

1900
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND
CHAPTER
of
Royal Arch Masons
of
ALABAMA



A.D. 1900 / A.I. 2430

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.

SEVENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL GRAND CONVOCATION,

HELD IN THE

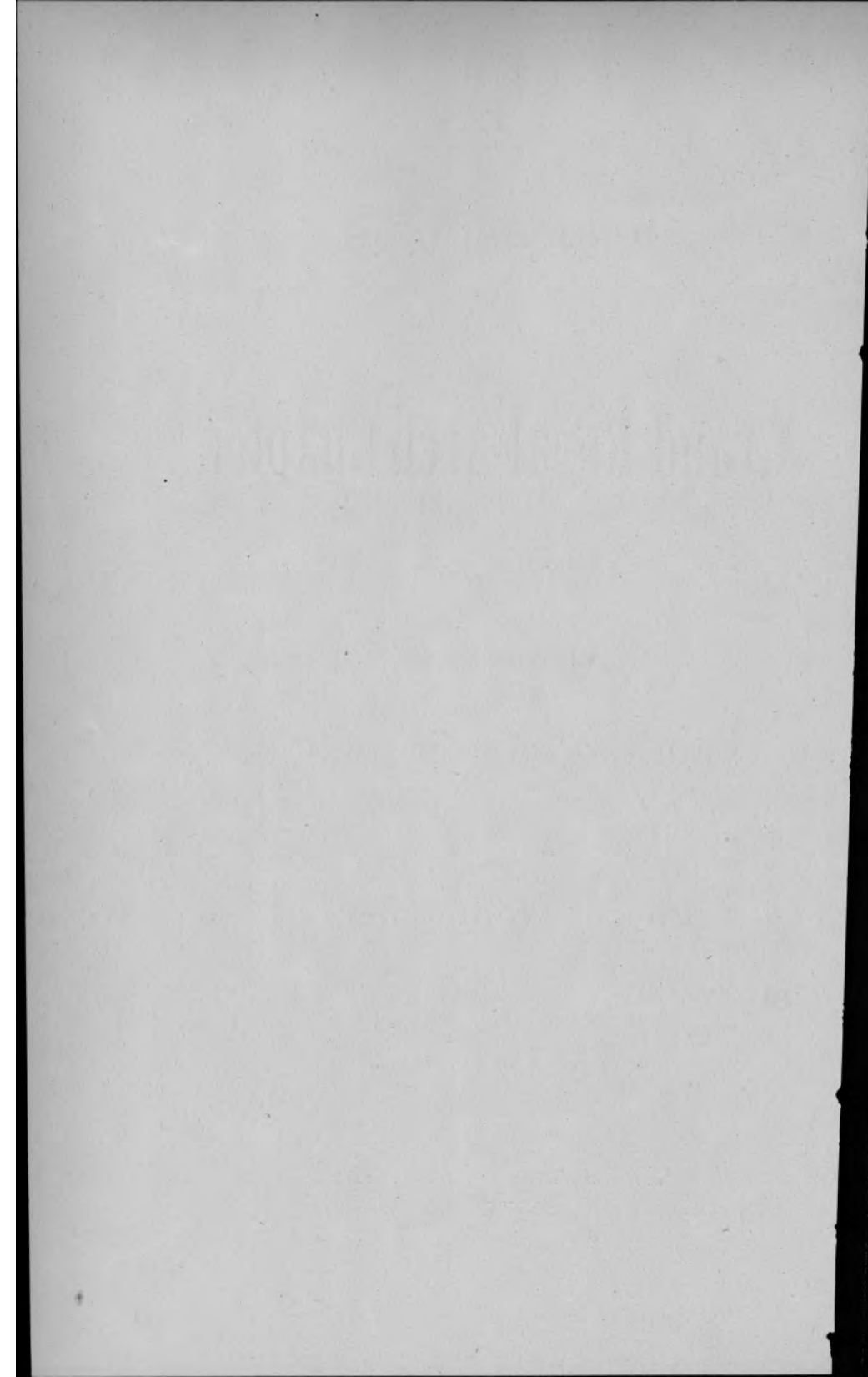
City of Montgomery,

BEGINNING ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 3rd,

A. D. 1900.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.

W. M. ROGERS & CO., PRINTERS AND BINDERS,
1901.



PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama
Seventy-Fourth Annual Convocation

HELD AT
MONTGOMERY, DECEMBER 3RD AND 4TH, 1900, A. I. 2430.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama met in Annual Convocation at Masonic Temple, in Montgomery, December 3rd, at 10 o'clock a. m.

PRESENT.

EDWARD S. GATCHELL....M. E. Grand High Priest.
GEORGE F. MOORE....M. E. Deputy Grand High Priest.
CHARLES R. BRICKEN....R. E. Grand King.
GEORGE A. BEAUCHAMP....R. E. Grand Scribe.
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY....R. E. Grand Treasurer.
H. CLAY ARMSTRONG....R. E. Grand Secretary.
STEWART MCQUEEN....R. E. Grand Chaplain.
BASIL M. HILL.....R. E. Grand C of Host.
T. P. WHITBY.....as.....E. Grand P. Sojourner.
JOSEPH P. MCQUEEN.....E. Grand R. A. Captain.
JAMES ESDALEE. Grand M. of 3rd Vail.
FRANCIS M. BATESE. Grand M. of 2nd Vail.
J. D. BLOCH.....as.....E. Grand M. of 1st Vail.
CHARLES A. ALLEN.....E. Grand Sentinel.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG..... M.: E.: Grand H. Priest.
WILLIAM W. SCREWS..... M.: E.: Grand H. Priest.
GEORGE A. JOINER..... R.: E.: Grand Secretary.

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

Basil M. Hill..... Arkansas.
John B. Christian..... Colorado.
Edward S. Gatchell..... Kentucky.
Charles R. Bricken..... Nevada.
George A. Beauchamp..... Oregon.
James O. Bailey..... South Carolina.
William W. Screws..... Tennessee.
George F. Moore..... Illinois.
George A. Joiner..... Massachusetts.

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

No. 1	Tuscaloosa.....	{ M. M. Kuffner	H. P.
		{ Walter Smith.*	K.
" 12	Marion.....	{ J. O. Bailey.....	H. P.
		{ C. A. Wilkerson*.....	K.
		{ B. Mickle*.....	S.
" 19	Mt. Moriah.....	{ J. P. McQueen.....	H. P.
		{ J. G. Harris.....	S.
" 21	Mobile.....	{ Percy B. Dixon*.....	H. P.
		{ J. D. Bloch*.....	K.
" 22	Montgomery	R. S. Teague.....	H. P.
" 23	Talladega.....	L. J. Wright.....	H. P.
" 24	Eufaula.....	{ Geo. A. Beauchamp.....	H. P.
		{ Z. A. Barnes.....	K.
" 25	Courtland.....	J. M. Houston*.....	H. P.
" 26	Union.....	John B. Christian	H. P.
" 28	Saint John.....	T. P. Whitby.....	H. P.
" 32	Fulton.....	Joseph A. Groves.....	H. P.
" 38	Decatur.....	{ T. A. Kenyon*.....	H. P.
		{ A. Law*.....	K.
" 54	Troy.....	W. B. Nall*.....	H. P.
" 56	Zerubbabel.....	Cyrus A. Cowart	S.
" 64	Central	J. Alex. Moore.....	S.
" 71	Landmark.....	William A. Arnold.....	H. P.

No. 79	Hillabee.....	I. T. Stowe*.....	H. P.
" 80	Myles J, Greene....	{ H. Clay Armstrong.....	H. P.
		{ Jno. B. Lyons*.....	K.
" 88	Springville.....	{ E. M. McLenden*.....	H. P.
		{ Jas. T. Greene*.....	K.
		{ Basil M. Hill*.....	S.
" 92	Notasulga.....	W. T. Duke.....	H. P.
" 96	Daniel Pratt.....	Geo. L. Smith.....	H. P.
" 99	Thomas M. Bragg..	{ Charles R. Bricken.....	H. P.
		{ J. R. Horn*.....	K.
" 101	Mineral City.....	{ W. W. Ransom.....	H. P.
		{ Joseph Brower*.....	K.
		{ J. R. Booth*.....	S.
" 108	Pratt City.....	{ Chas. H. Mandy.....	H. P.
		{ J. H. Edwards*.....	K.
		{ Robert King.....	S.
" 109	Blocton.....	J. R. Weaver*.....	H. P.
" 110	Bessemer.....	E. L. Mitchell.....	H. P.
" 111	Piedmont.....	A. S. Stewart*.....	H. P.
" 112	Brewton.....	{ S. C. Henderson*.....	H. P.
		{ F. L. Leavitt*.....	K.
		{ P. H. M. Tippin*.....	S.
" 113	Dothan.....	{ H. H. McNeil*.....	H. P.
		{ Robert F. Peters*.....	K.
" 115	Thomasville.....	{ W. B. Jackson*.....	H. P.
		{ T. L. Bedsole*.....	K.
		{ John A. Gilmore*.....	S.

*Proxy.

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,

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Companions of the Grand Chapter:

We have added another year to the record of our lives

At this 74th Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, we assemble at the altar and offer our devotions to Almighty God, and express our profound gratitude to Him for His watchful care and superintending providence. We have seen the turmoil and confusion developed in every department of business and political life; the extension of our jurisdiction into foreign territory; the wars that have agitated all civilized lands and that indicate the early change of the map of the world, and the forms of government: We have seen the upheaval of new, and perhaps dangerous forms of thought that are to revolutionize the nations of the earth, as they find expression in the conduct of men everywhere; and while we are witnessing this wild unrest of the people, and the inordinate thirst for change, power, and conquest, it is worth while for us to stop, reflect, and try to ascertain whether there is any place where we can rest or any "Polar Star" to which we can look that is not disturbed by commotion and strife or driven from its accustomed orbit by the tempest of disruption and disorganization as it sweeps across the world.

Happily for us, we belong to an order that had its origin in the earliest forms of government, that has kept itself free from political entanglements, and revolutionary influences, that has been as the deep sea undisturbed by the storms that have lashed its surface, and unhindered by the wrecks that have been cast upon its shores.

The perfect tranquility of our order attracts no attention from the excited masses. The casual observer hardly stops to wonder how so vast a body as masonry represents can exist in such silence, and move with such invariable regularity, but we know there is an eye that watches, and a hand that directs its procedure in its rigid adherence to principles and unalterable devotion to the right.

We fix our eyes upon that Divine eye, and we lay our hand into that Divine hand today, with the confidence that comes to us from the experience of the centuries, and while we bid defiance to the raging elements of discord and war we move stead-

ily forward to the discharge of our whole duty without discouragement or fear.

Masonry goes into the wilds of the Phillipine Islands, the crowded cities of China, the jungles of Africa, the hot sands of Cuba and Puerto Rico, or into the stricken city of Galveston in our own country, and gives help to the suffering, and comfort to the dying.

As we have been the custodians of truth and uprightness in the past, so we are to be their preservers in the future, and when the storms of the Nations have passed and the people of the earth seek a sure foundation upon which to build their hopes for the future, they will find the fires of liberty, equality, justice, and brotherly love still brightly burning on our altars, and the world will acknowledge, as never before the stability, permanence and inestimable value of our teachings.

Let us address ourselves in confidence to this work as we enter upon the duties that lie before us at this hour.

During the year little business of importance has been transacted by me; five new chapters have been organized, and some that had become dormant have been reorganized and are now actively at work. I believe that capitular masonry is now in a healthier condition in Alabama than it has been in several years past, and it is my earnest wish that this growth in members and knowledge may continue until every town and community in our jurisdiction can boast of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, thoroughly equipped, and well organized, selecting nothing but the best and truest material, from which to do "good work, and true work."

"OUR FRATERNAL DEAD."

During the past year the "Grim Reaper" with his unrelenting scythe has not invaded the ranks of the official membership of our Grand Chapter, but some of the truest and best of our Royal Craft have been called "up higher," and I recommend that a suitable memorial tablet be set apart in our proceedings to their memory.

In sister jurisdictions with whom we are in fraternal correspondence the following distinguished and beloved companions have passed through the "inner veils" and been admitted into the upper sanctuary, and are at rest forever:

M. E. Horace Spencer Winslow, Past Grand High Priest of

the Grand Chapter of Iowa, died at home in Newton, Dec. 11th, 1899, age 62 years.

M. E. James Henry Welsh, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, died at his home in Danbury, Dec. 16th, 1899, age 69 years.

M. E. Lee A. Hall, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, died at his home in St. Louis, Dec. 15th, 1899, age 67 years.

M. E. Jacob DeWitt, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Kansas, died Jan. 28th, 1900, age 66 years.

M. E. Robert H. Henry, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska, died at his home in Columbus, Feb. 1st, 1900, age 58 years.

M. E. Edward Augustus Guilbert, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, died at his home in Dubuque, March 4th, 1900, age 72 years.

M. E. Richard H. Huntington, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of New York, died at his home in Watertown, Feb. 8th, 1900, age 66 years.

M. E. Samuel Wright Williams, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas died at his home in Little Rock, March 14th, 1900, age 72 years.

M. E. Silas Elam Sheldon, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Kansas, died April 19th, 1900; age 63 years.

M. E. W. H. Gee, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas, died at his home in Dardanelle, May 28th, 1900; age 64 years.

M. E. William H. Clark, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, died at his home in Baltimore June 18th, 1900; age 68 years.

M. E. Thomas B. Long, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Indiana, died July 2d, 1900, at his home in Terre Haute; age 64 years.

M. E. Eugene LeCompte Stoker, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Illinois, died at his home in Centralia Sept. 30th, 1900.

M. E. Jeremiah C. Allen, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, died Oct. 2d, 1900; age 73 years.

M. E. William B. Wilson, Past Grand High Priest of the

Grand Chapter of Missouri, died at his home in the city of Cape Girardeau, Oct. 18th, 1900; age 69 years.

APPOINTMENT OF GRAND LECTURER.

In accordance with a resolution of the Grand Chapter adopted at the last Grand Convocation, I appointed M. E. Companion Andrew J. Nunnally of Talladega, lecturer for the Grand Chapter until the next Grand Convocation.

SPECIAL DISPENSATIONS.

On December 22d, 1899, I granted special dispensation to Piedmont Chapter No. 111, to receive and ballot on the petitions of several applicants for the Chapter degrees, and if elected to proceed to confer the work at once.

On December 12th, 1899, I granted special dispensation to Mobile Chapter No. 21, to receive and ballot on petitions of Bros. Arthur Bailey, J. V. Bachelder, and James Jett, without waiting the constitutional time, and if elected to confer the degrees at once, for good reason shown.

On April 23d, 1900, I granted special dispensation to Anniston Chapter No. 105, to meet and elect officers out of the usual constitutional time, also receive several petitions for the Chapter degrees, and if elected to proceed with the work at once, the Grand Lecturer Comp. Andrew J. Nunnally being present to assist in conferring the degrees and instructing the companions.

On May 19th, 1900, I granted special dispensation to Mineral City Chapter No. 101 to receive and ballot on the petition of Bros. Maury Cannon, Thomas T. Newton, Edward P. Goodwin, John N. Collins, John T. Sanford, Robert F. Peters, Sidney J. Cannon, Robert C. Robertson and H. P. Prepet, and if elected to confer the degrees at once, the said petitioners residing at Fayette, Ala., and being desirous of organizing a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at that place.

On July 10th, 1900, I granted special dispensation to Central Chapter No. 64, to elect officers, they having failed to do so at the Annual Convocation.

On July 26th, 1900, I granted special dispensation to Piedmont Chapter No. 111, to receive and ballot on petitions of several applicants, and, if elected, to confer the degrees at once, as Grand Secretary H. Clay Armstrong would be present on that occasion to assist in the work, and instruct the Chapter.

On July 21st, 1900, I granted special dispensation to Daniel Pratt Chapter No. 96, to elect officers, they having failed to do so at the constitutional time.

On September 22d, 1900, I granted special dispensation to Springville Chapter No. 88, to receive and ballot on the petitions of several applications for the Chapter degrees, and if elected to confer them at once, for good reasons shown.

On October 10th, 1900, and November 4th, 1900, I granted special dispensations to Talladega Chapter No. 23, to receive and ballot on petitions of (3) three applicants for the Chapter degrees and if elected to confer them at once.

NEW CHAPTERS.

On December 28th, 1899, I issued dispensation to E. Comp. H. G. Earnest and (0) ten other companions to form and organize a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at Piedmont to be known as Piedmont Chapter No. 111.

On April 11th, 1900, I issued dispensation to E. Comp. James B. Rankan and (8) eight others to form and organize a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at Brewton to be known as Brewton Chapter No. 112.

On April 23d, 1900, I issued dispensation to E. Comp. Mercer S. Dane Jr., and (10) ten others to form and organize a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at Dothan to be known as Dothan Chapter No. 113.

On June 20th, 1900, I issued dispensation to E. Comp. John T. Sanford and (8) eight others to form and organize a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at Fayette to be known as H. Clay Armstrong Chapter No. 114.

On November 3d, 1900, I issued dispensation to E. Comp. Marmaduke Kimbrough and (11) eleven others to form and organize a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at Thomasville to be known as Thomasville Chapter No. 115.

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR THIS GRAND CHAPTER.

On February 14th, 1900, I appointed and issued commission to E. Comp. James A. Bryan of Parkersburg, as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Alabama near the Grand Chapter of West Virginia.

I have nominated as representatives of Grand Chapters near our Grand Chapter as follows:

Maine—E. Comp. Robert F. Lovelady, Pratt City.
 Florida—E. Comp. Jas. B. Rankan, Brewton.
 Maryland—E. Comp. Hesiziah G. Earnest, Piedmont.
 Indiana—E. Comp. Thomas P. Whitby, Selma
 Wisconsin—E. Comp. Nathaniel L. Mewhinney, Birmingham.
 North Dakota—E. Comp. George T. Malone, Dothan.
 District of Columbia—E. Comp. Louis J. Wright, Talladega.
 Louisiana—E. Comp. Robert L. Douglas, Mobile.

DECISIONS.

On September 24th, a request came up from Blocton Chapter No. 109, if the Chapter could receive the resignation of the E. King, he having removed to some other place of residence. I gave as my opinion that neither of the first (3) three officers of the Chapter could resign during the Masonic year, and in the absence of the E. King the High Priest shall appoint some Companion at each meeting to fill the office pro tem.

OFFICIAL VISITATIONS.

On April 23d, 1900, I visited Anniston Chapter No. 105, and presided at its meeting.

On September 5th, 1900, I visited Marion Chapter No. 12 in company with Grand Secretary H. Clay Armstrong and assisted in conferring the Royal Arch degree on a team.

With this report of my official acts during the year, I close my term of office and surrender the emblem of authority to my successor, but I reserve my right to work faithfully under the leadership of another.

If I have not commanded the forces with the degree of courage and success that you had expected, you will at least allow me to take my place in the ranks and keep the fires burning on the altar, to cheer the faithful followers in their work of love. With an apology with my shortcomings with profound thanks for your kindness and consideration, with the strongest love for the principles of our order and with an abiding confidence in our future success, I place into your hands the solemn and imperative duties that devolve upon you. Praying the blessings of God upon your deliberations, and urging you to seek His guidance in this and in all the affairs of life.

Fraternally Submitted,

EDWARD S. GACHELL.

Montgomery, Alabama, December 3d, 1900.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

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

WILLIAM H. DINGLEY, GRAND TREASURER,

In Account with Grand Chapter of Alabama.

1899.

DR.

Dec. 4. To Balance.....\$225 23

1900.

Oct. 20. Received from Grand Secretary.... 926 60

Nov. 15. " " " " " 202 75

Nov. 22. " " " " " 50 00—\$1,404 58

1899.

CR.

Dec. 5. By G. A. Beauchamp.....\$ 10 00

Dec. 6. Committee on Correspondence—
 W. Y. Titcomb 75 00

Dec. 20. Grand Sentinel..... 12 00

1900.

Oct. 10. Grand Secretary, Fee for Charter 10 00

Oct. 20. Grand Secretary, Salary... 400 00

Oct. 20. Grand Secretary, Conting't Fund 150 00

Nov. 22. Grand Treasurer, Salary..... 50 00

Dec. 3. Balance..... 697 58—\$1,404 58

Dec. 3, 1900.

WILLIAM 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.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ALABAMA.

13

EXHIBIT A.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG, GRAND SECRETARY.

In Account with Grand Chapter of Alabama.

GENERAL FUND.

1899.	DR.	
Dec. 28.	To Dues since last report.....	\$554 60
	Four Dispensations, V. 1.....	360 00
	G. C. Certificates, V. 1	12 00
1900.		
Nov. 15.	Dues to date, V. 2.....	202 75—\$1,129 35
1900.	CR.	
Oct.	By Paid Grand Treasurer.....	\$926 60
Nov. 15.	“ “ “	202 75—\$1,129 35

EXHIBIT B.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG, GRAND SECRETARY,

In Account with Grand Chapter of Alabama.

CONTINGENT FUND.

