; name of Chaplain omitted.

Myles J. Greene, No. 80; name of Chaplain omitted; number of dimits granted should be 2 in lieu of 1, as stated; total loss should be 2 in place; net membership should be 21 instead of 22.

Columbus, No. 93; name of Chaplain omitted: no impression of seal and no mention of the amount of dues charged.

Rock Mills, No. 100; no Chaplain reported; does not state name of member suspended; no impression of seal.

Graham, No. 106; name of Chaplain not given; no recapitulation of membership; no amount of fees charged stated; no guide to give status of membership.

Faternally submitted,

LOUIS J. ADLER,

R. B. PORTER,

LOUIS J. WRIGHT

Committee.

CHARTERED CHAPTERS, NO. 2.

Companion B. M. Hill, Chairman of Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 2, made the following Report, which was adopted :

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama :

Your Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 2, beg leave to report that it has examined the Returns submitted and find the following

CORRECT:

Monroe.....	No. 4	Mobile	No. 21
Eufaula.....	No. 24	Union.....	No. 26
St. Johns.....	No. 28	Fulton.....	No. 32
Collinsville.....	No. 57	Tyrian.....	No. 57

INCORRECT:

Talladega, No. 23; no impression of seal.

Courtland, No. 25; shows discrepancies in returns as to number of members reported last year, 1894, and returns of this year, and shows that they are due the Grand Chapter \$1.50, and the same error occurs as to Decatur Chapter, No. 38, and they are due the Grand Chapter \$2.25.

McKinley, No. 48, fails to make a record of their membership, but make a note showing that the officers constitute the membership.

Zerubbabel, No. 56, fails to follow the direction of Grand Secretary, that of giving the membership in alphabetical order. Otherwise the returns are correct.

Fraternally submitted,

B. M. HILL,
Chairman.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

TUESDAY MORNING, December 3, 1895.

The M.: E.: Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor at 9 o'clock.

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

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

COMMITTEE ON DISPENSATIONS.

Companion Chas. R. Bricken, Chairman of Committee on Dispositions, made the following Report, and it was adopted:

We, your Committee on Dispositions, to whom was referred that part of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest's Address relating to Dispositions, beg leave to report that we have examined the Dispositions issued and that the same are approved in all things.

CHAS. R. BRICKEN,
THOS. F. TURLEY,
Committee.

COMMITTEE ON BY-LAWS, SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS AND APPEALS.

Companion W. J. Pearce, Chairman of Committee on By-Laws, Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals, submitted the following Report and it was adopted:

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

Your Committee on By-Laws, Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals, beg to report that nothing has been referred to us for consideration, recommendation or report. This certainly demonstrates that the Royal Arch Masons in this Grand Jurisdiction are at peace with one another, and that our Chapters are obedient to the Law

Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter and of the Most Excellent General Grand Chapter of the United States, as well as living up to the principles of Capitular Masonry.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. PEARCE,
Chairman.

DIMITS.

Companion G. A. Beauchamp submitted the following question, and asked its reference to the Committee on Foreign Jurisprudence :

"Has a Chapter the right to charge a fee for granting Dimit to a Companion who is a member of the Chapter and has paid all dues and assessments to the Chapter?"

TO AMEND ARTICLE IV., SECTION 5, OF THE CONSTITUTION.

Companion J. L. Oakley offered the following amendment to Article IV., Section 5, of the Constitution, which on motion, laid over until the next Annual Convocation :

Resolve That Article IV., Section 5, of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter be amended so as to read as follows :

No Chapter shall charge a less fee than thirty dollars for the Chapter degrees, which fees shall be paid as follows : Fifteen dollars to accompany the petition, and five dollars to be paid before conferring each of the degrees of P. M., M. E. M. and R. A., and in no case shall credit be given, nor shall any part thereof be refunded to any candidate unless his petition be rejected.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

On motion of Companion Pearce, the Grand Chapter then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers, with result as follows :

John G. Smith.....M.: E.: Grand High Priest.
 Josiah Jernigan .. .M.: E.: Deputy Grand High Priest.
 Wm. J. Rhodes.....R.: E.: Grand King.
 Ed. S. Gatchell.....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.
 George F. Moore.....R.: E.: Grand C. of Host.

The Grand High Priest subsequently appointed the following:

Charles R. Bricken.....E.: Grand P. Sojourner.
 George A. Beauchamp.....E.: Grand R. A. Captain.
 W. J. Pearce.....E.: Grand M. of 3 Vail.
 B. M. Hill.....E.: Grand M. of 2 Vail.
 B. F. Jones.....E.: Grand M. of 1 Vail.
 Charles A. Allen.....E.: Grand Sentinel.

COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE.

Companion Benjamin F. Pope, Chairman of Committee on Jurisprudence, made the following Report, and it was adopted:

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

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the question as to the rights of subordinate Chapters to charge a fee for granting a dimit to a member in good standing who has paid all other dues and fees, have carefully considered the same, and report that:

The language of the Regulation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States (Proceedings of 1886, p. 126), in reference to granting a dimit, which reads as follows: "Provided no charges are pending against him and his indebtedness to the Chapter is fully discharged," clearly indicates, in the opinion of your Committee, that a fee for granting such dimit *cannot be included as a part of such indebtedness*, but is to be looked upon as a *special charge for issuing the dimit* to which the Companion is of right entitled.

We, therefore, conclude that the enactment by any subordinate Chapter in this jurisdiction of a by-law requiring the payment of a fee for granting a dimit, or as a condition precedent to granting the

same, is not in accordance with the Regulations of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

Fraternally submitted and signed,

BENJAMIN F. POPE,
GEORGE F. MOORE,
OSCAR J. COHEN,
Committee.

INSTALLATION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The Grand Officers were duly installed by P.: G.: H.: P.: Wm. S. Foster, Companion Benj. F. Pope acting as Grand Marshal.

The Grand High Priest then announced the following as the

STANDING COMMITTEES:

ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Palmer J. Pillans	Belknap.
Simon Klotz	Birmingham.
George F. Moore	Montgomery.
Sol. D. Bloch	Camden.
R. M. Cunningham	Pratt City.

ON WORK.

H. Clay Armstrong	Montgomery.
Wm. S. Foster	Mobile.
George A. Beauchamp	Eufaula.

CUSTODIAN OF THE WORK, *ex officio*.

John G. Smith	Grand High Priest	Birmingham.
---------------------	-------------------------	-------------

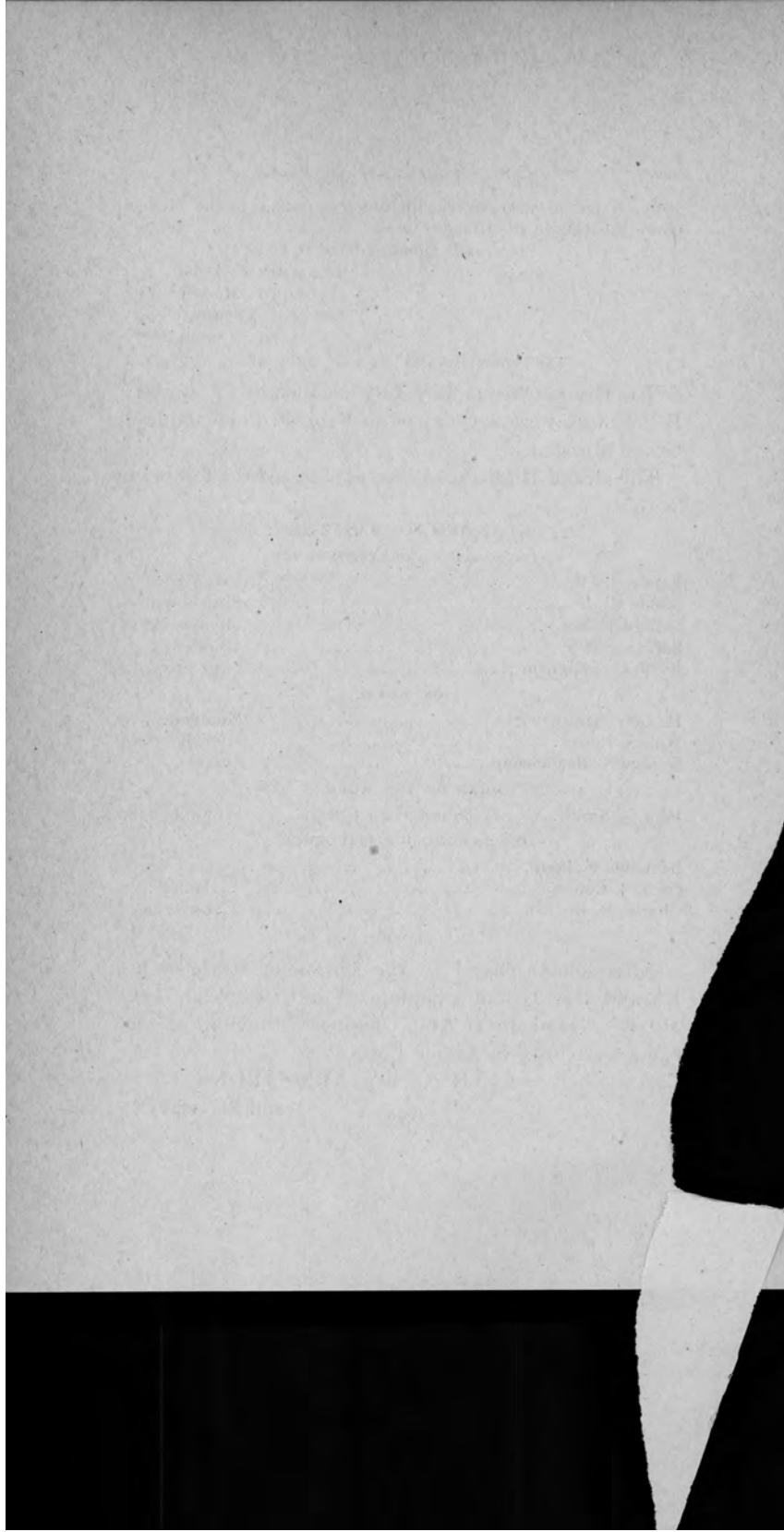
ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Benjamin F. Pope	Gadsden.
Oscar J. Cohen	Mobile.
Charles R. Bricken	Luverne.

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.



PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Order of High Priesthood.

Annual Convocation.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., Dec. 3, 1895.

The Twenty-Sixth Annual Convocation of the Grand Council of High Priesthood of the State of Alabama was held at the Hall of Montgomery Chapter, No. 11, in the City of Montgomery, at 3:30 o'clock p. m., December 3, 1896, agreeably to previous notice.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

H. Clay Armstrong.....	M. E. President.
Charles R. Bricken.....	Acting E. Vice-President.
James Milton.....	E. Chaplain.
S. J. Anderson.....	E. Treasurer.
B. M. Hill.....	E. Recorder.
Ed. S. Gatchell	E. Master of Ceremonies.
Wm. S. Foster.....	E. Conductor.
W. L. Johnson.....	E. Herald.
G. W. Porter.....	E. Steward.

OPENING.

The Grand Council was opened in Ample Form.

PETITIONS.

The petitions of Companions

William E. Oakley, of Decatur Chapter, No. 38,
Thomas F. Turley, of Decatur Chapter, No. 38,
Wm. J. Rhodes, of Talladega Chapter, No. 23,
William A. Arnold, of Landmark Chapter, No. 71,
William J. Pierce, of Mineral City Chapter, No. 101,
B. F. Jones, of Blocton Chapter, No. 109,

Accompanied by the usual fee, were received, read and referred to a Committee composed of Companions Bricken and Foster.

BALLOTING.

The Committee, after due consideration, reported favorably. The ballots were then had respectively in each case, found clear and they were declared elected.

The above Companions were then introduced, set apart, anointed and solemnly consecrated to the office of High Priesthood in Ample Form.

NEW RITUAL.

Companion Armstrong stated that at a meeting in Topeka, Kansas, in August, 1894, of Representatives of the Order of High Priesthood from twenty-three States, it was agreed that a Committee be appointed to propose a uniform Ritual for the Order in the United States, and in obedience to this agreement Companions J. W. Chamberlin, of Tiffin, Ohio; W. D. Thompson, of Minneapolis, Kansas; and Allan McDowell, of St. Louis, Missouri, were appointed on the Committee. The Committee has performed the duty assigned it, as will appear from the following circular letter received from Companion Chamberlin, Chairman of the Committee:

To all Conventions or Councils of Anointed High Priests :

At a meeting of Representatives of the various State bodies of the Order of High Priesthood, held in Topeka, Kansas, twenty-three States being represented, the following Companions, viz. :

J. W. Chamberlin, of Tiffin, Ohio,

W. D. Thompson, of Minneapolis, Kansas,

Allan McDowell, of St. Louis, Missouri,

were appointed a Committee to prepare a uniform Ritual for the Order of High Priesthood, from the Rituals in use throughout the United States, and furnish every Convention or Council, applying for it, a copy of the same.

Since the date of their appointment the members of the Committee have been in constant correspondence, and have individually carefully examined the many Rituals and Monitors in their possession.

Having arrived at a general agreement as to the proper forms and ceremonies to be recommended, the Committee met together in the city of St. Louis on the 20th day of March, 1895.

A number of days were spent in consultation and comparison of views and a ceremonial was formulated with esoteric and monitorial instructions complete.

Studied effort has been made to carefully preserve that beautiful system of moral instruction which has been so universally admired and approved by the members of the Order.

The Committee have endeavored to select the most desirable points in all the Rituals and so combine them as to secure uniformity, consistency and historical accuracy.

We confidently recommend the work to you for your careful consideration and adoption. Carefully prepared copies in manuscript will be furnished to the President or Recorder of Conventions or Councils of the Order at cost, which will be per copy.

Conventions or Councils desiring the exemplification of the work by a member of the Committee, can receive the same without cost, except the necessary traveling and hotel expenses.

Arrangements have been made for copies of the Bible, suitably inscribed and designed for presentation, at \$1.20 per copy, providing our first order shall aggregate two hundred copies.

For copies of the Ritual, or Bible, or any further information, address either of the undersigned.

Fraternally,

J. W. CHAMBERLIN,

W. D. THOMPSON,

ALLAN MCDOWELL.

May 1, 1895.

Companion Foster moved that the Ritual, as prepared by the Committee, be adopted.

Which motion was seconded by Companion Armstrong, who stated that he had examined the Ritual carefully, a copy of which had been furnished him by Companion Chamberlin for use of the Order of High Priesthood in Alabama (should it be adopted), with his compliments, and was greatly pleased with it.

Whereupon the motion to adopt the new Ritual was *unanimously adopted*.

VOTE OF THANKS TO COMPANION J. W. CHAMBERLIN.

Companion Armstrong offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Order of High Priesthood of Alabama are due, and are hereby extended to M. E. Companion J. W. Chamberlin, of Tiffin, Ohio, Chairman of the Committee on Ritual for the Order of High Priesthood, for the gift of a complete and elegantly bound copy of the new Ritual, and that the Grand Recorder be requested to furnish Companion Chamberlin with a copy of this Resolution.

On motion, the Grand Council proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the result as follows :

H. Clay Armstrong, Montgomery.....	M. E. President.
Charles R. Bricken, Luverne.....	E. Vice President.
William J. Rhodes, Talladega	E. Chaplain.
William E. Oakley, Decatur.....	E. Treasurer.
Basil M. Hill, Springville.....	E. Recorder.
Wm. J. Pearce, Birmingham.....	E. Master of C.
Wm. A. Arnold, Ozark	E. Conductor.
Wm. A. Foster, Mobile.....	E. Herald.
Benj. F. Jones, Blocton.....	E. Steward.

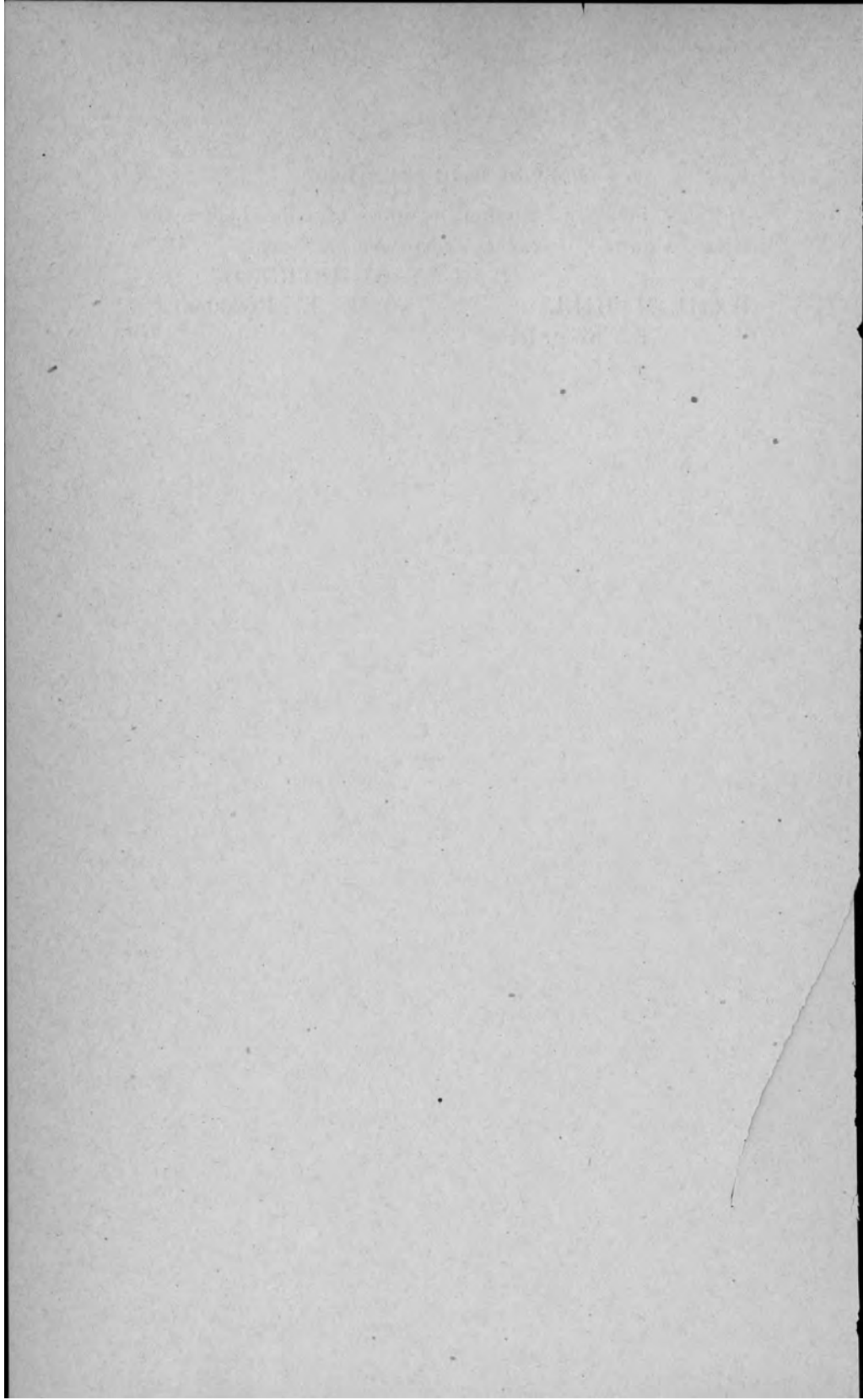
There being no further business to come before the Grand Council, it was closed in Ample Form.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG,

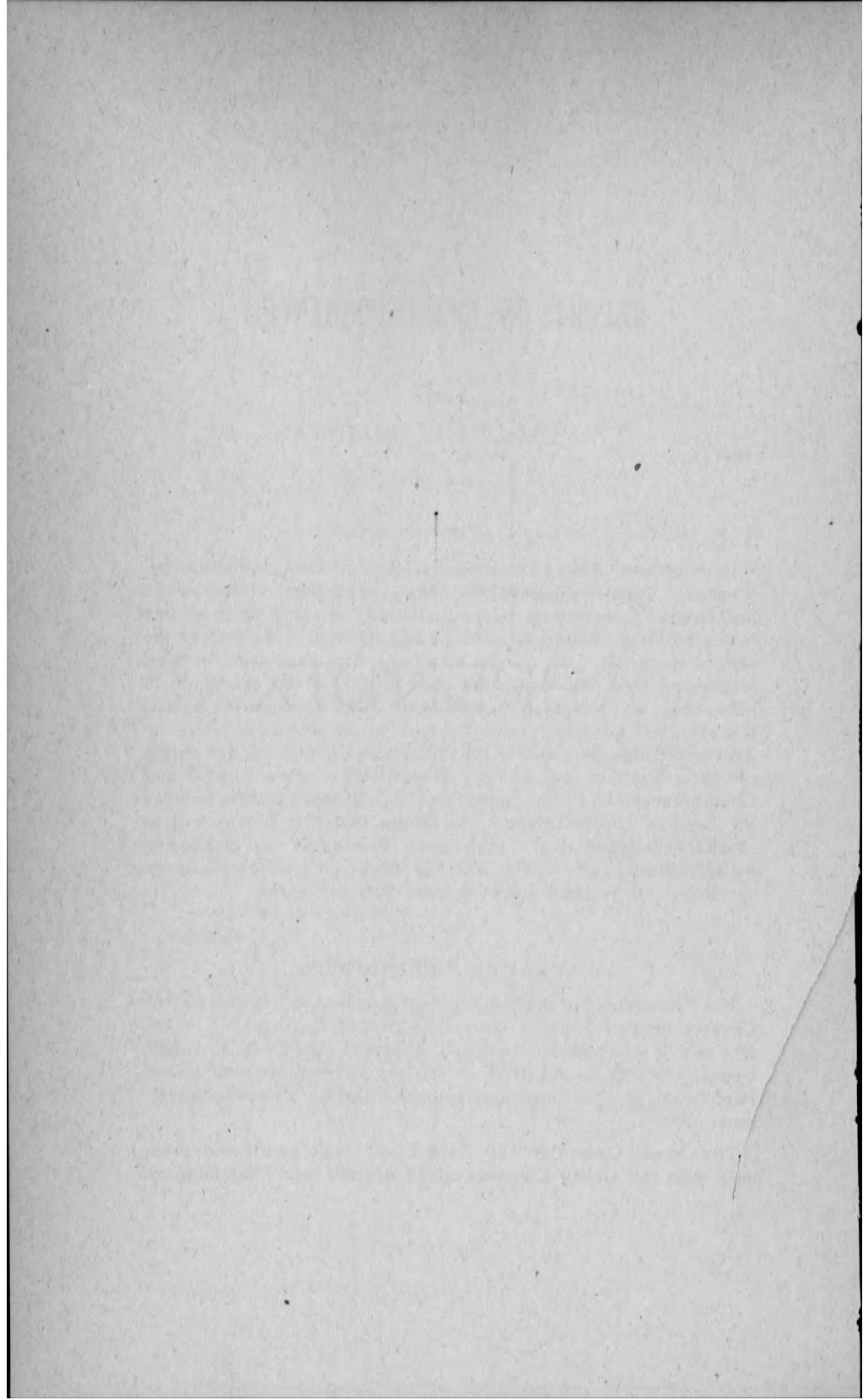
BASIL M. HILL,

M.: E.: President.

E.: Recorder.



APPENDIX.



REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

P. J. PILLANS, CHAIRMAN.

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

COMPANIONS—After the expression of such kind sentiments toward your Reporter (however illy deserved) as were uttered at the last Annual Convocation, he would indeed prove himself of base metal did he not determine while he had strength to devote it to the service of this M. E. Grand Chapter. The expression of their sentiments have but made him more mindful of the causes which led to them and increased his diffidence. With what powers he has, however, and governed as he believes to be proper, by a due regard to the financial condition of this Grand Chapter, he has as succinctly as possible reviewed the Proceedings of the several Grand Chapters received by him, forty-three in number, and also those of the General Grand Chapter, and hopes that this Report will be charitably received by his Companions. Hoping he may be allowed by Providence again to meet with his beloved Companions, he respectfully and fraternally submits the following Report.

PALMER J. PILLANS,
for Committee.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

The Proceedings of the last Triennial Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held at Topeka, Kansas, on 22nd of August, 1894, lie before us. It was presided over by Companion George L. McCahan, Deputy General Grand High Priest, the beloved General Grand High Priest, Jos. P. Horner, having been called from labor to refreshment above.

The Deputy General Grand High Priest deals gently and fraternally with the Grand Chapters which are still out of the fold, and

with this and his words in relation to Texas and Rhode Island, that "He hoped that the General Grand Chapter will emphasize 'Fraternal Endeavor' in relation to these two Grand Chapters," we are much pleased.

Two Chapters were authorized by dispensation, while Charters were ordered from five, one of these latter being in the City of Mexico.

The General Grand Chapter utters this as its dictum :

Dependent Lodges should not be opened, at Stated Convocations, until the Chapter is first opened and dispensed with ; after the work of the dependent Lodges is accomplished they should be closed, and the Chapter resume labor and be closed in form.

The G. · · G. · · H. · · Priest ruled :

That the acceptance of a candidate who has an artificial leg, but who can conform to the requirements of the work, is permissible under the decision of Companion Chapman, amended and confirmed by the General Grand Chapter. (See pp. 23 and 90, Pro. 1883.)

This was approved, but the question being re-opened, after considerable discussion the further consideration was postponed until the next Triennial.

There are \$17,000 in the keeping of the Grand Treasurer, and an effort was made to suspend the law requiring a per capita tax from Grand Chapters, but without success.

The General Grand Chapter hung fire on recognizing either the Grand Chapters of New South Wales or Victoria, but left these to the discretion of the incoming General Grand High Priest.

Companion George L. McCahan, of Baltimore, was elected General Grand High Priest, and, of course, Companion C. G. Fox, of Buffalo, N. Y., re-elected General Grand Secretary.

ARIZONA—5TH ANNUAL, NOVEMBER, 1894.

The Proceedings of this, our little sister, come to us in excellent style, conveying the intelligence that Capitular Masonry is alive and active in that mountain region. Notwithstanding the gain in numbers has been slight, there appears to be a firm determination to teach and practice the beautiful lessons contained in and inculcated by the several Degrees.

Chapters number 5, Companions 187, and the gain 1.

G. H. Priest A. G. Oliver delivered a concise, clear and direct Address, in which he says, "Nor do I consider it my duty, to deliver lecture on Masonry."

He congratulated the Grand Chapter that there had been no questions to answer and no grievances to redress.

He recommended many questions to be answered in every petition for the Degrees as being one means of producing carefulness in admitting those not worthy.

He also repeated the recommendation to change the time of meeting of Grand Chapter, which, however, met with no favor.

A copy of the Ritual of the General Grand Chapter was submitted and referred to a Special Committee to report on the practicability of its adoption, which Committee asked its reference to the Jurisprudence Committee, which was done.

Francis A. Shaw, Phoenix, G. H. P.

George J. Roskrige, Tucson, G. Sec'y.

Companion Chas. D. Belden brought forward the Report on Correspondence, containing a review of Alabama for 1893. It is written in an easy style, concise, yet instructive, and is no mean follower of the lamented Lighthizer.

Of his examination of the several Proceedings, he says:

We found a few sentiments that seemed to require hearty approbation and a little amplification; and, last, but not least, we discovered a few imperfections to which we have not hesitated to draw your attention, and upon which we have made what seemed to us to be appropriate comment. Of one thing we are sure, we have set down nothing in malice. We have formed strong convictions upon the subjects under discussion, and should have been provoked into rendering them in full, but our treasury will not permit. We have copies of Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, and a goodly library of the poets. These we could have used to embellish our report, but we were forbidden to republish them at the expense of our Grand Chapter. We have omitted much information in the way of facts, figures, names, etc., for similar reasons. And thus we have made our Report, which we now spread before our Companions, trusting that we have not worked in vain.

ARKANSAS—45TH ANNUAL, NOVEMBER, 1894.

We think the tabular statement shows that there are within this jurisdiction 64 Chapters, with a membership of 2050, the loss during the year having been 40. One Chapter was organized under dispensation during the year, which merited and received a charter at this Convocation.

Companion John C. Bone, M. . E. . G. . H. . Priest, says that "it is true, prosperity is not so great as in former days, but we are in the midst of plenty and are at peace with the world."

We find him troubled as we were some time since, when we left the beaten road, and prohibited substitutes for dispensations to allow their use, which, however, he felt it his duty to decline. The old usages of Masonry were the outgrowth of surrounding circumstances, and had better be preserved, for experience is better than theory. Yet we find him granting dispensations "to receive and ballot upon petitions" at the same Convocation. Oh! consistency, thou art indeed a jewel. But the greatest elephant on hand is in the printed Ritual. Too many want them, and of those to whom they are delivered, some lose them. Then, what? So much for departing from the fundamental requirement in regard to them. The Grand Lodge of that conservative old State, Massachusetts, is in the same dilemma. Already our Arkansas sister is extending the area to which these may be delivered, and already it has been found necessary to prohibit High Priests from using the book in opening and closing, but for reference only, requiring those officers to rely upon memory only. In early days, by tradition was the work conveyed, and by this means only did we obtain it, but the world is faster now, and our brethren cannot spare the time thus orally to be instructed.

G. . H. . Priest recommended a fixed period for commissions to Representatives to other Grand Chapters, but the Grand Chapter did not agree with him.

The Supreme Grand Chapter of New South Wales received due recognition, and an exchange of Representatives was invited.

James M. Harkey, Russellville, G. H. P.

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

The Report on Correspondence is made by Companion R. J. Laughlin, P. . G. . H. . P. ., and is both courteous and curt. He notices Alabama for both '92 and '93. We thank him for agreeing with us as to the "tinkering with the work," and hope that he also does with our views as to Rituals reduced to writing.

CALIFORNIA—41ST ANNUAL, APRIL, 1895.

Chapters, 68; members, 5,157; gain, 94.

G. . H. . Priest E. L. Crawford opened this Grand Chapter in Ample Form, and in his Address thus appeals to the members present and puts questions which should continually remind us of our

duties, and to which we hope that we may all be able to make satisfactory answers. They are questions of moment, not to those of this, our sister jurisdiction, but which should be seriously contemplated by all of us, and we put them to you, our Companions :

To those who with me have grown gray in the service of Masonry, the admonition comes, that soon we must present our work for inspection. Has it been such work as will be accepted? Have we "walked upright in our several stations before God and man, squaring our actions by the square of virtue?" Have we used the talents wherewith God has blessed us "as well to His glory as to the welfare of our fellow-creatures?" Have we, by precept and example, endeavored to impress upon the minds of all the practice of the exalted virtues of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth? Have we lived such lives as we would wish others to imitate? If so, then may we hope our work will stand the test of the "Grand Overseer's Square." What account can we give of the sacred trust we received from the Master Workman who preceded us?

He fears that there however hangs like a cloud upon the good name of the Companions that "curse of our day," intemperance, and urges its extirpation.

He authorized, by dispensation, the formation of a new Chapter, whose work, when brought up for inspection, proved to be good, square and true, and was awarded a charter. At the same time the committee recommended the granting a dispensation for one other.

He denounces those who travel peddling degrees, and calls upon High Priests to enforce the edicts of the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Secretary deserves great credit for having been able to promulgate and distribute the proceedings of his Grand Chapter within the month.

This Grand Chapter has in its treasury the sum of \$38,723.

The Committee on Returns reports that all but two of the Chapters had filed them with the Grand Secretary, accompanied by the "dues in each case, and were, as a rule, correctly and neatly prepared."

There was adopted, and we think very wisely, a resolution authorizing Grand Secretary to issue a duplicate charter to any Chapter when, upon "satisfactory proof," it was shown that the original had been destroyed "by fire or otherwise," without charge.

The Committee on Grievances had nothing to report, which authorizes the presumption that peace and harmony prevail.

Adolphus Hewel, Modesto, G. H. P.

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

The Report on Correspondence is prepared by Companion Wm. A. Davies, embracing within it the Proceedings of Alabama for 1894, which receive most fraternal notice. We are personally grateful for his very kind, and we may say flattering, words of ourself. Our confreres have been, with but one exception, uniformly kind to our poor efforts, which, however, has not made us unmindful of our own defects. We have always striven to be courteous, preferring to give to our Companions the words of wisdom of others rather than thrust upon them opinions of our own. In the vast field over which we are forced to travel, we have always been able to find thoughts of others which we thought would be far more entertaining than any of our own. Besides, we have been continually reminded, sometimes by the Grand Secretary, that brevity in any writer was a virtue most admirable, and that printers must be paid.

He thus speaks of Capitular Masonry in general :

The past year has been one of unusual quiet in all branches of Masonry. The universal depression in the business interests of the country seems to have affected the Masonic spirit, and checked the enthusiasm of the workmen from the ground floor to the asylum. By this stagnant condition, perhaps, the younger jurisdictions have been affected more than the elder. Be that as it may, as sure as the day follows night, we may confidently hope for an improvement "all along the line" in the near future.

The condition of Capitular Masonry in the United States is all that could be desired. The improvement in the last decade has been decided and permanent. There is great unanimity in the construction of its laws. There is no contention as to what is, or what is not the correct Ritual, and there is harmonious action in its legislative bodies.

CANADA—38TH ANNUAL, JULY, 1895.

Chapters, 98; members, 4,977; gain, 479.

There was one new Chapter chartered in this Convocation.

The G. . H. . Priest, or as he is styled here G. . Z. ., J. Ross Robinson, in his address demonstrates that he is infused with true Masonic zeal, and that his disposition is such that he complies literally with the Biblical injunction, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might." We have never before met with a more energetic or comprehensive address on Masonic subjects, or one that would probably be productive of more good to the Craft. Doubtless there are some who smart under the official castigations, but the Craft will be benefited. He introduced his plain statement of facts in this manner :

Literary fireworks, even if I had the ability to fill the air with them, are in place at a flag-raising, or on some national anniversary. On these occasions our lips breathe words patriotic and our hands applaud to the echo the hero of the platform. He who speaks wins his audience with chosen phrases, some original, and others perhaps, revamped thoughts of owners, who, if they had the power, would from another land eagerly discuss the duration of punishment deserved by hucksters who carry to market literary fruit plucked in other people's thought gardens.

My humble endeavor, therefore, will be to cast up in a few paragraphs, which it is to be hoped will not weary, my year's work, and summarize opinions upon such of its features as are of vital interest to this Grand Chapter.

Standing within sight of the thirtieth milestone in my journey as a Mason, with opportunities for experience on nearly every line of Masonic labor, my view is strengthened that the interchange of thought under the sheltering tree of friendship does more good in fraternal association than oft-repeated obligations, or grips, which cover Degrees which cannot be numbered without taxing the mechanism of a fully equipped calculating machine.

He visited, as he mentioned, 77 Chapters, in doing which he traveled nearly 6,000 miles in the heat of summer, and at times with the thermometer near zero. And on personal inspection he tells without varnish exactly what was the condition of each Chapter visited. He found a few bright exemplars, others indifferent or struggling, and in a few instances he speaks of the Chapter as "the story of a name without fame," and says, "Some men are eager to accept office, utterly unconscious of the fact that incapacity has no place in the equipment of him who would guide work, either Craft or Capitular. Yet he also says:

Reviewing the entire roll in Ontario, with 39 Chapters doing high grade work, 14 over the average, 13 that, although below the average, are yet struggling for a place, there is reason for congratulation during the past year.

The value of good searching visitations by the Chief of the Craft, we think, cannot be overestimated, and his views on this subject are thus expressed:

The primal importance of actual personal inspection cannot be over-estimated. It is my belief that if this were carried out to the fullest extent, within two years every Chapter on the roll would be doing good average work.

There are Grand Superintendents of whom we have heretofore in other reviews spoken, but these by no means occupy the same position in the minds of Companions as do those for the time being occupying the throne.

The G. . Z. . thinks that the reduction in the fees infused new life into many Chapters, although it does somewhat cheapen Masonic Degrees.

He is an enthusiast in Capitular Masonry, and thinks it has "the right-of-way" over any of the other so-called "higher Degrees."

He rejoices in the elimination of the Past Master's Degree from the Chapter, as has been done in Canada, and says :

The P. M. Degree belongs, and always did, to the Craft work, and the conferring of the Degree in a Chapter is an attempt to give exalted rank and knowledge to men, many of whom are not out of leading strings in Craft work. The legitimate Past Master is to be found in the Craft Lodge. The imitation article is to be found in Capitular Jurisdictions which undertake to confer the Degree. There is enough legitimate Masonry in our particular branch of the work, without importing an extraneous ceremony, which has features repellant to the instincts of men who reverence the teachings of Masonry.

The finances are in excellent condition.

J. Ross Robertson, Toronto, G. Z.

Thos. Sargent, Toronto, G. S. E.

The Proceedings of Alabama for 1894 were courteously reviewed by Companion Geo. J. Bennett in his Report on Correspondence.

Companion Henry Robertson, with whom we have so long held this peculiar intercourse, gracefully retired after his twenty-seventh Report and dropped his mantle on no inferior shoulders. His report is marked by ability and fearlessness, as well as fairness, and there is much in it we had designed noticing, but we have spent so much time with the G. Zerubbabel that we must forego the pleasure we had anticipated from the Report. Our finances are not large and we must heed the cry of the printer.

COLORADO—20TH ANNUAL, 1894.

Chapters, 31; Companions, 2,450; gain, 35.

The non-affiliates grow most rapidly from dismissions and suspensions for non-payment of dues.

G. . H. . Priest Henry T. West found it necessary for the preservation of two Chapters to exercise his dispensing power, one when the H. . P. ., K. . and Scribe were continuously absent, so that no meeting could be held, and consequently no election, and the other where those officers were about to be absent from the jurisdiction for

many months. In both cases Grand Chapter very promptly approved the course pursued.

He granted a dispensation for one new Chapter, which at this Convocation was chartered

Well may our M. E. Companion express feelings of pride when he can say :

I am rather proud, Companions, that I am able to report that I have visited every one of the Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction—thirty-one in all (thirty chartered and one U. D.) and, to the best of my ability, have instructed the Companions in the Royal Art. In doing this, I have spent nearly two months' time (56 days), and have traveled over four thousand miles. I believe that it was time well spent and that good has been done—how much of good, the representatives of the several Chapters can say better than I. To them I leave it. I have, however, such confidence in the results from a general visitation, by the Grand High Priest, or other Grand Officer, that I recommend that such visitation be made the duty, rather than "authoriz-d" merely, as it now is.

Of the value of these visitations, we are as certain as he expresses himself to be.

Some difficulty was experienced in obtaining a sufficient number of copies of the General Grand Chapter Ritual.

The edict of this Grand Chapter on the subject, "A High Priest elected to succeed himself should be reinstalled," which was esteemed of doubtful force, whether as being advisory or mandatory, and Grand Chapter altered the word "should" to "must." This settles it.

The Supreme Grand Chapter of New South Wales received cordial welcome into the fraternity.

Alphonse A. Bernand, Leadville, G. H. P.

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

The Report on Correspondence is again the product of M. E. Companion Ernest Le Neve Foster, P. G. H. P., who, in his usual felicitous style, reviews the Proceedings of forty-nine Grand Chapters, and many of them for two years, including ours. In it there is much to be admired, but we have been reminded of the necessity for brevity. Nevertheless, we thank our Companion for squeezing us through.

CONNECTICUT—97TH ANNUAL, MAY, 1895.

Chapters, 38; members, 5,215; gain, 258.

G. . H. . P. . Isaiah Baker, Jr., says it is with much pleasure that "I am able to congratulate the Grand Chapter upon the flourishing condition of our subordinate Chapters."

He speaks hopefully of the Masonic Charity Foundation, and Grand Chapter appropriated \$1,000 towards its enlargement.

He is by no means pleased with the exhibit of the condition of the Craft, as made by the annually published statistical tables, as may be seen by the following :

The methods of keeping record of membership and in making returns to our Grand Secretary are very loose with some of our Chapters. The result is that we do not obtain correct reports of our standing as a whole. Take the 1893 report of the Grand Secretary. The number of members May 1, 1892, was 4,930. Initiations, affiliations, &c., during the year, reported as 283. Deaths, dimitted, &c., 152, a net gain of 131, while the compiled returns of members on the books of the Chapters May 1, 1893, foot up 4,862, being 68 less than at the beginning—a discrepancy of 199.

The death of the Grand Secretary and P. . G. . H. . P. ., Joseph K. Wheeler, is mentioned, and there are none who knew this most excellent Companion that do not deeply sympathize with our Companions of Connecticut. We knew him not only as a Grand Secretary, but as one of the brightest among the Reporters, and as a poet of no mean order. Peace, be with him.

As the centennial of this Grand Chapter will occur soon now, the Grand Chapter thought it indiscreet to diminish the dues at this time.

James R. Post, Essex, G. H. P.

James McCormick, Hartford, G. Sec'y.

The usual kind and interesting Report on Correspondence is the product of P. . G. . H. . Priest, John H. Barlow, whose name in this connection is as familiar as household words, for have we not for now these many years with Drummond and Robertson met annually at the round table? Alabama for 1893 receives due notice.

We agree with him in wishing that the Grand Secretaries would "footup their columns" ere finishing their reports. He is no advocate for compulsory membership, neither are we; neither does he think that the Grand Body should limit the number of terms for which any officer can be elected, but that this should be left to the discre-

tion of the body, and we fear that he is correct in position, as indicated by the following:

We are in full agreement, but we think the trouble is somewhat chargeable to the issuing of summons when there was no necessity for it, simply to get a large attendance for no special purpose. This was not the intention of a summons. It should, we think, be rarely used, but strictly enforced. Familiarity in this, as well as in other matters, begets carelessness, if not contempt.

DELAWARE—27TH ANNUAL, JANUARY, 1895.

We have these Proceedings adorned by the likeness of the G. . H. . P. . for this year, Eugene Massey, and bringing the welcome intelligence that "the general condition of the Craft is good, and the work done by our various Chapters is to be commended." There are 4 Chapters with a membership of 503, showing a gain of 32 during the year.

G. . H. . Priest Geo. W. Andrews exhorts the Companions to be more careful in the selection of candidates for the Degrees, and fears that admission is too easy.

He thinks it advisable to permit the Chapter to provide for exemption from dues of such as have been very long Chapter Masons, and so recommended. Grand Chapter acted upon this recommendation and passed the following:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Chapter that all Subordinate Chapters of this Jurisdiction if by them deemed expedient, be permitted to exempt from dues all Companions who may have been members in good standing of their respective Chapters for a period of twenty-one years.

The business of Grand Chapter was all attended to, and after a session of two hours and five minutes, Grand Chapter closed, having installed only the Grand High Priest and Treasurer. A special Convocation was, however, held on 31st of January for installing the remaining officers.

Eugene Massey, Wilmington, G. H. P.

James H. Price, Wilmington, G. Sec'y.

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence is made by Grand Chaplain V. V. Harrison, and is a sprightly document, including Alabama for 1893.

He is an uncompromising advocate of the necessity of continuous membership in the Lodge to membership in the Chapter, and under Alabama says:

We have failed to find any good reason advanced by any writer why this should not be so. There is not a Chapter of R. A. Masons in all this broad land that would receive the petition of a person for membership who was not a M. M. in good and regular standing. Then if his petition for membership depends upon his standing as a M. M., why should not his continued membership depend upon the same condition of affairs? Symbolic Masonry is the foundation upon which the entire Masonic structure is built, and should be, must be protected if all else fails.

And under Iowa:

This is a point that we think Masonry should be a unit on. No Companion throughout the broad land should be permitted to enjoy membership in a Chapter who does not contribute to the support of a Blue Lodge. The Chapter is indebted to the Blue Lodge for every stone in her structure, for her very life and being: then do not let us sting the hand that warmed us to life, but throw around it all the protection within our power.

The Order of High Priesthood has not taken root in Delaware, but as our Reporter "will look it up," we presume it soon will be, for like most novelties, it will find many followers.

He firmly believed in the necessity of "qualification before installation." He also thinks that no one should be allowed to pass under the arch until his work has been selected and recorded, and Companion Drummond, alluding to the recommendation of the Grand High Priest of Delaware on the subject, says: "The recommendation was adopted, but we doubt if officers of Chapters, in their eagerness to do work, will strictly enforce it."

Companion Southgate, with his "level head," does not oppose this view, but does not think the mark "absolutely necessary."

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—28TH ANNUAL, DECEMBER, 1894

The condition of the Craft within this jurisdiction cannot be given in language more complete and concise than that of the G. . H. . Priest, Geo. H. Walker, in his Address, and which, for this reason, we copy:

Notwithstanding the severe financial depression through which the country has been passing, notwithstanding the many cases of distress and calls for relief, the financial condition of the several Chapters has improved over that reported a year ago. The aggregate balance of cash on hand in the ten subordinate Chapters was, October 31, 1893, \$6,225.45. At the close of the caputular year, October 31, 1894, the aggregate balance was \$6,706.30. The aggregate

amount paid out for relief during the year just closed was \$1,314.08, against \$938 84 in 1893.

For obvious reasons the work has not equaled that of recent years. The exaltations have been 138, but owing to an unusual number of suspensions, dismissions and deaths, the net increase in the membership of the ten Chapters has aggregated only 14, making the present numerical strength of our jurisdiction 2,140.

A question of jurisdiction threatened to disturb the harmony of this Grand Chapter, but we presume that long ere this, it has been satisfactorily adjusted.

An effort was made to amend the Constitution so as to prevent the installation of any one in the office of High Priest who did not present to the Installing Officer a certificate from the Grand Visitor or Lecturer that he is qualified to confer the degrees, but it met with no favor.

Frank L. Campbell, Washington, G. H. P.

Lewis G. Stephens, G. Sec'y.

Our distinguished Companion, and I should add learned, also, made the Report on Correspondence, including in it Alabama for 1893. His opinion of how Masons should treat each other is so just and correct, and tallies with our own experience some years since, that we give it to you, Companions :

In response we say we shall never arrive at that "golden age" so long as Masons are to be treated precisely as profanes. Let us within the "vails" always act fraternally to all our Brethren, and the outsiders *will* come in and "pay their just dues to Lodge and Chapter." We believe that much of the unaffiliation among Lodge and Chapter Masons is due to the unfraternal feeling manifested by members who are within the Lodge and Chapter, and a conciliatory feeling and action of the officers and members will bring within the fold those who are without. We write from our experience on this point, and know of what we affirm. Some years since a Brother of one of our Lodges, who had acted as Secretary, went away for a time, and then returned to this city. He was again elected as Secretary. Upon examination of the books he found a large number of the old members who had suffered themselves to be dropped for n. p. d. He remarked to us that he would get *every one* of them back, as they were all good men and true, and that some untoward circumstances must have caused them to be thus circumstanced. Accordingly, in the best spirit, prompted by brotherly kindness, he addressed to each one a friendly letter, and the result was that every one of them came forward and paid their dues and were reinstated. We say to those who cavil at these dropped or unaffiliated Brethren, "Go, thou, and do likewise." Instead of traducing our Brethren, let us approach them in the spirit of brotherly affection, and we guarantee that in nine cases out of ten we shall reclaim our Brethren.