1899.	DR.	
Dec. 9.	To Contingent Fund, 1899-1900.....	\$150 00 —\$150 00
	CR.	
	By Printing and Stationery.....	\$94 72
	Postage, telegrams and express	23 56
	Fuel.....	10 50
	Dues General Grand Chapter—	
	1897, 1898 and 1899.....	27 77
	Expenses in attending General	
	Grand Chapter at Cin-	
	cinnati.....	34 80—\$ 191 35
	Over paid by Grand Secretary.	—\$41 35

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG,
Grand Secretary.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Companion Wm. Y. Titcomb, Chairman of the
Committee on Foreign Correspondence, submitted

his Annual Report, and it was received and ordered printed with the proceedings.—(See Appendix.)

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

COMMITTEES.

The M.: E.: Grand H.: P.: announced the following Committees:

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS, NO. 1.

Jas. O. Bailey,	W. B. Nall,
M. M. Kuffner,	W. T. Duke.

ON CHARTERED CHAPTERS, NO. 2.

Percy B. Dixon.	W. W. Ransom,
E. L. Mitchell,	Charles H. Mandy.

ON DISPENSATIONS.

L J. Wright,	Thomas P. Whitby.
J. R. Weaver.	

ON BY-LAWS, SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS AND APPEALS.

Robert S. Teague,	John B. Christian,
T. A. Kenyon.	

ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Joseph P. McQueen,	Geo. F. Moore,
J. T. Green.	

ON FINANCE.

Geo. A. Beauchamp,	F. H. Bates,
J. M. Houston.	

On motion of Companion Teague the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until 7:30 this p. m.

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

MONDAY EVENING, December 3d, 1900.

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

Prayer by the R.: E.: and Rev. Grand Chaplain. The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

M.: E.: Companion Geo. F. Moore offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved First, That the Chairman of the Committee on Work of the Grand Chapter be, and he is, hereby appointed "Custodian of the Work" in this Grand Jurisdiction.

Resolved Second, That no Companion Royal Arch Mason, shall be allowed to lecture in the Subordinate Chapters and give or exemplify the work of the degrees unless he shall have first secured a certificate from the Committee on Work of this Grand Chapter stating that such Companion is a member of some subordinate Chapter of this jurisdiction, that he is in good standing in such Chapter, and that he is thoroughly conversant with the degrees as they are given, in this jurisdiction.

Resolved Third, That it shall be the duty of the Custodian of the Work upon application made to him by any Chapter in the jurisdiction to furnish to said Chapter the work of any or all of the degrees conferred in the Chapter but such work must not be furnished except upon the following condition, viz :

(A) Such work shall be written in cipher, the key to which shall be disclosed only to the High Priest of the Chapter securing such manuscript work.

(B) When such work is furnished to a Chapter the High Priest shall sign a written pledge that he will not permit said manuscript work to be used by reading from it in conferring the work; that he will permit no copy of it to be made, except such parts as are necessary to be used by the officers of his Chapter in learning the work; that he will deliver the work to his successor in office on his election, requiring from him before doing so, a written

pledge such as he himself has given, and that in the event the Charter of his Chapter is forfeited he will immediately send the manuscript to the Custodian of the Work.

(C) That the Custodian of the Work shall receive such compensation for preparing and sending out the manuscript work provided for in this resolution as shall be agreed upon between him and the Chapter procuring the work.

Companion Geo. A. Beauchamp, from the Committee on Work, made report on P.: M.: Degree, and it was adopted.

Companion Geo. A. Beauchamp made report on the M.: E.: Master's Degree, and the report was adopted.

Companion H. Clay Armstrong, Chairman of the Committee on Work, made Report on R.: A.: Degree and the report was adopted.

On motion of Companion Lazarus the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

IN GRAND CHAPTER.

TUESDAY MORNING, December 4, 1900.

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

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

The Minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

CHARTERED CHAPTERS NO. 1.

Companion James O. Bailey, from the 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, respectfully report that they have examined the returns submitted to them and find the following

CORRECT.

Mt. Moriah.....	No. 19	Courtland.....	No. 25
Union.....	No. 26	Saint Johns.....	No. 28
Fulton.....	No. 32	Decatur.....	No. 38
Eufaula.....	No. 24	Marion.....	No. 12

INCORRECT.

Montgomery.....No. 22

We find two reported suspended and should be only one.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES O. BAILEY,

Z. A. BARNES,

M. M. KUFFNER,

W. B. NALL,

W. T. DUKE,

Committee.

CHARTERED CHAPTERS, NO. 2.

Companion Percy B. Dixon, Chairman of the Committee on Chartered Chapters, No. 2, made the following report, which was adopted.

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

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

CORRECT:

Miles J. Greene.....	No. 80	Pratt City.....	No. 108
Blocton.....	No. 109		

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

INCORRECT.

Mineral City	No. 101	} On account of no seal affixed to returns.
Piedmont.....	No. 111	
Brewton.....	No. 112	
Thomasville.....	No. 115	

Central No. 64 failed to give Christian names of members.

Notasulga, No. 92 { Failed to affix seal: also failed to give date
of affiliation of Geo. W. Arbery, also failed
to place said Arbery in alphabetical order in
list of members.

Fraternally submitted,

PERCY B. DIXON, *Ch'n*,

EDGAR L. MITCHELL.

W. W. RANSOM,

CHARLES H. MANDY,

Committee No. 2.

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

Companion J. H. Edwards, from the Committee on By-Laws, Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

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

Your Committee on By Laws, Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals respectfully report that we have carefully examined the By Laws of the following Chapters and find the same in conformity with the Constitution, Laws and Edicts of this Grand Chapter, and recommend that charters be granted to Chapters as follows:

Piedmont, No. 111.

Brewton, No. 112.

Dothan, No. 113.

H. Clay Armstrong, No. 114.

Thomasville, No. 115.

Fraternally submitted,

J. H. EDWARDS.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

M. E. Companion W. W. Screws, from the Spe-

cial Committee on the Grand H. P.'s Address, submitted the following report, and it was adopted:

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Alabama:

The Special Committee to whom was referred the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, notes with special gratification its cheerful tone from beginning to close. It is cause for congratulation that the reorganization of dormant and organization of new Chapters and conditions generally are such as to warrant hopefulness as to the future of Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction.

The absence of dissension relieved the High Priest of any decisions among Subordinate Chapters or individual Companions. The angel of death has not invaded the ranks of Past Grand Officers during the current year.

Our duty in view of the delightful situation revealed by the address in this grand jurisdiction, therefore, is an easy one, and we have no recommendations to make.

Fraternally submitted,

W. W. SCREWS,

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.

Committee.

ON DISPENSATIONS.

Companion L. J. Wright, from the Committee on Dispensations, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

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

Your Committee on Dispensations beg leave respectfully to report that they have examined the Minutes of Piedmont Chapter, No. 111; Brewton Chapter, No. 112; Dothan Chapter, No. 113; H. Clay Armstrong Chapter, No. 114; Thomasville Chapter, No. 115.

Working under Dispensations, and finding that the same are neatly and correctly kept, and we recommend that charters be granted for the same.

Fraternally submitted,

L. J. WRIGHT.

THOS. P. WHITBY.

Committee.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

COMPANION C. L. C. ATKESON READ THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION:

FORT GAINES, GA., MARCH 3d, 1900.

DR. C. L. C. ATKESON, COLUMBIA, ALA.,

Dear Sir and Companion:—Replying to yours of February 28th. Your information is correct—we have conferred the Chapter degrees on several "Alabamians." I know of no authority for this other than that Masonry recognizes no North, South, East or West, and of course no State lines.

Yours Fraternally,

E. A. GRAHAM, H. P.

LaFayette Chapter, No. 12.

Gn motion the subject referred to was referred to the incoming Grand High Priest for such action as he might deem proper in the premises.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Companion Geo. A. Beauchamp, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, made the following report, and it was adopted:

To M. E. G. R. A. Chapter of Alabama:

Your committee on Finance to whom was referred the books, accounts and vouchers of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer have carefully examined the same and find them correct. We find the Grand Treasurer has on hand a balance of \$ 225 23 Received from the Grand Secretary since last report.... 1179 35

Total.....\$1404 58

He has vouchers for the following expenditures:

Committee on Work.....	\$10 00
Grand Sentinel.....	12 00
Grand Secretary.....	400 00
Grand Treasurer.....	50 00
Contingent Fund.....	150 00
Committee on Correspondence.....	75 00
H. Clay Armstrong, Fee for Charter No. 110 issued to Bessemer Chapter.....	10 00

Balance on hand.....\$697 58—\$1404 58

We find that the Grand Secretary has collected since his last settlement with Grand Treasurer \$302.50, which added to amount in hand of Grand Treasurer makes a total of cash on hand of \$1,000.08.

Fraternally submitted,

GEO. A. BEAUCHAMP,

F. H. BATES,

Committee.

STATEMENT OF CONTINGENT FUNDS.

We find that the Grand Secretary has expended the following amounts from the Contingent Fund:

Printing and Stationary.....	\$94 72
Postage, telegrams and express.....	23 56
Fuel	10 50
Dues Genl. Grand Chapter 1897-8 & 9.....	27 77
Expenses in attending Genl. Grand Chapter at Cincinnati, Ohio.....	\$34 80—\$191 35

Over Paid by Grand Secretary.....	\$41 35
-----------------------------------	---------

We recommend the following appropriations for the ensuing Masonic year:

Grand Treasurer.....	\$ 75 00
Foreign Correspondence.....	100 00
Committee on Work.....	10 00
Grand Sentinel.....	15 00
Contingent Fund.....	150 00
To Grand Secretary for amount overpaid on Contingent Fund for 1900.....	41 35
H. C. Armstrong for purpose of purchasing jewels voted Past Grand High Priest.....	100 00
Grand Secretary.....	400 00

Total.....	\$891 35
Amount allowed for 1900.....	\$150 00

Companion Robert S. Teague offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a resolution adopted in 1878, and appearing on page 20 of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, as follows:

"Resolved, That hereafter any Royal Arch Chapter within this Grand Jurisdiction having a less number of candidates for Exaltation than is required by the Ritual, may substitute from its membership a sufficiency to move up the number,"

And which was adopted and furthermore appears in the Edicts, be and the same is hereby repealed.

On motion the resolution was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence with instruction to report thereon at the next Annual Grand Convocation.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The Grand Chapter proceeded to the election of Grand officers with the following result :

George F. Moore.....	M.: E.:	Grand High Priest.
Charles R. Bricken.....	M.: E.:	Deputy Grand High Priest.
George A. Beauchamp.....	R.: E.:	Grand King.
Basil M. Hill	R.: E.:	Grand Scribe.
Joseph P. McQueen.....	R.: E.:	Grand C. of Host.
William H. Dingley.....	R.: E.:	Grand Treasurer.
H. Clay Armstrong	R.: E.:	Grand Secretary.
Stewart McQueen.....	R.: E.:	Grand Chaplain.

The Grand High Priest subsequently appointed the following :

James Esdale.....	E.:	Grand P. Sojourner.
Francis H. Bates.....	E.:	Grand R. A. Captain.
R. W. Sutherland.....	E.:	Grand M. of 3d Vail.
J. B. Christian.....	E.:	Grand M. of 2d Vail.
L. C. Henderson	E.:	Grand M. of 1st Vail.
Charles A. Allen.....	E.:	Grand Sentinel.

INSTALLATION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The Grand officers were duly installed by P.: G.: H.: P.: W. W. Screws, Comp. Robert S. Teague, acting as Grand Marshal.

Companion J. D. Bloch made the following remarks in offering the accompanying resolutions which were unanimously adopted :

MONTGOMERY, ALA., December 4th, 1900.

Most Excellent Grand High Priest:

I desire to address a few remarks to this Most Excellent Grand Chapter; and trust that I may be permitted to do so, and that I may be pardoned in so doing for speaking of one from my own city.

There is a worthy companion in Mobile to-day who is with us now in spirit, if not in person, one whose name and form is familiar to the members of this Grand Chapter, which he has attended for many years, and would be here to-day, but for an affliction that has recently been visited upon him. I refer to Brother E. L. Merkel.

Brother Merkel has for years been a pillar in every branch of Masonry in Mobile. He loves Capitular Masonry, and has always endeavored to disseminate its principles. Recently his eyesight has given way, the result of physical ailment, and no more can he behold the beauties of nature. He is confined to his room, and while in a measure resigned to his fate, still his greatest satisfaction is to see his friends and discuss Masonic subjects, and his greatest regret expressed upon a recent visit was that he was unable to attend the present meetings of these Masonic Grand Bodies. As he now sits with his eyes bandaged shut out from the light of day, I think it but proper that this Grand Chapter convey to him by telegram their sympathy for him in his affliction.

I ask it, for I know what a source of gratification it will be for him to receive it, and how much light it will throw into the darkness that now surrounds him. Therefore, be it

Resolved, First, That this Grand Chapter has learned with deep regret of the affliction that has befallen our worthy companion Edward L. Merkel of Mobile, in the loss of his sight, and hereby express to him our deep sympathy, and trust that an All-Wise Providence may watch over him and soon restore to him that health that he formerly enjoyed,

Second, That this preamble and resolution be spread upon our

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

minutes and our Grand Recorder instructed to convey by telegram our greetings and sympathy to companion Merkel.

Fraternally submitted.

J. D. BLOCH,
Mobile Chapter No. 21.

M. E. Companion Edward S. Gatchell offered a resolution which was unanimously adopted, extending the sympathy of this Grand Chapter to Past Grand High Priest, John G. Harris, who has recently lost a beloved daughter, and who is absent from the Convocation, attending her funeral.

Companion Robert S. Teague offered a resolution to purchase jewels for past Grand High Priests, including M. E. Edward S. Gatchell, P. G. H. P.

M. E. George F. Moore, G. H. P., and M. E. H. Clay Armstrong, were named as the Committee to purchase said jewels.

Adopted.

The Grand High Priest then announced the following

STANDING COMMITTEES:

ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

WILLIAM Y. TITCOMB.....Anniston

ON WORK.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.....Montgomery
GEORGE A. BEAUCHAMP.....Eufaula
ROBERT S. TEAGUE.....Mobile

ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

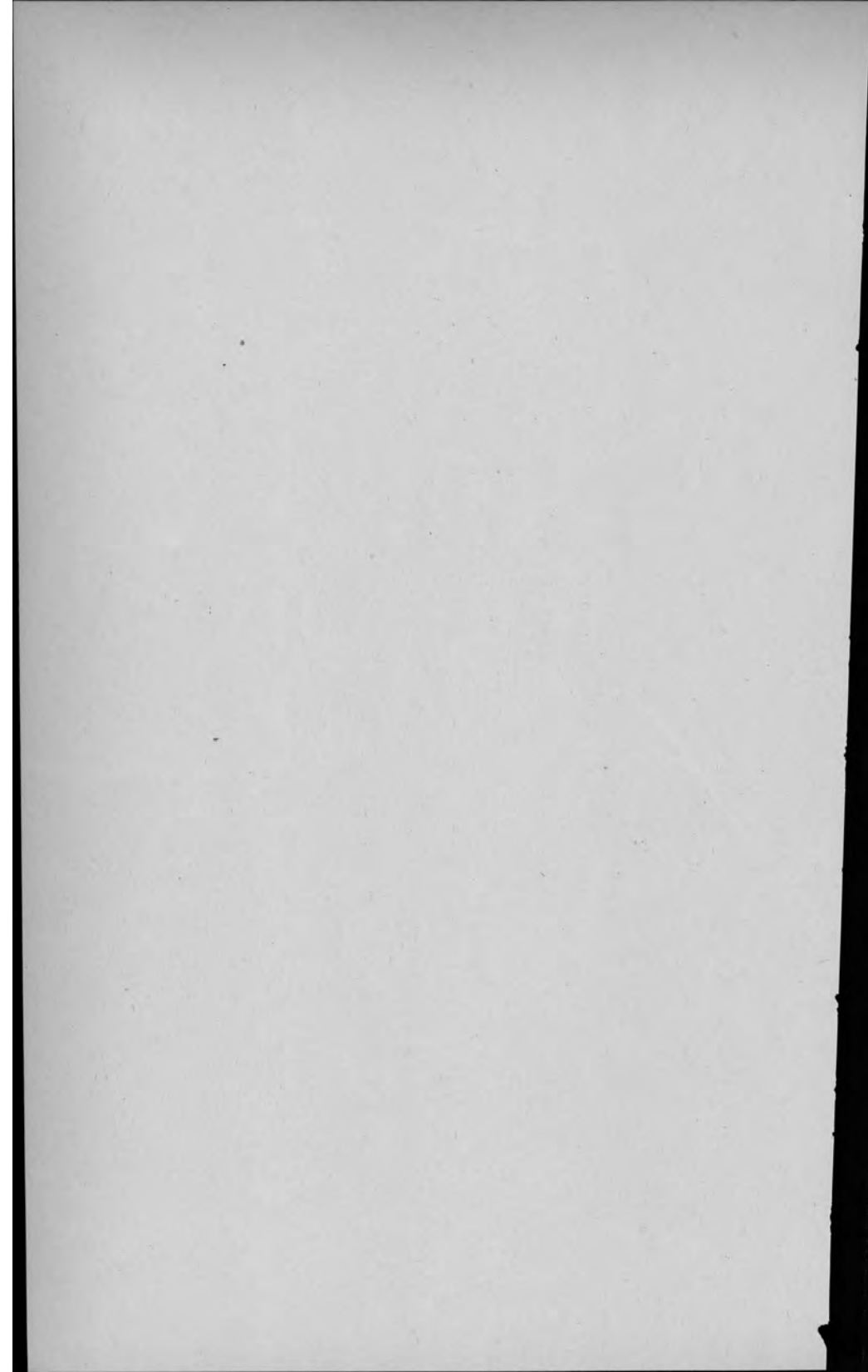
JOSEPH P. MCQUEEN.....Entaw.
JOHN B. CHRISTIAN.....Uniontown
JAMES T. GREENE.....Springville

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

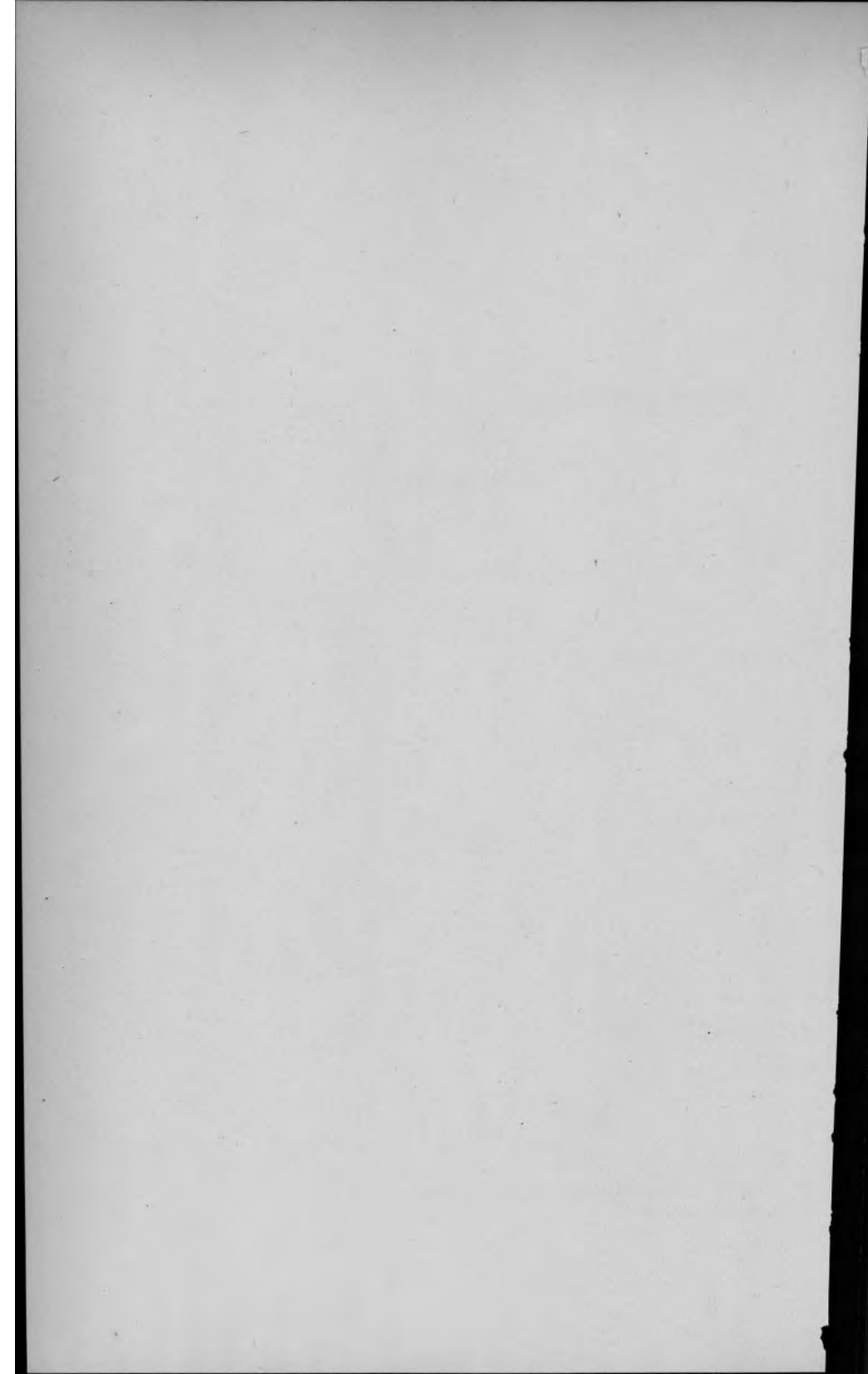
CLOSED.