GEORGIA—73D ANNUAL, APRIL, 1895.

The jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter covers 91 Chapters, with a membership, as reported, of 3,073, which gives a net loss of 327, but there were 13 Chapters from which no reports had been received. Yet we find that there had been an increase in the number of Chapters by 2. The figures given in the recapitulation would lead to the inference that the loss by dimission was 276, while the exalted were 178, and affiliations only 31. Last year the increase was large; then why this sudden decline?

Alabama's representative was present, as he usually is, unless prevented by sickness.

In view of the condition of the Craft, as reported by Grand Secretary in his tabular statement, we were surprised at the hopeful condition of Grand High Priest J. W. Taylor, when he penned the following, which we clip from his Address:

As our jurisdiction has prospered materially, so in like manner has she prospered socially and fraternally. Masonry has kept pace with the strides of the times, and many espoused her cause the past year, and in all departments of the Fraternity the outlook is more propitious than in many years.

He granted Dispensations for two new Chapters, whose work when brought up for inspection being found to be good, true and square, charters were ordered.

This is what Grand High Priest thinks good, thoughtful and carefully prepared Reports on Correspondence are worth—such Reports as emanate from Companions Ramsay and Love, and of old Companion Blackshear:

The prosperity of the cause is greatly dependent upon intelligent interchange of thought upon Masonic subjects by these faithful "knights of the quill," and it is sad to think that the world of Masonry should ever be deprived of the valuable Masonic literature emanating from the sound brain, dictated by the pure hearts and sent forth to the world by the pen of this corps of authors, and would insist, Companions, to never let your Report on Foreign Correspondence be obliterated from the pages of your Annual Proceedings. We tried it once and almost wrecked the Grand Chapter of Georgia, and when the committee was revived, the logical, comprehensive Report of Excellent Companion Love and profound thoughts of Companion Ramsay, set in type, has had more to do with the rehabilitation of the Grand Chapter of Georgia than anything else. Sustain your committee and hold up their hands, and the investment will result in untold profits received in Masonic knowledge and fraternal fellowship.

The financial condition of the Grand Chapter was such that it authorized Grand Secretary to borrow one thousand dollars, which was accomplished on the next morning. In this connection we state that the Grand Treasurer reported no balance on hand.

Steps were taken towards co-operation with Grand Lodge in the establishment of a Masonic Home, and to this end a committee was appointed.

Charles Weesolowsky, Albany, G. H. P.

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

Our beloved Companion, W. S. Ramsay, again came forward with the Report on Correspondence, wherein we find Alabama for 1894.

The Report reviews the Proceedings of fifty-five Grand Chapters, covering 67 pages. It contains the pith of all that occurred in other Jurisdictions.

ILLINOIS—45TH ANNUAL, OCTOBER, 1894.

Chapters, 184; members, 15,846; gain 403.

Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form by M. . E. . Grand High Priest J. W. Hutchinson, from whose Address we learn that during the year two new Chapters had been authorized by dispensation. These, together with one other, received charters at this Convocation.

Grand High Priest urges the various subordinates, in view of the constant loss by fire, to keep their property covered by a fair insurance. Indeed it is somewhat amazing how careless Lodges and Chapters are on this subject.

He stated to Grand Chapter that the aged widow of one of their Past Grand High Priests was in want, and recommended that help be extended to her. This was done, and \$100 appropriated.

A careful perusal of the reports of the different officers of the Grand Chapter who are charged with the supervision of the several districts, shows the Craft to be harmonious and zealous.

The Committee on Correspondence recommended the recognition of the Sepreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New South Wales, and this was done, welcoming her to a place among the Grand Chapters.

The following resolution was introduced and referred to Committee on Jurisprudence:

Resolved, That in accordance with the recommendation of the M. E. Grand High Priest, this Grand Chapter hereby authorizes the Grand High Priest to appoint a committee of three to prepare concise and summary lectures in the several Degrees conferred in the Chapter for the examination of visitors—such lectures to be composed of suitable portions of the ritual, to be reduced to cipher, and submitted to this Grand Chapter at its next regular Convocation for its consideration.

Which made the following report and the committee was appointed:

Your committee to which was referred the resolution of E. Companion H. H. Montgomery, looking to the preparation of a system of lectures to be used in the examination of visitors to the Chapters, fraternally report: While the committee have some doubt as to the practical operation of such a system, they suggest the appointment of a committee of three under the resolution, whose duty it shall be to ascertain from the experience of other Grand Jurisdictions how the plan works; whether the protection afforded by the system is greater to a sufficient degree to warrant its introduction into this Grand Jurisdiction, and if in the judgment of the committee it is found to be of practical utility, they be authorized to prepare such a system of lectures to be submitted to the Grand Chapter for its consideration.

Two thousand dollars were appropriated towards the Illinois Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home.

W. L. Milligan, Ottawa, G. H. P.

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

Companion Jno. M. Pearson, Past Grand High Priest, made Report on Correspondence, Alabama for 1893 being kindly noticed. It affords us great pleasure to copy what is a reiteration of our own sentiments and find ourself commended by so distinguished a Companion:

As we have said before, absolute uniformity is an "*ignis-fatuus*," and the older we grow the less do we care for it, and, we think, in this, there is substantial agreement among the elders. "Old Hub," of blessed memory in this jurisdiction, used to say there were "too many Mark Master Tinkers,"—and we may safely add that each one wants to "ca' a nail" in the kettle.

On the same subject, under Arkansas, he says:

Our prediction of last year was fully verified. The Committee on Ritual, appointed last year, reported a form conforming, in essentials, to the work of the General Grand and yet retaining, mainly, the phraseology of their old work, to which they are evidently

attached and which they claim, we doubt not justly, to have received from the late E. H. English, Past General Grand High Priest. They also agreed to *print in cipher* two hundred copies for the use of the Grand Chapter, and here is where our prophecy comes in.

He is as adverse as we are to the forced membership in either Lodge or Chapter, and is not yet convinced "of its need, nor of its justice."

He thinks a motion authorizing a vote cast by one member for the entire body is wrong and should neither be practiced nor tolerated.

He notices under Missouri that a committee had been appointed to prepare a funeral service, and adds, "which we predict will never come into general use."

INDIANA—49TH ANNUAL, OCTOBER, 1894.

Chapters, 90; members, 6,315; gain, 119.

Grand High Priest O. W. Brownback, whose portrait graces this volume, opened this Convocation, and in narrating his official acts, stated that he had authorized by dispensation the formation of a new Chapter. This Chapter received a charter at this Convocation.

He laid before Grand Chapter the application of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New South Wales for recognition. The consideration of the matter was subsequently indefinitely postponed in deference to the Grand Chapter of Scotland, which has some Chapters there which are opposed to it.

He recommended some celebration at next Convocation, it being the semi-centennial of the Grand Chapter, and some provision was made.

A plan for consolidation of two or more Chapters was formulated and adopted at this Convocation.

The business was generally routine in its character.

Joseph A. Manning was elected and installed Grand High Priest on the 18th inst., and a note at close of Proceedings notifies us of his death on the 26th inst. Thus is life, for in the midst of it truly are we also in death.

Henry W. Mordhurst, Fort Wayne, G. H. P.

Wm. H. Smythe, Indianapolis, G. Sec'y.

Past Grand High Priest Thomas B. Long once more, and for the twelfth time, brought forward the Report on Correspondence, includ-

ing in it Alabama for 1893. We thank him for his words of commendation.

Under Arizona he pays a well-merited tribute to the memory of Companion Lighthizer, one of the Guild who died with his harness on and still at his work.

We have read the Report, long as it is, with great care and infinite delight, and we are well pleased at finding so able a Companion entertaining similar views to our own on almost all the subjects noted.

• INDIAN TERRITORY—6TH ANNUAL, AUGUST, 1895.

Chapters, 17; members, 581; gain, 58.

We are not, then, surprised when we find the Grand Secretary, J. S. Murrow, opening his Report with the following:

Having witnessed its birth in this Territory, and its slow growth under the administration of the General Grand Chapter, and having witnessed the opposition of the General Grand High Priest in the General Grand Chapter, when it was proposed to organize this Grand Chapter, and having witnessed our triumph when it was decided in the General Grand Chapter by a vote of more than a hundred ayes to the one single, lonely nay to grant to us the right and privilege which were justly our due, viz.: to organize for development and a more healthy growth, and having witnessed the growth of the Body in five years from four Chapters to seventeen, and from less than a hundred Royal Arch Masons to five hundred and eighty-one, all this, and more, I think, gives me a right to rejoice and be glad with you to-day.

Grand High Priest Selwyn Douglass was not burdened with much labor, yet he issued Dispensations for four new Chapters, which were chartered at this Convocation, and are included in the above. His decisions are in general accordance with sound rulings, and they were approved.

The Grand Chapter excused the Chapters that had been working under dispensation from paying the per capita tax levied as dues to Grand Chapter, which we think but just.

The finances are in most excellent condition.

Zachary T. Walroud, Muskogee, G. H. P.

J. S. Murrow, Atoka, G. Sec'y.

The Grand Secretary presented a lively running sketch of the condition of the various Grand Chapters under review—short, but comprehensive. The Proceedings of Alabama for 1894 meets with fraternal notice.

We shall hereafter miss our Companion's ready pen and well-defined opinions, for in his conclusion he notifies us that this is his last, although the Grand High Priest had continued him at the head of the committee.

IOWA—41ST ANNUAL, SEPTEMBER, 1894.

Chapters, 115; members, 6,987; gain, 82.

We find even in this Masonic Jurisdiction, where it is held that a Grand Master has no prerogatives derived from antiquity and custom, but that his duties are all prescribed by the Constitution, etc., the Grand High Priest, F. W. Craig, found it necessary to invoke the clemency of the Grand Chapter and ask its approval for one of his acts, although he thus expresses himself about it:

Whether this action was in strict accordance with the provisions of law may perhaps be doubted, but the emergency seemed sufficient to justify the action taken in the interest of the comfort and convenience of the members of the Grand Chapter, and I ask you to approve the plan adopted.

The Grand Chapter approved his course, although he had by it set aside a resolution of Grand Chapter at its last Convocation.

Dispensations were issued for two new Chapters and these received charters, while a dispensation was recommended for another.

He believes, and so do we, that "frequent and universal visits of Grand Officers would be productive of good to the Craft."

For a few years we have seen allusion made in these Proceedings to the "Hindoo Theology" and the book containing it. What is it? What has it to do with Capitular Masonry or any other branch of Masonry? We hope Companion Ercanbrack will enlighten us.

The Cryptic Degrees seem to be very worrying, but are still kept under the wing of the Chapters.

The Grand Lodge of this State asked Grand Chapter to make good standing in the Lodge an absolute requisite to membership in Chapter, and the committee to whom this was referred reported that no action was necessary, as the Rules and Edicts already in existence were ample for this purpose.

This Grand Chapter, at the Convocation of 1893, passed a resolution to abolish the Grand Representative system. Grand High Priest opposed this, and drew the attention of Grand Chapter to it, and the committee to which this was referred used the following language, which was adopted:

At the present session M. E. Grand High Priest Craig in his Address recommends that the Grand Representative system be restored, which recommendation is warmly endorsed by your committee in its Report on said Address, which Report was adopted without objection; whether the Grand Chapter at its Convocation in 1893 did not understand the proposition it was voting upon, or has repented of the action taken at that time, and long for a return to the flourish of trumpets and high-sounding titles, your committee cannot say, but must conclude that the Grand Representative system is again in favor with this Grand Chapter, and therefore recommend that Section 17 of the Code be not changed, but remain in full force and effect, and the Grand Representative system be restored.

There is a Grand Chapter Charity Fund now consisting of more than \$7,000, and which is being carefully guarded.

Amos L. Alberson, Washington, G. H. P.

Alf. Wingate, Des Moines, G. Sec'y.

Past Grand High Priest Thomas R. Ercanbrack again presented one of his masterful Reports on Correspondence, reviewing in it Alabama for 1893 courteously and pleasantly. We had not his Proceedings on that occasion. Iowa is so zealous and active that we are always glad to get these Proceedings and derive much pleasure from them.

KANSAS—30TH ANNUAL, FEBRUARY, 1895.

The Proceedings of the Grand Chapter came to us in a pamphlet adorned with the portrait of M. E. D. Byington, Past Grand High Priest, whose death occurred during the year.

The Chapters number 81; of these three were authorized by Dispensation of Grand High Priest, and were chartered at this Convocation. The members number 5,029, the gain having been 82.

Grand High Priest Robert E. Nickels calls attention to the edicts of Grand Chapter, requiring its subordinates to provide the prescribed paraphernalia, and thinks Grand Chapter should set an example by providing itself with appropriate jewels, clothing, &c.

We notice in the Report of the Grand Lecturer that of the 100 copies of the Ritual, as received from General Grand Chapter, eight are at present and already unaccounted for. This is but the beginning of the end, and ere very long the Ritual will be as well known as are generally negro minstrel songs. But so we go; *progress* is the watch cry, and Masonry must keep step with this progress.

The business transacted was of routine nature. Much space in the pamphlet was devoted to the description of the entertainment

of the General Grand Chapter the summer previous, and to the banquet, speeches made, &c.

John H. Spencer, Independence, G. H. P.

Jacob DeWitt, Salina, G. Sec'y.

This last also Past Grand High Priest brought forward the Report on Correspondence, in which Alabama for 1893 makes her appearance. We think he takes the correct view of the correspondent's duties, when he says:

Perhaps we have been too free in our quotations; perhaps we should have been freer to express our own views, but we have aimed to select what we thought would most benefit the Companions of our own jurisdiction.

These Reports are designed to give a correct statement of the condition of the Royal Craft beyond our own limit; of their thoughts and opinions, as well as to convey to them our own.

Kansas was "not reviewed" by us only because her Proceedings were not forwarded to us. We never neglect any, and if there be time when we get at this Report, we write for the absent ones.

KENTUCKY—95TH ANNUAL, OCTOBER, 1894.

Chapters, 81, one being U. D.; members, 2,908; gain, 56.

Grand High Priest William P. Coons presided at the Convocation. He issued many dispensations for conferring the degrees out of time; most probably this is bad.

He made three decisions in accord with the general principles of Masonic law.

He acknowledged receipts of a copy of the Ritual of General Grand Chapter, which he placed at the disposal of the Grand Chapter, but expressed doubt of benefit to be derived from adopting it. He adds:

I am convinced that the attempt to change the Ritual is too frequent, I am very certain that I express the general sentiment, when I say that it produces great confusion among the Craft, and cannot result in any good.

He expresses deep interest for "Our Home," and with a treasury so empty as to allow of no contribution towards its sustenance, he might well feel apprehension, yet recommends aid be given to it,

and the Committee on the Home urge Companions to "most careful consideration" of its needs.

James D. Lewis, Bowling Green, G. H. P.

Henry B. Grant, Louisville, G. Sec'y.

Companion James W. Staton, Past Grand High Priest, made the Report on Correspondence in the most condensed style possible and apologizes for its length. Nevertheless, he says, "It is hard to write a condensed report." Lack of funds and the necessity for economy compel this course.

LOUISIANA—48TH ANNUAL, FEBRUARY, 1895.

Notwithstanding the financial stringency, Capitular Masonry not only holds its own, but has given evidence of vigorous growth during the year. Chapters number 18, all of which made returns, with a membership of 934, and a net gain of 70.

The Address of M. E. Grand High Priest A. C. Allen is so replete with beautiful thoughts, worthily expressed, that we are tempted to quote liberally from it, that those of our Alabama Companions who may read this Report (and we hope they will not be few) may profit by that act. We do not think that many of these thoughts can be too frequently urged, for as the continual dropping of the water will wear away the stone, so these frequent admonitions, properly made, may induce us to correct errors, if there be any, and make our lives purer and better. Laying before Grand Chapter his official acts, he says:

Of them we ask your charitable, but impartial scrutiny, contending that the right vested in you is not only to inquire and to know whether the Craft in their temporal government has been successful; whether personal discipline has been maintained in the Chapter; whether satisfaction has prevailed among Companions; whether the annual dues have been paid and scrupulously accounted for; whether the work of Degrees has been uniform, and the ceremonies of the Ritual been faithfully learned and enacted with exact nicety. These requirements, it is true, are of serious importance; but it is, I think, still more important for you to know whether a deeper and purer thought and effect have been produced in the hearts and lives of the Craftsmen themselves by the inner teachings of these beautiful ceremonies—teachings other than the idle meaning that the mere words and actions which compose them put on.

Have the Craftsmen been devout and worthy, is the inquiry. Has Capitular Masonry here, by their efforts, been elevated, and its glorious mission been still full higher advanced to its goal? Will their work, now presented, pass the severe inspection of the Master

Overseer, and adjust itself harmoniously with the exact requirements of his unerring square? Have the various duties of each during the months of the departed year been scrupulously performed? And withal, has the spiritual temple of his life, in the erection of which he has been engaged day by day, from the beginning of his Masonic career, become a finished building, ready whenever the Supreme High Priest above so wills it, for the setting of the Cap-stone Death on its summit? This, I take it, is the first requirement of the moral law which governs us, and these duties, faithfully performed, constitute the full scope of the mission of a Mason in life.

Thinking, as he does, that convenience, and a desire, however laudable in its purpose, to rapidly increase the membership of a Chapter, is not, and should not be considered a sufficient cause for the granting of such Dispensations, he declined to grant his Dispensation for conferring the degrees out of time to many such applications.

He is averse to changing the Ritual, so well known in that jurisdiction, for that of the General Grand Chapter, and thinks that "to be favorable to a written work is to be untrue to the very Alpha of our Masonic instruction." So do we, notwithstanding so high and esteemed an authority as our distinguished Companion, Herman C. Duncan, Past Grand High Priest, and Chairman of Committee on Correspondence, presents the following ingenious and specious argument on this subject :

We would feign add a word on the subject of writing the Ritual in cipher. There was once a man, whom we are taught, was one of three ancient Grand Masters, whose integrity is exhibited to us as the model for all Masons, an integrity by which they should seek to live and in which they should be ready to die. This man, the same Masonic tradition informs us, committed to writing the most important "secret" of a Mason—even the word. He did it for the good of the Fraternity, that future generations yet unborn might find it, recognize it and use it. He did not do it in such manner that the profane might become cognizant of it—this his obligation forbade. He did not do it in such manner that the secrets of Masonry might thereby be unlawfully obtained. He did it in cipher; he did it in such manner that those entitled to the knowledge might thereby obtain it. In this, Solomon and Hiram, of Tyre, joined and united with him, and became equal participants in his acts. Unless our three ancient Grand Masters had done what they did, wrote the pivotal secret of Masonry, the fear of the King of Israel would have found its fruition and the word would have been forever lost, and, even if found in the future, could not have been recognized for what it was and is, without the other marks and indications which proclaimed it Masonic. The deposit was made in such manner that the secrets could be lawfully and could not unlawfully be obtained.

The treasury balance shows a continuing increase, and the finances are in a healthy condition.

The Supreme Grand Chapter of New South Wales received cordial recognition.

On the subject of Ritual, Grand Chapter took the following action :

1st. That it shall be the duty of the Committee on Work to forthwith take into consideration the Ritual and Work of this Grand Jurisdiction, and they shall revise the same if necessary, and shall agree upon and formulate a Ritual and Work, and shall promulgate and impart the same to the Grand Lecturer and to any High Priest who may desire it.

2d. That so soon as this Ritual and Work shall be agreed upon and shall be imparted and taught by the Grand Lecturer, and be brought to the knowledge of the several High Priests of the constituent Chapters, it shall be unlawful to use any other Ritual or Work.

A. C. Allen, Franklin, G. H. P.

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

Companion H. C. Duncan, Past Grand High Priest, made the Report on Correspondence, reviewing in it Alabama for 1893.

Of the proposition to make our Grand Chapter a traveling one, he has this to say, which we give as largely embodying our own views. Yet we have thus far done well, and Alabama is exceedingly conservative :

A resolution was offered, having in view the meeting of the Grand Chapter in various places within the jurisdiction. The committee to whom it was referred reported that the project was unadvisable for four reasons, to-wit: (1) that a severance of the meetings of Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter would increase the expense of attending both bodies by the same individuals; (2) that there was no assurance of finding a building as suitable for the purpose as that in Montgomery; (3) that the plan might cause contention; (4) and that a circulating Grand Chapter could have no safe abiding place for its Grand Secretary and its records. The first of these reasons is cogent, but an arrangement might be possible whereby the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter should travel together. Masons very often do that. We are surprised at the second reason. Is there not a Chapter room in Mobile or Birmingham suitable for meeting of the Grand Chapter? "Contention would arise"—yes, probably, but there is a contention that is healthy and promotive of strength. There ought to be enough of fraternity in the institution to prevent the presence of any other kind of contention. The fourth reason is a *non sequitur*.

MAINE—69TH ANNUAL, MAY, 1894.

Chapters, 53; members, 5,528; gain, 297.

Grand High Priest Albert M. Penley, whose portrait introduces these Proceedings, thus tells of the condition of the Craft:

While the great "financial depression" of the last nine months has been severely felt in business interests, Capitular Masonry in this State has continued to flourish in spite of it, and our subordinate Chapters show a steady and healthful gain, that will compare well with former years. This seems to indicate that when a man's mind is relaxed from his business, it naturally inclines to that which will morally and socially better his condition in life, and at the same time add to his enjoyments.

And Companion Drummond, a very Nestor in Masonry, adds:

We discover also, as a result of the increased interest of our members, an undue haste to receive the Degrees—that is, candidates are often pushed forward more rapidly than a prudent regard for their financial condition allows.

But few questions touching the laws have been asked and none are reported.

The Grand Chapter of New South Wales sought recognition. This was referred to the Committee on Correspondence, which, however, made no report.

The Deputy Grand High Priest J. B. Dunbar, thus speaks of Masonry:

Masonry is not merely a system of speculative truths, nor does it consist in the contemplation of incomprehensible dogmas. It is a rational and tangible subject addressed to the reason and common sense of mankind. Its illustrations are derived from Sacred History, from nature and associations with which we are almost daily connected.

The Report of Grand Secretary Stephen Berry might well be taken as a pattern by many who delight in gazing at the length of their own.

There were no grievances to be adjusted or appeals to be decided.

Edward S. Stearns, Norway, G. H. P.

Stephen Berry, Portland, G. Sec'y.

The Report on Correspondence is, of course, from the pen of our esteemed Companion, Josiah H. Drummond, Past Grand High Priest, and is, as usual, full and able. He reviews briefly Alabama

for 1893, and from this we learn that he agrees with us in our want of faith in enforced or "dependent" membership.

We rejoice to find him thus expressing himself on what is evidently in our opinion a growing evil, and which we think every brother upon his introduction to the Order is most solemnly and impressively taught under no circumstances and in no way to be guilty of:

We believe that no cipher has ever been invented, which, when used to the extent to which it must be in our Ritual, cannot be deciphered by experts, if the matter should be deemed of sufficient importance to justify the expenditure of the necessary time and labor.

And again:

We give this in full, because the manner in which the Ritual can best be promulgated is agitating almost every Masonic Grand Body in the country. While this particular cipher may be *practically* safe, we have no idea that it is *absolutely* so; its safety lies in the fact that it would scarcely be worth the while of any qualified expert to devote the necessary time to deciphering it. The very difficulty in reading it, and the limitation of one copy to a Chapter with the prohibition against copying it, will prevent its being any improvement upon the oral promulgation of the work, except so far as accuracy is concerned. It will not meet the demand for a Ritual that any officer may have in his possession and may be taught to read by himself. The pressure for such a Ritual has been so great, that in almost every jurisdiction they are made and used in spite of all law to the contrary. Ritualists have practically changed the old objects of the Ritual; in their zeal, they have made accuracy in rendering the Ritual the main object, and thus have made, what was intended solely as a means of instruction, to be the end to be attained. This generation is in too much of a hurry to spend time in learning the Ritual by repeated oral teachings, even though the object of the Ritual is wholly sacrificed by teaching it any other method.

Companion Drummond is so well known as a Mason of deep research, and so reliable as an historian, that we give you the following in full, under Pennsylvania, and in reply to Companion Africa, we find:

He refers to public installations, and says, among other things, that they are "in violation of an ancient landmark." *This statement is not true*; we put it thus concisely to compel Companion Africa's attention to it, and because it is an imputation of the most serious character against the Masons of every jurisdiction, except his own, and possibly one or two others.

He will understand that formerly there were two Masonic authorities in England, one originating in 1717, and the other some thirty

years later; the latter arrogated to itself the title of "Ancient," although much the junior of the other. Both established Lodges in this country, and Provincial Grand Lodges. In Pennsylvania, the so-called Ancients completely stamped out the others, and would not recognize them as Masons, although now Pennsylvania Masons are proud to recognize those whom their fathers denounced, and make desperate efforts to deduce their descent from them. In other jurisdictions, however, the other party prevailed, and in others both parties united, recognizing each other as Masons, and finally amalgamating even before the two Grand Lodges in England united. Dermott, the founder of the "Ancient" system, took pains to differ from the old Grand Lodge in some usages and practices, apparently for the sake of having a different system. However, the *motive* is unimportant, as the fact of a difference is all that concerns this discussion. The old Grand Lodge took Anderson's Constitutions as its guide, while the "Ancients" took Dermott's Ahiman Rezon. Later the old Grand Lodge used Preston as authority. And so it was that there came to be a marked difference in the details of the system and in some of the usages.

Coming to America, Pennsylvania took Dermott as the rule and guide of her Masonic faith. Some of the other jurisdictions, whose Lodges sprang from her, at first followed her example, but later followed the example of the other Grand Lodges and adopted Anderson and Preston.

When the two Grand Lodges of England united, the Dermott peculiarities were almost entirely wiped out, and the United Grand Lodge followed Preston rather than Dermott.

So that it has so transpired that Pennsylvania is *the only Grand Lodge in the world* that adheres to the Dermott system. All the others were founded under or have adopted the Preston system of Ritual, and all matters pertaining thereto.

Now we can admit, for the sake of this discussion, that the law and usage in Pennsylvania have always been as stated by Companion Africa; but at the same time we do not believe it. But we omit the discussion now as we have not completed our investigation. But we will ask Companion Africa to give us the evidence upon which he founds his statement, that when the Masons attended church in 1778, in Masonic clothing, "no Grand Lodge was opened."

On the other hand, public installations were allowed and practiced by the old Grand Lodge at a very early period in its history, and the American Grand Lodges which descended from it ever since. We had traced the usage back to early in the century, when it was well recognized; but since commencing this report, we have found that Companion Long has discovered a reference to it of an earlier date. He called our attention (but for a different purpose) to the following extract from the first American edition of Preston, published in 1804, p. 170:

"The necessity of fixing the original Constitutions, as the standard by which all future laws in the Society are to be regulated, was so clearly understood and defined by the whole fraternity at this time, that it was established as an unerring rule, at every INSTALLATION, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, for many years afterwards, to make the

Grand Master and Masters and Wardens of every Lodge engage to support the original Constitutions; to the observance of which, also, every Mason was bound at his initiation."

We have not been able personally to trace this back in former editions of Preston, but Companion Theo. H. Emmons has kindly done so for us, and he reports that he finds it as a foot note in previous editions, as follows: 1801, p. 177; 1796, p. 104; 1791, p. 207; 1788, p. 215; and 1781, p. 274; but he does not find it in the 1775 edition. This was under the title, "Masonic Regulations, 1718 to 1721," and the words "at this time" in our extract refer to that period.

This settles beyond cavil what the usage and law of the old Grand Lodge were.

Now we submit to Companion Africa, whether conceding the law to be as he says it is in Pennsylvania, he can truly say that public installations in the jurisdictions descended from the old Grand Lodge of England, which have followed Anderson and Preston, are "in violation of an ancient landmark."

If they are a violation also of "Masonic obligation," he must go back a good many years and complain of the fathers, for the full ceremony, as given in public, is published in this 1804 edition of Preston, and its earlier publication of Webb was undoubtedly from an earlier edition of Preston; and more than that, he must begin at home for the Pennsylvania Ahiman Rezon of 1825, now open before us, and that of 1894 also, contains in good large type, *the same ceremonies as are used at public installations!*

Our Pennsylvania Companions must pardon us for not being convinced that they are right in their conclusions that the law and usage have not been changed comparatively recently in Pennsylvania, because when we were made a Mason, Grand Master Joseph R. Chandler was the prominent Mason in Pennsylvania, and he took a leading part in a public installation, and we are very slow to believe that he was so ignorant as not to know the law, or so wicked as to be guilty of a "violation both of Masonic obligation and of an ancient landmark!" Do *you*, Companion Africa?

MARYLAND—97TH ANNUAL, NOVEMBER, 1894.

Chapters, 17; members, 1,582; gain, 70.

This Convocation was held in Masonic Temple, Baltimore, with M. E. Grand High Priest William E. Arnold in the east. In his Address he congratulates Grand Chapter on the peace and harmony prevailing and the general prosperity of the subordinate Chapters.

He announces that "I am glad to inform you that I have nothing to report" under the head of decisions. He suspended visitations as a means of retrenchment, as the finances were very low. He expresses delight at the happy results derived from the schools of instruction, and, in addition, recommends a proper celebration of

the hundredth anniversary of the Grand Chapter, which will occur "in less than three years."

There was no unfinished business claiming attention, neither were there any grievances to be adjusted.

A large and influential committee was appointed "on centennial of the Grand Chapter of Maryland and entertainment of General Grand."

Edward R. Trippe, Easton, G. H. P.

George L. McCaban, Baltimore, G. Sec'y.

Companion Ed. T. Schultz, Past Deputy Grand High Priest, again made the Report on Correspondence, in which is included Alabama for 1893, which receives full and fraternal notice.

From under Iowa we copy without comment, for none is needed :

Five hundred additional copies of "Hindoo Theology" were ordered to be *printed*. The "Cryptic Ritual," as revised by the committee appointed for the purpose, was also ordered to be *printed* and promulgated.

This jurisdiction will not permit the use of substitutes in the conferring of the Royal Arch Degree, but permits and *promulgates printed Rituals* ; verily, this is straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel.

We copy the following, because we most fully agree with him. We begin to think that at the same rate of growth these Masonic codes will soon rival the codes of the several States :

We have more than once stated in these Reports that we have found the most numerous decisions reported by presiding officers in those jurisdictions which have the most voluminous codes of law, and the reasons therefor are quite easy of explanation.

In the desire to frame laws that will fit every imaginable case that can possibly arise, a ponderous code of laws is produced, with which but few officers in these days of rapid promotion and *one-term* office have either the time or the inclination to familiarize themselves.

Even an officer who may have searched the code diligently for the law applicable to a case in hand, often finds what, at least, seems to him, a conflict in the law upon the subject, and as a last resort applies to the Grand Master or Grand High Priest for a solution of the difficulty.

Now, if our Grand Lodges would simply publish the General Regulations of the Fraternity, which are few and simple, but which all admit are the fundamental laws governing the Fraternity, then let the Brother who aspires to be "a Master in the art," be informed that in order that he may become such he must *study* these fundamental laws, as well as acquire a knowledge of the usages and customs that have been derived therefrom, our Grand Masters and Grand High Priests would seldom be called upon for decisions.

MASSACHUSETTS—96TH ANNUAL, DECEMBER, 1894.

Chapters, 74; members, 13,304; gain, 550; there being an average of near 180 to each Chapter.

This Grand Chapter, like the Grand Lodge, holds Convocations quarterly. At that of March there seemed to have been but little except routine business to attend to, and, indeed, this may be said also of those of June and September. Indeed, Masonic affairs are so well arranged, and its principles so well settled and acted upon in this jurisdiction, that there are but matters of routine to be attended to.

Grand High Priest J. Gilman Waite thus addresses the Craft :

The attendance upon Convocations may almost be said to be the barometer which tests the Masonic atmosphere of that Chapter, and signifies to its officers by no uncertain sign whether their labors are approved or not. Do the officers of your Chapter perform their duties in a perfunctory manner in the presence of vacant seats? Then rest assured they have not mastered the truths and beauties underlying and permeating through and through the Ritual of our Sublime Degrees. If this be the case, it should be their first and only care to become masters in truth of the work they assume to perform. But I assume this not to be the case, as evidenced by the Reports of the Deputies. By no uncertain signs the advancement of the standard of excellence has been slowly, but surely, progressing for a series of years, until to-day the Chapter is not looked upon as a part of the rite necessary to be accomplished before further advancement can be made, but is, *per se*, co-ordinate with the higher body. Let it, therefore, be the constant care of every High Priest to see that his "officers are capable and faithful in the discharge of their offices," made so by frequent inspection of their work and correction of their errors, for thus, and only thus, will our high standard be maintained, and he be rewarded with the applause, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

We fancy he is correct in these sentiments.

The fund of this Grand Chapter amounts to more than \$11,000.

J. Gilman Waite, Medford, G. H. P.

Seranus Bowen, Boston, G. Sec'y.

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of the Grand Secretary, and is, as usual, betokening careful examination and discreet criticising of the various Proceedings reviewed, including those of Alabama for 1893. We asked what was the traveling card, of which we saw mention in the Proceedings, and to this he makes answer as follows, for which he has our thanks :

In reviewing Massachusetts for 1892, he asks what our traveling cards are? They are "certificates for Companions traveling," printed from copperplate on parchment paper, on which the first three officers of a Subordinate Chapter may certify to the standing of one of its members, and the Grand Secretary certifies to the good standing of the Chapter. No other traveling card may be signed by officers, Grand or Subordinate. The Grand Chapter owns the plate, and the greatest care is taken that only those who are entitled to them receive these certificates. Diplomas and traveling cards are issued by all the Grand Bodies in Massachusetts, and only these can be signed by the officers.

We copy the remarks given below with our entire approval. These innovations or attempts at a misconceived progress, if not resisted and repressed at once, will become parasites, robbing the institution of its very life blood:

We think the admission of persons, not Masons, whether behind a curtain or not, is a pernicious innovation that ought not to be permitted under any circumstances whatever.

If the Royal Arch Masons in any Chapter have got to the point at which they cannot *properly and effectively* render the Chapter work, it is time for them to surrender their charter and devote their energies to some of the many Orders in which ladies are lawfully admitted to the work.

No conferring of Masonic degrees can ever be legally done except in a place that is "securely tiled," and if the mere dropping of a curtain between those who are not and cannot be Masons and the actual working of the degrees is "secure" tiling, we have been mistaken in the meaning of the term.

But we must be careful of our allotted space, and bid adieu to our beloved Companion, however interesting he be.

MICHIGAN—46TH ANNUAL, JANUARY, 1895.

Chapters, 127; members, 12,338; gain, 360.

All of these were represented at this Convocation, and all, save one, had filed their returns, a most gratifying showing and shining example to the more negligent. Well may Grand High Priest Jas. H. Cummins say:

Any one who will take the pains to look over the reports of the doings of the Craft in Michigan for the past year will recognize the fact that the Companions have all done their duty. Although the past year has been one of great depression in almost every business enterprise, still the Royal Craft have been steadily adding to their membership throughout the State at large, and doing a work which any Grand Jurisdiction should feel proud of presenting to the sisterhood of States as the work for 1894.

From the Report of the Grand Secretary it appears that some seven of the Chapters failed to make their returns and render in their dues by the time required, by which negligence they forfeited the pay to their representatives, but the Grand Chapter was merciful and forgave their tardiness for this time.

Provision was made for the bond of the Treasurer to be from some approved indemnity company, the cost of the same to be at the expense of Grand Chapter.

Five hundred dollars was appropriated to Masonic Home.

Chas. D. Blanchard, Marquette, G. H. P.

Jeff S. Conover, Coldwater, G. Sec'y.

The Grand Secretary is the Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, but owing to other engagements, the Report was left to be prepared by another member, Garra B. Noble, and Companion Conover generously accepted the noble gift and presented it for consideration. It covers 123 pages, and presents a sketch of Alabama for 1893.

He condoles with Grand Secretary Armstrong on account of the delinquencies of the Chapters, but hopes the resolution introduced by him and adopted at the Convocation may correct the evil.

MISSISSIPPI—47TH ANNUAL, FEBRUARY, 1895.

Chapters, 43; members, 1,305, the summary making this 1,419; gain, 102.

On pages facing each other, pp. 16 and 17, are to be found two tables; one gives the membership as 1,315, the other as above, and one table shows for 1894, after deducting the loss since 1870, that there should be but 872 members. How is this, Companion Power?

Grand High Priest Wm. Starling, of the Craft, says:

The general depression which has prevailed has not been without its influence on Masonry, and especially on Capitular, Cryptic and Chivalric Masonry. In times of distress it is luxuries that first feel the pressure; and these are Masonic luxuries. Symbolic Masonry is the staff of life; these are the dessert of the Masonic feast.

He announced the death of Companion R. B. Brannin, Grand Lecturer for the several Masonic bodies of our sister jurisdiction, of whom he says:

So shall it be, Companions, some day with us. Fortunate, indeed, will it be for our memory if we leave behind us a record so clear, so

pure, so undefiled as his—if our sorrows bestow upon us only a small part of the regret and affection which follow our departed Brannin.

And again :

To Robert B. Brannin, if to no other, may be applied the proud title which, above all others, he would have coveted, of "a workman that needeth not to be ashamed."

The highest encomiums were bestowed upon him by each of the Grand bodies within the jurisdiction. May we, Companions, merit like applause.

The Grand Secretary, J. L. Power, published a tabular statement of the condition of the Craft from 1870 to the present time, and made these remarks :

Until 1876, the membership continued at upwards of 2,000. From that year, until 1890, there was a steady decrease, but since then there has been substantial improvement. During the past year two new Chapters have been organized, two re-organized, and indications are that two or more will be established during the present year ; so that, the stringent and depressing times considered, the present condition and outlook of Capitular Masonry in Mississippi is altogether favorable.

Lately there has been a very decided improvement in the condition of the Order, and we may safely now hope ere long to see the fires upon the altars brighten in every part of that fair land.

Grand Chapter adopted the following :

Resolved, That the sum of \$5.00 be appropriated to the Masonic Collector's Association, of which Past Grand Master James W. Staton, of Kentucky, is President, and Past Grand Master S. Stacker Williams, of Ohio, is Secretary, to aid said Association in the work of building up Masonic Libraries by the preservation of Masonic literature, proceedings, etc., for the current year, and one dollar a year hereafter, until the further order of this Grand Body.

G. J. Bakin, Natchez, G. H. P.

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

Companion P. M. Savery, Past Grand High Priest, once more brought forward one of his unique Reports on Correspondence, and we are piqued at not finding Alabama in it. Can it be that the mails failed in the delivery? or that our sister was overlooked in the mailing, or that we were mislaid and neglected so long after having been received? Well, so it is, however, and we can only hope for "better luck next time."

He thinks the Council, having survived the merger, will yet flourish in Mississippi and those beautiful Degrees be preserved.

We admire his position announced in the following :

If a Mason is unable to pay Lodge dues in Mississippi they are remitted, but for one abundantly able to pay, and too stingy to do so, we think he ought to be compelled to pay, or die.

Under New Hampshire we find his opinion of printed Rituals as thus shown forth :

Like unto the apology for written or printed Ritual, "Masonry must be made to conform to the wishes of the majority," whether in accordance with ancient landmarks or not. We do not expect or hope to convince Companion Waite of error, but we will leave our faith on record, side by side with his, and hope to be fraternal in our differences, especially as we find many a sentiment of his *that we can endorse.*

Fearful of being esteemed prolix, we desist.

MISSOURI—48TH ANNUAL, APRIL, 1895.

Chapters, 95; members, 6,485; gain, 87.

This volume is introduced by the portrait of C. H. Briggs, the Grand High Priest, at this session presiding, whose Address is a model for its conciseness, directness and clearness. In it he tells of the efficiency of the Grand Lecturer, and from it we infer that he has no great faith in "schools of instruction," and would rather the Grand Lecturer were so compensated that he could devote his whole time to these duties. At the last Annual Convocation it was resolved to divide the State into districts, subject each to a particular officer of Grand Chapter, but as there was no appropriation to cover the expenses of these officers, it was inoperative, and was repealed at this Convocation.

The Masonic Home receives notice and commendation.

He recommended that Chapters failing to send up their returns as required, should be punished by cutting off the pay and mileage of its representatives, but the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom this was referred, in their Report say: "We do not desire to impose further penalty than that given by the consciousness of neglect, as shown by the record."

There are over \$8,000 in Treasurer's hands as balance.

The Committee on Funeral Service make this very sensible Report :

Your Committee, appointed at our last Annual Convocation, on preparation of a Funeral Service, beg leave to report that the occasion so seldom arises where it would be necessary or appropriate for a Royal Arch Chapter to perform the Funeral Services, that we are of the opinion that it is not necessary for this Grand Chapter to prepare or promulgate such service. Should occasion require for a Chapter to perform such service, we recommend that the Lodge service, with such changes and additions as may be necessary, be used.

Alvin Haynie, Clinton, G. H. P.

Wm. H. Mayo, St. Louis, G. Sec'y.

This latter, as is the custom, prepares the Report on Correspondence, filling the place once filled by the brilliant and lamented F. Gouley. Why we should have thought of Gouley now, we can't tell. Perhaps because this Report in some way reminds us of those of our deceased Companion; perhaps—well, there is no use in trying to fathom the unfathomable, but the fact remains that we are reminded of the one long gone.

Alabama for 1894 receives full and fair notice. The Address of Grand High Priest McKinnon is kindly and approvingly noticed. He is somewhat amused at the fault found with some of the returns, because "the seal is not plumb."

For his kind words of us he has our sincere thanks.

He objects to requiring dimits of those applying for a new Chapter, to be filed, and thinks:

The better plan is to require petitioners to furnish receipts for dues to date; then if the new Chapter is not organized, they will remain members of the old Chapter; if it is, their membership with the old Chapter terminates.

We are glad to have his concurrence with our heretofore expressed views as to the futility and impropriety of every Grand Chapter determining for itself whether it will or will not recognize another, while we are the subordinates of the General Grand Chapter, whose will in this respect should be our law.

There is much, very much, of such excellence as to deserve notice, but our limit will not allow of it. So, Companion, we bid you adieu.

NEBRASKA—28TH ANNUAL, DECEMBER, 1894.

Chapters, 53; members, 3,145; gain, 354.

The Grand Chapter was opened at Omaha by the Grand High Priest, Albert W. Cretes, who in his Address thus discourses on the condition of the Craft:

The prevailing financial stringency has seriously affected the material growth and prosperity of the Craft, yet I am pleased to state that, notwithstanding the hard times, there has been a substantial number of exaltations in our constituent Chapters. In thirty-two of them there have been 168 exaltations during the year, against 242 during the previous year. Nineteen of the Chapters did not confer the Royal Arch during the year, against twelve last year. While these figures are sufficiently annoying, they furnish no real ground for apprehension in the future.

A good enough showing, we think.

Papers from the Grand Chapter of New South Wales were laid before Grand Chapter by Grand High Priest, and the Committee on Correspondence, to which they were referred, made the following sensible report:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom was referred the matter of the recognition of the Grand Chapter of New South Wales, beg leave to report that, whereas the General Grand Chapter of the United States has already recognized the Grand Chapter of New South Wales, and thereby has accorded to that Grand Chapter an equal standing among all its constituent Grand Bodies, therefore it is inexpedient for this Grand Chapter to take action in the matter, and we recommend that no action be taken.

R. V. E. Grand Secretary Wm. R. Bowen, Past Grand High Priest, is by us congratulated on the action of his Grand Chapter, which tended so much to increase the weight and bulk of his purse. See :

In view of the fact that our Right Excellent Grand Secretary, Companion William R. Bowen, has faithfully served us for the term of twenty-one years, and he becoming of age in service at this session, we especially recommend that the Grand Chapter, appreciative of services so faithfully performed, give him as a memento to deposit in the archives of his bank account one year's additional salary.

A committee was provided, "the Committee on Grand Chapter Office," whose duties are thus described :

The Committee on Grand Chapter Office shall recommend to the Grand Chapter from time to time such improvement as should be made in the office of the Grand Chapter and its equipment, and in the preservation of our archives.

Frank K. Bullard, North Platte, G. H. P.

Wm. R. Bowen, Omaha, G. Sec'y.

Companion Charles J. Phelps made the Report for the Committee on Correspondence, wherein is found Alabama for 1893.

It is from this that we learn what possibly should have been known by us before, that to the suggestion of Past Grand High Priest William R. Bowen and to his influence should be ascribed the growing doctrine of dependent membership. Whatever may be our views on this subject, and they have been heretofore expressed, there can be no doubt that if fully accomplished, the unity and solidity of the Fraternity would be greatly enhanced.

The Report is a most excellent one, and hence we are at great loss what best to lay before you, so bid you, for the present, good night.

NEVADA—22D ANNUAL, JUNE, 1895.

Chapters, 8; members, 294; loss, 9.

The Proceedings for two years come in the same pamphlet, the result of the very great financial depression which has so completely enveloped the country for some time past.

Grand High Priest John W. Eckley in 1894 welcomed the Craft, but bemoaned "the gloom and financial depression that had enveloped the country."

The Treasurer reported a cash balance of \$33 that year, and Grand Chapter decided not to publish the Proceedings, and to omit also the following year the Report on Correspondence. However much to be regretted, this was the part of wisdom.

It also adopted the California work as being more consonant with the work already had.

Rufus H. Kinney, Virginia City, was made G. H. P.
C. N. Noteware, Virginia City, G. Sec'y.

The twenty-second Convocation was opened in Ample Form by Grand High Priest R. H. Kinney, who continues the lugubrious song of his predecessor, but with indications "that we have reached the ebb, and that from this time for many years to come there will be an improvement."

One Chapter prayed permission to surrender its charter.
Grand Treasurer reported cash on hand, \$291.

Trenmor Coffin, Virginia City, G. H. P.
C. N. Noteware, Virginia City, G. Sec'y.

The Report on Correspondence is as follows:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report: Owing to a resolution passed at the last Convocation, we were instructed not to prepare a Report; however, we have carefully read all Proceedings that have reached us. There are no new questions before the Royal Craft. From all quarters come the complaint of financial depression and stagnation in business affairs; yet the prosperity of the Craft and increase in membership is as great as could be expected amidst the gloom and despair that has overshadowed us in financial and business affairs during the past year.

We hope for "better luck next time."

NEW HAMPSHIRE—76TH ANNUAL, MAY, 1895.

Chapters, 23; members, 3,221; gain 107; average membership, 140.

In Grand Secretary's Report are shown but 36 dimitted and 9 suspended for non-payment of dues, while the exaltations numbered 167.

The Grand High Priest, Wm. H. W. Hinds, announced that "The Chapters generally have increased in their membership during the year, and are in all cases, so far as noted, in good hands, and wisely governed and instructed."

He made no decisions.