After solemn prayer to the Throne of Grace, by the R.: E.: and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the M.: E.: Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Alabama was closed in Ample Form.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG,
Grand Secretary.



APPENDIX.



REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

—BY—

WILLIAM Y. TITCOMB.

To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter

of Royal Arch Masons in the State of Alabama:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence respectfully submits the following report:

PROCEEDINGS REVIEWED.

Arizona.....	1899	Montana.....	1899
Arkansas.....	1899	Nevada.....	1900
California.....	1900	New Brunswick.....	1899
Canada.....	1900	New Hampshire.....	1899-1900
Colorado.....	1899	New Jersey.....	1900
Connecticut.....	1900	New Mexico.....	1893-1899
Delaware.....	1900	New York.....	1900
District of Columbia.....	1899	New South Wales.....	1899
England.....	1889-1900	North Carolina.....	1900
Florida.....	1900	North Dakota.....	1900
Georgia.....	1900	Nova Scotia.....	1899
Illinois.....	1899	Ohio.....	1899
Indiana.....	1899	Oregon.....	1900
Indian Territory.....	1899	Pennsylvania.....	1899
Iowa.....	1899	Quebec.....	1900
Kansas.....	1900	South Carolina.....	1900
Kentucky.....	1899	South Dakota.....	1900
Louisiana.....	1900	Tennessee.....	1900
Maine.....	1899	Texas.....	1899
Maryland.....	1899	Vermont.....	1900
Massachusetts.....	1899	Victoria.....	1898-1899
Michigan.....	1900	Virginia.....	1899
Minnesota.....	1899	Washington.....	1900
Mississippi.....	1899	West Virginia.....	1899
Missouri.....	1899-1900	Wisconsin.....	1900

The foregoing list comprises all volumes of G. C. Proceedings received to date.

ARIZONA—10TH ANNUAL, TUCSON, NOVEMBER, 1899.

No. of Chapters 6; members, 301, gain 38.

M. E. Grand High Priest, James Davidson Monihon presided over the Grand Body, while six P. G. H. P's. lent the occasion increased interest, by their presence, and eighteen Grand Chapters were present by their representatives.

The Grand High Priest made, in his address, the following satisfactory announcement:

"No questions have been submitted to me, during the term, requiring my official interpretation. Peace and harmony have prevailed in a delightful degree throughout this jurisdiction during the past year. May it ever so continue."

One dispensation was granted for formation of a Chapter U. D., at Globe, Gila County, Arizona.

He recommended the adoption of a system of rules for the more perfect protection of the funds of the several Chapters—"having all moneys held safely, and only disbursed on checks or warrants, both signed and countersigned by two officers of the Chapter."

There must have been a leakage somewhere.

The Grand Secretary reported that the returns of Subordinate Chapters had reached his office within the time prescribed by the constitution, and, as usual, were neatly and correctly made out.

From the Grand Treasurer's report it appears that, after the disbursements, there remaind in his hands the comfortable cash balance of \$1,183.50.

M. E. Grand High Priest, James D. Monihon, Representative of the Grand Chapter of Virginia, presiding, the seventeen other Grand Representatives present, were presented at the altar, introduced and received with the Grand Honors.

The routine business of this convocation is passed without mention.

Under General Regulations, No. 4, reads as follows:

"Every Mark Master attached to a Chapter under this Jurisdiction must, within six months after his admission, select his mark and record the same in a book of marks kept by the Chapter for that purpose, and it is made the special duty of the Secre-

tary of each Chapter to see that this regulation is complied with."

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Frederic G. Brecht.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Geo. J. Roskrugs.

ARKANSAS—50TH ANNUAL, LITTLE ROCK, NOVEMBER, 1899.

Active Chapters, 52; members, 1,794; receipts, \$2,275.43; expenditures, \$1 270.94; balance on hand, \$1,004.49.

M. E. Grand High Priest, J. H. Kennedy, in the chair. Seven permanent members present. When the roll of Grand Representatives was called Alabama's Representative, Comp. R. M. Smith and twenty-four others answered "present."

Arkansas moans the loss of several bright, Masonic lights—notably R. E. Grand Secretary, J. A. Henry and Past Grand High Priests J. H. Van Hoose and J. J. Sumpter. Due respect was paid to the memory of these and other departed Companions.

A few special dispensations were granted to Chapters—four of them for conferring degrees out of time.

Only two decisions were submitted: the first was made in answer to the following question:

"Can a Companion who is engaged in the saloon business be legally installed into office in a Chapter?"

"Answer:—Yes; I know no law to the contrary. If he is a member in good standing he is eligible to any office in the Chapter, and can, and ought, be legally installed if elected."

The second decision was in reply to the following interrogatory:

"The Masons at ——— ask that we confer the degrees on two classes and donate the fees to aid in organizing a Chapter at that place. Can we do so under the law prohibiting the donating any part of the fees?"

"Answer:— * * The material, if elected, with the fees would become the property of your Chapter, for which you account to the Grand Chapter, after which, by vote of your Chapter, you can expend the money for any just cause."

The Grand High Priest recommended that some plan should be devised whereby the Subordinate Chapters might become more proficient, in the work of the degrees. His understanding was, that very few could confer the degrees in an impressive manner.

A most agreeable report was that of the Committee on Ap-

peals and Grievances which had no cases before it for consideration. Accepted.

The Committee on Jurisprudence to which the Grand High Priest's decisions had been referred, reported a recommendation that both decisions be approved. While decision No. 1 was technically correct, the committee, to put the Grand Chapter in a proper light before the craft, recommended the adoption of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That hereafter no person who is engaged in the sale of intoxicating liquors shall be eligible to hold an office in a Subordinate Chapter in this Jurisdiction." Adopted.

The same committee had in charge the resolution, offered by Comp. R. M. Smith, to prohibit the conferring of the Chapter degrees on any one who is engaged in the sale of intoxicants, and to require members who are now engaged in such traffic to discontinue the same, and recommended its adoption, with an amendment, as follows:

"That hereafter no person who is engaged in the sale of intoxicating liquors shall become a member of any Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter; and all members who are now engaged in such business shall be given until January 1st, 1901, in which to disengage themselves therefrom under penalty of being charged with unmasonic conduct."

"It shall be the duty of each Subordinate Chapter to faithfully execute the above edict; and the Grand High Priest shall ascertain of the Chapters if it has been enforced and report all delinquent Chapters to the Grand Chapter."

"The Secretary of each Subordinate Chapter shall notify every one, so engaged, who lives within the jurisdiction of his Chapter, of the existence of this law." Adopted. Good!

CORRESPONDENCE.

Companion R. J. Laughlin, Committee on Correspondence, made a half-page report in which he said:

"We have carefully examined the proceedings of all the American Grand Chapters and can only draw a long breath and wish that we could give the Companions of this Jurisdiction the many beautiful expressions of the Grand High Priests and correspondents."

He appended his valuable comparative table of general statistics which we expect to copy.

There are 196 anointed High Priests in Arkansas.

M. E. Grand High Priest, J. S. Westerfield.

R. E. Grand Secretary, John C. Bone.

CALIFORNIA—46TH ANNUAL, SAN FRANCISCO, APRIL, 1900.

69 Chapters; 5835 members; net increase, 263.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion Florin Leslie Jones in the chair.

Besides representation of all save a very few of the constituent Chapters there were present at the opening—thirteen Past Grand Officers and Representatives of twenty-four Grand Jurisdictions, Alabama not included.

Opening his address, the Grand High Priest said:

"Another year with its joys and sorrows, with its meetings and partings, has drawn to a close, and, under the providence of God, we again meet, dear companions, in our regular convocation to receive from the officers an account of their stewardship, to legislate from the good of 'apitular Masonry, to encourage each other in well-doing, so that, God helping us, we may be of use in this our day and generation, and when our end comes we may be fit to die."

Under the head of Necrology he congratulated the Grand Chapter that the ranks of its Grand Officers remained unbroken; he did not, however, omit to make mention of the dead in other Jurisdictions.

He had granted to eighteen Companions a dispensation to form a new Chapter, which "starts into life with bright prospects for its future prosperity."

Of his dispensations issued only three were for waiving time in balloting on petitions.

No decisions were submitted.

Alluding to affairs financial the Grand High Priest stated that the net assets of the Grand Chapter amounted to \$32,471.97.

He especially mentioned the invaluable aid rendered him by that most able and willing officer, Grand Secretary Wm. A. Davis.

The Grand Secretary reported total receipts for the year as \$6,088.25. This amount turned over to the Grand Treasurer, and added to the balance in the latter's hands, brought the cash in the Treasury up to \$9,889.67. After all disbursements there remained in the Treasury, April 17th, 1900, the sum of \$33,156.47.

The Grand Treasurer puts the net assets of the Grand Chapter at \$33,156.47.

The bond of the Grand Secretary in the sum of \$6,000.00, and that of the Grand Treasurer in the sum of \$10,000.00, were approved.

A ruling having been asked on the following question: "Has the High Priest of a Chapter the right to discard the robes in conferring the Royal Arch Degree and to order his officers to appear and work in dress suits, with white chokers, etc?" The interrogatory was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence for answer. That committee summarily proceeded to choke off any such dudish innovation by answering, "Emphatically No!"

Charters were granted to two Chapters U. D.

The Committee on Returns made a report which was eminently satisfactory. — All the Chapters, save one, had made returns and paid their dues.

A complaint of illegal suspension N. P. D. was referred to Law Committee, but the papers in the case not having been delivered, the matter went over for future consideration.

Committee on Finance recommended, for the ensuing year, appropriation of \$5,726.70. Adopted.

By an amendment of the constitution the dues to Grand Chapter—25cts. per capita—were doubled, and the Grand Chapter was empowered to levy such additional contributions as in its judgment may be required.

The Forty First Annual Grand Convention of Anointed High Priests received six accessions to its membership.

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

There is no letting down in the quality of the reviews of sister Jurisdictions by Past Grand High Priest; Comp. Wm. A. Davis, Chairman of the Correspondence Committee. Ever discriminating, judicious, concise, he makes a model reporter.

In his review of Maine, Comp. Davis evidently (quoting Comp. Drummond on a California incident) regarded the offense of that secretary who spelled the words, Masonry and Politics, the same way, as a sin of ignorance.

We are pleased to see, under Missouri, his attitude towards the practice of making Masons at sight.

Companion Davis' invocation of Heaven's blessings on the Ohio Grand Chapter's Correspondent, Comp. S. Stacker Will-

liams, who had suffered great bodily affliction, evinced true Masonic sympathy.

Our Companion "hits the nail on the head" when he asserts that the Ark of the Covenant is the central object in Capitular work (review of Rhode Island, 1899.) The relation of man to the Supreme Being and reverence towards His holy name conspicuously shine forth all through these degrees.

When the work is in progress, it can but be profitable to the candidates and companions, if both intellect and heart are engaged therein.

Alabama, 1899, received most courteous and fraternal notice. The reviewer extracted the resolution, offered by Grand Secretary, Comp. H. Clay Armstrong, providing for choice and record of marks before candidates can be eligible to exaltation.

For the following:

"We congratulate Comp. Titcomb on his excellent, 'thorough' report."

We make our best bow to Companion Davis. Did space permit we would like to make several extracts from our Companion's report.

M.: E.: Grand High Priest, Edward Richards Hedges.

R.: E.: Grand Secretary, William A Davis.

CANADA—42D ANNUAL, LONDON, JANUARY, 1900.

Chapters, 96; Members, 5,870.

M.: E.: Comp. W. G. Reid, Grand Z.	} Grand Council
R.: E.: Comp. W. Gibson, Grand H.	
R.: E.: Comp. A. Shaw, Grand J.	
	on
	} The Throne.

Present—Nine Grand Superintendents and twenty-two Grand Representatives. Comp. W. B. McArthur, for Alabama, not being of the number.

In his address the Grand Z. gave utterance to the following:

"The mother-land, in the interests of her subjects in South Africa, is embroiled in a war with the so-called Dutch Republics whose methods have ever been a hindrance to progress and civilization. For a season she hesitated to avail herself of the proffers of aid from Canada and the other loyal colonies, but when the call did come, it was responded to with enthusiastic alacrity, and already we have despatched over two thousand of our gallant sons to that dark continent where, if stern necessity

demands, they are willing to cement the bond of imperial unity with their life's blood."

The Grand Z. announced the formation of two new Chapters in province of British Columbia.

One Chapter had surrendered its charter, and two chapters had consolidated to form a body of greater strength.

The three decisions submitted were good Masonic law and usage. Executive Committee approved the same, and its approval was endorsed by the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Z. had issued some thirty dispensations, not one of which, it is pleasant to note, was for conferring degrees out of time.

The Grand Z.'s thirty visitations had no little to do with the substantial progress of the year.

The assent of some thirty-nine Chapters having been secured, a memorial had been presented, praying for a restoration of the ceremonies of the M. E. M. degree.

The Grand Z. recommended that said memorial lie over, in the hands of the Grand Council, till next Annual Convocation, and then be submitted for the consideration of the Grand Chapter.

Executive committee concurred in said recommendation, and secured approval of the Grand Chapter.

The reports of the seventeen Grand Superintendents were, with few exceptions, most encouraging.

Grand Scribe E. reported receipts for the year to have been \$3,121.20.

The Grand Treasurer's statement showed that cash balance on hand at beginning of the year and sums paid over to him since said time amounted to \$5,675.24.

The assets of the Grand Chapter, in bonds and cash in bank, amount to the respectable figure of \$21,173.57.

The Executive Committee presented a six page report on the condition of Capitular Masonry, taking the several districts in detail and giving a clear summary of conditions as it found them. The Royal Craft evidently appeared, in the main, to be on an up-grade.

\$545.00 were bestowed in twenty-one grants, on recommendation of Committee on Grants for Benevolence.

Next Convocation, at Toronto.

CORRESPONDENCE.

R. . E. . Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, Grand Scribe E. and Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, spreads an appetizing banquet before us in the shape of a review of the proceedings of forty-five Grand Chapters—eight of them being for two years.

In his graceful introduction he alludes to the fact that "thread-bare" subjects are, in Masonic writings, "dished up annually." It seems remarkable that a writer, whose reputation is deservedly so high, should thus mix up his metaphors. A "thread-bare" boat would not, we imagine, make a very delectable *dish* nor one easy to masticate.

Companion Bennett happily illustrates his point by the following anecdote:

"Prof. Huxley was once sitting at dinner by a lady who, in solemn tones, asked him whether he did not think it a very terrible thing that the Rev. Mr. Jones, the vicar, should have adopted the eastward position of administering the sacrament. 'My dear lady,' he replied, 'I am told by Sir John Herschel that to drop a pea at the end of every mile of a voyage on a limitless ocean to the distance of the nearest fixed star, would require a fleet of 10,000 ships, each of 600 tons burthen, all starting with a full cargo of peas. Now, do you really suppose that the Maker of the fixed stars considers the new position of Mr. Jones a serious thing?'"

Alabama, 1898, receives most courteous notice at our Companion's hands.

Our hearts run out to him for his very kind—but just—tribute to the memory of our late R. . E. . Comp. Palmer J. Pillans.

Alluding to the provision, in an amendment to our constitution, which lets the clergy into the Chapter free of cost, he says:

"* * It is a distinct violation of the great principle of equality which is one of the basic features of our fraternity. We are compelled thus to regard the above amendment as an ugly blot upon the beautiful symbolism of the level which it is hoped Alabama will reconsider and utterly erase."

We have elsewhere indulged in expressions on this matter of admitting ministers of the gospel free of charge; therefore will only add that while, as an individual, we have some doubts as to the wisdom of said provision, it is the law, and we are bound to support it while it remains in our code.

M. . E. . Comp. Wm. G. Reid, Grand Z.

R. . E. . Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, Grand Scribe E

COLORADO—25TH ANNUAL, DENVER, SEPTEMBER, 1899.

Active Chapters, 32; present membership, 2,574; net gain for year, 50. Receipts for the year, \$1,700 50.

Present—Permanent members, 9; Grand Representatives, 31, including Alabama's. M. E. Grand High Priest, Jethro C. Sanford, in the chair.

The official acts of the Grand High Priest had been few because of industrial disturbances in which he had been closely interested on account of his business relations necessarily involved therein.

Under the caption of "The Fraternal Dead" he made feeling allusion to the late Past Grand High Priests, Comps. Oren H. Henry and Horace N. Banks.

He had granted three special dispensations to install officers—none to confer degrees out of time.

Only one decision was submitted, by which he authoritatively declared that it was not proper for a Chapter to receive the petition of a Master Mason, formerly a member of a Lodge whose charter was revoked three years since, the brother not having made application for a dimit or Grand Lodge certificate, but claiming that he is not a voluntary non-affiliate.

During the year nothing had occurred to ruffle the surface of fraternal relations with sister Jurisdictions.

The Chapters had "experienced a fair degree of prosperity during the past year."

On the subject of railroading candidates through the degrees, the M. E. had this to say:

"Companions, this age of ours is a truly progressive one; we read and learn every day of the great progress which is being made for the betterment of man, of the uses to which electricity, compressed and liquefied air machines can be utilized in hurrying things along. Yet I am of the opinion that the good, old-fashioned way is the best way of advancing in Masonry, and that we should discourage any improvements in our degree machine."

"From every Grand Jurisdiction in the land, Colorado not excepted, the wail goes up that the Chapter is being made the stepping stone to a something beyond. Believing as I do that Masonry is a progressive science, and that we should become familiar with its teachings before receiving further light, I was compelled to refuse, on several occasions, requests for dispensations to confer the degrees without waiting the required time, and also the issuing of a general dispensation to our Chapters for the same purpose, as suggested by one of the promoters of the Royal and Select Masters' celebration last August."

The foregoing two paragraphs deserve thoughtful consideration. We heartily endorse the sentiments therein expressed.

Attention was called to the fact that there has, for several years, been a yearly deficit of nearly \$200.00. To relieve the Grand Chapter from financial embarrassment, the efficient Grand Secretary has been wont to donate out of his well-earned salary enough to make up the deficiency. The Grand High Priest thought that recompense of that self-sacrificing officer should be a prime consideration. In this connection he suggested a slight increase in Grand Chapter dues. He strongly urged that immediate action on the subject be taken.

Finance committee reported a recommendation that Grand Chapter dues be raised to 75c per capita, and that \$3.00 be paid in for each Companion exalted during the year; also that the Grand Secretary be instructed to draw a warrant for \$200.00, payable to himself, for one quarter's services during the past year. Report adopted except as to raising dues to 75c. On that item a compromise was effected placing the dues at 65c.

Well done, Companions of Colorado; there is no discount on your appreciation of your excellent Grand Secretary.

Committee on Jurisprudence reported approval of Grand High Priest's decision and dispensations. Regarding his recommendation that a specific regulation governing the length of time a Bro. must reside within the jurisdiction of a Chapter before he can petition for the capitular degrees, the committee offered an amendment to the By-Laws, the effect of which was that the applicant must have resided six months within the jurisdiction of the Chapter petitioned, and must have been a Master Mason during that period. Report of the committee adopted by a more than two-thirds vote.

A proposed amendment reducing the minimum of fees to \$25.00, having been referred to the same committee, failed to be concurred in. Report of the committee adopted.

A unanimous vote of concurrence greeted the well written report on Necrology.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances rejoiced that it was able to report that no case had been brought before it for action.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Past Grand High Priest Ernest LeNeve Foster, Chairman of

the Committee on Correspondence, submitted his annual report, which includes a review of the proceedings of forty-eight Grand Chapters, Alabama-1893 being in the number of those reviewed.

As one reads this report the interest grows. Companion Foster is courteous, discriminating, fearless. We thank him for his kind though brief notice of Alabama.

To quote largely from his occasional comments would be a pleasure—but. Nevertheless we cannot forbear saying that what (under South Carolina) he remarks concerning undue haste in conferring degrees, insisting 'that those who would rush madly on, stop and pause, * * *' commands our hearty approval.

The following will interest some of our readers:

"By-Laws, No. 58. One ballot elects to all the degrees." (Probably correct.)

"98. The apron shall be worn over the outer garment." (*De gustibus, &c.*)

Of "Decisions and Edicts Now in Force," No. "11a" is as follows:

"*Resolved*, That Royal Arch Masons, to be in good standing in this Grand Jurisdiction, must be, and continue to be, in good standing as Master Masons, and the subordinate Chapters of this Jurisdiction will govern themselves accordingly."