He attended the General Grand Chapter, at Topeka, Kansas, and of it remarks:

While no business or legislation of great importance to the Craft generally was done, yet the meeting of so many eminent Masons from every part of the country can but redound to the benefit of Masonry. The Companions of Kansas spared no pains to make our stay among them pleasant and agreeable, and the social features of the occasion will long be remembered.

A petition for a new Chapter was presented praying for a charter, and this was ordered by Grand Chapter.

There was only routine business before the Grand Chapter, and this was promptly disposed of during the day.

There were elected and installed:

Wm. F. Knight, Laconia, G. H. P.

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

The Report on Correspondence is full of good things and exceedingly interesting, which, however, should create no surprise when from the pen of our esteemed Companion, A. S. Wait, Past Grand High Priest, who for so long a period has demonstrated his power

in Masonry. Alabama for 1894 receives fraternal mention. The report is 106 pages in extent, reviewing the Proceedings of fifty-three Grand Chapters, and many of them for two years.

In this review, as in others that have for some time preceded it, our Companion is engaged in a contest with Companion Drummond, of Maine, as to the origin of Grand Chapters. To be appreciated many reports would have to be referred, for a synopsis of the arguments of each cannot be properly condensed within the space allowed us.

He applauds the action of our Grand Chapter as to the effect of suspension for N. P. D. on Chapter membership.

He entertains no respect for dependent membership and expresses himself thus :

We do not doubt that the requirement of membership in a Lodge in order to retain membership in the Chapter is a very modern one in its origin. We have never heard that it is supposed to rest upon any Masonic reason, but upon some supposed reason of mere expediency. We think the expediency of the requirement more than questionable.

Companion Foster, of Colorado, having expressed the opinion that the issuance of a charter to Companions whose dimitts had not been obtained from the Chapters to which they had belonged, would not of itself sever their connection without a regulation to that effect, he thus combats the opinion :

We have always been in general agreement with Companion Foster in this view, except as to the requirement of a *regulation*, in order to work the change of membership. We now desire to ask him if, on reflection, he thinks, where the Companion belongs to the same jurisdiction, such a regulation is necessary? The act of granting a charter is the exercise of the supreme power of the Grand Chapter. Dual membership not being allowed in the jurisdiction, why is not the issuing of a charter itself necessarily a dimit to all whose names are in it as grantees? Is not the granting of the charter itself a regulation for the particular case, as effectual as though there were a general regulation or statute upon the subject? It comes from the same authority as that from which a general regulation would issue. If in a jurisdiction where dual membership is allowed (of which there are now but very few) of course this would not follow, because the Companion would be a member of both Chapters, but where dual membership is not allowed, the making one a charter member of a new Chapter, necessarily, as it seems to us, severs his membership from his former one. The case is a more difficult one where the Companion's former membership is in another jurisdiction. In such a case we are confident that there have been rulings that the effect is the same, though by parties in

opposite interests it has been denied. It will require more instances than will be likely soon to occur before a general consensus in the fraternity will probably be reached.

In Alabama the dimits of petitioners must be filed with the petition.

The question of physical qualification being now somewhat prominent, as it appears before the General Grand Chapter, we copy what he says where accident occurs after the reception of the First Degree. In his reasoning there is much force. Quoting what Companion Ramsey, of Georgia, says on the subject :

"This is a long stretch of your Masonic charity, Companion Wait. What light would a blind man receive even if you could legally *communicate* the degrees to him?"

We reply, the same light that enables the physically blind to see clearly the way to the throne of grace; the same light that enables one Mason to know another in the dark as well as in the light. We submit to the candid judgment of our Companions, of Georgia as elsewhere, that, having once admitted a person to one or more of the Masonic degrees and thus taken him by the hand as a brother, we have not a right to withhold from him further mental and Masonic light, merely because he has without his own fault been overtaken by misfortune. And such, we rejoice to believe, is now the opinion of the major part of the Masonic fraternity, growing upon it as conscientious thought is more and more bestowed upon the subject.

He recommended the recognition of the Grand Chapter of New South Wales, "in view of the recognition of its legitimate existence by so many of the American Grand Chapters, besides those of England and Ireland."

NEW JERSEY—39TH ANNUAL, MAY, 1895.

Chapters, 38; members, 3,168; gain, 72.

Companion Wiese, representing Alabama, present.

One new Chapter was authorized by dispensation, which was duly chartered at this Convocation.

Grand High Priest Thos. O. Ayres, "in view of the repeated requests for dispensations," recommended a fee for each, believing "that the mere fact that such dispensations are free for all, is a great factor in their being constantly asked for." But the committee to which referred, expressed a doubt whether the exacting of such a fee or the prompt and positive denial of dispensations is the better course to pursue, and are inclined to favor the latter."

A fair balance and an increasing one is reported by the Treasurer.

This Grand Chapter at its last Annual Convocation accepted control of the Degree of High Priesthood, but becoming satisfied that this step would be productive of no good, that action was repealed, and the Council now again assumes its independent attitude.

Joseph E. Fulper, Washington, G. H. P.

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

Companion Edwards furnishes the Report on Correspondence, covering 141 pages and 51 volumes, including that from Scotland and the Mark Lodge of England and Wales.

He is usually discreet in his selections and judicious in his comments. We thank him for his complimentary remarks regarding ourself, if complimentary they are intended to be. We little thought a year ago that we would again commune with the Companions, but our Companions so flatteringly expressed their wishes that there was naught for us to do but obey.

NEW YORK—98TH ANNUAL, FEBRUARY, 1895.

There are within this jurisdiction 186 Chapters, having a membership of 18,787, and a gain of 443.

The Representative of our Grand Chapter, near that of New York, P. Frederick Lenhart, we note as present.

M. V. E. Grand High Priest Frederick E. Barnes, whose portrait graces this volume, in Ample Form opened this M. V. E. Grand Chapter in the city of Albany on February 5, 1895, and thus opens his Address :

Ninety-eight years is a long period of time, except to Him from whose hand the "centuries drop like grains of sand," and, like my predecessors, I extend to you to-day a welcome to this Annual Convocation, the ninety-eighth yearly meeting of our Grand Chapter.

History is divided into three epochs—yesterday, to-day and to-morrow. Hope being the divinity of the last, so is Memory the goddess of the first, because every worldly interest beckons man on to the future; the Altar of Hope is always covered with flowers. Let us not forget, however, what we owe to the past, for she is the mother of all men and all institutions. So also will every true Companion, especially at these Annual Convocations, soberly ask of the past, our common mother, what lessons she has prepared for us in the days that are gone. Whether we go back to the tomb of Solomon, or to that remoter day where the first Adam stands alone on the threshold of history, we find that all enduring life is a growth both in man and in nature, and that the higher type is produced only by

the sacrifice of the lower. The mineral gives life to the vegetable, the vegetable to the animal, the animal to the man, because he is the crowning excellence of the Creator's handiwork.

In one of his decisions he ruled that the actual presence of the charter in the place of meeting was necessary for the regularity and legality of the Convocation, but the Grand Chapter having previously ruled otherwise, in this he was overruled. We know that this same question some time since agitated the Craft, and although there were some who expressed these views, we think the general sentiment went to sustain the position of the Grand High Priest, for there are certain things required to be present to constitute the assembly a lawful one, and among these is the warrant. If the Chapter or Lodge could dispense with one, why could it not also dispense with another? Indeed, why not with all of them? We think with the M. . E. . But great changes have been made in what are esteemed even the fundamentals since the writer hereof was first brought to light. Who at that time would have dreamed of reducing the Ritual to writing? Yet to-day what do we see but cypher work published by authority and scattered so recklessly that within a year in one jurisdiction already many copies cannot be accounted for. May we not reasonably fear that this is but the beginning of the end? for "whom the gods wish to destroy they first make mad."

A new chapter was authorized by dispensation from Grand High Priest and warrants were ordered for two.

Two chapters surrendered their charters.

He submitted a draft of a revision of the Constitution by a committee appointed by himself for that purpose, being moved thereto because of the very great number of general regulations that had been supplemented, thereby leading to confusion and a very great increase of letters to the Grand High Priest.

He suggests a limit to the term of Representatives. He also thinks that some fairer system of representation to General Grand Chapter be urged upon that body; that Grand Officers ought to be obliged to visit Chapters; that Grand Lecturer should be required to prepare a cypher copy of the Ritual for proper distribution; that in the M. M. Degree chapters should be allowed to confer it on only one candidate when necessary; that the title of this Grand Body should be "The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons."

It is somewhat surprising that in so large a jurisdiction no case of appeal or grievance should have been made.

Marvin I. Greenwood, Newark, G. H. P.

Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, G. Sec'y.

Companion Geo. J. Gardner, Chairman Committee on Correspondence, presented the Report, embracing in it the proceedings of Alabama for 1893. It is very full, covering 236 pages. He thus accounts for its length :

We think no apology is necessary for its length, as we have heretofore expressed our views as to the wisdom and almost impossibility of a greater condensation. To reduce the Report to narrower limits, would compel us to throw out much matter valuable to the Craft and materially weaken the interest of the reader in its perusal. It is no easy task to abridge thousands of pages and bring their contents within the narrow compass of the limit to which we are confined. Necessarily much matter must be omitted, which we are compelled regretfully to leave behind. We therefore present as complete a synopsis as circumstances will warrant.

He quotes our reason for making our Report as concise as possible that what was saved in printing might be applied to a Masonic Home, and asks, "Is not this a questionable proceeding? Would not the small amount thus saved, be more judiciously expended in imparting intelligence to the Companions? And farther on he thus twits us :

Notwithstanding his desire to shorten up his Report, to save money for the "Home," he finds room, under the head of Tennessee, to copy the lengthy and very valuable article on the "Holy Royal Arch," to which we alluded in our last Report, and which *we* thought we could not afford to insert therein, on account of its length.

Of the collective ballot system, of which so many have had their say, our reviewer thus comments :

We have already commented at some length elsewhere on this decision, and will not reiterate those remarks here, but we think Companion Long makes a mountain out of a mole-hill when he tries to impress us with the idea that "a member is compelled to cast a black-ball against one or more petitioners who are in every way desirable and worthy," etc. The ballot is passed merely to obtain the views of the Companions present as to whether a collective ballot shall be had. Surely no simpler way can be adopted than this, for if a negative ballot is cast, no one knows by whom—the secrecy of the ballot is preserved and no person would believe that the negative ballot was to stand as an expression of dissent against *all* the candidates. It is merely a request of the party casting the black-ball (or cube) that a ballot should be had on each application, surely no harm is done to the favored applicants, for they run the gauntlet safely, and the obnoxious one is sifted out.

He is not inclined to join those who would abandon the representative system, but thinks the general sentiment to be in favor of it.

From what we copy below we are inclined to infer that our Companion does not differ much from us in his estimate of cypher Rituals, and but for the last sentence we would be certain of it :

Under the head of Arkansas we find this :

"We must be permitted to dissent from the first sentence of the following :

"The Ritual is so wisely prepared that no profane *can possibly decipher it*. Indeed, I think that it will require *brains* for Royal Arch Masons to read it. I regard it as perfectly safe."

"We believe that no cipher has ever been invented, which, when used to the extent to which it must be in our Ritual, cannot be deciphered by experts, if the matter should be deemed of sufficient importance to justify the expenditure of the necessary time and labor."

We fully agree with him. Numerous instances are on record where translations have been effected, although apparently undecipherable. To go no further back than our War of the Rebellion, how many dispatches in cipher were intercepted and translated? It will be on the ground only that such cipher work is not of sufficient importance to the profane to expend the necessary time and labor for the development thereof, that will insure the secrecy of our esoteric work. Curiosity will sometimes provoke a great amount of labor, with an infinitesimal result in reward.

We have, however, far transcended our limits and must perforce leave this exceedingly interesting Report.

NORTH CAROLINA—47TH ANNUAL, MAY, 1895.

Chapters, 21; members, 705; loss, 43.

This is from the Abstract of Returns, while the Report of the Committee on Credentials and Returns says that "the total gains being 68 and the total loss 56," * * * "shows an apparent net gain of 12 members." And Grand High Priest Henry I. Clark says: "If, however, we have made no great gains, I am happy to say that we have taken no steps backward, and with the brighter lights which are dawning upon us, my successor's year of 'Royal Reign' must surely be one of boundless good."

A Dispensation for one new Chapter was issued by Grand High Priest, which led to some, as we conceive, rather sharp remarks by a committee on behalf of a Chapter whose jurisdiction was thereby invaded, and it may imperil the cause of Royal Arch Masonry in that region. A charter, however, was granted to the new Chapter.

Grand High Priest recommended that to such dormant Chapters as desired to be revived, the Grand High Priest be authorized to

issue his Dispensation, upon payment of the minimum fee, but on this we find no action had.

We see that Grand Secretary Horace H. Munson thus speaks of us: "For the benefit of our friend Hedges, who pushes the correspondence quill of Alabama," &c. Now, this is the most complete change in our name that has ever occurred to us, and we are somewhat at a loss to know if we are ourself or someone else.

Balance in Treasury, \$214. The Committee on Finance says \$357; either, however, does well.

Grand Chapter is pondering on the propriety of holding its Conventions at another time or place than that at which the Grand Encampment is held.

Walter E. Storm, Wilmington, G. H. P.

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

Companion Southgate, Past Grand High Priest, again made the Report on Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of forty-nine Grand Chapters, and among them Alabama for 1894 is found. Companion Southgate always does his work well, thoroughly, conscientiously and courteously.

He does not like our rule which suspends from the Chapter one suspended by the Lodge for non-payment of dues, because this only operates as a temporary destruction, or rather abeyance of Masonic rights, yet we believe that when he learns that our Grand Lodge declares that one so suspended occupies the same relation to the Craft that one suspended for unmasonic conduct, he must see that no Companion can hold any Masonic intercourse with him while he labors under such suspension.

He thinks uniformity of work has been secured by the action of the General Grand Chapter in having the Ritual printed, but at what expense to the morals of the Fraternity, unless the Royal Arch is no longer connected with, or an association of, the E. A. degree.

His review covers 97 pages, notwithstanding our "contracted means" (the influence of which we have felt and continue to feel), and ought to be productive of much good.

NORTH DAKOTA—6TH ANNUAL, JUNE, 1895.

Chapters, 13; members, 765; gain, 53.

Grand Secretary in his Report says that "Capitular Masonry in this State is now stronger than ever before, and prospects are bright

for the maintenance of its vigor and a healthy growth in the future."

Grand High Priest Sylvester J. Hill issued Dispensations for the formation of two new Chapters, which received charters at this Convocation.

He speaks, as all the others also do, of the Companions of Kansas as proving "themselves royal entertainers" when he spoke of the Convocation of the General Grand Chapter.

Grand Secretary recommended having the Proceedings electroplated, as a safe method of preserving them, and this was authorized for the future.

A system of keeping the records of the membership was adopted. It is called the card system.

The Grand Chapter determined to become a member of the Masonic Collector's Association, and made the necessary appropriation of five dollars.

Cash on hand near nine hundred dollars.

Theodore F. Branch, Jamestown, G. H. P.

Frank J. Thompson, Fargo, G. Sec'y.

No Report on Correspondence appears.

OHIO—79TH ANNUAL, SEPTEMBER, 1895.

Chapters, 146; members, 13,764; gain, 391.

Of this large number of Chapters there was but one that failed to report, and we are not then surprised that the Grand High Priest, Gibson H. Robinson, should declare that they had "been successful and prosperous."

Grand High Priest was required to make more decisions than are usual, but they were sound, and so declared by Grand Chapter.

He urged the necessity of great caution in the formation of new Chapters, "for it is better to have a few strong bodies rather than many weak ones." How true, and how important! Yet the Grand Chapter deemed it proper to order the issuance of Dispensations for three.

Grand High Priest laid before Grand Chapter the application of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of New South Wales for recognition, which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. In the Appendix to the Proceedings is a very complete report from Companion Williams on the subject, but containing no recommendation, nor do we find that any action was taken by Grand Chapter.

There was submitted by Grand High Priest some correspondence with a subordinate Chapter which refused to pay the assessment for the support of the Home, on the ground of its unconstitutionality, but the Committee on Jurisprudence, to which the matter was referred, thought the tax legally levied, and Grand Chapter so declared. The Home receives notice in the Address, and was to have been dedicated shortly after the closing of this Grand Convocation. Grand Chapter made an appropriation of \$2,000 to the funds of the Home.

The Ritual here, as in the General Grand Chapter, is in print, we suppose, as the "copy of the Ritual" was numbered, &c. One copy is claimed to have been lost. So we go with copies! So we comply with Masonic requirements and obligations!

The balance in Treasury was over \$10,000.

Grand Chapter fraternally recognized the regularity of the formation of the Grand Chapter of New Zealand, and extended "to it a hearty welcome to the family of Grand Chapters," inviting an exchange of Representatives.

Jacob H. Bromwell, Cincinnati, G. H. P.

Charles C. Keifer, Urbana, G. Sec'y

A most able and vigorously written Report on Correspondence was presented by our esteemed Companion, S. Stacker Williams, noting pleasantly Alabama for 1894. For the past two years we have given you what this Masonic student has said of the Capitular degrees, and now we know we shall be pardoned for using still farther his opportunities in this direction. Below we give a part of what he tells of the union of the two rival Scottish Grand Chapters, which was effected in May of this year:

The happy consummation of a union between the "*Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland*" and the "*Early Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland*," two antagonistic authorities over the Royal Arch degree in Scotland, prompts us to devote a portion of our space to this and other degrees associated with it in that country, and to notice the circumstances which led to the organization of the aforesaid bodies and an account of their final union.

There are many novelties connected with the history of the Royal Arch Degree prior to the assumption of its control by Grand Chapters, which were organized for this express purpose. There was anything but regularity or uniformity in management and work. Sometimes alone, and sometimes followed or preceded by the Degree of Knight Templar, it was carried along and worked within the bosom of the Lodge. In fact, for a long time this was the case with almost everything that was claimed to be a Masonic Degree. The general custom was, after the ordinary work or business of the

Lodge, for Brethren in possession of the Degree to be conferred to remain, when a sort of body within a body would be formed, and the degree confirmed. Sometimes it would be the Royal Arch Degree alone, and sometimes the Knight Templar Degree as well. This custom prevailed to such an extent as to alarm the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and among other reasons to comply with the "Secret Societies Act" of Parliament, passed in 1799; she soon after the passage of the act resolved "to prohibit and discharge all Lodges having charters from the Grand Lodge from holding any other meetings than those of the *three great orders of Masonry, of APPRENTICE, FELLOW-CRAFT and MASTER MASON*, being the Ancient Order of St. John." To put a stop to the practice which had become so deep rooted required strenuous efforts on the part of the Grand Lodge; and to secure obedience on the part of Lodges to the order of the Grand Lodge to discontinue conferring of the Royal Arch and Templar Degrees, it was deemed necessary for the Grand Lodge, in October, 1800, to issue a circular "prohibiting and discharging its daughters to hold any meetings above the Degree of Master Mason." Four years later the form of an oath was furnished to the Lodges by the Grand Secretary, with orders to require "*visiting strangers*" to subscribe to it in the presence of two or more office-bearers, who were also required to "*subscribe amongst with him as witnesses.*"

On the authority of M. E. M. McB. Thomson, of Ayr, Scotland, the last presiding officer of the Early Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, we give the statement that *soon after 1800*, charters were granted by the Early Grand Encampment of High Knights Templar of IRELAND, under which the Arch, as well as *all other high grades*, were wrought until 1812, when one, Alexander Deuchar, Eminent Commander of Edinburgh Early Grand Encampment No. 31, seceded and formed a new body, which he styled a Royal Grand Conclave, under which, as under the Early Grand, the Arch continued to be wrought. From his further statement, we quote :

"Five years later, however, steps were taken by influential Brethren of Edinburgh and the vicinity to form a separate Grand Body for the Royal Arch, and in consequence circulars were issued to the various *Lodges and Encampments* working the Royal Arch, inviting them to be present at a meeting held in Edinburgh, and assist in forming such a body. This circular was issued by authority of the same Alexander Deuchar, who had previously seceded from the Early Grand. Notwithstanding the organization of the new* Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter, many of the old Deuchar Encampments continued to work the Arch Degree until 1830, when Deuchar's Grand Conclave ceased to exist. After that time there were but two bodies working Royal Arch Masonry in Scotland—the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter and the Early Grand Royal Arch Chapter, which, up to 1889, existed agreeable to *ancient customs in the bosom of the Grand Encampment of the Temple and Malta.*"

*The present Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter to which the Early Grand has lately been united.

The next step on the part of the Early Grand Chapter was its severance from the Grand Encampment. Strange as it may appear to American Companions, it retained and conferred during the balance of its existence the following degrees, viz.: Funeral Master, Fellow-Craft Mark (modern Mark Master), Masters Mark, Architect, Grand Architect, Master of the Blue, Past Master, Royal Ark Mariner, Fugitive Mark, Link and Chain, Jacob's Wrestle, Scarlet Cord, Brotherly Love, Royal Master, Select Master, Most Excellent Master, Excellent Mason, Super-Excellent Mason, Holy Royal Arch, and the installed degrees of Noah, J. H., and Z. The minimum fee for all is £1. 1s.

"After its formal severance from the Grand Encampment, overtures were made for union between it and the Supreme Grand Chapter, and committees were mutually appointed."

For an account of the steps taken by the two contending bodies which resulted in the union, the reader is referred to our reviews of the Proceedings of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland.

From the Proceedings of a Quarterly Communication of the Supreme Grand Chapter held on March 6, 1895, we learn that the Supreme Grand Chapter, having considered the committee's report re union of the Early Grand Chapter with itself, together with extracts from the minutes of the Early Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, subsequently received, referring to the complete severance of the Royal Arch and Temple Degrees under the Early Grand Constitution; also communications from Companion Major Spence, Grand Master of the Early Grand Encampment, K. T., and from Chapter St. Paul Ayr, No. 18, it was resolved that union be approved on conditions previously laid down.

Arrangements were made for the final consummation of this very desirable object.

From THE SCOTTISH FREEMASON of June, 1895, we learn that meetings of the two Grand Chapters were held in Glasgow on May 11th, called for the purpose of consummating the union. The Early Grand Chapter convened in St. John's Hall at 3 p. m., M. E. Companion M. McB. Thomson, Grand Z., in the chair, supported by W. Dalglish, Grand J., and A. Cameron, Acting Grand H. The Grand Z. stated that the business of the meeting would be simply to carry out the resolution of the late Grand Chapter meeting anent the dissolution of that Grand Chapter and uniting with the Supreme Grand Chapter. The calling of the roll by the Grand Scribe E. disclosed the fact that there were represented the following named active Chapters, viz.: Moira Union, Kilmarnock No. 2, Ayr No. 3, Glasgow No. 4, Newmilns No. 6, Stewarton No. 7, Hurlford No. 17, Sorn No. 18, Irvine No. 19, Gooan No. 20, and Parkhead St. John No. 21. On a motion made by the Grand Z. and seconded by the Grand H., it was decided that the Early Grand Chapter of Scotland resign all right or title it had or claimed to have over Royal Arch Freemasonry in favor of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, the vote in favor thereof being unanimous. After a hearty vote of thanks by acclamation to the M. E. Grand Z., M. McB. Thomson, for the many services he had rendered and for his arduous

labors in the interest of the Early Grand Chapter, he declared "*the Early Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland dissolved and closed forever.*"

We believe that the foregoing will prove of interest, as we do not get a copy of Proceedings from this quarter.

Companion Williams has no stomach for dispensations for balloting out of time, neither have we. He thus expresses himself on the P. M. Degree:

So far as we are concerned, if the so-called degree, *as generally conferred in this country*, should be discarded by both Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, we would not don the habiliments of mourning.

We are inclined to think that to rid ourselves of the dead-beats and frauds we will have to adopt some such plan as he recommends in the following:

We do not believe the game will be worth the powder. If instead of depending upon our catechism for the detection of imposters with which our country is swarmed and who daily prey upon Lodges and individual members, we were to require the production of a certificate, or a receipt for dues of a late date, we would save money and greatly reduce, if not altogether annihilate, the army of professional dead beats which now infest our whole country.

No Chapter funeral service is wanted by him. He approves, however, of printed or written Rituals. We had marked much more, but must leave them.

OREGON—25TH ANNUAL, JUNE, 1895.

Chapters, 25; members, 1,238; gain, 18.

Grand High Priest W. C. Crawford, like most of the presiding officers of the Grand Masonic Bodies, finds in the financial difficulties of the past year the reason for so small an increase. This is but the natural result, for in times of such distress economy becomes the rule and luxuries must be dispensed with.

He recommended, before proceeding to confer the M. M. Degree, that the candidate be fully examined in the preceding Degree, and that this be the rule before further advancement in the Chapter Degrees, and this was so provided by Grand Chapter.

Balance in Treasury, \$2,374.

Grand Chapter adopted the Ritual prescribed by General Grand Chapter, and authorized Grand Secretary "to procure a sufficient number of copies to supply one to each subordinate Chapter."

J. M. Hodson, Portland, G. H. P.

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

The Report on Correspondence was made by Companion J. M. Hodson, the present Grand High Priest, who has been the writer for some years, and who, though Grand High Priest, was, by resolution, requested to prepare the next—a very deserved compliment to his zeal and ability. Alabama for 1894 is therein found, and duly noticed. We are flattered at his endorsement of some of our opinions, and the more particularly of our objection to the now so abundantly found cipher Rituals. Under Arkansas we find him saying what pleases us very much, for we can never forget the forcible manner in which we were taught the importance of secrecy in the very initial steps taken by us in Masonry. We had not then learned that Masonry was so progressive, and that Grand Lodges or Grand Chapters could so absolve from obligations as to quiet conscience:

It appears they have a Ritual in that State which is so difficult to decipher that even the average Royal Archer can't read it. Well, score one for Arkansas. That's the kind to have, if you have a Ritual at all. If no one could read it, so much the better; then, possibly, they would go to work and learn it right, though we admit that is not the way now days. It was "when you and I were young."

He does not think the actual presence of the charter actually necessary, but that it should be at all times readily accessible.

He objects to requiring applicants for new Chapters to file their dimit, but would have the issuance of the charter sever their connection with their old Chapter simultaneously with constituting them members of the new.

We let him tell what he thinks about officers resigning, only stating that in this we agree with him, although this is not allowed in Alabama:

Wm. S. Ramsey presented a very good Report on Correspondence, and we are pleased with his expressed opinions. He very properly declares that an officer of a Chapter, notwithstanding his installation obligation, "has just as much right to resign as he has to die or go away." We think every Companion has, not only a just right, but the Masonic right, to resign any office he may hold at any time, and even to withdraw, severing all his connections with the Order at any time he may desire, provided he has discharged all his dues and is not under charges. We further believe that a Lodge or Chapter should recognize that right, always reserving the privilege of investigating the standing and character of the brother before granting the dimit. The custom in Oregon, however, is against allowing resignations or withdrawals, except upon written satisfactory reasons. "We wait until they refuse or fail to pay dues and then 'drop' them," a custom this writer abominates.

Tersely he thus characterizes Masonic duty: "We are of those who fully believe that Masonic duty and duty to God are synonymous terms."

Of the dropping from the roll or deprivation of Lodges or Chapter association only for N. P. D., he fully expresses the sentiment prevailing in Alabama, hence we make suspension for this cause of precisely the same grade as for any other cause. He says, under Missouri:

We are utterly and forever against the whole business. Although dropping from the roll is practiced in Oregon, we always did believe it wrong in principle. The non-payment of dues either is or is not an offense against the principles of Masonry, depending upon the reason for the delinquency. Carelessness, lack of interest, or a wilful neglect of this duty, when able to pay, deserves a more pointed punishment, and we believe in getting entirely clear of such timber by suspension from all the rights and privileges; but in no case could we imagine the Masonic spirit prevailing where a worthy Companion would be suspended simply because he could not pay. We think, with Brother Mayo and "one better," that if such a Chapter does exist, that not only the charter but the whole Chapter should be "arrested."

The following indicates what is to be expected ere long, and foreshadows great evil to the Royal Craft. If the General Grand Chapter can do these things, where is her Constitution and authority? In enumerating the powers of the General Grand Chapter is found, "It shall have no power of discipline, admonitions, censure or instruction over the Grand Chapters;" and also, "It can exercise no doubtful powers, nor any powers by implication merely; and all Masonic powers not hereby granted to it are reserved to the Grand and subordinate Chapters of the several States, or to Royal Arch Masons individually." Hence the invitation of General Grand Chapter to Grand Chapter of Texas "to become a constituent of the General Grand Chapter," and the recognition in that invitation of the Grand Chapter of Texas as "a Sovereign Grand Body, and her Companions as brethren justly entitled to and deserving of Masonic fellowship."

The General Grand Chapter, by treating Texas as an independent jurisdiction, has gone to the extreme of folly, and after stating to Texas that she could return to her affiliations upon her own terms, and getting handsomely snubbed for her condescension, had now better get to work and either exercise her proper prerogative over her rebellious daughter, or dissolve and go out of business. A resolution interdicting all Masonic communication with Texas Chapters, and the chartering of Chapters direct, would kick up a terrible

dust, but in the end would bring order out of chaos and inspire a little respect for the governing body. The way it now is, the most ardent friend of the General Grand can only feel a sentiment bordering on both pity and contempt for the weakness of an organization pretending to exercise jurisdiction over the several Grand Chapters, when in fact her authority has less cohesion than a rope of sand.

PENNSYLVANIA—100TH ANNUAL, DECEMBER, 1894.

At the quarterly Convocation of March, 1894, the former Grand Secretary, Charles E. Meyer, was "expelled from membership in this Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter" for the embezzlement and appropriation of more than \$5,000 of the money of this Grand Chapter.

The M. M. Degree was exemplified.

At the quarterly Communication of June further peculation of late Grand Secretary Meyer was reported, and Most Excellent Master's Degree exemplified.

The following letter from Companion W. J. Hughan, Pennsylvania's representative near Grand Chapter of England, we think of such interest that we take the liberty of republishing it :

DEAR GRAND SECRETARY—As the Representative of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania at the Mark Grand Lodge of England, I have been in the habit of reporting matters to my Grand Chapter that seem worthy of special note. I do so now as to the Mark Degree in particular.

Until the last few weeks the earliest known reference to the esoteric Mark *Degree* was of the year 1773, viz., on the records of the Craft Lodge No. 124, at Durham, England.

Bro. Alexander Howell, of Portsmouth, who is now completing the publication of his History of the "Phoenix Lodge," of that town, has just come across a cypher in one of the Minute Books of the "Chapter of Friendship" No. 257, which has supplied him with the "*key*" to the earliest volume of its Records in 1769, all of which is in cypher, and never traced until now.

The cypher is peculiar, and, so far as I know, only met with in this ms., and not being of a regular kind, (that is, not *running* as usual) was not made out previously.

It is most extraordinary for a whole volume of records to be in cypher, *but this is*, and begins in the year when the Chapter was formed, viz.: 1769, and ends in 1786. When I wrote the History of the Chapter in 1890, the earliest records then traced were of the year 1787.

The first entry is as follows :

"At a Royal Arch Chapter held at the George Tavern in Portsmouth on First Sept'r Seventeen hundred and sixty nine: Present: Thomas Dunkerley Esq, William Cook, 'Z,' Samuel Palmer, 'H,' Thomas Scanville, 'J,' Henry Dean, Philip Joye and Thomas Webb. The 'Pro. G. M.' Thomas Dunkerley bro't the Warrant of the Chapter, and having lately rec'd the 'Mark' he made the bre'n. 'Mark *Masons*' and Mark *Masters*,' and each chuse their Mark. (&c) He also told us of this mann'r of writing, which is to be used in the degree w'ch we may give to others, so they be F. C. for Mark *Masons*, and Master M. for Mark *Masters*."

Like all the early Records respecting the Mark Degree, this proves there were two ceremonies; the "Mark *Man*" or Mason, for Fellow Crafts, and the "Mark *Master*" for Master Masons; and as it is also the first and only time that Dunkerley's name is found in connection with the Mark, the minute is of great value and importance.

I still hope for earlier notices of the degree, especially as in print and ms. we can now trace the Royal Arch back to the fifth decade of the last century.

Of course the antiquity of the Mark as an *operative* custom is virtually prehistoric. Marks were chosen by *speculative* as well as *operative* members of Lodges back to the year 1600 by evidence, and doubtless much earlier.

We students will continue our researches, in the hope and belief that more discoveries await the light

The last Proceedings of Grand Chapter are most interesting, and the account of the difficulty between England and Quebec (*Masonically*) is most exactly stated. I wish much that the Lodges would join the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and thus settle the matter, but we cannot compel them to do so.

With compliments to the M.'. E.' Grand High Priest and the Grand Chapter, believe me,

Yours fraternally,

WM. JAMES HUGHAN.

DUNSCORE, TORQUAY, England, 9th April, 1894.

At this Quarterly Communication of September still further deficiencies in the accounts of defaulting Grand Secretary Meyer are reported.

Grand Secretary's Report made at this time shows the Chapter membership in this jurisdiction to be 15,479, and a gain of 576, while the Chapters number 119.

The Royal Arch Degree was exemplified at this Communication.

At the Communication of December, 1894, we find the Finance Committee reporting still farther robberies of the late Grand Secretary Meyer.

The election for Grand Officers then took place, who were installed at the Annual Communication held on St. John's Day, December 27, and the retiring Grand High Priest makes his Report.

He reports very great good resulting from the holding of district schools of instruction, and that the Chapters are doing "better and more impressive work." As before the next Annual Communication this Grand Chapter will have passed the one hundredth anniversary of its existence, he recommended suitable preparation be made for its celebration.

After the installation Grand Chapter "was closed in peace."

Ezra S. Bartlett, Philadelphia, G. H. P.

Charles Cary, Philadelphia, G. Sec'y.

The Report on Correspondence is the product of the committee of five, among whom the Proceedings were divided. Companion Matthias H. Henderson, Past Grand High Priest, obtained ours for 1893. He also wrote a short introduction, from which it pleases us to extract :

It is a fact sad to relate that some men attracted by showy uniforms and fantastic ceremonies apply to our Lodges and Chapters with no better object than the hope of being able to reach these side institutions and participate in their pilgrimages and other festive occasions. This done they pay no further attention to Masonry than to keep their dues paid, because they must do so in order to retain membership in the bodies of their choice. Such members are no credit to Masonry, nor are they any lasting benefit to the other bodies; surfeited at last with pleasures their interest flags and finally ceases. Having squeezed the lemon they throw away the rind and seek new enjoyments. The true Freemason will find instruction in the principles and teachings of Freemasonry and his interest in it will continue while he lives. We have said these things before and will probably say them again, for we observe that it is only by constant admonition and vigilance that the unwary can be made to avoid the pitfalls that beset their paths.

He hesitates not to express his aversion to the odious Past Master's Degree as a part of the Chapter. It finds no place in the Capitular ceremonies in his jurisdiction. We entertain no doubt that if it would not prove a troublesome subject, it would be discarded. If such were done what would become of the Degree members?

From his critique of Alabama we copy the following, because we think his position eminently correct :

In the Appendix is a long list of names of Companions suspended for non-payment of dues. In a former Report we condemned this practice at some length and repeat now all we said then. We do not think any Grand Chapter has the right to publish to the reading public the names of those who, through misfortune perhaps, have incurred their censure.

Even worse is publishing the names of rejected applicants. Alabama does this, giving name, Chapter and date. What right have they to stigmatize in public those who, perhaps, are better men than they who black-balled them?

As long ago as March 4, 1833, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania adopted the following :

"On motion made and seconded it was *Resolved*, That the usual annual publication of suspensions, expulsions and rejections by the Lodges under this jurisdiction, and those communicated by other Grand Lodges, be suspended for the past year."

It has never been resumed, and we feel safe in saying never will be. Our Grand Chapter follows the same usage.

QUEBEC—18TH ANNUAL, JANUARY, 1895.

Chapters 11, members 472, gain 29.

The Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form by the M.°. E.°. Companion, E. T. D. Chambers, Grand Z. "Peace, perfect peace, and a reasonable measure of prosperity have marked the labors of the subordinate Chapters during the past year," is the greeting of the first principal. He also declares the progress steady, tho' not rapid, "notwithstanding the hostility to the Order of more than three-fourths of the population."

Dispensation for a new Chapter was granted by the G.°. Z.°, and Grand Chapter at this Convocation awarded it a charter.

He closes his Address thus:

So struggling onward toward the mark of our high calling,—misunderstood by some, misrepresented by others,—yet strong in the security of a self-approving conscience, may it be ours at the last, when summoned to pass within the veil, to bring up for inspection such work as shall pass the examination of the Grand Master Overseer. And then, my Companions, will it be true of you and of me, that—

"——Sustained and soothed

"By an unfaltering trust, we approach the grave

"Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch

"About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

There was no case of grievance or appeal, so "peace and harmony prevailed."

It was determined to become a member of the Masonic Collecting Association, and the necessary fee of \$5 was appropriated.

E. T. D. Chambers, Quebec, G. Z.

Wil. H. Whyte, Montreal, G. S. E.

This last also a P.°. G.°. Z.°. prepared the Report on Correspondence, giving a concise yet clear view of the condition of Capitular

Masonry in the several jurisdictions reviewed. Alabama is not among them, which we regret. Forty-six Proceedings are reviewed in 100 pages. Our Companion, in looking over the Proceedings, is struck by the numbers who have gone before who had earlier filled some spaces in their Grand Chapters. But this is the rule of life. Everything undergoes change. What we see to-day is not the same as was on yesterday, nor will it be the same to-morrow.

Here is what he says about the Grand Chapter of Victoria:

He thinks, when Companion Henderson examines the case more carefully he will change his mind regarding the New Grand Chapter of Victoria, (Australia,) and refers him to his (Williams) last year's review on the subject. We have turned up Companion Williams' 1893 Report and perused it carefully and noted his concluding remarks thereanent that he has been "particular to give a correct, historical account, &c." It does not strike us as being quite correct. He evidently has mixed up Canada and Quebec in his concluding remarks, for we think he must have been thinking of the "support so nobly afforded by American Grand Bodies" to QUEBEC in her trouble with the English Grand Mark Lodge. The trouble with Victoria is between that Province and the GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA, which latter holds jurisdiction only over the Province of Ontario, and is not the, but a Grand Chapter of a Province in the Dominion of Canada. The Canadian Chapters in Victoria are not from Quebec. So far as we have information the Grand Chapter of Victoria was formed as an adjunct to the Grand Lodge of the same name, the Grand Master being ex-officio the Grand Z (Grand High Priest), and with jurisdiction only over the Arch. The Canadians in Victoria were refused a voice in the formation, (*vide* report of Grand Officer), and if they joined Victoria would have to cast out the intermediate degrees. Under these circumstances it is somewhat surprising to us how eagerly some of the American Grand Chapters have accorded recognition to a system decidedly foreign to their own, ignoring the Companions who were upholding the American system. We may have something to say later on regarding this Victoria Grand Chapter.

RHODE ISLAND—97TH ANNUAL, MARCH, 1895.

Chapters, 10; members, 2,347; gain, 42.

Grand High Priest Albert L. Anthony congratulates the Grand Chapter that peace and harmony characterize the Companions, and that there are no grievances to be adjusted.

He is troubled, as many other of the Grand High Priests, that the Companions are so remiss, and so few select and record their marks.

He suggested the appointment of an Historian for the celebration of the centenary of this Grand Chapter, that he may have ample time for preparation.

Grand Chapter has on hand somewhat over \$9,000.

The Grand Musical Director, having for twenty-six years performed the duties of that office, was made a permanent member of the body.

M. E. Albert L. Anthony, of Providence, was re-elected Grand High Priest, and R. E. Companion William R. Greene, Grand Secretary, after which the Grand Chapter partook of the usual dinner.

M. E. Companion Henry W. Rugg, Past Grand High Priest and Grand Chaplain, presented a most interesting and instructive Report on Correspondence. He did not take up the various Proceedings, but treated in a masterly manner of the origin of the Royal Arch Degree, and evinced a thorough knowledge of his subject.

He thus expresses himself of the P. M. Degree:

For many years we have not hesitated to express our opinion that the Past Master's Degree belongs to the Lodge, and not to the Chapter. It should be under the control of the Grand Lodge. The General Grand Chapter could render no better service to the Royal Craft, in the way of legislation as to this subject, than to set aside the Degree—discarding it altogether on the assurance or understanding that the respective Grand Lodges would assume control of a proper and legitimate Past Master's Degree. But wherever conferred—under whatsoever authority—let it not be made a farce, or so used as to leave a disagreeable impression on the mind of an intelligent and sensitive candidate.

He thinks, as we have often expressed ourself, "that exact uniformity of work will glow like an *ignis fatuus* in the distance."

We agree with him that it is hardly the province of the Chapter to concern itself about the continuous membership in the Lodge.

Now, dear Companions, good-night.

SOUTH CAROLINA—84TH ANNUAL, FEBRUARY, 1895.

Twenty-two Chapters, 601 members returned, 3 Chapters having made no returns, and 1 under dispensation, reporting only 6 members. The loss or gain can not be ascertained, but it is probable that there is a loss in number of members. We had unfortunately to report a loss last year.

Co
1
th
C

Grand High Priest J. T. Barron announced to Grand Chapter that the Grand Secretary, J. E. Burke, had requested to be relieved from the duties of the office "as far as practicable," and that to that end he had appointed an assistant for him.

He granted a Dispensation for the formation of a new Chapter, which, however, had not reported. Of this he speaks cheerfully and hopefully for the future. This Chapter seems to be the revival of one long since defunct.

We are, however, pleased to learn as follows:

Most of the active Chapters are reasonably prosperous. Some that were revived a few years since are struggling under the misfortune of having, then, about exhausted all available material, and rushed the work through in a ridiculously short time. It takes a natural born leader of men, as well as an enthusiast, to keep up a real good Chapter without occasional "work," at least.

I think that all of our increase during the past year has been the result of a normal and a healthy growth that will in turn bear good fruit. Generally, the "great financial depression" that has been so painfully felt over our whole country, has not been conducive to a large increase in our numbers; but be encouraged with the thought that in the economy of nature there shall be a seed time as well as a harvest. After the seed has been planted it for a time lies hidden, apparently dead; yet the life-giving principle is at work, and, under the influence of nature's forces, it is gradually nearing the surface, where the vivifying rains of Spring and the genial Summer sun are gradually revealing the beautiful flower and the golden grain. So, if we have faithfully labored to improve our opportunities during this season of depression, rest assured that the fructifying influences of prosperity will surely come and abundantly reward our honest efforts for the upbuilding of a "nobler manhood." Let us ever remember that it is only when we reflect in our daily lives the teachings of our noble Craft that we can say we are truly prosperous.

He properly discountenances applications for Dispensations to confer Degrees out of time.

The charter of one Chapter was surrendered.

There were no grievances to be redressed.

This Grand Chapter accepted the amendments to the Ritual passed at the last session of the General Grand Chapter.

J. T. Barron, Columbia, G. H. P.

A. E. Fugle, Columbia, G. Sec'y.

Companion A. E. Fugle made his maiden Report on Correspondence, it being the first for some years. He of necessity made it as concise as possible, because of the financial condition of the Grand Chapter, which has just emerged from the blight of debt. But it gives promise of great vigor. We regret that Alabama is not found at this feast of good things. But "better luck next time."

SOUTH DAKOTA—6TH ANNUAL, JUNE, 1895.

Chapters 26, members 1,529, gain 29.

Of the Craft Louis G. Levoy, Grand High Priest, says:

We may congratulate the Grand Chapter on the condition of the Craft throughout the State. During the past year peace, harmony and prosperity have been the distinctive features, notwithstanding the prevailing depression, and while our numerical gains have not been as extensive as wished, or would have been under different circumstances, yet a deepening interest is manifest among the individual members of the Chapters, which is an indication of future prosperity. But one case of difficulty has been brought to my notice.

He also, when stating that he had visited every Chapter, adds that:

There can be no question as to the resulting good from the visit of a Grand Officer, and should my successors continue these visits, they will never regret it, for wherever they go a hearty Royal Arch welcome awaits them, that will more than repay the loss of time in making these visitations.

Of this we entertain no doubt.

He made but five decisions, and these, when not controlled by local statutes, were in complete accord with what is esteemed good law in this our jurisdiction.

He recommended that the bonds required of the Treasurer and Secretary be made by some security company at the cost of Grand Chapter, but it was deemed inadvisable to act on this matter at this time.

From his conclusion we take:

In conclusion permit me to call your attention to the following Oriental Tale, entitled, "The Recompense." It is related:

The Caliph Haroon-Al-Raschid, being one day at the chase, met an old man who was planting a walnut tree. "What a fool is this old man!" said the Caliph to his suite, "He acts as if he were still a youth, and were to enjoy the fruits of that tree." As his followers likewise made a jest of the old man, the Caliph approached him and asked him what age he was. "Eighty years complete, my Lord, and I am, thank God, still as well as a man of thirty."

"How much longer dost thou think to live," continued the Caliph, "that thou plantest, at an age so advanced, young trees which bear so tardy fruit? Why thus give thyself useless occupation?"

"My Lord," answered the old man, "I shall be contented when I shall have planted these trees, without troubling myself to think

whether I shall enjoy their fruits or not. It is just that we should do as our fathers have done; they planted trees whose fruits we eat; since we have profited by the toil of our fathers, why should we be, for our successors, less provident than our fathers have been for us? I consider, that which the parent cannot enjoy, the son will gather."

The generous Haroon, whom this answer pleased, gave the old man a handful of gold pieces.

"Who can now say," continued the joyful old man, "that I have labored uselessly this day, since the young tree, though just now planted, bears already such fine fruit? The saying is just, that he who does good is always richly recompensed."

So, my Companions, it is with us. We are planting for those who will come after us, as some one has planted for us, generations yet unborn are to profit by our having lived and worked. We are planting for future generations; let us then be cautious of every act which will surely be transcribed on the book of life, as an example for their guidance. See to it then that it will there be recorded that by precept and action has each individual's mission on earth been fulfilled.

This Grand Chapter also adopts and prints a Ritual for distribution among the subordinates, as appears by this:

The Report of the Committee on Ritual was read, and, after discussion, upon motion of Harvey J. Rice (10) it was

Resolved, That the Report of the Committee on Ritual be adopted, but that it be omitted from the printed proceedings; further, that the Grand Secretary be instructed to transmit a copy thereof to the several subordinate Chapters.

Grand Chapter is "of opinion that the practice of electing honorary members in subordinate Chapters is not advisable, and should be discouraged."

Harvey J. Rice, Huron, G. H. P.

Geo. A. Pettigrew, Flandreau, G. Sec'y.

The Grand High Priest, Louis G. Levoy, embraces in his Report on Correspondence the proceedings of Alabama for 1894. Alluding to the address of Grand High Priest McKinnon, he says, "and records his Dispensations, two of which are of questionable import," but does not specify them.