The foregoing edict breathes the spirit of true Masonry.

"14. Actual measurement, and not facilities for travel, governs as to Chapter Jurisdiction." (?)

"34. Non payment of dues is sufficient cause for discipline under head of un-Masonic conduct."

On that matter there should, at least, be exercise of discrimination.

Grand Council anointed nineteen Companions, these having been duly elected and installed as High Priests.

M. E. : Grand High Priest, Marshall H. Dean.

R. E. : Grand Secretary, Ed. C. Parmelee.

CONNECTICUT.

We have reached this volume of proceedings nearly at the last moment before sending in our report; hence it cannot receive the careful notice which it deserves.

102D ANNUAL, HARTFORD, MAY, 1900.

No. of Chapters, 39; members, 5,783.

M. E. Wesley N. Pearee, Grand High Priest. Present—eleven Past Grand Officers, a quorum of representatives from the constituent Chapters, and Grand Representatives of nineteen Grand Chapters; Alabama's Representative Comp. Isaiah Baker, Jr., being one of the number.

The Grand High Priest presented an able address.

He recommended that suitable action be taken in regard to the loss, by death, of Past Grand High Priests. Comp. Dwight Phelps and Comp. James H. Welsh:

He had, for good cause shown, issued three dispensations to waive time in balloting on petitions, and one to install as High Priest a Companion from the floor.

He recommended the adoption of a standard form of petition and that its use be made mandatory.

He bewailed lack of interest on the part of a large proportion of the members of Subordinate Chapters. * * * * He said:

"There would be fewer non-affiliates if the way to membership were easier. I would not advocate any deviation from the unanimous ballot in the case of a candidate. * * * But with the non-affiliates the case is different. He is not seeking after knowledge: he already has all you can give him save membership. I believe, therefore, that for him the way to membership should be made easy, that instead of the unanimous ballot he should be required to secure, say, a two-thirds vote."

He commended to careful consideration the subject of exemption from dues—about sixteen and a half *per cent.* of the whole membership. In some Chapters there are no exemptions; in others the percentage runs as high as almost forty two. * * *

The Grand High Priest favors a revision of the ritual.

The Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe, made their respective reports in detail.

Grand Treasurer made exhibit showing balance in the Treasury, May 7th, 1900, to be \$1,128.09.

Grand Secretary reported that returns had been received from all the Subordinate Chapters.

The following resolution was offered, and referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence:

"*Resolved*, That any Chapter may strike from the roll the name of any Companion who is not in good standing, and a member of a Lodge of Master Masons. Provided, however, that a Master Mason, who has taken a dimit previous to the passage

of this resolution, may be allowed one year to place his dimit in a Lodge of Master Masons, and should he take a dimit after the passage of this resolution he shall be allowed one year from the date of taking the dimit in which to place it in a Lodge of Master Masons." Adopted.

M. E. John H. Barlow, Committee on Correspondence, presented a resolution recommending fraternal recognition of the new Grand Chapter of New Mexico, and the resolution was adopted.

We congratulate the Committee on Grievances on the nature of its report—"no business," Report accepted.

The Committee on Jurisprudence approved the Grand High Priest's dispensations, endorsed his remarks on the too frequent misuse of the black ball, and as to restoration of Companions struck from the roll for N. P. D., recommended the adoption of a regulation classing such Companions as non-affiliates who can regain membership by petition, unanimous ballot, and payment of indebtedness.

In accordance with the suggestion of the M. E., the committee offered a standard form of petition which *must* be used by all petitioners,

(Dear Companion, what are the functions of the "Most Excellent High King?" See p. 40, Connecticut Proceedings.)

Portraits of P. G. H. P. Dwight Phelps and P. G. H. P. James H. Welsh, adorn this volume, as also do very neat memorial pages set apart for distinguished departed Companions of sister Jurisdictions.

Eighteen High Priests were elected, consecrated, anointed and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood.

CORRESPONDENCE.

M. E. Companion John H. Barlow, P. G. H. P., Committee on Correspondence, submitted his report, on proceedings of fifty-two Grand Chapters (three of them for two years,) covering ninety four pages. It is brimful of good reading.

Alabama, 1899; received fraternal notice covering more than two pages and a half. Comp. Armstrong's resolutions on the Recording of Marks are given in full. He most kindly accords this correspondent a page and a half, for which he will please accept hearty acknowledgments.

Companion, please correct your list of Grand Representatives. We find our name still on that list. We resigned in 1897, and our resignation was accepted by the G. H. P. of Connecticut.

M. : E. : Grand High Priest, John S. Hill.

R. : E. : Grand Secretary, James McCormick.

DELAWARE—32D ANNUAL, WILMINGTON, JANUARY, 1900.

No. of Chapters, 4; members, 704, net increase, 39.

The thirty second annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was opened by M. : E. : Grand High Priest, Comp. Harry Galbraith, on the 17th of January, 1900. Present, forty one permanent members and representatives of twenty three sister Jurisdictions. Alabama is not on the list of Grand Chapters represented near the Grand Chapter of Delaware.

The Grand High Priest paid suitable tribute to the memory of P. G. K. Comp. Edwin A. Van Trump, deceased.

On the subject, Progress of Capitular Masonry, he suggested turning into the shadowy recesses of Companions' brains the search-light of desire to awaken interest in the Chapter.

The M. : E. : regaled his Companions with a detailed account of his visit to the magnificent New Temple in Boston, on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of the Mass. Grand Chapter.

He made two recommendations of purely local interest.

The Finance Committee reported a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary to the amount of \$528.26; also, invested in the Wilmington Savings Bank, \$3.78.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence submitted annual report—received and ordered printed.

Committee on Work made no report.

No Committee on Appeals and Grievances.

Committee on Jurisprudence had nothing to report.

Committee on Warrants and Disps. had nothing to report.

Committee on By Laws had nothing to report.

On motion the "Signet of Royal Arch Masonry" was adopted as monitor for Jurisdiction of Delaware.

CORRESPONDENCE.

P. G. H. P. Comp. V. V. Harrison submitted his annual report on F. C., comprising a review of proceedings of thirty

Grand Chapters. We regret to see that Alabama is among the missing ones.

Companion Harrison's reports are models of conciseness, and, still, they are sufficiently comprehensive. We envy him in his faculty for putting *m. i. p.*

The Grand Council elected six Companions.

M. . E. . Grand High Priest, Comp. Harry Galbraith.

R. . E. . Grand Secretary, Comp. James H. Price.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—62D ANNUAL, WASHINGTON,
DECEMBER, 1899.

No. of Chapters, 11; present membership, 2,320; net gain, 116.

This Annual Convocation was opened Dec. 13th M. . E. . Grand High Priest, Comp. Sam'l R. Bond, presiding, and there being present thirteen Past Grand High Priests, as well as Representatives of thirty-two sister Grand Chapters, Comp. C. W. Hancock representing Alabama.

The Grand High Priest, in his address, submitted only one decision, as follows:

"An applicant had been duly elected by Columbia Chapter to receive the degrees and an objection had been filed to his receiving them."

The questions submitted were:

"First. Can an elected applicant, against whom the objection in question has been filed, request, after the expiration of three months from the date of said objection, that the degrees be conferred upon him?"

"Second. If no further objection be filed, may the Chapter confer the degrees?"

The Grand High Priest cites the law on the subject—Const., Art. V, Sections 15 and 23, and By-Laws of Columbia Chapter—and declares:

"It therefore follows that the applicant cannot, unless the objection be withdrawn, receive the degrees except upon a new petition therefor, made more than three months after the filing of the objection, and his re-election."

For "urgent and satisfactory reasons" a dispensation was granted to a Chapter to ballot on a petition for the degrees within the prescribed time.

Oct. 23 a High Priest asked permission to receive and ballot on the petition of Bro. Winfield Scott Schley and confer the degrees upon him at a Special Convocation to be held the following day. The M. E. declined to grant this dispensation, but deeming the circumstances exceptional and thinking the good of the Craft would be promoted thereby, he himself proceeded to the exercise of his high prerogative, by conferring the Capitular degrees upon the noble hero of Santiago, Rear Admiral W. S. Schley. The Admiral was about to sail for his squadron in the South Atlantic, and there was no telling how long he would be detained in foreign parts.

We gather the following from the Grand Treasurer's report:

"Total receipts \$3,644.76, total expenditures \$2,341.21. Balance on hand \$1,303.05. Total assets \$4,153.05."

The several reports on Necrology will be invaluable additions to the history of Masonry in the District of Columbia.

The Committee on Grievances had nothing to report on.

The Grand High Priest's decisions and dispensations met the unqualified approval of the Committee on Jurisprudence. Concurred in.

Among the "Standing Resolutions" we were pleased to find the following:

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Chapter disapproves the use of substitutes in conferring any of the degrees of Capitular Masonry, and hereby prohibits its practice in this Jurisdiction."

The Order of High Priesthood was conferred on four Companions at the Annual Convention of High Priests.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

We have read with pleasure and profit the annual report of the Chairman of the F. C. Committee, Comp. Wm. R. Singleton, who reviews the transactions of forty-three Grand Chapters—four of them being for two years—including Alabama—1898, in a $\frac{1}{2}$ page notice; brief as this is, we shall not join our Companion of Delaware in kicking. Comp. Singleton knows how to use the curry-comb, and how to avoid the steed's heels as well. Doubtless, a little occasional banter is enlivening.

Under "Arkansas" the reviewer says:

"Nine is the minimum for the transaction of regular business in a Royal Arch Chapter." Good! The only amendment

we could suggest would be the word "members" after the word "nine."

Reviewing Indiana he quotes Comp. Thos. B. Long, who most ably defends the Alabama view, that the "actual presence of the Charter" is necessary. Comp. Singleton desired to be informed as to what would be done with the Charter when the Lodge went to a funeral, &c.

We leave the "funeral" to Comp. Long, who needs no help from us, and drop the matter by saying that our opinion on the subject of the "actual presence" has, already, been aired elsewhere; but it is with much diffidence that we differ with our distinguished Companion in Washington; nevertheless we hold to the doctrine of the necessity of the actual presence of the Charter. "Here we rest."

M. E. Grand High Priest, William Barnum.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Arrine W. Johnston.

ENGLAND—QUARTERLY CONVOCATION, LONDON, MAY, 1900.

M. E. Comp. The Rt. Hon. the Earl Amherst, Pro Grand Z. E. Companion Edward Letchworth, Grand Scribe E.

The Board of General Purposes reported, from its examination of accounts, for three months ending April 19th, 1900, receipts \$1,368.75 and disbursements \$11,372.65. The Board also reported three petitions for Charters of Chapters *to be attached to certain* Lodges therein named.

(We have italicized the words, "to be attached, &c.," because we wish to emphasize the fact that in England the granting of a Charter to a Chapter is conditioned upon the attachment of that Chapter to some Lodge. We have heretofore alluded to this practice, but reiterate for the benefit of those who who oppose the doctrine of dependent membership.)

Recognition was accorded to the Grand Chapter of New Zealand—the Grand Lodge of England had already granted recognition to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand.

The greater part of the pamphlet before us, is taken up by an itemized statement of receipts and expenditures for the year ending April 20th, 1900.

QUARTERLY CONVOCATION—AUGUST, 1900.

M. : E. : The Rt. Hon. Wm. Withers Bramston Beach, as Grand Z.

Save that the Grand Chapter adopted a motion of warmest, heartfelt sympathy with H. R. H. First Grand Principal on the death of his brother, the Duke of Edinburgh, less commonly known as Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, and except that our attention is again arrested by the manner in which a charter is secured for a new Chapter, in England—the petition setting forth that the Chapter, to be formed, is to be attached to a certain Lodge, there is nothing in this pamphlet requiring notice at our hands.

Harmony prevailed at this Convocation.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF ENGLAND AND WALES.—SEPT. 5TH, 1899.

Report of the General Board—Total registered 40,223. Thirty-first Annual Festival was held, 12th July. Over \$10,000.00 announced as paid and promised. Thirty-second Annual Festival was announced as to be held in July, 1900.

At the December Quarterly, 1899, total registration was reported as 49,452.

“ ——— Lodge, No. —, having reported to General Board that Brother — had been installed in the Chair without a dispensation from the M. : W. : Grand Master, he not being a Master or Past Master of a Craft Lodge, (Act 99,) and having expressed great regret for the irregularity, the Board ruled that the Lodge be fined one guinea, and he directed to apply at once for a dispensation, to be dated *nunc pro tunc*, and that at the next regular meeting of the Lodge said Master to be re-obligated in presence of a Board of Installed Masters.” * * *

Most of the proceedings of this Convocation were of local interest merely.

A “Movable Grand Lodge” was held at the Board School, Crescent Road, 17th Feb. 1900.

Earl of Euston—Pro Grand Master in the Chair.

The Pro Grand Master announced that the object of the meeting of Grand Lodge was to receive with all honor and cordiality those brethren of the Ashton District, who had for so many years been working as an independent Mark Lodge, and who had now

applied for and obtained a Warrant from H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, M. W. Grand Master, to carry on the duties of the Mark Degree, in a constitutional manner under the auspices of Grand Lodge.

At the proper juncture the Lodge in question was consecrated and re-constituted with all due ceremony. The installation of the Master designate followed. Subsequently there was a banquet.

QUARTERLY CONVOCATION—MARCH 1900.

The main business of the Convocation was the election of "M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown."

H. R. H. Prince Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, Duke of Saxony, &c., &c., &c., &c., &c., &c., was unanimously elected.

A Special Grand Lodge was held 27th April, 1900, to congratulate H. R. H., the Grand Master on his preservation from assassination when the recent dastardly attempt to take his life was made.

QUARTERLY, ——— 5TH JUNE, 1900.

At this Communication the investiture of the several Grand Officers took place. Earl of Euston continues to be Pro Grand Master. Certain brethren were elected members of the General Board. No further business appearing Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

For twelve months, ending 31st of March, 1900, receipts amounted to \$19,742.18. Disbursements footed up \$11,932.72.

Balance sheet, 31st March, 1900, shows present capital of the Fund of Benevolence to be \$122,046.83.

FLORIDA—54TH ANNUAL, JACKSONVILLE, MAY, 1900.

17 Chapters; 693 members.

M. E. Grand High Priest, James Carnell.

This Convocation was opened by M. E. Companion James Carnell in presence of nine P. G. H. P's, a quorum of members, and representatives of twenty-five foreign Grand Chapters. The address of the Grand High Priest was short but to the point.

Father Time's swift wing, and the good condition of the Royal Craft in Florida, are happily alluded to in the following opening sentences :

"Companions: The beauty of the rising sun in all its glory is scarce fixed upon our minds, ere the shadows falling athwart the heavens tell us that the night is again upon us, and thus swiftly have passed the days of another year since last we met in this capacity. Another year filled with more, or less of devotion to our Order. But we are gladdened with the thought that a year of perfect harmony and of satisfactory progress has been added to the annals of Masonic history in this Grand Jurisdiction."

After fitting mention of the fraternal dead, the Grand High Priest, in giving an account of his official acts, states that he has appointed eight Grand Representatives near other Grand Chapters, and that those Representatives have been duly commissioned.

For what appeared to him good and sufficient reasons he issued dispensations, ten in number, for the several purposes indicated, such as, to install officers publicly, to remit dues of Companion, late a member of a Chapter now defunct, that he might affiliate with Chapter making the request, and to ballot for, and confer degrees on candidates at Special Convocations, said candidates being well known, and members having been duly notified.

Under Rulings, the Grand High Priest, having been informed that in some cases Chapters have followed the practice of reinstating members suspended for nonpayment of dues and issuing dimitts to such members bearing date of suspensions, such he believed to be harmful in practice and contrary to law, and accordingly ruled that said Chapters were indebted to the Grand Chapter for the Companions reinstated—in the cases submitted the sum due was one dollar each.

The M. E. recommended that the Grand Chapter of New Mexico be heartily welcomed into the sisterhood of Grand Chapters, recognition be extended, and provision be made for interchange of Grand Representatives.

He also recommended division of the Jurisdiction into four districts of which one should be assigned to each of the four highest officers in Grand Chapter, for visitation.

Grand Secretary Webster appears to make an excellent officer.

Financial affairs in this Grand Chapter seem to be in a normal condition. Balance on hand and receipts for year \$1,528.52. Paid out \$605.59. Still in the treasury \$922.93.

Jurisprudence Committee endorsed rulings, dispensations and recommendations of the Grand High Priest. Adopted.

No report on Correspondence.

Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood received three accessions to its membership.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Elmer E. Haskell.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Wilbur P. Webster.

GEORGIA—78TH ANNUAL, MACON, APRIL, 1900.

Chapters on the roll, at opening, 108, at close, 100; members on the roll this year, 3,338.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Henry C. Burt, in the Chair. Six P. G. O's. by their presence lent dignity to the assembly while Grand Representatives from twenty-five sister Jurisdictions were present to tender greetings of the Grand Chapters they represented.

In his address the Grand High Priest paid loving tribute to the sterling worth of the late Grand Chaplain, Companion Whiteford S. Ramsey, who also, at death's bidding, laid aside forever his skilful pen as Chairman of the F. C. Committee. The M. E. also bore affectionate testimony to the excellent virtues of the late Grand Treasurer, Comp. H. N. Lester, and to those of the faithful Grand Sentinel, T. W. Freeman. On the condition of the Craft he said:

"As a general review of the work of our Grand Chapter for the year which now closes, we must admit that the Order has not been, in all respects, as prosperous as we longingly desire or could wish to attain, and yet, my Companions, we may congratulate ourselves that Capitular Masonry is in a more healthful condition than for many years past, that a solid foundation for good work during the coming year has been laid, that many new Chapters will be organized and many, now dormant, will be revived."

For good and sufficient reasons shown the M. E. had granted some twenty dispensations, six of which were for conferring degrees out of time.

There were made during the year, fourteen visitations with gratifying results.

The two decisions submitted were as follows:

1st. "That a dimitted Mason cannot be installed into office in the Chapter."

2d. "That a Companion is chargeable with dues until his dimit is granted."

The Grand High Priest attributes the small number of decisions which he was called upon to make, to wise selection of officers in the Chapters and diligence on the part of Companions to perfect themselves in the ritual and on Masonic law.

Grand Chapter received an invitation from Wor. Max Mayerhardt, Master of Cherokee Lodge, No. 66, Rome, Georgia, to attend a Grand Masonic celebration and banquet under the auspices of Cherokee Lodge on May 10th, 1900. The invitation was accepted with the request that as many as possible attend.

We undertake to affirm that if the Companions did attend that Roman festival (held annually) they had a jolly good time. Last year, on the invitation of the genial and talented W. M. of Cherokee, we attended said festival, and right royally were we treated by the brethren of Cherokee Lodge, both within and without their spacious and beautiful hall.

A pleasing episode during the proceedings of Grand Chapter was the reading of a paper by Comp. Julius L. Brown. The paper had been prepared by Miss Bunnie Love, the accomplished daughter of the late Companion, Wm. Abram Love, M. D., who was one of the brightest Masonic lights in the firmament of his native land. The subject of said paper was, "Some Side Lights on the History of the Royal Arch Chapter in Georgia."

The thanks of the Grand Chapter were tendered Miss Love for her able and interesting article, and it was ordered printed with the proceedings.

Directly in line with the contents of Miss Love's paper, were some most interesting remarks on the history of Masonry in Georgia, made by Companion Robert L. Colding, on the floor of Grand Chapter.

It appears that Solomon's Lodge in Savannah was duly chartered in 1735—only two years later than the organization of St. John's Lodge, Boston.

Solomon's Lodge has among its treasures the Jewel and apron of Benj. Sheftall, Worshipful Master of Solomon's Lodge in 1758.

Companion Colding adduced very strong presumptive evidence, from the regalia, that the R. A. Degree was conferred in the Blue Lodge in 1758.

The following description of the Jewel and apron alluded to may interest our readers:

"The Master's Jewel bears date 1758, and the apron contains a combination of Blue Lodge and Chapter emblems, prominent among which is a circle which incloses the letter "G." and in the circle are the mysterious letters, "H. T. W. S. S. K. S." the meaning of which is so well known to every Royal Arch Mason."

It needs not that we copy Companion C.'s inference; it is quite obvious.

The Treasury of this Grand Chapter is not in an unhealthy condition. Total receipts \$4,605.98. Total disbursements, \$4,566.65. The balance \$39.33 is easy to guard.

The Committee on Jurisprudence approved the decisions of the Grand High Priest. Report adopted.

Committee on Grievances and Appeals made brief report which was adopted.

The touching report of the Committee on Memorials was adopted by a rising vote.

A Charter was granted to one new Chapter.

Certain Chapters, for some time dormant, have revived, and are permitted to retain their Charters.

The Council of the Order of High Priesthood elected, consecrated, and set apart eleven Companions.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on Correspondence was submitted by R. A. E. Companion A. M. Lambdin, Chairman of the F. C. Committee, in a review of forty seven Grand Chapters (three of them for two years, and one for three years) including Alabama, 1899, in a notice convering nearly a page.

Companion Lambdin is courteous and considerate throughout his well written review. He will please accept our acknowledgment of kind words complimentary to this scribe, who, though the least of the corps of correspondents, still bids Companion Lambdin a hearty welcome to the guild.

M. A. E. Grand High Priest, Henry C. Burr.

R. A. E. Grand Secretary, William A. Wolihin.

ILLINOIS—CHICAGO, 50TH ANNUAL, OCTOBER, 1899.

No. of Chapters, 185; balance cash in hand, \$14,668.03; Present membership, 17,095; total receipts for year, \$11,088.01; net gain 250; grand total for year, \$25,758.04.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Wm. B. Grimes. Present, twenty one Past Grand Officers and representatives of forty three Grand Chapters, including Alabama.

In his address the Grand High Priest paid feeling tribute to the memory of deceased Companions, making special mention of the late Past Grand High Priests, James A. Hawley and Asa W. Blakeley.

In June 1899, he received a petition signed by fifty three R. A. Masons to form a new Chapter at———Park within the city of Chicago, to be called———Chapter, having the consent and recommendation of the two nearest Chapters within the city of Chicago, having concurrent jurisdiction with said proposed new Chapter. ——Chapter, No. ——, being one of the nearest Chapters, having been applied by the petitioners, refused consent, and, being applied to a second time, refused to consider or entertain a motion to consent or grant the petition. The Chapter so refusing had 206 members as per report of 1898. The Grand High Priest after giving the matter due consideration, concluded that no material injury would result to any one, from his granting a dispensation for forming said new Chapter, but that, on the other hand, the best interests of Capitular Masonry would, thereby, be subserved; issued his dispensation for the purpose named, and fraternally asked Grand Chapter to approve his action, also, the new Chapter having been duly instituted and having exalted twelve candidates, he recommended that it be granted a Charter.

He had granted fifteen other dispensations, only two of which were, to ballot on candidates at other than stated convocations.

Six decisions were submitted; all of them, referred, together with his dispensation, to the Committee on Jurisprudence met the approval of that committee.

We can notice but one or two of these decisions:

“No. 2. Question.—If, after a candidate has received the first part of the Mark Master's degree, but has not received the obligation, objections are made to the High Priest, do the objections hold the same as if he had not started taking the degrees? If not,

and the reasons for objections are not given, must the work be stopped until the next regular meeting of the Chapter?"

"Answer:—After the candidate has received part of the Mark Master degree, he has acquired certain rights, and the Mark Master's Lodge has the right in his behalf to demand the nature of the objections, and then and there to pass upon their sufficiency or gravity; and, if deemed of a light and frivolous character, should proceed with the remaining portion of the degree, and likewise with the remaining degrees. On the other hand, if deemed sufficiently grave, further work on the candidate should be suspended until investigation is had, and the candidate given a chance to defend." * * * * *

That decision appears to us to be entirely correct.

The incident which evoked decision No. 6 was, to say the least, quite unique. No. 6 was as follows:

"Submitted for ruling, to-wit: At a stated convocation of _____ Chapter, No. _____, R. A. M., held September 4th, 1899, the ballot having been spread for the election of a candidate to receive the degrees, none of the black cubes belonging to the Chapter were voted, but five black cubes (four of wood and one of rubber) were found in the bottom of the box among the white balls voted by the members. And a member asserts that he knows that all the five were voted by one member, and wishes to know if this is sufficient evidence on which to prefer charges of unmasonic conduct. And, also, as to what relation to the chapter the brother, whose petition was so black-balled, stands in."

"Answer:—Any member who would cast five ballots of any kind in voting on the petition of a candidate for the degrees, or for any other purpose, is guilty of gross unmasonic conduct. And if the chapter has unmistakable evidence of the identity of the party he should be severely disciplined by his Chapter. The party so voting the five black cubes evidently intended to reject the candidate, which, as a member, he had the right to do. And, while his manner of exercising his privilege was grossly unmasonic and reprehensible, I am forced to decide that the candidate was, as declared by the H. P. presiding, rejected."

On the peculiar case of *ballot-box-stuffing* presented above, comment is unnecessary.

The Grand High Priest hoped earnestly that Grand Chapter would again consider the desirability of the practice of filling up the number requisite for exaltations with *substitutes* when there should be but one candidate ready, forcibly presenting his view of the matter.

He urged that financial aid consistent with the state of the treas-

ury should be extended to Masonic Home for Widows' and Orphans' and Infirm Masons.

Committee on Accounts, to which the matter was referred, did not, however, feel justified in recommending an appropriation for that laudable purpose, the present year.

Said committee faithfully and jealously guards the treasury.

'Tis pleasant to note that the Grievance Committee had no work to do.

The Grand High Priest's dispensation for formation of a new Chapter in the city of Chicago, and his recommendation that a Charter be granted to the same, having been referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, a majority report on that subject was unfavorable. A favorable minority report was also submitted, consideration of the two reports resulting in the adoption of the minority report.

The Committee on Chapters U. D. to which, on suggestion of the Jurisprudence Committee, the matter of granting a Charter to said new Chapter U. D. in Chicago was referred, recommended that a Charter be granted to that Chapter. Adopted.

The proposed amendment of the regulation in regard to *substitutes* by which it would become lawful to use *two* substitutes in exaltations, was reported upon unfavorably by the Jurisprudence Committee. After a lengthy debate a motion to adopt the report was lost. Then, on motion, the amendment was amended and adopted. As adopted it reads as follows:

"Sec. 18, No. Chapter in this Jurisdiction shall confer the Royal Arch degree on more or less than three most excellent Masters at a time; Provided that one substitute may be used, in the discretion of the High Priest."

The tenor of the district reports was, in the main, encouraging.

Committee on Necrology made a good report.

Handsome memorial pages grace this volume.

Grand Council duly elected, consecrated and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood thirty-seven Companions.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on correspondence, a review of proceedings of fifty-one Grand Chapters is from the facile pen of Companion Jno. M. Pearson, Committee, and is very able.

Under "Delaware" he vigorously assails the doctrine of dependent membership, putting up, no doubt, as good an argument for his side of the question as could be adduced. All the same, we, like Comp. Harrison, P. G. H. P. of Delaware, are unalterably in favor of dependents membership.

His review of Alabama (a half page) is brotherly in tone. He said:

"Special Committees on the work of each degree, reported and the reports were adopted. Does this mean that a ritual was adopted by the Grand Chapter?"

Pardon us, Companions—the standing Committee on Work made report on each degree, and its report was adopted by the Grand Chapter. No special committee reported on ritual. At every Annual Convocation the Standing Committee on Work reports the several degrees of Capitular Masonry, and said reports constitute our standard ritual.

So much space has been given to the Illinois proceedings that we must hasten on to another Jurisdiction.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Nathaniel Bowditch.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Gilbert W. Barnard.

INDIANA—54TH ANNUAL, INDIANAPOLIS, OCTOBER, 1899.

Active chapters, 96; present membership, 6,815; net gain for year, 55.

Thirty Grand Representatives were present, including Comp. Nicholas R. Ruckle, of Alabama, besides fifteen Past Grand High Priests of the Grand Chapter of Indiana.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Manuel M. Fisher in the Chair.

At the opening of his address the Grand High Priest feelingly called the attention of Companions assembled to the bright Masonic lights, which, during the year just gone, had been extinguished by death. Though we may no longer see these lights, still the reflection of their radiance sheds a halo of glory over the institution of Masonry.

No Past Grand officers had been summoned to the other world, but the grim reaper had cut down one hundred and six Companions of the Jurisdiction during the year.

They have gone, we will trust, from labor to everlasting refreshment.

Three new Chapters had been constituted. Seven dispensations issued for holding special elections.

No decisions were submitted to Grand Chapter.

The Grand High Priest called attention to the single case of Grievance which appeared. It arose from an invasion of the Jurisdiction of an Indiana Chapter by two Chapters in Kentucky. Correspondence between the two Grand High Priests interested in the subject, was submitted, and the fact was developed that an amicable adjustment would be reached. The said correspondence was marked by that truly Masonic courtesy, which should ever characterize the utterances of officials, and which would in most, if not all instances, act like "oil on the troubled waters."

Following the example of the retiring Grand High Priest of Nevada, the M. V. E., desirous of giving the Royal Craft a full benefit from official visitations, recommend that each of the Grand officers be required to visit a certain number of chapters the apportionment of Chapters to be made by the Grand High Priest, and said Grand officers be required to make written reports of such visitations.

The Grand Treasurer's report stated total receipts to have been \$6,069.52, disbursements \$2,957.07, balance in hand \$3,112.45.

The matter of invasion of Jurisdiction by two Kentucky chapters, alluded to in the Grand High Priest's address, having been referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, that committee approved the settlement of the matter in accordance with the agreement made through the correspondence on that subject between the Grand High Priest of Indiana and the Grand High Priest of Kentucky.

In connection with this affair the committee expressed itself on the question of agreement between contiguous Jurisdictions in respect of crossing State lines to secure material, setting the seal of its disapproval on any concession whereby the Grand Chapter of Indiana would surrender any part of its Masonic Sovereignty.

This matter also furnished the committee with occasion to deny that it was the practice of its Grand Chapter to confer all or any of the Capitular degrees upon Ministers of the Gospel or any other persons for less than the prescribed fee. Report of committee adopted.

The Jurisprudence Committee recommended approval of all the

Grand High Priest's dispensations, but did not concur with him as to dividing out the chapters among the Grand Officers, assigning to each one a certain number of chapters which he must visit, and recommended indefinite postponement of the subject. Report adopted.

The Committee on Necrology, in its most fittingly expressed report on the fraternal dead, gave voice to the sentiments of the Grand Chapter, which adopted said report by a rising vote.

On assuming the Chair the incoming Grand High Priest, Companion Thomas R. Marshall, delivered a short address which was full of beauty. We hardly refrain from giving it entire to our readers. Here are his concluding sentences :

"Companions, I am indeed not unmindful of my weakness and incompetence. I can only hope to preserve the sacred rites and mysteries unspotted, by your most loyal co-operation. That was a beautiful custom when a new Emperor ascended the throne of Rome, for the Captain of all the Hosts of that Empire to step forward and, lifting his right hand high to the Immortal Gods, swear to be true and loyal to the Emperor and the Empire. As he did so each soldier in all the legions stepped to his side and, lifting his good right hand, cried out, 'This for me! This for me!'

"Companions, I cannot offer large knowledge, nor ripe experience; the only guerdon of the days to come that I can give you is, to lift my right hand to the one true God, and swear that in the year to come I will be true and loyal to the Royal Craft in Indiana. And, may I not hope that this my vow, will find an answer in each heart here present sincerely saying, 'This for me! This for me!'

For all your loving ministrations and gracious kindnesses to me I can only give the poor lip service of a simple 'Thank you.'"

CORRESPONDENCE.

Past Grand High Priest, Thomas B. Long, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, submitted his annual report embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-eight Grand Chapters, and of General Grand Chapter—1897. Alabama—1898 heads the list, of course.

Companion Long kindly gives our jurisdiction a three page notice, which entitles him to our thanks for its courteous and brotherly love. He quotes from Companion Josiah Jernigan's address as Grand High Priest, with evident approval; also pays a beautiful tribute to the memory of the late Chairman of this Committee, Companion Pillans.

Under "Canada," the reviewer stoutly maintains the "perfect

youth" doctrine by calling Companion Bennett's opinion that any physical imperfection should operate to exclude any applicant for the degrees, orthodox and praiseworthy.

For our own part we are constrained to believe the time coming when that pre-requisite for admission to the Fraternity of *operative* Masons, will no longer bar the entrance of good, capable men into the society of *speculative* Masons. We regard as appropriate in this connection, the reviewer's extract, under "Nebraska," from Companion Phelps' report, in which occur the words, "Masonry is a progressive science."

The underlying principle of the P. Q. doctrine, during the era of operative Masonry, was, requirement of everything essential to make a working Mason. The principle is preserved in the requirements of speculative Masonry, though the conditions are changed. Hence the spirit of the landmark (?) is preserved unimpaired.

But we must desist.

M. : E. : Grand High Priest, Thomas R. Marshall.

R. : E. : Grand Secretary, William H. Smythe.

INDIAN TERRITORY—10TH ANNUAL, CHICKASHA, SEP.
TEMBER, 1899.

Chapters on roll, 25. Membership, 922.

In the absence of the Grand High Priest (due to sickness); his short address was read to the Grand Chapter. In that address he informed the Companions that he had delegated his authority to the Deputy Grand High Priest, R. : E. : Companion George Washington Spencer; also reported his official acts performed prior to said delegation of authority, at the time of his absenting himself from the Territory.

The Deputy Grand High Priest, as Acting Grand High Priest, opened the Grand Chapter in presence of seven Past Grand Officers, Permanent Members, and twenty Past High Priests, besides the requisite number of constituent representatives.

The Acting Grand High Priest's address was brief, but to the point.

Three dispensations were granted to confer degrees out of time. One dispensation to organize a Chapter U. D. was issued.

The subject of obituaries received due attention. Some matters of local interest were also presented.

The annual report of the veteran Grand Secretary, Companion J. S. Murrow, Past Grand High Priest, was a concise, business-like paper, containing much information in a small compass.

Charters had been issued to four new Chapters, and one, which had lost its warrant by fire, had received a duplicate Charter.

From this report we learn that there was to the credit of the Orphans' Home a fund amounting to \$1,500.00. The Grand Secretary trusted that 'liberal things will be devised at this meeting.'

Companion Murrow's heart is a big one. He had built, during the year, at his own expense a commodious Masonic office and library building.

Total receipts for the year were \$1,174.00. Grand Treasurer's report showed a balance on hand of \$2,072.28.

The report on "Work and Returns," made by Companion Murrow, was very encouraging. Hiram No. 19 is the banner Chapter; it had conferred one hundred twenty degrees and had manifested good workmanship. Its dues to Grand Chapter were \$142.00.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances made a report, the details of which would not specially interest our readers.

On motion the Grand Secretary was instructed to issue an order on the Grand Treasurer for ten *per cent.* of the money, in his hands, belonging to the Grand Chapter, after deducting the appropriations made at this Convocation, for the benefit of the Orphans' Home.

Our Companions in Indian Territory are not forgetful of the widow and orphan.

CORRESPONDENCE.

M. E. E. Companion J. S. Murrow, Chairman of the Committee, submitted his report on Correspondence, embracing a review of thirty-nine Grand Chapters, including Alabama for 1898.

Companion Murrow has the happy faculty of saying the right thing in the right way, and that, too, without needless multiplication of words. To read his reports, is pleasure unalloyed.

In his courteous notice of this Grand Chapter he made tender, touching reference to the death of our lamented predecessor, the matchless Pillans.

By the way, our esteemed Companion shall be informed that our name is not "Wm. N. Litcomb;" our full name is William Yates Titcomb. He will please accept our hearty thanks for his kind expression of welcome to the guild of correspondents.

Under "Arkansas," whose Grand High Priest decided that "In order to open the Chapter, transact regular business, ballot on petitions, &c., there must be present nine members of the Chapter entitled to vote therein," but whose Committee on Law and Usage recommended that a Chapter might open and transact all business if there were present five members and enough visitors to make nine R. A. M.'s in the Assembly, Companion Murrow endorsed the decision of the Grand High Priest.

In our opinion that is the correct view to take.

Of Companion Laughlin's "racy report on Correspondence the reviewer said: "It is all '*chuckima fehna*.'" Please translate, Companion.

We have greatly enjoyed the perusal of this report, for the author of which we trust many happy years are yet in store.

M.: E.: Grand High Priest, George Washington Spencer.

R.: E.: Grand Secretary, Joseph Samuel Murrow.

INDIAN TERRITORY—11TH ANNUAL, ARDMORE, APRIL,
1900.

Chartered Chapters, 25; U. D., 1. Members, 977.

M.: E.: Grand High Priest, George Washington Spencer, in the chair. Four P. G. H. P.'s were present. Representatives of nine Grand Chapters (Alabama not included) were received and welcomed.

The address of the Grand High Priest was a little more than two pages in length, but business-like and to the point. Six dispensations had been issued, two of them for waiver of time in receiving petitions and balloting on the same.

The M.: E.: returned thanks especially to Grand Secretary J. S. Murrow for his kind assistance and advice.

This Grand Chapter is in good financial condition, as it appears from statement of the Grand Treasurer, who exhibits the total receipts as \$2,912.90, and expenditures as \$483.77, leaving on hand the comfortable balance in the sum of \$2,429.13.

The Committee on Work and Returns testified to the good

quality of the work done, only regretting that there was not enough of it. Report adopted.

The Grand Secretary was instructed to draw his warrant on the Grand Treasurer for ten per cent. of this year's receipts for the benefit of the Orphans' Home, after deducting amount of appropriations made at this Convocation.

The brief report of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances was received and adopted.

The Jurisprudence Committee, to which the Grand High Priest's dispensations were referred, did recommend approval of the same. Adopted.

Fitting tribute was paid to the memory of departed Companions.

Next Grand Chapter will be held at Muskogee, in Creek Nation.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Past Grand High Priest and present Grand Secretary Joseph S. Murrow, Chairman of F. C. Committee, submitted, as usual, the report on correspondence, which he prefaced with an explanatory note to the effect that owing to change of date for Annual Convocation, from September 13th to April 15th, only those proceedings which had reached him between those dates had passed under review. The thirty-four reviewed include Alabama-1899.

Companion Murrow's report is as full of interesting and instructive matter as "an egg is of meat." We have marked several places for notice, but, in despair of doing the reviewer justice, have been obliged to confine ourselves to a snap shot or two, so to speak, at random. Under "Delaware" he says:

"Companion Harrison is one of the staunchest advocates of dependent membership and vigorously defends his position. We are on his side of the fence."

Count us, Companion, in the same field.

We are pleased to note, under "Connecticut," that Companion Murrow is dead set against cipher ritual. His antipathy to "cipher" is not dormant under "Ohio," nor does it fail to put in an appearance under "Virginia."

Under "Minnesota" he says:

"A Mason suspended N. P. D. should not require a ballot for

re-instatement, the payment of dues being sufficient, and action by Grand Lodge is wholly unnecessary." The Alabama rule.

In his notice of Alabama he reproduces in full Grand Secretary Armstrong's resolutions on the subject of "Marks" without comment, and copies the "salutatory" of this correspondent, who hereby tenders his respectful acknowledgment of the courtesy. He says:

"We presume he has not yet made our acquaintance, as diligent search fails to reveal Indian Territory among the forty-six volumes reviewed."

Your surmise, Companion, that we had not yet made your acquaintance is just; had your vol. of proceedings been on our table, we should not have delayed forming the acquaintance of that accomplished and genial correspondent whose home is in the well-wooded, well-watered, fertile (of course) and beautiful region named Indian Territory. Nevertheless, we now fervently exclaim: "Shake."

M. E. Grand High Priest, Jonas A. Lee.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Joseph Samuel Murrow.

IOWA—46TH ANNUAL, RED OAK, OCTOBER, 1899.

Chapters reported.....	122
" represented.....	92
Membership December 31st, 1898.....	7,607
Net increase ..	125
Receipts.....	\$13,137.16
Disbursements.....	8,082.67
Cash balance on hand.....	5,054.49

M. E. Grand High Priest, William F. Cleveland in the Chair.

Two new Chapters had been constituted.

The Grand High Priest had granted a dispensation to organize — Chapter U. D., and having received most encouraging reports about said chapter, trusted that it would receive a charter.

He had been asked for more dispensations to ballot, and confer degrees out of time, than had his predecessors in office. He thought this habit of asking for such dispensations susceptible of abuse; still he thought it best, for the present at least, to

leave this matter entirely in the hands of the Grand High Priest. He had carefully scrutinized all such applications and had required strong reasons for issuance of dispensations.

No decisions were submitted. He was pleased at being able to state that the H. P's of Iowa were men of more than average intelligence and kept themselves posted on capitular law.

He paid considerable attention to the Order of High Priesthood and strove to increase the interest of companions in its impressive ceremonies. Eleven new councils had been organized, and the prospect for more was bright.

A page of the address was devoted to the report of proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of the United States— 1897.

The M. E. reported arrest of the Charter of ——— Chapter No. —, for disobeying his repeated instruction to refrain from doing certain unlawful acts.

He stated that the era of prosperity now prevailing among the constituent Chapters was highly encouraging; nevertheless he intimated that there was room for improvement in their financial condition, and read a wholesome lecture to secretaries on the importance of keeping up the collection of dues.

No little was his astonishment at the action of the Grand Chapter of Michigan in deciding that it was not necessary for H. P's to require Mark Master Masons to choose their Marks and have them duly recorded. He said that, in Iowa, a Mark Master without his mark duly recorded, was an anomaly.

The entire address of the Grand High Priest makes a valuable addition to Capitular literature.

In August, 1898, the Grand Chapter of Iowa made a surrender of jurisdiction over the Cryptic degrees to the General Grand Chapter, said surrender to take effect March 1st. 1899.