He does not like the position taken by us, of awaiting the action of the General Grand Chapter, touching the recognition of a new foreign Grand Chapter, and says:

Then why not recognize and welcome them? Three-fourths of the Grand Chapters have already done so without waiting for the recognition of the G. G. Chapter which they recognize has no mandatory powers, and these same Grand Chapters do not believe that

they have surrendered their sovereignty and feel that they are independent as any Grand Lodge, as witness the action of the G. G. Chapter in its invitation to Texas to come into the fold "which recognizes her now, as always heretofore, as a Sovereign Grand Body," etc. From this then we infer that the G. G. Chapter, assumes no higher authority and simply welcomes the Grand Chapters as its peers, and for the union and preservation of their combined interests.

Here is his opinion of the General Grand Chapter, and with this we close:

No new question as yet agitate the reportorial corps, except perhaps the one we have launched in our own poor way, and of which we would like to read the opinions of those older in the work, viz: the usefulness of the General Grand Chapter as at present constituted. We contend that it is un-American and smacks very much of the House of Lords. Again it is taxation without representation. You are welcome to come if you pay your own bills, or if your Grand Chapter will pay them for you, unless you happen to be an officer, when you draw mileage and per diem.

Our opinions on this subject were uttered twenty-seven years ago, nor have we seen aught to induce us to change them.

TENNESSEE—66TH ANNUAL, JANUARY, 1895.

Chapters, 64; members, 2,684; gain 62. There were 4 Chapters, however, which did not report.

Grand High Priest James H. McClester in his Address puts the following very pertinent questions:

Let us ask ourselves, "What have I done during the past year to advance the interests of our time-honored institution—to lighten the burden of sorrow and grief, so common to humanity? And have I offered the consolation of human sympathy to the distressed? How much is my Chapter the better for my life having been spared? How shall I, during the coming year, improve upon the past?"

Truly has this our sister jurisdiction suffered most severely in the loss of distinguished and useful members of the Grand Chapter. We presume, however, they mourn not as those who have no hope. With them we mourn, and to them we extend our sympathies.

Grand Chapter adopted a resolution making it imperative that every Chapter furnish the widow of a Royal Arch Mason promptly with a certificate, the form of which was also adopted.

It was

Resolved (1). That this Grand Chapter regards the system of Grand Representatives among the constituent Grand Chapters of the General Grand Chapter of the United States as a custom anomalous among the members of a common family, no longer beneficial, and to be discontinued as cumbersome and useless.

(2). That no further appointments of Representatives of this Grand Chapter, near other Grand Chapters, members of the General Grand Chapter, be made by any Grand Officer of this Grand Chapter; and that the Grand Secretary send to Grand Representatives of Tennessee, near such other Grand Chapters, copies of these resolutions.

Two Chapters were continued under dispensation.

A. G. Kimbrough, Germantown, G. H. P.

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

Companion Henry H. Ingersoll thus trippingly introduces his first Report on Correspondence:

Bidden by the Grand High Priest to the post of duty, left vacant by the departure of Companion Connor, this writer has obeyed the call and assumed the functions of correspondent with misgivings. He knows how large the vacancy, and how anxious the expectations of his Companions, and with his inexperience in such duties he appreciates his inability to fill the chair to the satisfaction of the Craft. But commissioned to travel in our own and in foreign lands for your benefit, he starts out with the purpose to observe and preserve whatever may appear strange, odd, amusing or instructive on his journey, and to report it to you, that all may have pleasure or profit thereby. When the journey shall have been finished, the observations noted and the report made, it may then be useful and proper to summarize results and make suggestions. The trip shall take first over our own States and Territories in alphabetical order, and then into jurisdictions where float the flags of other nations.

Alabama for 1893 finds her appropriate place, and meets with courteous treatment.

Our Companion thus in part closes his Report:

And now, Companions, having made the tour around the world of Capitular Masonry, this Committee returns home, bringing for you the sheaves of gleanings from all the fields of labor it has seen. Much good grain you will find—some chaff, too, perhaps. The wisps alone are ours; and they are of various kinds, just as the humor of the hour would dictate—serious, fanciful, thoughtful or trashy—recalling that mingled with the weighty wisdom of life

“A little nonsense, now and then,
Is relished by the best of men.”

We have hurriedly glanced over all the Reports of Proceedings received (48), covering many thousands of pages, noting peculiarities observed in each jurisdiction and clipping what seems to us

would most interest, instruct or entertain you in the leisure hours given to Masonic reading and study.

Remembering that your tastes were as various as your faces, all sorts of things in poetry and prose have been selected and written, thus making a sort of *olla podrida* which may prove palatable to most.

TEXAS—45TH ANNUAL, DECEMBER, 1894.

Chapters, 130; members, 5,681; gain, 251.

Dispensations were issued for three new Chapters during the year, and it was found that these merited charters at this Convocation.

M.: E.: Grand High Priest Frank Nusom urged final action by the Grand Chapter on the question of re-connection with General Grand Chapter, as it had been very fully discussed for some years in Grand Chapter, and as a result the following was "adopted by an overwhelming majority," as we note:

Resolved, That the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas returns its thanks to the General Grand Chapter of the United States for its courtesy to the Committee of this Grand Chapter, which visited that body at Topeka in August last.

Resolved, That while entertaining the highest respect and most cordial brotherly feeling for the Royal Arch Masons who are members of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, as well as for all those Grand Chapters which acknowledge its jurisdiction and supremacy, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas deems it inexpedient to surrender its own sovereignty as an independent Masonic Body, and believes that the true interests of Capitular Masonry will be best promoted by adhering to the action it has already taken toward the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

Whether this is to be the end we do not know, for we do know that some years since when we attended the Convocation of the General Grand Chapter at Detroit, there were threats uttered of exercising discipline towards the erring child, and a resolution to that end was actually introduced, but the better sentiment prevailed and it got on the vote only that of the mover. We hope, however, that it is the end. There is surely room enough for both, and perhaps the result may be a spirit of emulation and desire to see "who can best work and best agree."

He also expressed the hope that some action would be had upon the application of the Supreme Grand Chapter of New South Wales, which by some oversight had been neglected at the last Convoca-

tion, and the Committee reporting this Grand Chapter was duly recognized.

The Treasurer reports over \$4,000 on hand.

An excellent and comprehensive Address was delivered by Grand Orator Companion A. J. Hendricks. Subject: Masonry—"Masonry venerated for its antiquity, yet suspected for its mysteries."

Of its antiquity he thinks "it has existed since the building of King Solomon's temple, in a similar form to what it is to-day."

John K. Stone, Bellville, G. H. P.

Geo. Lopas, Jr., Houston, G. Sec'y.

The Report on Correspondence is presented by Companion John L. Terrell, who in his review places Alabama for 1893 immediately after the General Grand Chapter. In his review of this latter we find his view of printing the Ritual:

Copies of the Ritual adopted by the General Grand Chapter in 1891 have been printed in cipher and distributed broadcast; and now comes the printer, who has made stereotype plates of the Ritual for his own use and benefit, and demands large money for the plates, or else he will print and sell for his own account. Thus do we leave down gaps when we infringe the law one iota.

Under Arkansas we find him saying:

In his review of Vermont, he says:

"To which we would say, there is no good reason why Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows, or any other society that chooses to unite with a Lodge in the burial should not do so. But why Royal Arch Masons want to show to the world that they belong to a *Higher Degree* we never could tell. If the Lodge has charge of the body, it is certainly more appropriate, modest and respectful to the memory of the dead to unite with it in the procession, thereby recognizing Blue Lodge Masonry as the *highest* Order in the world."

To which, as a certain Texas Congressman would say, "I object." The Blue Lodge may be assisted by any other *Masonic* Body, but we do protest against uniting with other institutions in the burial service. Let it be one or the other, but let's not have any mixing. We are with our Nebraska Companion "first, last, and all the time" in his views on this subject.

We note his rap of ourself under Maine, and will hereafter try to be a good boy.

In the following he expresses what we believe to be the law, and what is pronounced such by Alabama, and we are greatly surprised when we find any other position taken:

That law is all right. If your Companion is suspended from the Lodge for non-payment of dues, or any other offense, he is to all intents and purposes a *suspended Mason*, and you can't receive him into your Chapter. When the trunk is killed the branches must die.

He attempts to settle the differences in the condition of an expelled or suspended Mason, and one Masonically dead. Companions Drummond and Waite, exceedingly distinguished members of the Guild, have been at it for some time past, and we doubt if either has changed a particle since the controversy began. We think, however, that he is more nearly right than either of them:

We have noticed in several Reports a partial discussion of this subject, but it is generally about as possible to discern the position of the writer as it is to look through a millstone. It is a simple subject mystified. Where a Mason is suspended, his Masonic relation, and even communication, is as effectually annihilated for the time as though he were expelled, or dead, as for that matter; but it is only for the time. When expelled, he gets the full benefit of the term which some call *Masonic death*, which, however, is only technically true. In case of suspension he has an implied promise of restoration—in expulsion, none. If restoration comes in the latter, it is by the unanimous consent of the members, after having proven himself worthy.

Companion Waite is wrong in saying that when an expelled Mason is restored, that he is "re-made."

We close by quoting from his conclusion what we greatly admire—a sentiment which has actuated us during these twenty-nine Reports. If our home Companions are satisfied, why need we care for the jibes, or sneers, or carpings of others? But the members of the Guild don't "cruelly criticise."

The members of the Guild may cruelly criticise if they will—we have not written especially for them.

VERMONT—78TH ANNUAL, JUNE, 1895.

Chapters, 27; members, 2,650; gain, 95.

There was issued a Dispensation for the formation of a new Chapter, to which a charter was granted at this Convocation, thus making the total 27.

M. E. Grand High Priest Myron J. Horton congratulates Grand Chapter "that peace and harmony everywhere prevail, and our relations with all sister jurisdictions are most cordial and fraternal."

He recommended an appropriation for binding Proceedings for proper display in Grand Chapter Library, and this was made.

The balance in Treasury was five thousand dollars.

It was determined to publish annually a portrait of one of the Past Grand High Priests, and consequently the present volume is adorned with that of the officer who presided over this Convocation.

Robert J. Wright, Newport, G. H. P.

Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington, G. Sec'y.

Our esteemed Companion Marsh O. Perkins, Past Grand High Priest, presented an exceedingly entertaining Report on Correspondence, including in it the Proceedings of Alabama for 1894. We feel grateful to him for his words of ourself.

We are heartily in accord with what he says in the following, and only regret that the necessity should ever exist for the utterance of such sentiments:

There is no question but that indifference and listlessness in many capular fields are wholly due to the fact that candidates can have no just conception of what should be most impressive ceremonies, because of the ridiculous horse-play to which they have been subjected. Disgusted with their reception and treatment, they pass by the various objects that would otherwise have attracted their attention and study, and seek compensation elsewhere than at the apartment of the Senior Grand Warden.

VIRGINIA—87TH ANNUAL, NOVEMBER, 1894.

Chapters, 38; members, 2,350; gain, 99. Of the Chapters 4 failed to make returns, and the membership is only of those reported.

Grand High Priest J. T. Carter learns from the D. G. G. Lecturers that the "Chapters, with a few exceptions, are in a flourishing condition."

He is greatly in favor of schools of instruction, and hopes Grand Chapter will make some provision for the expense attending them.

His decisions are few and in consonance with the principles generally governing the Royal Craft.

The recognition of the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick was recommended and approved.

A feeling tribute was given by Grand High Priest to the virtues of the Grand Secretary, who was at this time prostrated by sickness, and thinking that rest would accomplish his recovery, a special appropriation to enable him to obtain it. The Grand High Priest passed to that rest appointed for all living.

At the instruction held in one of the districts there were representatives from 15 Chapters. This looks as if

our Virginia Companions were determined to become proficient at any cost.

The following was adopted :

Resolved, That membership in some Blue Lodge, or a regular excuse under the laws of the Grand Lodge of Virginia from such membership, is a prerequisite to membership in any Chapter of this jurisdiction.

Geo. W. Poe, Richmond, G. H. P.

Wm. B. Isaacs, Richmond, G. Sec'y.

There is no Report on Correspondence.

WASHINGTON—10TH ANNUAL, SEPTEMBER, 1894.

Chapters, 18; members, 1,027. Returns were received from all the Chapters save one.

Grand High Priest John W. Bean says: "Throughout this Grand Jurisdiction perfect peace and harmony everywhere prevail and our fraternal relations with our sister jurisdictions are the most cordial."

He refused to grant dispensations to confer the degrees out of time because he held that he was forbidden by the laws of Grand Chapter, and because he "did not believe in railroading a candidate through." But Grand Chapter expressed its opinion thus:

That we most respectfully differ in our opinion as to the authority conferred by our By-Laws on that Grand Officer to enable him to issue dispensations to subordinate Chapters to ballot for the election of a candidate for the Capitular Degrees in less time than is required by law in all ordinary cases, provided always that good and sufficient reasons are given therefor and the proper notice is given to each member to be present. In the opinion of your Committee sections 16 and 22 of the By-Laws confer this authority on the M. E. Grand High Priest.

There is a good balance in the Treasury.

A committee was provided to whom was referred "the advisability of adopting the Essential and Ceremonial Rituals of the General Grand Chapter." The committee reported favorably, but the following was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be and is hereby instructed to correspond with the General Grand Secretary and ascertain from him the exact number of Grand Jurisdictions who are using the

ual as adopted by the General Grand Chapter and report the same to this Grand Chapter at its next Annual Convocation.

Horace W. Tyler, Spokane, G. H. P.

Yancey C. Blalock, Walla Walla, G. Sec'y.

The Secretary made, for the fifth time, the Report on Correspondence. It is a clear statement of what is being done by the Craft in other jurisdictions and embraces the Proceedings of forty-nine Grand Chapters. We find in it Alabama for 1893. His conclusion speaks of it:

• We have finished—and to us it has been a pleasant task. Would we could give some of our Companions of the "Guild" a chance to "talk back at us;" still we feel it would not be of interest or benefit to the Craft in Washington. We believe there are others who are entitled to an opinion as well as ourselves and we do not wish to inflict our individual opinion upon others and quarrel with them for not agreeing with us.

WASHINGTON—11TH ANNUAL, JUNE, 1895.

Chapters, 18; members, 1,145; gain, 31.

Of the Craft and its condition, Grand High Priest Horace W. Tyler says:

The Order is in a healthy condition, and considering the financial condition of the country, the increase of membership has been fair.

And the Grand Secretary adds:

It being only nine months since the last returns were made, due to the change of time of meeting of the Grand Chapter, the subordinate Chapters do not report the increase in membership as compared with former years, but communications from the various Chapters denote a brighter prospect for the future.

A few days only before this Convocation of Grand Chapter it was called together to pay the last mournful tribute of respect to their Grand Treasurer, J. H. Bellinger, who was also a Past Grand High Priest. Thus are we called, one by one, to mourn the loss of our oldest and best.

Grand High Priest visited two-thirds of the Chapters, and the result will doubtless become manifest ere long. Of visitations he say:

I believe that these visitations should be made, and that every Chapter should be visited at least once by the Grand High Priest,

and that in making such visits he should do so with the view, not merely for the purpose of having a pleasant time for himself, but to inspect carefully the work and give instruction as to the Ritual and methods, that all may become uniform. It also invites a more fraternal feeling, and the hospitalities and courtesies extended serve to intensify our regard for that good-fellowship that should ever exist and awakens in the members a new interest.

The question of adoption of the Rituals of the General Grand Chapter was before the Grand Chapter, but consideration of it was postponed until the next Annual Convocation.

The dues to Grand Chapter were reduced to forty cents per capita, with unanimity.

Edward R. Hare, Tacoma, G. H. P.

Yancey C. Blalock, Walla Walla, G. Sec'y.

This latter produced a most excellent synopsis of the acts and sentiments prevailing in other jurisdictions and in it reviews the Proceedings of Alabama for 1894. Having expressed our astonishment at a funeral of a Companion with the Chapter of the Eastern Star, he thus explained. This puts it in another light to us, and we are ready to kick ourselves for not having thought of it ourself:

In reply to the above we will say that the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Washington acted as escort to Waitsburg Lodge No. 16, F. & A. Masons. and in doing so was honoring one of its Grand Officers—*i. e.*, the Grand Steward. The Eastern Star Chapter conducted its services independent of the Masonic bodies as many religious denominations do, after which the Lodge took charge of the remains and performed the usual services of the Craft. We know the Eastern Star Chapters are not recognized as part of the Masonic tree, but we think they furnish the "sunshine" necessary to liven up many an old "trunk" of a Lodge that is fast going to decay if left to itself.

WEST VIRGINIA—24TH ANNUAL, NOVEMBER, 1894.

Chapters 19, members 1,115, gain 99.

Grand High Priest John W. Morris complains that, in consequence of some misapprehension of instructions, but few Chapters made responses to the enquiries required, so that he could not give "any authentic report as to the real progress of the Craft during the year and the present standing of each Chapter." He, however, says:

The duties of the high office to which I was re-elected one year ago, have been light and the burdens easy to bear. No questions of serious import have been presented for decision. Peace and pros-

perity reign throughout the jurisdiction; upon which happy state of affairs you have my earnest congratulations.

The Grand Representative of Alabama, M. E. A. M. Evans, Past Grand High Priest, with others, was formally received, welcomed and saluted.

The Committee on Grievances reported that it was without business, and the same report was made by that on Jurisprudence.

The Committee on Charters and Dispensations recommended the granting of a Dispensation for a new Chapter, but after some discussion Grand Chapter ordered instead a charter at once.

The finances are in good condition.

Neil Robinson, Charleston, G. H. P.

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

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Rev. Companion Hugh W. Torrence, and to our regret Alabama is not to be found in it. In his conclusion we find him saying:

We respectfully submit this report which is our second. It is not what we would like to make it, nor with more time what we might make it. Forty-eight volumes were turned over to us. We have searched through this mass of material; selected from it, and brought up for the inspection of Companions of this Grand Chapter, such things as we have deemed of interest and importance to the Craft.

His selections are carefully and judiciously made, his style easy and his manner clear. We think it a most excellent statement of the various Grand Chapters.

WISCONSIN—45TH ANNUAL, FEBRUARY, 1895.

Chapters 69, members 5,497, gain 208.

Grand High Priest T. S. Hayhurst of the Craft says:

We have reason to congratulate ourselves that the year just past has been one of peace and prosperity among the Craft of this jurisdiction. No cases of difficulty have been brought to my notice.

And no questions have been propounded which were not easily settled by reference to the Constitution and Resolutions of the Grand Chapter.

He granted a Dispensation for a new Chapter with strong hopes of success, but the railroad strike, followed by the forest fires, wrought such infinite destruction to the place where it was to be,

causing so many of the Companions to move away that the remnant deemed it advisable to surrender the Dispensation.

There were, however, two others so formed and authorized which received charters at this Convocation of the Grand Chapter, and one other like the first mentioned being almost silenced by the same causes, asked a continuation of its Dispensation, which was promptly granted.

He favors the preparation of short lectures for each degree rather than the requiring the candidate for advancement to acquire the whole lectures. A committee to prepare such lectures was authorized and appointed.

No grievances made their appearance. The finances are in an exceedingly fine condition.

Sam'l Wright, Milwaukee, G. H. P.

Jno. W. Laflin, Milwaukee, G. Sec'y.

Companion Wm. C. Swain for the twelfth time prepared the Report on Correspondence, and took due notice of Alabama for 1893. We give you his suggested reasons for making it of unusual length. Having ourself been thus engaged now for the twenty-ninth time we know how difficult for the old to avoid garrulity. We only suggest this as one other reason which might at times be urged, although we disclaim having discovered any such tendency in this admirable report:

For the twelfth time we appear before you with a report. If it is longer than usual, it is because we have been in a more discursive mood, or possibly, because we have found more to interest us; which is the only criterion we have for judging what will interest others. It may be that the love for our Fraternity, which grows with age, misleads us into thinking that there is more and more of interest occurring as the years roll by.

The following, we think, presents very clearly the correct position:

We question non-affiliation being a violation of Masonic law, Mackey to the contrary notwithstanding. Every brother has a right to withdraw from his Lodge at pleasure. Of course, if he does so, he can claim nothing from it, but, on the other hand, we have no right to affix a stigma on him for it. He has committed no crime and is guilty of no Masonic offense. He has simply withdrawn, and by so doing announces to us that he asks nothing from us as a Lodge. He has taken certain obligations, which are still binding upon him, and we have taken obligations with reference to him, which are still binding upon us, but he has taken no obligation which binds him to remain a member of a Lodge.

He is a strong advocate of the plan proposed by the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, and submitted to the various Grand Lodges for the adoption of some rule for organized charity whereby the amount expended in behalf of a needy brother might be refunded on compulsion.

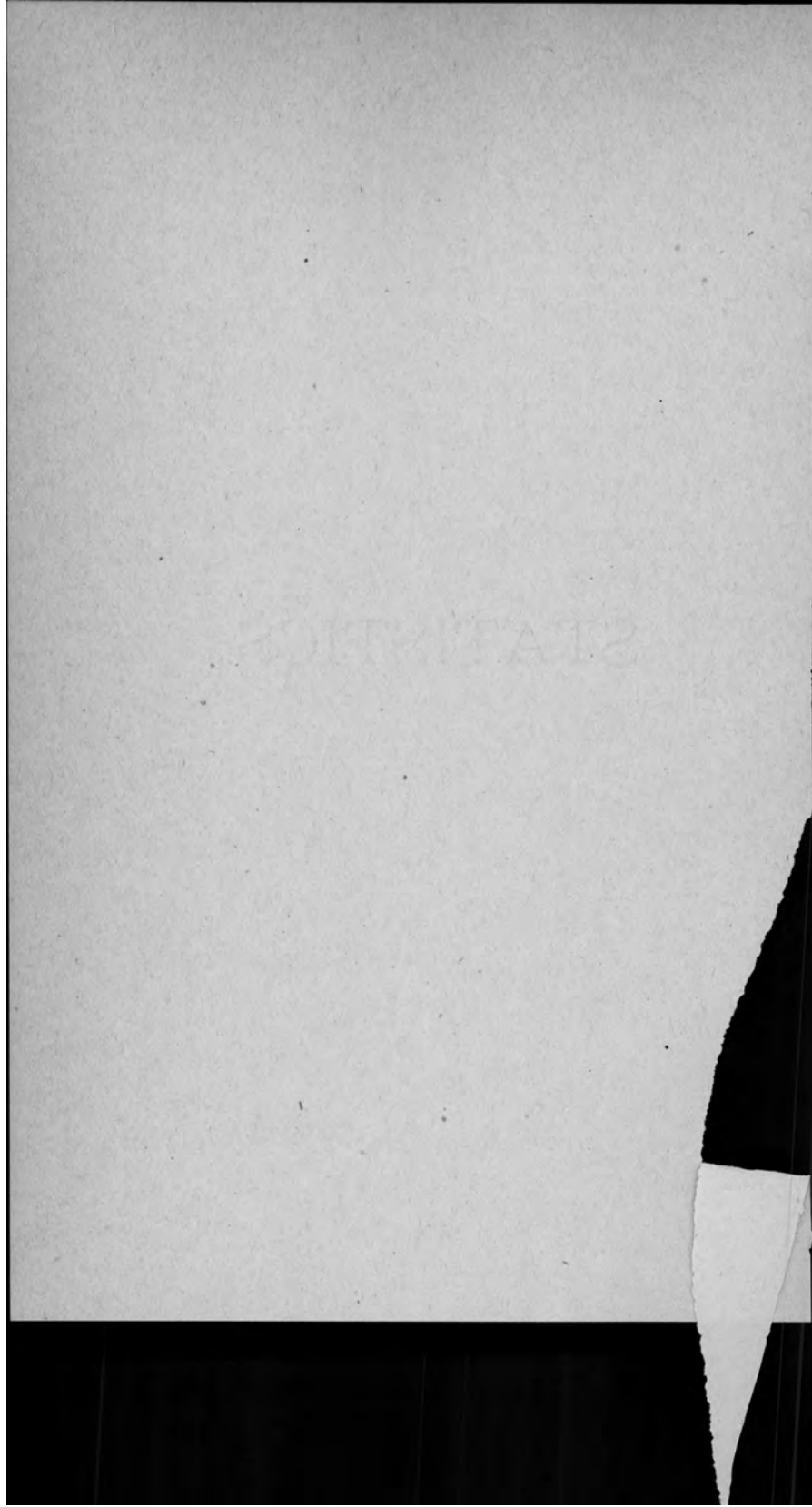
The following from his conclusion is too good to be lost, so we give it:

During the late unpleasantness Capt. Bailey commanded a company raised up in the woods, where they, as well as himself, were accustomed to the largest liberty. The Captain was rough and illiterate, but he knew what he wanted. One day he, with his company, were sent out on a reconnoissance. The General accompanied them part of the way and pointed the direction. Soon they came to a large, nice domain, which had escaped the foragers of both sides. True to his instincts, he began to investigate, and soon discovered a ten-gallon cask of fine old peach brandy. The Captain was fair and divided it up, of course appropriating the lion's share to himself, and soon the whole company were gloriously full. He concluded he must go back in style to make his report, and he had horses hitched to a barouche, got in, and sitting erect with drunken gravity, the procession started homeward. One of the men had a well-grown pig under his arm, which was making a vigorous protest against the whole proceedings. "Sarjint! give him to me!" The pig was placed between his legs, with a hand on each ear. Pretty soon they met the General, who, in indignant amazement, exclaimed: "Captain, what is the meaning of all this?" "It means, General, we made — made the — the reconnoissance, and — and —." A vigorous remonstrance from the pig. The Captain let go one hand, and hitting him a whack on the side of his head, said, ———, who's makin' this report, you or me?"