We have served as K. in an R. A. Chapter, but never having occupied the position of H. P., therefore, ineligible for membership in Grand Council, do not feel called upon to discuss said surrender.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances, to which the matter of a controversy between two Iowa Chapters had been referred, made a somewhat lengthy report on the same, followed by a recommendation which, was to the following effect: the charter arrested should be returned to offending Chapter and the H. P's Jewel, arrested, returned to him, on condition that said Chapter pay over to complaining Chapter all moneys re-

ceived from certain seven candidates, and further concede to complaining Chapter, membership of the said seven candidates (and all membership fees due, if any) if said complaining Chapter shall declare such candidates or any of them, elected to membership therein.

Report accepted and recommendation adopted.

The Chapter complained of had poached on the preserves of another Chapter, to such extent as to warrant vigorous kicking.

According to the report of the Committee on Chartered Chapters some \$9000.00 remained uncollected at the close of 1898. In view of that fact one runs no risk in affirming that the Grand High Priest's lecture to Secretaries was not ill-timed.

The excellent report on Necrology, presented by Past Grand High Priest C. H. Cogswell, contained in its opening the relation of a beautiful instance of devotion on the part of a dumb brute, which might serve as a lesson to us, as beings of a higher intelligence and possessed of moral character:

"On a recent visit to Grey Friar's church-yard, in Edinburgh the guide called my attention to a horizontal slab indicating the burial place of some person, saying under that slab a little dog lay for fourteen years by the grave of his master, and as you pass out of the gate you will see a beautiful bronze drinking fountain modeled after 'Faithful Bobbie,' erected by Baroness Burdette Coutts to commemorate his devotion."

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence had to deal with a controversy between a Chapter in Iowa and one in Wisconsin, touching the Jurisdiction claimed by both Chapters over a certain person in his application for Chapter degrees. An extensive correspondence grew out of the case in controversy and voluminous details involving the whole history of the case were before the committee, but those details would take up too much of our space if reproduced here. Suffice it to say that though the party in question had engaged in some business in Wisconsin, he thence returned to his Iowa home every week—the home in which he had been reared from youth, and in which his parents resided. He, also, *voted* there in 1896, 1897 and 1898. Now, the Grand Chapter of Iowa long since had "decreed that one's 'masonic residence' shall be measured by the same standard as one's political residence."

The question at issue being to find which place was the man's

residence. The committee experienced no difficulty in finding in favor of the Iowa Chapter. Indeed "it could not escape the conclusion that — Chapter in 'Iowa' is right, and — Chapter '(in 'Wisconsin)' is wrong." It recommended that "the Grand High Priest of Iowa be directed to make a demand on said Wisconsin Chapter through the Grand High Priest of Wisconsin for the amount of fees received by them for exalting the person referred to, for the penalty therefor provided, and that they may be directed to relinquish jurisdiction over the said Companion."

The Grand Council had an accession of twenty-two new members.

CORRESPONDENCE.

This report comes fresh and sparkling from the cultured pen of Companion T. R. Eveanbrack, Committee on Correspondence, in a review of the proceedings of forty-nine Grand Jurisdictions. We dub him, the Poet Laureate of the guild. Why not? Even though he may *construct* no verse, the divine afflatus betrays itself all the same in his multitudinous selections always most apposite.

As we read, we seem to pass along the banks of some woodland stream loved of all animated nature. As we stroll by its margin, the air is laden with sweet scents of flowers; song birds are flitting from bough to bough, regaling us with their joyous melodies; bees are darting from blossom to blossom, loading their thighs with treasured sweets. All the while the stream is flowing on, now gliding clear and serene through the open, and now rippling, laughing and tumbling over its pebbly bottom, kissing the lilies as they nod to its brink, and bearing on its bosom a freight of richness.

Under "Maryland" Companion Eveanbrack said :

"Companion Schultz, if your natural strength is not abated, why can you not, like Homer and Milton, triumph over obscurity of vision, and sing on while life endures? The immortal William consolingly said :

"He that is stricken blind cannot forget
The precious treasures of his eyesight lost."

"You are the man Goethe had in view when he wrote:

"Who is the happiest of men? He who
Values the merits of others,
And in their pleasure takes joy,
Even as though 'twere his own."

Again, under "Indiana," complimenting the report of Companion Long, he said:

"That last quotation from the gifted Thomas B. Long is so musical and so sweet that it requires all the poetic power of Sidney Lanier" (our Sidney) "to adequately present it:"

"A velvet flute-note fell down pleasantly
Upon the bosom of that harmony,
And sailed and sailed incessantly
As if a petal from a wild rose blown,
Had fluttered down upon that pool of tone
And boat-wise dropped o' the convex side,
And floated down the glassy tide,
And clarified and glorified
The solemn spaces where the shadows bide,
From the warm concave of that fluted note
Somewhat half song, half odor, did float,
As if a rose might some how be a throat."

But, how reluctantly soever it shall be done, we must desist after quoting from his introduction these lines:

"Do the duty nearest,
Cling to truth the clearest
Face the ill thou fearest,
Hold thine honor dearest,
Knowing God is good."

The sympathetic opening of Companion Eweanbrack's review of Alabama calls for our grateful thanks:

"It is perhaps not unmasonic or in any way unfitting to commence this report by the saddest announcement of the year:" Grand Secretary Armstrong's note, in proceedings—1898, explaining the cause of absence of report on correspondence.

"The extinguishment of that great Masonic Light, Palmer J. Pillans, leaves the Masonic institution of Alabama in deep gloom."

"It is with a gentle sigh of relief that we read that Grand Treasurer, W. H. Dingley, has a balance of \$59 57 in his official pocket, and Grand Secretary H. Clay Armstrong carefully guards another 'balance' of \$7.10."

"Has the Grand Chapter of Alabama reached the Nadir?"

Tut! tut! Companion, how can you leap with such agility, from the portals of the grave to the subject of "filthy lucre"?

If our Grand Chapter *has* "reached the nadir," we will derive

what consolation we may from the reflection that our next movement must be towards the zenith.

M. E. Grand High Priest, B. F. Parker.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Alf. Wingate.

These proceedings are elegantly printed.

KANSAS—35TH ANNUAL, TOPEKA, FEBRUARY, 1900.

Chartered Chapters, 80; U. D. 1; members, 5,203; gain, 64.

M. E. Grand High Priest Alexander A. Sharp, in the chair. Present, eight P. G. H. P's. and Grand Representatives from thirty-two sister Grand Jurisdictions, Alabama included.

The Grand Chapter was in mourning over the death of Past Grand High Priest and late Grand Secretary Jacob DeWitt, who was also the able Chairman of the F. C. Committee, and who died January 28th, 1900.

As a token of affection and esteem and to perpetuate his memory on the records of the Constituent Chapters, a memorial notice of his death was issued by the Grand High Priest, and incorporated in his annual address.

For good cause shown the Charters of two Chapters were arrested, and the M. E. recommended that said Charters be revoked.

Seven decisions were submitted and reported on favorably by the Jurisprudence Committee, were adopted by the Grand Chapter. One of these decisions (No. 6) we quote because there is some difference of opinion manifest on the subject referred to. The decision is as follows:

"The General Grand Chapter has approved a decision that "it is not competent to confer the degrees upon clergymen without fee," and, until our Grand Chapter expressly provides to the contrary ministers must pay such fees as are required of other petitioners."

We have elsewhere intimated what we think on that matter; hence we make no comment here.

Only one dispensation was granted for the formation of a new Chapter.

Several dispensations for conferring degrees out of time were granted in order that some new-made Companions might have

the pleasure of participating in the "Cryptic Rite pilgrimage to Colorado."

The Grand High Priest recommended that the Finance Committee make such appropriations as may be necessary to assist in defraying expenses of the Grand Council in attending the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter at Cincinnati, Sept.—Oct., 1900.

The Deputy Grand King made a brief report, which was adopted.

It appears from the report of the Grand Treasurer that the balance on hand and receipts for the year made a total of \$5,022.07.

The Grand Chapter is fortunate in having secured the services of R. E. Companion Wm. M. Shaver as Grand Secretary to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the lamented DeWitt. It was no trifling task to bring up the work of the Grand Secretary's office, in the short space of three weeks immediately preceeding the Grand Annual. To employ a little slang, Companion Shaver "fills the bill."

The Committee on Reports of Grand Officers says:

"We congratulate this Grand Chapter on the efficiency and zeal of its Grand Officers during the past year. It is well known that as soon as growth ceases dissolution begins. We are growing."

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances reported that no matters pertaining to its duties had come before it for consideration. Report received and adopted.

As special order, memorial services was held for the late M. E. Companion Jacob De Witt. M. E. Companion John C. Postlethwaite and E. Companion Thos. L. Bond, presented tributes to the character and virtues of the departed distinguished Mason. Eloquently and lovingly those Companions acquitted themselves on that sad occasion.

The Order of High Priesthood elected fourteen E. Companions to be consecrated and set apart.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on Foreign Correspondence opens with an explanatory note by the Grand Secretary, Comp. Wm. M. Shaver, who informs us that Companion DeWitt, the late Chairman of the

F. C. Committee, had but partially completed his work of preparing reports when death claimed him.

The few reports completed are submitted with an assurance that next year's report will include reviews of proceedings omitted this year.

Alabama, 1898, was one of the nine volumes which passed under review. The notice of our Jurisdiction bears the impress of that unfailing courtesy and discrimination which marked all of Companion DeWitt's productions.

Companion William M. Shaver will receive a warm welcome to the guild of reporters.

M. : E. : Grand High Priest, Joseph W. Smith.

R. : E. : Grand Secretary, Wm. M. Shaver.

KENTUCKY—82D ANNUAL, LOUISVILLE, OCTOBER, 1899.

Active Chapters, 73; total membership, 3,269; total resources at close of Grand Chapter, \$5,006.04.

M. : E. : Grand High Priest, Wm. R. Johnson, in the chair.

Of Past Grand High Priests fourteen manifested their interest by their presence at the opening. Representatives of twenty-five Grand Jurisdictions, including Alabama's representative, Comp. William Ryan, were in their places at call of the roll.

The address of the Grand High Priest was short but comprehensive.

He submitted no decisions. He had granted twenty-five dispensations to act on petitions out of time. With reference to the foregoing the Grand High Priest said:

"The long list to act on petitions out of time prompts the question: Why are so many dispensations for this purpose asked for? No doubt, the reasons given are good and sufficient, and it seems necessary."

"Every Grand High Priest is perplexed when confronted with the subject. I confess I have been, and have granted nearly all applied for."

"I have given much thought to the cause and remedy, but have not reached a satisfactory conclusion. If the degrees of the Chapter were properly valued, candidates would not ask for haste nor be allowed to make the Chapter a mere stepping stone to the Commandery, as is now too often the case. Have I not stated the cause? What is the remedy proposed? I am not certain I have the right one, but I would like to see the following method faithfully tried, viz: At least two meetings a month

for a Chapter and work in one degree, never in more than two degrees at each meeting."

If dispensing with the constitutional requirement as to balloting on petitions and conferring degrees is objectionable—and to our mind it is clearly so—then the shortest way out of the perplexity or difficulty in the case would be found in firm refusal under all circumstances to grant such dispensations, the tendency of which is, so it seems to us, to cheapen Masonry.

On the subject of Finance the Grand High Priest presented an interesting matter, as follows:

"Over fifty years ago Swigert Chapter No. 40 became defunct, having at the time an interest in a lot and house at Cadiz, Kentucky, which, under our law, reverted to this Grand Chapter. Cadiz Lodge No. 121 owned an equal interest in the same."

"An offer was made for the property and the Grand Council was asked by me to join Cadiz Lodge in a deed conveying their joint interest in this property for \$1,000.00—the money to be divided between the Lodge and the Grand Chapter."

To make a short story still shorter, Grand Council consented to the arrangement, but when it came to making a deed no authority could be found for doing so. The Grand Chapter was not a corporate body and could not hold real estate.

The Grand High Priest recommended that the Grand Chapter be incorporated, and that his successor be authorized to sell said property.

In our review of Indiana we alluded to the complaint of an Indiana Chapter against two Kentucky Chapters on account of invasion of jurisdiction. In respect of that matter, the action of the Grand High Priest and Grand Chapter of Kentucky is all that should be expected of that first-class body of men.

The two offending Chapters are to have six months in which to settle up by paying the fees in question over to the Indiana Chapter, but, failing to do this, they are to suffer arrest of their charters.

Of "Our Home" the Grand High Priest said:

"At every meeting of a Grand Body of Kentucky Masons, we ought to hear something of the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home—so loved by us—so useful to this State, in that it has raised, educated and made good citizens of over a thousand beneficiaries since its establishment. Such a power for the good of mankind, because its example has been followed by so many Masons of other States, that its influence is almost incalculable;

such a practical evidence of the need of Masonry, because it makes the love of our brother produce good works to help him. I do not mention it for the purpose of vain-glory, but to remind you that it is not complete. The Old Masons' Home is needed to round out the work. A year or two will, I believe, bring that to a successful conclusion."

The Grand High Priest paid a high and well-deserved compliment to the R. E. Grand Secretary, Henry B. Grant.

The Grand Treasurer reported that, after disbursements, balance on hand at opening of Grand Chapter was \$2,734.25, the disbursements having been \$3,138.64.

The Committee on Jurisprudence concurred in the Grand High Priest's recommendation as to incorporation of the Grand Chapter, and offered resolutions pursuant thereto. Adopted.

The same committee, in reference to disputes which have arisen, and may arise, concerning jurisdiction, recommended the following:

"Resolved, That members of this Grand Jurisdiction may lawfully join by initiation or affiliation regular Chapters in adjoining States, under the same restrictions as to jurisdiction as apply between Chapters in this State." Adopted.

This resolution was not to go into effect until reciprocated by said adjoining Jurisdictions.

Committee on Necrology made suitable report concerning departed Companions.

The Committee on Grievances found pleasure unalloyed in its ability to report that no business had come before it.

On the presumption that such absence of appeals means peace and harmony, it is very pleasant to find so many Grievance Committees "out of a job."

The Special Committee on "Our Home" made a short, but eloquent and cheering report.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Past Grand High Priest, James W. Staton, Chairman of the F. C. Committee, submitted his report on the proceedings of fifty-three Grand Bodies. Companion Staton gives us an excellent synopsis of the doings of sister Jurisdictions.

Alabama-1898 received courteous, fraternal attention.

M. E. Grand High Priest, J. Speed Smith.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Henry B. Grant.

LOUISIANA—NEW ORLEANS, 53D ANNUAL, FEBRUARY, 1900.

No. of Chapters 22; Membership, 1243.

The M. E. Grand Chapter was opened by M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Geo. W. Bolton, February 13th, 1900, twenty-one of the twenty-two Chapters in the Jurisdiction being represented. Nine P. G. H. P's answered to the roll-call; also the Grand Representatives of twenty-two sister Grand Jurisdictions.

In his address the Grand High Priest expressed his gratification at not having been called upon for any decisions during the year, that fact speaking well for the efficiency of the officers of constituent Chapters.

Several dispensations had been granted, quite a number of these having been for waiving time in balloting on petitions and conferring degrees.

The M. E. recommended that Charters be granted to a couple of Chapters U. D. whose zeal and proficiency were very conspicuous.

The Grand Treasurer's report showed cash balance on hand, together with receipts for the year amounting to \$4,028.53, and disbursements, \$1,081.90, leaving in the Treasury \$2,946.63.

Grand Secretary, P. G. H. P., Companion Richard Lambert, keeps every thing "ship and Bristol fashion." A good Grand Secretary does more in the making of a good Grand Chapter than any other official.

The Committee on Law and Jurisprudence had nothing before it to be reported on.

The Grand Lecturer reported that most of the Chapters had done good work: he was "happy to report that dissensions existed in not a single Chapter."

The Order of High Priesthood received an accession of six new members.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on Correspondence was submitted by P. G. H. P., Comp. the Rev. Herman Cope Duncan, Chairman of the F. C. Committee, and embraced a review of proceedings of forty-seven Grand Chapters (three of them for two years.) There is nothing superfluous in Comp. Duncan's deliverances: on the contrary they are characterized by conciseness, as well as by genuine

courtesy, and, withal, are frequently enlivened by a trenchant style.

For the three lines (to be accurate, $3\frac{1}{2}$ lines) accorded to Alabama—1898, we can only say:

"Small favors thankfully received, and larger ones in proportion." Nevertheless, in that limited space Companion Duncan animadverted on our requirement that each Chapter file with the Grand Secretary a copy of its book of Marks and asks:

"*Cui bono?*"

We have given the matter but little thought, yet imagine that circumstances might arise which would make such record important.

Under "Florida—1899," Comp. D. says:

"We are much surprised to find that the revised Constitution of the Grand Chapter makes the title of the Chaplain 'Right Reverend.' * * Do our Floridian Companions think they make a man a Bishop when they elect him as their Grand Chaplain?"

Wonder what reply our Companions in the land of flowers will make to the question.

Reviewing District of Columbia—1898, he says:

"An interesting question anent a dimit has been raised. An application was made in due form, and, no objection appearing, it was ordered issued. Before it was signed, however, the Comp. involved repented and asked for its cancellation. The Grand High Priest decided that the order for the issuance of the paper was irrevocable, for the reason that the crucial act is the application to withdraw, coupled with the granting of permission; the dimit being simply a certificate of a fact." Companion Duncan presumes that, as a matter of strict construction, the decision would hold, but asks:

"Why should we adhere to the letter of a law which killeth, and neglect the spirit? The spirit of the law is that every R. A. Mason should be affiliated. Here was a Companion who hastily, and under a misapprehension of facts, stated his desire to withdraw, but subsequently determined to preserve his affiliation with the same Chapter. Why should he be compelled to undergo the process of affiliation? * * * ."

The Companion in question should not have acted so hastily: it were better doubtless that he should incur the delay or inconvenience of re-affiliation, than that elasticity, which minimizes

the protection and benefits of the laws, should be imparted thereto.

With the remark that the reviewer is especially good under "Maine"—1899, we bid him, for the present, a reluctant Good-Bye.

M. E. Grand High Priest, J. F. Pierson.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Richard Lambert.

MAINE—74TH ANNUAL, PORTLAND, MAY, 1899.

No. of Chapters, 56; membership, 6, 286; net increase, 94.

Grand Chapter receipts, \$2,004.11; Grand Chapter disbursements, \$1,893.87; charity fund, \$4,801.00: paid in charity from income, \$265.00.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Albion E. Chase, opened the Grand Chapter, delegates from fifty chartered Chapters being present. There were also present sixteen permanent members, and representatives of thirty-one foreign Jurisdictions. The name of Alabama's representative does not appear in the list.

From the concise and business-like address of the Grand High Priest it appears that he had granted five dispensations—two of them for receiving and balloting on petition at the same Convocation, for what were deemed good and sufficient reasons.

Under the heading of decisions he intimated that "Chapters ought to consult the general rules and regulations before asking questions which are therein plainly answered. For instance, 'Can clergymen be admitted without payment of fees?' whereas it is clearly set forth that this cannot be done."

"The Scribe-elect, at the installation of officers of the Chapter, arose at the point of the installation of that officer and declined to be installed by the installing officer, but stated that he was ready and willing to be installed by any other officer competent to perform that duty. The question was: 'What is the proper way out of the difficulty?'"

"Decision was entered that a dispensation should be granted to the Chapter to elect a Scribe, as that office was vacant by act of the Scribe-elect."

The visitations of the Grand Officers and of the District Deputies who reported, were of a pleasing and encouraging character.

Companion Josiah H. Drummond, from the Committee on

Masonic Jurisprudence, reported favorably on the Grand High Priest's decision as to office of Scribe, the member elected to that office having declined to be installed by the installing officer then officiating. Adopted.

Charters were granted to two Chapters U. D.

The following amendment to the Constitution was adopted:

"Sec. 36. Rejection. No candidate whose application may have been rejected in any Chapter under this Jurisdiction, shall be received in any Chapter other than that to which he first applied, except after five years from such rejection, unless the Chapter recommend him to another Chapter by a unanimous vote, taken by the secret ballot; *provided, however*, that if the candidate shall, at the end of five years from such rejection, be a resident within the jurisdiction of the rejecting Chapter, consent shall be granted unless there are more than three negative ballots. The application for such recommendation shall in every case take the course of a petition for the degrees."

The Council of the Order of High Priesthood held its annual meeting and received into membership twenty Companions.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on correspondence comprises a review of proceedings of fifty-one Grand Chapters and of the General Grand Chapter, 1897. It is a masterly production. If it please the Supreme Architect, may Companion Josiah H. Drummond be spared, for many years to come, to counsel and edify the Craft!

Alabama-1898 is most kindly treated by the reviewer. He said of Companion Pillans:

"He was greatly beloved and respected, not only in Alabama, but everywhere."

"Some discussion has arisen among the reporters, as to whether he was not the oldest chairman of this committee at the time of his death; and, therefore, we will state his service, as we have worked side by side, during almost the whole period of it. When we commenced writing these reports in 1865, Comp. Daniel Sayre was the chairman of the committee for that Grand Chapter, but in 1867, Comp. Pillans 'took the pen' and has held it up to the time of his death without an intermission, according to our recollection; so that he wrote thirty-one consecutive reports. We commenced two years earlier, but did not write the report in 1873, so that, while we had written one more report than Comp. Pillans at the time of his death, he had written thirty-one consecutively, and had, therefore, had the longest consecutive service of any Companions in preparing Grand Chapter reports."

He quoted the resolution instructing Secretaries to file in Grand Secretary's office, as early as convenient, a copy of their "Book of Marks," and commented thus:

"We do not quite understand the object and scope of this resolution. If it means a literal copy of the 'Book of Marks' we doubt its propriety and utility. To adopt it in other Jurisdictions, would entail an immense amount of labor and expense upon the Chapters."

Under "Arkansas" Companion Drummond, whose opinion is entitled to thoughtful consideration, expresses himself thus in regard to the number of Companions necessary to open and hold a Chapter for transaction of business:

"Persons not members of a Chapter cannot participate in the regular business, but may participate in the conferring of degrees, so that we hold that it is the fundamental law of a Chapter that there must be nine members present to do business in which only *members* can participate, but that business in which *others* may participate, can be transacted by nine Royal Arch Masons without regard to their membership, provided there is a lawful presiding officer to open the Chapter."

There are many things in this admirable report, which would well repay perusal. We pass on with the remark that Companion Drummond's reports happily blend the maturity of Autumn with the freshness of Spring."

M. . E. . Grand High Priest, Winfield S. Hinckley

R. . E. . Grand Secretary, Stephen Berry.

MARYLAND—102ND ANNUAL; BALTIMORE; NOV. 18 99.

Active Chapters, 19; present membership, 1,924; net gain for year, 44; finances—receipts, \$1,328.75; disbursements, \$1,004.94; balance in bank, \$323.81.

M. . E. . Grand High Priest, Wm. H. Martin, in the chair Nine Past Grand High Priests manifested, by their presence the interest they felt in the Royal Craft.

We are glad to see that Alabama's representative, Comp. Gustave A. Eetel, was one of the twenty-two reported as on hand at the opening.

The Grand High Priest's address was comprehensive, yet con-

cise and showed that officer to have been a faithful steward.

He had issued eight dispensations, in vacation, one only of them setting aside the time regulation as to receiving and acting on petitions.

No decisions were submitted by the Grand High Priest, for the consideration of Grand Chapter.

His official visitations took in all the Chapters of the Jurisdiction save a few to which he sent his proxies or deputies.

There can be no reasonable doubt that such visits, conducted with enthusiasm inure greatly to the benefit of the Royal Craft.

Companion Edward T. Schultz, P. D. G. H. P., chairman of Committee on Correspondence, presented his report in printed form. Accepted and ordered to be distributed with proceedings.

The Grand Lecturer had visited every one of the Chapters. With the exception of indifference on the part of two Chapters, all were doing remarkably well. Extra compensation was awarded Grand Lecturer.

It is pleasant to note that no grievances claimed the attention of the "Committee of Grievance."

In this Jurisdiction "Honorary Memberships" are not at a premium.

The Grand Chapter voted an appropriation of \$250.00 (or as much thereof as may be needed) for representatives to 31st Triennial of General Grand Chapter.

On motion, Standing Resolution No. 6 was amended so as to read as follows:

"That hereafter the obligation in Lodges of Mark Masters shall not be administered to more than one candidate at the same time."

Suitable memorial pages were set apart in honor of departed Companions.

Standing Resolution No. 3 is the following:

"All the Subordinate Chapters within this Jurisdiction are hereby required to procure and keep mark books for the registry of the marks of their respective members."

Resolution 17. "It shall not be competent for the High Priest of any Chapter within this Jurisdiction to exalt to the degree of Royal Arch any brother who has not previously recorded his particular mark in the book of marks."

The Council of M. E. High Priests duly anointed, consecrated and set apart eleven newly elected Companions.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Grand Chapter of Maryland still honors Comp. Edward T. Schultz by continuing him in the chairmanship of the F. C. Committee despite his loss of eyesight, and by so doing, none the less honors itself. His reports are models—most reliable guide posts on the highway of Masonry. He reviews the proceedings of fifty Jurisdictions, including a brief, but courteous notice of Grand Chapter of Alabama, 1898.

May the evening of his life be gladdened, for many a year, by the companionship and devotion of his excellent associates in the Capitular Grand Body of Maryland.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Daniel T. Ordeman.
R. E. Grand Secretary, Geo. L. McCahan.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Chartered Chapters, 74 (U. D. 1); members, 15,741; increase, 203.

The March, June and September Quarterly Convocations of this Grand Chapter presented nothing of special interest to our readers save the touching memorials which embalm the memory of P. G. H. P. Seranus Bowen and P. G. S. Walter M. Wright, and which were unanimously adopted by a rising vote; also the action taken, at the September Quarterly, on the subject of Duplicate Charters, as follows:

"That any subordinate Chapter may provide itself with a copy of its charter, and, when the same shall have been duly certified by the Grand Secretary, such Chapter may use, and hereby is authorized to use this certified copy of its charter for all Chapter purposes except on the occasion of the visitation of an officer of the Grand Chapter, or the installation of the officers of the Chapter, when the presence of the original charter should be required."

The "original" being locked up in a safe place, the possession of a "copy" might some time save the Chapter from great inconvenience.

SPECIAL CONVOCATION—CELEBRATION OF CENTENNIAL.

A special convocation of this Grand Chapter was held October

24th, 1899, to celebrate the hundredth year of the formation of the same on the 13th March, 1798.

The M. E. the Grand High Priest, Companion Warren B. Ellis, was in the chair. Fifty-three Chapters were represented, and there were present twenty-eight permanent members, and Grand Representatives from twenty-three sister Grand Jurisdictions.

Such an abundance of good things appears in the volume before us, that we despair of doing it justice in making extracts: nevertheless a passage or two shall be copied for the information of our readers.

The address of welcome was fine. Some interesting history is here brought to light. The M. E. Companion said:

"Without fear of treading on forbidden ground, or encroaching upon the rich field of our Grand Chapter history, which will later be spread before you, I may state that we are met here in convocation today because, on March 13th, 1798, the officers of St. Andrew's Chapter, of Boston, and King Cyrus Chapter, of Newburyport, came together and organized by choosing a President and Scribe, and forthwith proceeded to elect the officers required by the Constitution. The installation took place on the following day, and the birth of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts was accomplished."

"Owing to circumstances over which we had no control, this observance of our centennial anniversary did not take place, at the expiration of our one hundredth year of existence, in March of last year. Being necessarily postponed, the present time and place were fittingly chosen for the celebration. The day is appropriate, for it was on the 24th October, one hundred two years ago, that the General Grand Chapter of the United States was born in the town of Boston, and first saw the light in that staunch old home of Free Masonry and nursery of rebellion against British oppression, the 'Green Dragon Tavern.' Oh! that the ancient hostelry were still in existence, that we might stand in the famous 'Long Room,' let imagination run riot, and picture to ourselves the meetings of St. Andrew's Lodge, the Committee of Safety, the Sons of Liberty, and the Boston Tea Party, for in that vision would stand out boldly and proudly the manly forms of many a fearless Free Mason and member of this Grand Chapter in the early days." * * * *

"The celebration of centennial anniversaries is an ancient and time-honored custom, and justly so, for it were impossible to conceive of any association of men or women which had vitality enough to reach and pass the century mark, which also did not have excellent reasons for its existence and could not boast of many good and beneficent deeds accomplished in its own circle, and perhaps making no inconsiderable impress on the great world outside of its own narrow precincts. The great novelist

often called the 'Wizard of the North,' tells us that 'years rush by us like the wind. We see not whence the eddy comes, nor whither it is tending, and we seem ourselves to witness their flight without a sense that we are changed; and yet Time is beguiling man of his strength as the winds rob the woods of their foliage.' True this is of our mortal nature, but equally it is that there are associations and societies formed by our ancestors with foundations so broad and deep that the older they grow the greater is their vigor and scope of usefulness, and perhaps it is not too extravagant a thought to hope that our organization may be so bright and enduring that our posterity may say of this Grand Chapter, as the great Napoleon said to his army at the pyramids of Egypt, 'Forty centuries look down upon you.'"

The chief address of the occasion was made by M. E. Warren B. Ellis. It was a masterly production, tracing the career of the Grand Chapter through its hundred years of active life, evincing wide research, and furnishing a wealth of information of great historic value to the Royal Craft in Massachusetts.

M. E. Companion Josiah H. Drummond, of Maine, was present, and, in response to invitation, made such an address as was to be expected from one so distinguished as is he.

M. E. Comp. Geo. L. McCahan, who, like Comp. Drummond, is P. G. G. H. P., also made a most effective response after his introduction.

It would be a pleasure to give our readers the centennial ode by Comp. the Rev. I. P. Bush, but it is too long for the space which could be spared for it.

After the close of the special convocation the assembled Companions repaired to the banquet hall, where such a feast of good things awaited them, as one reads about.

(With all due deference one could wish that, in these dignified proceedings, the bill of fare had been printed in our plain vernacular instead of in a hotch-potch of English and French; somehow it would have looked better.)

If the refreshments were as good as the various speeches made in response to toasts, the evening was surely one to be long remembered.

101ST ANNUAL, BOSTON, DECEMBER, 1899.

From 9:30 A. M. until half-past four P. M. the time of Grand Chapter was devoted to exemplification of the Degrees. At 7

P. M. the Grand Officers resumed their respective stations, and the ordinary proceedings were attended.

In his address the Grand High Priest reported his official circular on the death of that eminent Mason, P. G. H. P. Seranns Bowen, and on the death of R. E. Companion Walter M. Wright.

The address treated, for the most part, on matters of local interest only.

According to report of Finance Committee, the total property of this Grand Chapter amounts to \$12,284.66.

As to recognition of the Grand Chapter of New Zealand, it was resolved that said recognition be held in abeyance until action thereon shall have been taken by the General Grand Chapter.

Companion Warren B. Ellis was re-elected M. E. Grand High Priest for the ensuing Masonic year.

The convention of High Priesthood had elected twenty-two Excellent Companions since the last annual convocation.

CORRESPONDENCE.

It is matter for sincere regret that so little space can be given to a notice of the excellent report on correspondence submitted by P. G. H. P. and present Grand Secretary, Companion J. Gilman Waite, Chairman of the F. C. Committee, who reviews proceedings of forty-six Grand Chapters (one for 2 years) in a report covering 111 pages, and including a most fraternal review of Alabama-1898.

Companion Waite, always courteous and considerate, gives to every one his due and does not withhold his own views when they are called for. But, gentle reader, we must needs just tell you of the inviting spread, and—shut the door opening into the banquet room.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Warren B. Ellis.

R. E. Grand Secretary, J. Gilman Waite.

MICHIGAN—52ND ANNUAL, DETROIT, JANUARY 1900.

Active Chapters 132; No. making returns 132; membership, 13,641.

The Grand Chapter was opened by M.: E.: Grand High Priest, Comp. Frank N. Clark. Sixteen Past Grand High Priests enhanced the dignity of the occasion by their presence.

The address of the Grand High Priest was eminently business-like. True, he had no end of appreciation of the honor his companions had done him; nevertheless, well did he discharge the duties of his high office.

His decisions were all approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence and by the Grand Chapter. We note a few of them for the benefit of some of our readers:

"(3) Objection filed before the ballot is taken does not do away with the ballot."

"No objection can be valid until candidate is elected."

"(4) The Constitution, Laws and Edicts of the Grand Chapter of Michigan do not prohibit reception of petitions from saloon keepers and bar-tenders. If Companions can be found who are willing to recommend them, their petitions can be received and acted on, but I strongly advise the discouragement of such petitions."

"(6) Can the Scribe prefer charges of unmasonic conduct against Companions for failing to obey summons to appear at a regular meeting to show cause why dues are not paid, according to By-Laws."

"Answer. Charge should be preferred for non-payment of dues and not for unmasonic conduct in failing to comply with the summons."

A special dispensation was granted to confer all the degrees on a brother at one convocation in order to form a class for a school of instruction. Two other special dispensations were granted to receive and ballot on petitions at a regular Convocation, without delay, all members being notified of such Convocation and the action to be taken."

One new Chapter was constituted and consecrated. A dispensation issued for formation of another Chapter U. D. was followed by the best results—a live Chapter, zealous and energetic.

The Grand High Priest warmly espoused the cause of the Masonic Home.

Grand Secretary J. S. Conover was justly gratified at being able to state that every Chapter had made returns and paid its dues, thus enabling him to completely tabulate them before an-

nual meeting. That officer has a vast amount of work to do; hence his labors should be lightened so far as promptness on the part of Chapters may alleviate those burdens.

The Grand Treasurer's report showed the total receipts, with balance added, to be \$9,250.49, and expenditures to be \$6,082.04. leaving balance on hand \$3,168.45.

The Grand Lecturer made a complete report, of his year's work; covering seven pages of the printed proceedings. The details of his report are interesting; his schools and lectures were attended by an aggregate of more than two thousand one hundred Royal Arch Masons.

Such an attendance on his lectures was strong testimony to the excellence of the Grand Lecturer's work.

The Board of Control of the Masonic Home made a brief report on the finances of the Home, calling attention to the forthcoming reports, in detail of the Secretary and Treasurer of that institution. The total expenditures, including deficiency of the previous year, amounted to \$7,454.88. This sum less the year's income of \$6,836.72 left a deficit of \$618.16, December 1st, 1899; this debt will, no doubt, be wiped out the present year.

The Finance Committee estimated the balance in the Treasury, to commence the session of 1901, at \$1,432.09. Report concurred in.

Charters were granted to two Chapters U. D.

A pleasing incident in proceedings was the announcement that no cases of appeal were in the hands of the Committee on Grievances.

Among the Edicts of Grand Chapter one reads as follows:

"The petition of a non-affiliated Mason shall not be received by any Chapter working under this Jurisdiction."

Amen to that!

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

Four Companions were elected, anointed, set apart and consecrated in the Grand Council of the High Priesthood.

M. . E. . Grand High Priest, Reuben C. Webb.

R. . E. . Grand Secretary, Jefferson S. Conover.

MINNESOTA—38TH ANNUAL; ST. PAUL, OCTOBER, 1899.

61 Chapters, 56 represented; present membership, 4,996; fourteen permanent members present at the opening.

M. . E. . Grand High Priest, Isaac L. Hart, in the chair.

The annual address was short but to the point. Three new Chapters had been constituted.

The Grand High Priest's several visitations were, almost without exception, highly satisfactory. Figuratively speaking, only one Chapter was suffering with impoverishment of the blood, but a good tonic with a large ingredient of precious metal, would, no doubt, soon restore that body to good Masonic health.

Thirteen dispensations had been issued, only two of which were for receiving and balloting on petitions the same evening—those two, out of a number applied for, the Grand High Priest felt justified in granting.

Out of the fifteen District Visitors eight, mentioned by name in the address, received special commendation for faithful work. The remaining seven caught it right "in the neck."

Grand High Priest Hart recommended that the duties of District Visitors be put upon the Grand Officers, and that the H. P's. of Chapters be required to take the necessary steps to secure the attendance of members, when notified of an intended visit.

His one decision submitted was to this effect: When a Companion, having lost his dimit, petitions for affiliation, his petition must be accompanied by a duplicate dimit marked "Duplicate," and stating that the original was lost.

The Committee on District Visitors made report in accord with the Grand High Priest's recommendation concerning the same; and the report was laid on the table.

Committee on Fraternal Dead made suitable report and it was adopted.

The Jurisprudence Committee with slight modification approved the single decision submitted by the Grand High Priest; also endorsed his dispensations. Adopted. The committee asked further time to consider the question as to the right of Subordinate Chapters to amend their By-Laws at pleasure, conformable to title 8, section 1, of Grand Lodge By-Laws. Granted.

There seems to have been some misunderstanding as to the meaning of the law—a question of construing.

The Grand Secretary made a rather lugubrious report on results of last year; he said that it was true there had been a net increase of 48 in membership, but that was 90 less than the average for the last ten years. The Grand Chapter last year reduced the dues from 50c. to 40c. per member, resulting in a loss to the Grand Body of about \$500.00. The Grand Secretary only ask the Chapters to do the right thing and to do it with promptitude. We trust that faithful and efficient officer will have no more occasion to bewail existing conditions. His receipts for the year were \$2,636.50.

Grand Treasurer's report showed to tal receipts, including balance as per last report, \$10,888.32, disbursements, \$3,155.03, cash on hand, \$7,733.29. No need for Grand Chapter of Minnesota to go into the hands of a receiver!

Grand Council received an accession of seven new members.

In "Appendix G," we find the place of representative near the Grand Chapter of Alabama marked vacant.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Past Grand High Priest Thomas Montgomery, chairman of the Committee on Correspondence submitted his tenth annual report, which is a concise review, of all proceedings come to hand, covering sixty-four pages.

He gives the kernel of the nut without bits of shell and husk.

He will accept acknowledgments for his brief but courteous notice of Alabama—1898.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Josiah A. Peck.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Thomas Montgomery.

MISSISSIPPI—51ST ANNUAL; VICKSBURG, FEBRUARY, 1899.

Active Chapters, 42; members, 1,450; net gain, 24; receipts for the year, \$1,578.43; disbursements, \$1,042.77; balance of receipts over expenditures, \$535.66; this added to balance from previous year, makes a total balance of \$862.92.

M. E. Grand High Priest, the Rev. J. A. B. Jones in the chair. Present, ten Past Grand Officers, and representatives of

fourteen other Grand Chapters. R. E. Grand Secretary, J. L. Power representing Alabama.

In his address the Grand High Priest paid loving tribute to the departed companions—notably to M. E. William G. Paxton, late Grand Treasurer.

He replied, in substance to the request of Grand Chapter of New Zealand for recognition, that said Grand Body must wait till its request was made known to the Grand Chapter of Mississippi and the answer returned; adding that it was "*the province of the General Grand Chapter to recognize new bodies.*" (Italics ours.)

We may as well as not give here the report of a committee appointed to report on the action of the Grand High Priest in his reply to the Grand Chapter of New Zealand:

"We have examined the same and approve his action, and regard his reply as fraternal and appropriate."

And there, so far as we can discover, the matter ended. The only reason, apparently, why the committee did not make a recommendation one way or the other, was found in the Grand High Priest's intimation that recognition of the Grand Chapter of New Zealand, on the part of the General Grand Chapter U. S. A. should precede recognition by the Grand Body in Mississippi.

The Grand High Priest refused dispensation to enable a Chapter to hold convocation for work with less than nine members of the Chapter, calling attention to the constitutional requirement. Digest 26 declares, "for all purposes, nine members of the Chapter are necessary to constitute a quorum."

He, also, most properly we think, refused to grant a dispensation for conferring degrees out of time.

Under the heading of decisions, he submitted but one decision, such was the efficiency of the Committee on Capitular Law, and the mode of promulgating information. To say that P. G. H. P., Companion Frederic Speed, is chairman of that committee is sufficient guaranty of its wise counsels.

That one decision was evoked by the High Priest of a Chapter, who desired to know whether or not a certain provision in the Digest of Decisions, viz:

"A Chapter has a right to advance maimed brothers who are otherwise worthy and well qualified," applied in the following case:

"A Master Mason in our Lodge has applied to our Chapter for membership. He is physically unable to take the R. A. degree. He has been afflicted from birth—something like paralysis in his legs and arms. He has *use* of them, but is weak and could not take the degree in full."

The Grand High Priest replied that the Section in the Digest referred to did not apply in his case; that "maimed" could not apply to a brother "afflicted from his birth with something like paralysis in his legs and arms." He could not grant a dispensation to impart the R. A. degree to the brother by simply permitting him "to see a full class of three take it."

The Committee on Capitular Law reported approval of the Grand High Priest's decisions and dispensations, and recommended their adoption.

The same committee also reported on two questions submitted to it during the year:

"1st. When a Committee of Inquiry reports that the applicant for degrees has been rejected by another Chapter, what cause should be pursued on the petition?"

The answer to this was, in effect, that the petition should be "dismissed for want of Jurisdiction." The fact of previous rejection ends the matter.

"Question 2. Can a petition be withdrawn in the Chapter?"

"Answer. Yes, before report of committee by $\frac{2}{3}$ vote, but not afterwards."

Both reports on Capitular Law adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on correspondence was submitted—in time for the printer—by Chairman, Past Grand High Priest, P. M. Savary, notwithstanding he was but recently up from a bed of sickness which had held him eight months.

May he speedily regain robust health, and long continue to be a blessing to the Royal Craft!

His report is a review of proceedings of forty-three Grand Chapters, Alabama—1898 included. About a half page in given this Jurisdiction, but it is marked with true courtesy.

Under "California," he expressed sentiments with which we are in hearty accord—to-wit, unwillingness that the General Grand Chapter should transcend those powers now universally conceded to it.