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY
540 EAST 57TH STREET
CHICAGO, ILL. 60637

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY
540 EAST 57TH STREET
CHICAGO, ILL. 60637

STATISTICS.



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, Dimitted, Died, Suspended and Reinstated since last return.

Chapter No.	NAMES OF CHAPTERS.	No. of Members..	Am't of Dues rec'd	Advanced.....	Presided	Rec'd & Accepted	Exalted.....	Affiliated.....	Rejected.....	Dimitted.....	Died	Suspended	Reinstated
4	Monroe	27	\$20 25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
19	Mount Moriah	34	25 50	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	1	1
21	Mobile	43	32 25	3	4	4	4	1	...	2	2	...	...
22	Montgomery	49	36 00	3	3	3	3	...	...	1	1	2	1
23	Talladega	40	30 00	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5	...
24	Eufaula	44	33 00	6	6	6	6	1	...	1	...	2	...
25	Courtland	13	9 75	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
26	Union	28	21 00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
28	St. John	50	37 50	2	2	2	2	2	...	3	...	5	...
32	Fulton	23	17 25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
38	Decatur	40	30 00	3	4	4	6	1	...	1	...	12	1
40	Camden	15	7 50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
48	McKinley	12	18 00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	...
54	Tyrian	58	43 50	6	6	6	6	...	...	2	1	2	...
56	Zerubbabel	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
57	Collinsville	15	11 25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
63	Clayton	20	15 00	9	9	9	9	...	...	3	...	6	...
64	Central	18	13 50	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	...
71	Landmark	38	28 50	15	15	15	15	...	...	...	1	1	...
76	Elyton	19	14 00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
79	Hillabee	17	12 25	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	4	...
80	Miles J. Greene	22	16 50	4	4	3	3	1	...	2	...	...	...
85	Gaston	22	16 50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
86	Coosa	13	22 50	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	...
88	Springville	22	16 50	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
92	Notasulga	15	11 25	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	...
93	Columbus	18	18 00	8	8	8	8	...	...	...	...	...	...
96	Daniel Pratt	15	7 50	3	3	3	3	...	...	...	1	...	...
99	Thos. M. Bragg	22	...	1	1	2	2	...	...	1	1	5	...
100	Rock Mills	21	15 75	3	3	3	3	1	...	...	...	...	...
101	Mineral City	133	99 75	11	11	11	11	...	...	1	3	...	2
106	Graham	13	9 75	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
107	Fort Payne	24	36 75	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
108	Pratt City	34	25 50	9	9	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
109	Blocton	18	13 50	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	...
		1007	765 75	86	88	85	87	9	1	30	24	62	9

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

CHAPTER.	NAME.	DATE.
Mount Moriah.....	19 Greene B. Mobley.....	June 14, 1895
Montgomery.....	22 A. A. Poindexter.....	" 11, 1895
".....	22 Charles E. Armistead.....	" 11, 1895
Talladega.....	23 Perry F. Smith.....	" 14, 1895
".....	23 M. H. Lane.....	" 14, 1895
".....	23 William B. Andrews.....	" 14, 1895
".....	23 J. E. Hughston.....	" 14, 1895
".....	23 M. H. Hansard.....	" 14, 1895
Eufaula.....	24 William A. Stokes.....	" 6, 1895
".....	24 Robert H. Walker.....	" 6, 1895
Courland.....	25 Thomas J. Graham.....	" 4, 1895
Saint John.....	28 Wm. C. Billingslea.....	May 27, 1895
".....	28 Isaac Bloch.....	" 27, 1895
".....	28 Louis B. Joseph.....	" 27, 1895
".....	28 Francis L. Pettus.....	" 27, 1895
".....	28 Benj. F. Toler.....	" 27, 1895
Decatur.....	38 Columbus C. Harris.....	" 28, 1895
".....	38 Louis M. Falk.....	" 28, 1895
".....	38 Miles C. Wade.....	" 28, 1895
".....	38 Wm. W. Littlejohn.....	" 28, 1895
".....	38 Edward J. Oden.....	" 28, 1895
".....	38 John C. Johns.....	" 28, 1895
".....	38 George W. Young.....	" 28, 1895
".....	38 Isaac Thompson.....	" 28, 1895
".....	38 Courtney C. Rather.....	" 28, 1895
".....	38 John C. Eyster.....	" 28, 1895
".....	38 George H. Johnson.....	" 28, 1895
".....	38 William L. Gaines.....	" 28, 1895
McKinley.....	48 E. L. Chapman.....	June 5, 1895
".....	48 James G. Kelly.....	" 5, 1895
".....	48 C. B. Wooten.....	" 5, 1895
".....	48 E. C. Coats.....	" 5, 1895
".....	48 P. B. Glass.....	" 5, 1895
Tyrian.....	54 John E. Graves.....	" 22, 1895
Clayton.....	63 H. Collins.....	" 24, 1895
".....	63 G. W. Peach.....	" 24, 1895
".....	63 W. S. Wade.....	" 24, 1895
".....	63 Thomas L. Crew.....	" 24, 1895
".....	63 S. Mabry.....	" 24, 1895
".....	63 J. M. Williams.....	" 24, 1895
Central.....	64 Wilson M. Rhodes.....	" 8, 1895
Landmark.....	71 George Deal.....	" 15, 1895
Hillabee.....	79 William F. Heard.....	" 15, 1895
".....	79 L. T. Parnell.....	" 15, 1895
".....	79 Isaac P. Stowe.....	" 15, 1895
".....	79 Robert M. Templeton.....	" 15, 1895
Coosa.....	86 Joseph Bevans.....	" 15, 1895
".....	86 John H. Disque.....	" 15, 1895
".....	86 Rodolphus O. Randall.....	" 15, 1895
".....	86 Augustus L. Woodlief.....	" 15, 1895

CHAPTER.	NO.	NAME.	DATE.
Notasulga.....	92	Harry Henderson.....	June '22, 1895
".....	92	A. S. Griggs.....	" 22, 1895
".....	92	W. J. Nolen.....	" 22, 1895
".....	92	J. T. Wilson.....	" 22, 1895
Thos. M. Bragg.....	99	Lawrence D. Brooks.....	" 22, 1895
".....	99	Francis M. Cody.....	" 22, 1895
".....	99	George W. Jones.....	" 22, 1895
".....	99	Daniel Jones.....	" 22, 1895
".....	99	Arthur L. Rushton.....	" 22, 1895
Blocton.....	109	Francis M. Woods.....	" 24, 1895
".....	109	Samson W. Reeves.....	" 24, 1895

IN MEMORIAM.

THIS PAGE IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY

—OF—

M. E. WILLIAM BRYAN ISAACS,
PAST GRAND HIGH PRIEST, GRAND SECRETARY OF GRAND CHAPTER OF
VIRGINIA, AND GRAND RECORDER OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Died June 9, 1895.

M. E. JOSEPH A. MANNING,
GRAND HIGH PRIEST OF INDIANA.

Died October 26, 1894.

M. E. STEPHEN J. YOUNG,
PAST GRAND HIGH PRIEST OF MAINE.

Died July 16, 1895.

M. E. THOMAS DAVIDSON,
PAST GRAND HIGH PRIEST OF DELAWARE.

Died February 5, 1895.

M. E. CHARLES F. GOODMAN,
PAST GRAND HIGH PRIEST OF NEBRASKA.

Died January, 1895.

IN MEMORIAM.

Sacred to the Memory of

TWENTY-FOUR COMPANIONS

Of the Chapters, whose Deaths Are Reported
in the Returns of November, 1895.

CHAPTER.	NO.	NAME	DATE.	AGE.
Monroe.....	4	Wallace W. McMillan	March 7, 1895	60
Mt. Moriah.....	19	John H. Eastman.....	Nov. 23, 1894	62
".....	19	Hilliard M. Judge.....	Dec. 6, 1894	38
".....	19	Isaiah B. Smaw.....	Dec. 28, 1894	79
".....	19	Thos. B. Fitzpatrick..	Sept. 23, 1894	32
Mobile.....	21	George Keihle.....	Sept. 10, 1895	63
".....	21	James Worthington..	Sept. 10, 1895	62
Montgomery.	22	Edmund R. Hastings	Dec. 21, 1894	47
Talladega.....	23	William Baker.....	Jan. 24, 1895	65
".....	23	James E. Miles.....	March 26, 1895	67
".....	23	Amos C. Baker.....	April 24, 1895	49
Courtland.....	25	James J. Beemer.....	May 11, 1895	53
Union.....	26	John Bradfield.....	Feb. 3, 1895	80
McKinley.....	48	John J. McCorkle....	Jan. —, 1895	
Tyrian.....	54	James M. Sanders.....		
Zerubbabel.....	56	Marion L. D. Pitman..	Sept. 1, 1895	68
Central.....	64	Thos. B. McCluskey..	July 30, 1895	
Landmark.....	71	Milton M. Tye.....	Dec. 31, 1894	62
Hillabee.....	79	Edmund E. Gilbert..	Oct. 31, 1894	83
Gaston.....	85	James L. Pennington..	March —, 1895	
".....	85	Thos. B. Woodward..	Sept. 9, 1895	
Daniel Pratt.....	96	Jacob Faber.....	April 13, 1895	47
Thos. M. Bragg..	99	William C. Davis.....		
Blocton.....	109	Michael J. Hayes.....	July 28, 1895	

SUSPENDED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

CHAPTER.	No. ...	NAME.	DATE.
Tyrian	54	William H. Murphree.....	June 10, 1895

EXPELLED.

CHAPTER.	No. ...	NAME.	DATE.
Rock Mills	100	Erastus H. McClendon	Nov. 17, 1895
" "	100	John C. Turner	Nov. 17, 1895

REINSTATED.

CHAPTER.	No. ...	NAME.	DATE.
Mount Moriah	19	Andrew C Pickens.....	Dec. 14, 1894
Montgomery	22	James E. Worswick	April 9, 1895
Fulton	32	Isaac M. Rogers.....	June 21, 1895
Decatur	38	Joseph P. Clarke	July 23, 1895
Elyton	76	Fletcher W. Beall.....	Aug. 12, 1895
"	76	James Shanan.....	Aug. 12, 1895
"	76	James L. Morgan.....	Aug. 12, 1895
Mineral City	101	Henry M. Austin.....	Dec. 17, 1894
" "	101	M. P. Gentry Hillman.....	March 28, 1895

RECAPITULATION.

Chapters that made returns.....	35
Chapters that paid dues.....	33
Chapters that were represented.....	27
Number of members present.....	56
Members reported at this Convocation.....	1007
Dues received at this Grand Convocation.....	\$765.75

WORK OF THE YEAR

Advanced.....	86
Presided.....	88
Received and Accepted.....	85
Exalted.....	87
Affiliated.....	9
Rejected.....	1
Dimitted.....	30
Died.....	24
Suspended for Unmasonic Conduct.....	1
Suspended for Non-payment of Dues.....	62
Reinstated.....	9

STATE OF THE CHAPTERS.

Chapters square on the books.....	33
Chapters Under Dispensation.....	0
Chapters delinquent.....	8
Charters forfeited.....	4

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

No. ...	NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POST-OFFICE	HIGH PRIEST	SECRETARY.	CONVOCACTION.
4	Monroe	Perdue Hill...	Monroe	Perdue Hill...	John A. Savage	William J. McCants...	Thurs on or bef f m.
5	Eunomia	Huntsville	Madison	Huntsville	James B. Porterfield	James Jackson...	1st and 2nd Sat.
10	Tuscumbia	Tuscumbia	Colbert	Tuscumbia	Walter Hanson	James C. Barclay	2nd Friday.
16	Mount Moriah	Etaw	Greene	Etaw	Samuel M. Spott	George C. Cowdy	3rd Friday.
20	Livingston	Livingston	Shuler	Livingston	Edward M. Spott	Donald C. Hanson	2nd and 4th Thurs.
21	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	William J. Orum	George A. Joiner	2nd Tuesday.
22	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	William J. Orum	George A. Joiner	2d d Friday.
23	Talladega	Talladega	Talladega	Talladega	George A. Beachamp	James Milton	1st Thursday.
24	Eufaula	Eufaula	Barbour	Eufaula	Malcolm J. Gilchrist	William T. Simmons	3rd Tuesday.
25	Courtland	Courtland	Lawrence	Courtland	Beverly F. Harwood	Junie Harwood	1st Thursday.
26	Union	Uniontown	Perry	Uniontown	Edward S. Gatchell	Elbert S. Starr	4th Monday.
28	St. John's	Selma	Dallas	Selma	Joseph A. Groves	John R. Carter	3rd Friday.
32	Fulton	Orrville	Orrville	Orrville	Wm E. Oakley, Sr.	Thomas F. Turley	4th Tuesday.
38	Decatur	Decatur	Morgan	Decatur	William A. George	Solomon D. Bloch	Fri on or bef f m.
40	Camden	Camden	Wilcox	Camden	William M. Neeley	William K. Chapman	1st Wednesday.
48	McKinley	McKinley	Marengo	McKinley	Josiah Jernigan	Charles F. White	2nd and 4th Sat.
54	Tyrian	Troy	Pike	Troy	Walter R. Roberts	Thomas A. Shephard	4th Saturday.
56	Zerubbabel	Camp Hill	Tallapoosa	Camp Hill	George W. Dawson	John B. Appleton	4th Friday.
57	Collinsville	Collinsville	DeKalb	Collinsville	David M. Hines	James M. Hines	1st and 3rd Mon.
61	Clayton	Clayton	Barbour	Clayton	William W. Aldred	Barry P. Ginner	2nd Sat on or bef f m.
62	Central	Clayton	Barbour	Clayton	William W. Aldred	Barry P. Ginner	Fri bef 1st Sat.
71	Madison	Madison	Dade	Madison	William W. Aldred	Barry P. Ginner	Fri bef 1st Sat.
73	Gordon	Abbeville	Jefferson	Abbeville	Richard M. Hawkins	George W. Harrell	2nd and 4th Mon.
76	Elyton	Elyton	Jefferson	Elyton	George W. Porter	George M. Gamble	Sat bef 3rd Sun.
79	Hillabee	Alex der City	Tallapoosa	Alex der City	H. Clay Armstrong	Theodore D. Power	1st Tuesday.
80	Myles J. Greene	Opelika	Lee	Opelika	George W. Bartlett	Robert D. Evans	2nd Thursday.
83	Bell	Lineville	Clay	Lineville	Lemuel J. Mooney	John C. Christopher	1st Monday.
85	Gaston	DeSotoville	Choctaw	DeSotoville	Herman Herzberg	Alexander D. Simpson	Sat bef 3rd Sun.
86	Coosa	Etowah	Etowah	Gadsden	Basil M. Hill	Edward M. McClendon	
	Springville	Springville	St Clair	Springville			

92	Notasulga	Macon	Notasulga	William T. Duke	Thomas W. Duke	2nd and 4th Sat.
93	Columbus	Dale	Newton	James S. Edwards	John W. Draughon, Jr.	4th Saturday.
94	Camie Pratt	Autauga	Fratville	George L. Smith	George C. Spigener	4th Tuesday.
95	Rock Mills	Crenshaw	Laverne	Charles L. Bickel	Thomas W. Crenshaw	2nd and 4th Mon.
96	Rock Mills	Barbour	Erskine	Charles H. Bickel	Thomas W. Crenshaw	2nd and 4th Sat.
97	Mineral City	Birmingham	Birmingham	William J. Pierce	Morrison D. Montague	2nd and 4th Thurs.
98	Graham	Randolph	Graham	Anderson W. Duke	Alfred C. Saxon	1st Saturday.
99	Fort Payne	DeKalb	Fort Payne	John L. White	William T. Fuller	2nd Friday.
100	Pratt City	Jefferson	Pratt City	Erskine Ramsay	John W. Waltersdorf	1st and 3rd Tues.
101	Blotom	Bibb	Blotom	Benjamin F. Jones	Samuel Hardier	2nd and 4th Mon.

MEMORANDA.

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

Arkansas.....	Newell M. Thornton	Abbeville.
Canada.....		
Connecticut.....	William Y. Titcomb	Anniston
District of Columbia	Thomas B. McCluskey.....	Montevallo.
Florida	Benjamin F. Pope.....	Gadsden.
Georgia	Edward F. King.....	Gainesville.
Illinois.....	William M. Boynton	Talladega.
Indiana	John A. McKinnon	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	William S. Foster.....	Mobile.
Massachusetts.....	George A. Joiner.....	Talladega.
Minnesota.....	John Snow.....	Tuscaloosa.
Mississippi.....	Joseph A. Groves	Orrville.
Missouri.....	William W. Screws	Montgomery.
Nebraska.....	Junie Harwood.....	Uniontown.
New Jersey.....	John R. Barr.....	Eufaula.
New York.....	John W. Bush	Uniontown.
North Carolina.....	William G. Cochrane.....	Tuscaloosa.
Nova Scotia.....	J. J. Dement.....	Huntsville.
North Dakota.....	T. T. Rowland.....	Tusculumbia.
Ohio.....	William E. Oakley	Decatur.
Oregon	George A. Beauchamp	Eufaula.
Quebec.....	Henry H. Matthews.....	Montgomery.
Rhode Island.....	James T. Beck.....	Camden.
South Carolina	John M. Caldwell	Anniston.
South Dakota	Simon Klotz	Birmingham.
Texas	George P. Harrison.....	Opelika.
Vermont.....	James E. Cobb	Tuskegee.
Virginia.....	Phillip C. Candidus.....	Mobile.
Washington	William C. Cleveland	Columbia.
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. Buckle.....	Indianapolis.....	Indiana.
William Wilbraham	Creoso	Iowa.
T. P. Rodgers	Topeka	Kansas.
William Ryan.....	Louisville.....	Kentucky.
William Robson.....	Robson's.....	Louisiana.
James M. Nevons.....	Bucksport.....	Maine.
Gustav A. Eitel	Baltimore.....	Maryland.
Frederick G. Walbridge.....	Boston.....	Massachusetts.
William F. Dickinson.....	Redwood Falls..	Minnesota.
Robert L. Saunders.....	Jackson.....	Mississippi.
Thomas E. Garrett.....	Saint Louis.....	Missouri.
John N. Westburg.....	Omaha	Nebraska.
Frederick G. Weise.....	Bordentown.....	New Jersey.
Thomas S. Kenan.....	Raleigh	North Carolina.
William H. Topping	Grand Forks....	North Dakota.
Samuel Porter	Halifax	Nova Scotia.
William Sherer	Brooklyn	P. O. Box 2065, New York.
C. C. Bates.....	Akron	Ohio.
Rocky R. Earhart.....	Portland.....	Oregon.
Angus Grant	Montreal.....	Quebec.
John P. Sanborn	Newport	Rhode Island.
Augustine T. Smythe.....	Charleston	South Carolina.
J. W. Ourcutt.....	Chamberlin	South Dakota.
William S. Matthews.....	Memphis	Tennessee.
W. L. Sortwell.....	Comanche	Texas.
Justin W. T. Washburn.....	Montpelier.....	Vermont.
Alfred S. Lee.....	Richmond.....	Virginia.
Edward L. Ingram	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.....	Tucson.
Arkansas.....	James H. Henry.....	Little Rock.
California.....	Thos. Hubbard Caswell.....	San Francisco.
Canada.....	Thos. Sargant.....	Toronto.
Colorado.....	Ed. Carrol 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.....	Horace H. Munson.....	Wilmington.
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.....	Montreal, B. 1135
Rhode Island.....	William R. Greene.....	Providence.
South Carolina.....	Albert E. Fugle.....	Columbia.
South Dakota.....	George A. Pettigrew.....	Flandreau.
Tennessee.....	W. A. Clendening.....	Nashville.
Texas.....	Robert Brewster.....	Houston.
Vermont.....	Warren G. Reynolds.....	Burlington.
Virginia.....		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.

INDEX.

REPORTS BY

Grand Treasurer.....	12
Grand Secretary.....	13
W. S. Foster.....	14
Committee on Grand High Priest's Address.....	16
Finance.....	17
Chartered Chapters, No. 1.....	19
Chartered Chapters, No. 2.....	20
Dispensations.....	22
Jurisprudence	24
Correspondence.....	35-107
H. C. Armstrong.....	16

RESOLUTIONS BY

George F. Moore.....	14
Grand Secretary.....	14
Wm. E. Oakley.....	23

RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING

Revenues.....	14
Restoration of Charters.....	14
Amendment to Constitution.....	23

COMMITTEES

On Grand High Priest's Address.....	5
Chartered Chapters No. 1.....	14
Chartered Chapters No. 2.....	14
Dispensations.....	14
By-Laws, Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals.....	13

Masonic Jurisprudence.....	14
Finance.....	14
Standing Committees.....	25

MISCELLANEOUS.

Past Grand Officers.....	4
Representatives of other Grand Chapters.....	4
Officers of Subordinate Chapters.....	4
Opening Exercises.....	5
Grand High Priest's Address	6
Charters Restored.....	14
Amendment to Constitution.....	23
Election of Grand Officers.....	23
Installation of Grand Officers.....	25
Proceedings of Order of High Priesthood.....	27
Chapters Making Returns.....	111
Suspended for N. P. D.....	112
In Memoriam.....	114, 115
Suspended, Expelled, Reinstated	116
Recapitulation.....	117
Register of Chapters.....	118, 119
Representatives of Other Grand Chapters.....	120
Representatives Near Other Grand Chapters.....	121
Grand Secretaries and their Addresses.....	122