Under "Maine--1898," in his notice of M. E. Comp Josiah H. Drummond's report on Correspondence, he said:

"From his comments on Alabama, we are led to wonder if O. B. of E. A. is different in Alabama from that of Maine and Massachusetts. We learned our lessons in Symbolic Masonry, in Mobile years ago, and have not been advised of a change, and there was no difference in 1864."

The foregoing leads us to the conclusion that Companion Savary's views on Cipher Ritual are "sound as a dollar."

M. E. Grand High Priest, Thos. B. Franklin.

R. E. Grand Secretary, J. L. Power.

MISSISSIPPI—52D ANNUAL; MERIDIAN, FEBRUARY, 1900.

Chapters reporting, 46; members, 1,621.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Thos. B. Franklin in the chair.

The opening of Grand Chapters was graced by the presence of eleven Past Grand Officers and Representatives of sixteen sister Jurisdictions, R. E. Grand Secretary, Comp. J. L. Power, Alabama's Representative, being one of the number.

Among the dispensations issued by the Grand High Priest were ten for balloting on petitions out of time, but one, for the same purpose was refused, not being backed by good reasons for which it might be granted.

The M. E. begged Companions to give close attention to the report of the Grand Lecturer whom he called "a faithful worker."

The Grand Secretary reported receipts for 1898 to have been \$1,540.91. The receipts for 1899, not all in hand, would be included in next report.

After all expenditures had been made the Grand Treasurer had a balance in hand amounting to \$506.37.

The report of the Grand Lecturer shows that officer to have been an indefatigable workman—he had exalted seventy-nine classes and had traveled 9,299 miles in the discharge of his duties. He had reviewed 10 dormant Chapters, instituted one and organized one new Chapter.

The Committee on Capitular Law found the several decisions rendered, and dispensations granted, conformable to the law of

the Grand Chapter, "barring technicalities," and recommended their approval. Adopted.

Committee on Complaints and Appeals reported that no business had come before it for consideration. Report accepted.

Upon the Committee on Subordinate Chapters devolved the pleasing duty of announcing the revival during the past year, of several dormant Chapters and the establishment of new Chapters where none before existed. The committee congratulated the Grand Chapter on the happy results of the zeal and efficiency of the Grand High Priest and the Grand Lecturer. Report adopted.

The Joint Special Committee of the Grand Chapter and Grand Council expressed high appreciation of the "untiring zeal and ability" displayed by the Grand Lecturer, and recommended a continuance of the joint arrangement for his salary with this difference, viz, that it be paid monthly instead of quarterly. Concurred in.

The order of High Priesthood received six new members.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Past Grand High Priest, Companion P. M. Savary, correspondent, submitted the report on Foreign Correspondence in a review of the proceedings of forty-two Grand Jurisdictions, filling fifty five pages.

Alabama—1898 receives courteous attention. The reviewer quotes G. H. P. Josiah Jernigan, and Grand Secretary Armstrong, on the death of Companion Pillans.

In his reports Companion Savary generously accords much space to the sayings of others.

M. . E. . Grand High Priest, Nolan Stewart.

R. . E. . Grand Secretary, J. L. Power.

MISSOURI—53D ANNUAL, ST. LOUIS, APRIL, 1899.

No. of Chartered Chapters 96—all making returns.

Total number of members reported, 6924.

M. . E. . Grand High Priest, Comp. Chas. M. Glaspell, presided. Eighteen P. G. H. P's., were present; besides these there

were at the opening thirty-six Grand Representatives, including Comp. Thos. E. Garrett, for Alabama.

The Grand High Priest's address covers twenty pages: it contains solid chunks of wise counsel, and fearless arraignment of error wherever the same appears.

No decision was submitted for consideration. Ten dispensations were granted—none of them, we are glad to note, were for conferring degrees out of time.

Grand High Priest Glaspell scores railroading candidates through the degrees.

He made twenty-four official visitations. The M. E. is a workman of whom the Grand Chapter of Mo., need not be ashamed. During his regular and special visitations he conferred a total of two hundred forty-four degrees. His experience during the year firmly convinced him of the importance of these visitations by the official head of the Royal Craft. Companion Glaspell is, no doubt, right. Such visits dispel lethargy and awaken enthusiasm.

One new Chapter had been instituted.

Several interesting, special visitations had been made, intensifying zeal for Capitular Masonry.

The Grand High Priest is a warm friend of the Masonic Home.

Alluding to generous donations to the inmates of the Home, at Christmastide, the Superintendent of the Home said in his report:

"Certainly St. Louis Masonry abounds in liberality." * * *
"While we have had much sickness during the winter, involving great care and anxiety as well as great extra expense, we are now rejoicing that not a single case remains in the Infirmary or on the sick list, except some chronic cases of aged persons who in life's late evening are 'only waiting till the shadows are a little longer grown.' * * * In conclusion, it may be noted that in the Home there is perfect peace, and all seem to be contented and happy."

The receipts of the Home from Oct. 1st, 1898, to April 5th, 1899, were \$15,036.67, expenditures for same time \$9,179.04. During the same period the Treasurer's receipts, together with cash on hand Sept. 30th, 1898, amounted to \$24,708.64, while the disbursements were \$9,644.76, leaving cash balance April 5th, 1899, \$15,063.88. Gilt-edge "Bonds held on account of K. T. Endowment Fund," amount to \$15,500.00.

The Missouri Masonic Home is built on a solid foundation of Masonic liberality.

The cost of the monument lately erected to the memory of Past Grand High Priest, James W. S. Mitchell, the first Grand High Priest of Missouri, was \$396.95. That Companion's grave is at Griffin, Ga. The stone is 3 feet 6 inches wide, same in height; 1 foot 10 inches thick, resting on a base 5 feet 4 inches wide, 2 feet 6 inches high and 3 feet 4 inches thick—total height 6 feet. It is a neat and substantial structure.

Grand Chapter appropriated \$500.00 for printed Cipher Ritual and R. A. Mnitor. Committee in charge expended of said amount, for Rituals \$200.00, Monitors, \$50.00, work, typewriting, railroad and hotel bills, expressage, postage and receipts, Cipher and Minutes, \$248.00, or a total of \$498.00. It would have been vastly cheaper, pecuniarily, to have no printed Ritual.

Committee on Accounts reported receipts, for fiscal year ending March 1st, 1899, to be \$17,165.20, and expenditures, \$6,774.60, leaving on hand March 1st, 1899, \$10,390.60—Adopted.

Committee on Grievance reported that nothing had been submitted for its consideration.

Such reports from the Committee on Appeals are always welcome.

A widow had, in her last will and testament, bequeathed \$10,000.00 for the benefit of the Home.

No construction of the law having become necessary, the Jurisprudence Committee rejoiced in the possession of a holiday.

The Annual Grand Convention of Anointed High Priests elected, consecrated, anointed and set apart twelve Companions.

CORRESPONDENCE.

R. E. Companion Wm. H. Mayo, Chairman of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, submitted his report, which consisted of an excellent review of the proceedings of forty-four Grand Chapters.

Alabama for 1898, receives most fraternal attention. Companion Mayo doubts the propriety and wisdom of letting in the clergy, free of charge.

By the way, Companion, Grand High Priest, Edward S. Gatchell, whom we met last night, requested us to convey his fraternal regards to you.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Henry S. Bosworth.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Wm. H. Mayo.

MISSOURI—54TH ANNUAL, KANSAS CITY, APRIL, 1900.

Chartered Chapters, 98; Members, Dec. 31st, 1899, 7,157, net gain, 232.

Acting M. E. Grand High Priest, Arthur M. Hough, filled the Chair. Present, fourteen P. G. H. P's., and representatives of thirty-four Grand Jurisdictions, Alabama not included.

The annual address of M. E. Henry L. Bosworth, who was necessarily absent, was read by the Acting Grand High Priest.

Feeling reference was made to the deaths, during the year, of three P. G. H. P's.

Eleven dispensations had been granted for various objects, and one refused for waiver of time in receiving and acting upon a petition for the degrees.

The decisions submitted were four in number, and all, save one, were approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence. Decision No. 2, the Committee did not approve. No. 2 is as follows:

"Charges were preferred against a brother by his Lodge. At the trial the prosecution failed to convict; the Lodge gave notice of an appeal to the Grand Lodge. Previous to this trial the brother had received the degree of M. M., and that of P. M. Is he eligible for advancement?"

"Answer—The case is still in court; he stands as he did before acquitted, charges being now pending in the Grand Lodge; I therefore advise that proceedings in the Chapter be delayed until the final termination of the trial in the Grand Lodge—which the Chapter did."

And thus the Committee:

"Referring to decision No. 2, your Committee would respectfully report, that if it be intended as a decision and to hold that the brother is not eligible for advancement, then the decision is wrong and ought not to be approved. The candidate was eligible for advancement. If intended merely as a letter of advice, then we commend it as a wise word of caution and proper discretion."

Report of the Committee adopted.

The report of the Superintendent of the Masonic Home which, shelters 121 inmates, presents an encouraging outlook for that great Institution. There is need, however, of a substantial, fire-proof building, to comfortably and safely house the aged and infirm. The Superintendent thought an outlay of ten or twelve thousand dollars, would assure this most desirable object. We hazard the belief that the Missouri Craftsmen will not suffer this want to be long standing.

The financial affairs of the Home must be in a healthy state—the Treasurer's report showing receipts, to April 1st, 1900, to the amount of \$26,455.21, while disbursements, to same date, were \$10,929.68; also securities held for account of Knight Templar Endowment Fund (gilt-edge), amount to \$17,000.00.

The Committee on Necrology embodied in its report valuable, short sketches of the lives of departed Companions, giving their Masonic record as well.

Total receipts of Grand Chapter for the year, were \$18,732.10, (Fiscal year ends March 1st), of which, after all expenditures, there remains for another year's expenses the goodly sum of \$13,177.45.

During the first half of the year the Grand Lecturer had much translating of the ritual to do for H. P's, but subsequently was relieved of that task, whether because Companions had learned to read it, or because they despaired of becoming familiar with the cipher, he was unable to decide.

The scholarly address of the Grand Chaplain on "The Ark and Its Symbolism," was ordered printed with the Proceedings. In his exordium, the orator well says:

"Free Masonry is a system of teaching by symbols. This is one of the best and most enduring methods of teaching truth. We try to inculcate by dogma, doctrine, verbal and written instruction, which are all good in their way. But language changes, terms become obsolete, 'tongues cease.' One of the great efforts of modern times is to resuscitate dead languages and to re clothe in modern dress the thoughts of those long passed away. Even religious creeds, which when first framed were considered by their authors perfect crystallizations of absolute truth, need, after the lapse of years, to be revised and restated, in order to be properly understood by the people. But the parables of Galilee are as fresh as when first spoken; the 'Prodigal Son,' the 'Good Samaritan' and the parables of the 'Kingdom,' teach the same lessons as when they fell from the lips of Him 'who spake as never man spake.' And though three milleniums have rolled away since David sang his Psalms, they are translated into every tongue, and form the world's best vehicle of devotion in this our Christian nineteenth century."

"So the symbols of Free Masonry, though coming down to us from a remote antiquity, are still fruitful of lesson to us, on whom the ends of the world have come."

The distinguished Companion's argument in support of his opinion respecting the duration of ante-deluvian ages, is well worthy of note. But let him speak for himself:

"We hold that the long, antediluvian ages in Genesis, v., are not the ages of the individuals, but the ages of the tribes, families or dynasties, called by those names of Adam, Seth, Enoch, Methusaleh, &c. In that chapter two ages are mentioned—the first is the age of the individual, the other the age of his tribe or shiekship, as the lines of Pharoah, the Cæsars, and others continued for centuries in later times. Or, as the custom prevails in Great Britain to-day to call the eldest son by a distinct and different title till the death of the father, when the Marquis of Lorne becomes the Duke of Argyll; Hartington becomes Devonshire; Hyde, Clarendon; Malden, Essex; and so through all the British aristocracy. To reckon that the same title or patronymic always indicates the same individual, would make some of these individuals as long-lived as Methusaleh. A curious instance occurs in current history. The custodian of General Cronje, in St. Helena, is Lord Bathurst. But the English foreign secretary who had charge of Napoleon in that same island, was Lord Bathurst, and a tyro, writing history in the future, might plausibly argue the long age of the Bathursts, and that the same man had charge of Napoleon and Cronje, in the beginning and the end of the nineteenth century. We know that the present Bathurst is the grandson of the former, and we speak but of the Bathurst of the day. It would seem that St. Peter spake of 'Noah the Eighth;' or as we write, 'Henry the Eighth,' or 'Edward the Sixth; and if the six hundred years of the family of Noah are divided by eight, this Noah would be seventy-five years old, or that would be the average age of his tribe or family."

"Therefore, when Noah is said to live three hundred and fifty years after the flood, we must understand the family or priesthood of the Noachites, or family of Noah. If literal ages of individuals are understood, then Shem was contemporary eighty-five years with Abraham, who died at the age of one hundred and seventy-five years, 'in a good old age, an old man, full of years,' (Genesis, 25, 7-8.). Similar epitaphs are written of Isaac and Jacob; and it is at least extraordinary that no single line of Holy Scripture ever afterwards mentions this appalling shortening of human life which, if it took place, was the greatest calamity that ever befell the human race."

"The average of the first mentioned ages in Genesis v., is one hundred and twenty years, and that is followed by the statement (Gen. vi., 3): 'My spirit shall not always strive with man for that he also is flesh; YET his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.' It is also noteworthy that Moses reached this age, and they 'marveled that his eye was yet undimmed and his natural strength unabated.' In his Psalm 90, he gives the duration of human life as from seventy to eighty years."

This address must be read to be appreciated.

As to the much needed additional building at the Home, the Committee on Masonic Home, recommended an appropriation of

\$3,000.00, to be paid when the building is assured. Unanimously adopted.

Three times three cheers for our Missouri Companions!

The single recommendation the Committee on Grievance made, was adopted.

Grand Secretary Mayo will permit us to compliment him on the excellence and thoroughness of his work as Grand Secretary. The grass does not grow under *his* feet.

Eleven Companions were elected and duly set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood.

CORRESPONDENCE.

R. E. Grand Secretary Wm. H. Mayo, Correspondence Committee, submitted his twenty-first annual report on Correspondence, it being a most interesting review of the proceedings of sister Jurisdictions, and covering one hundred eight pages. Alabama, 1899, is accorded a kind notice about two pages long. For the benefit of the Missouri Committee on Revision of Laws, Companion Mayo quotes our Grand Chapter's resolution requiring possession of proper certificate by every one who joins in the petition for formation of a new Chapter.

Grand Secretary Armstrong's resolutions on the subject of marks, adopted by Grand Chapter of Alabama, were re-produced bodily.

Our best bow is made in return for Companion Mayo's very kind reference to our own last report.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Arthur M. Hough.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Wm. H. Mayo.

MONTANA—10TH ANNUAL, HELENA, SEPTEMBER, 1899.

No. of Chapters.....	15
Membership.....	832
Net gain for year.....	20
Balance on hand.....	\$1,096.35
Total receipts.....	954.00—\$2,050.35
Total disbursements.....	664.93
Balance in treasury.....	\$1,385.42

M. E. Grand High Priest, S. C. Kenyon, in the chair. Present, four Past Grand High Priests.

In his address the Grand High Priest was "pleased to say that the Royal Craft in Montana is moving along smoothly, peace and harmony prevailing."

But two decisions were submitted—

1st. "That the standing, in a Chapter, of a Companion whose Chapter dues are paid and against whom there is no complaint; but who is not affiliated with any Master Mason Lodge, is not thereby affected; although I believe it is an evil, and would recommend that the laws be changed so as to make it obligatory upon all Chapter Masons to be affiliated with some Blue Lodge."

2d. Question: "A Chapter elected, at last election, a Companion as Scribe; who left the State and was never installed. The preceding Scribe was duly elected and installed as King. Is he King or Scribe? the law saying that an officer holds his office until his successor is elected and installed."

"Answer: He is King, and the Chapter has no Scribe."

The Grand High Priest had commissioned a representative near the Grand Chapter of New Zealand, and had received his commission as representative of that Grand Body near the Grand Chapter of Montana.

He recommended a change in the Constitution which would place the annual election of officers at the stated convocation immediately preceding the Festival of St. John the Baptist—June 24th—for obvious reason.

From the Grand Secretary's General Report it is learned that the Grand Library has been increased, during the year, by the addition of sixteen bound volumes.

The Grand Secretary compliments the G. H. P. thus:

"As usual our M. E. Grand High Priest in his capacity as Secretary" (of Chapter) "was the first to make report for the year."

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to which the Grand High Priest's decisions and recommendations were referred, reported approval of the same, and the report was adopted.

The Grand Chapter did a most praiseworthy act when it set apart from the General Fund \$500.00 as the nucleus of an Endowment Fund for Masonic Home, and further, appropriated

ten per cent. of the net annual receipts for increase of such fund.

Next annual convocation will be held at Great Falls.

CORRESPONDENCE.

That the annual report on correspondence, submitted by R. E. Grand Secretary, Cornelius Hedges, Chairman of the Committee, is a "diamond of the first water," none will dispute. His review, covering eighty-six pages, is as full of interest as an egg is of meat. His notice of Alabama is kind and brotherly.

Under "Maine" he indulges in an observation which, except in the very first clause, receives our hearty endorsement:

"We are not yet impressed with the necessity of the corporeal presence of the charter, and the necessity of showing it to every visitor is not like producing a title deed in court. In not one case in a thousand does a visitor know or can he know that the charter shown is genuine. At most the one asking the favor of visitation has no vested right against the objection of a single member." * * *

The clause contained in the words, "We are not yet impressed with the necessity of the corporeal presence of the charter," is the only part with which we do not concur. We believe in the necessity of the actual presence of the warrant or charter.

As to the demand of a visitor to see the charter before entering a Chapter or Lodge, it could, with reason, be urged that the visitor might just as well take the Lodge's word that it has a charter as the Lodge—or Chapter—take his word that he is in good standing.

Under "Wisconsin" he says: "No American citizen, worthy of the name, can be an anti-expansionist."

Companion, does not that savor just a little of bringing politics into Masonry?

We cannot gainsay his conclusion that Chapter Masonry is having a hard struggle for existence here in the South: but we will struggle on, and hope soon to be on the up grade.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Alfred Bahnforth.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Cornelius Hedges.

NEVADA—27TH ANNUAL, VIRGINIA CITY, JUNE, 1900.

Number of Active Chapters, 7; R. A. "Masters," 292.

Grand Chapter was opened, June 11th, with M. E. Grand Priest, Companion A. O. Percy, in the Chair. There were present seven P. G. O's, and Grand Representatives from twenty-six Jurisdictions, including Alabama.

The Grand High Priest made, in his address, touching reference to the recent death of P. G. H. P. Thomas A. Menary.

His visitations had not been so many as he could have wished owing to the fact that his occupation (that of a miner) had kept him the greater part of the time in the 'bowels of the earth.'

The M. E. suggested such modification of the Digest as would make the approval of the Grand High Priest essential to render lawful the removal of a Chapter from one part of its Jurisdiction to another part. So ordered.

The official Head also suggested that Standing Resolution No. 1, be so amended as to direct the Grand Secretary to furnish lists of all persons suspended, expelled, and restored by the several Lodges, together with lists of such suspensions, expulsions and restorations by constituent Chapters, to the Recorders of the several Commanderies in the Jurisdiction of Nevada. And it was accordingly so done. All of which will give effect to the doctrine of dependent membership.

The Grand High Priest intimated that the revenues of the Grand Chapter had decreased considerably, and unaided would not meet current expenses; he therefore, recommended that a 50c. *per capita* tax be assessed upon the constituent Chapters, and made payable to the Grand Secretary within ninety days.

The Finance Committee, to which said recommendation was referred, reported favorably on the same and it was adopted.

In the Grand Treasurer's statement it appears that cash on hand and receipts amount to \$997.11, and after all disbursements there remained, June 11th, 1900, a cash balance of \$367.68. The Finance Committee, nevertheless states that there will be a deficit of \$142.32. The 50c. tax will fully cover said deficit.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on Correspondence is from the ready pen of Companion A. D. Bird, whose review, sometimes facetious, always most readable and courteous, embraces proceedings of forty-

seven Grand Chapters (one for two years) including Alabama—1899, which receives kindly notice covering a little over one page. About half the space is given to mention of this scribe's last report—1899, for which he, (Comp. B.) will please accept our hearty acknowledgements. He says:

"Companion William Y. Titcomb presents the report on Correspondence, well and ably written. Nevada, for 1899 passes under review. He says:

"In looking over 'Decisions affirmed by Grand Chapter of Nevada,' we were impressed with the glaring inconsistency of decisions 17 and 18. Decision 17 is as follows: 'It is not a masonic offense for one Companion to request another to divulge his vote upon a petition for degrees.' No. 18 reads thus:

"It is a masonic offense for a companion to divulge his vote upon a petition for Degrees or affiliation."

Apply the principle. To steal is an offense. Correct. To request one to steal is not (?) an offense."

As an eagle swoops down upon a timorous hare, thus comes Companion Bird to punish our presumption in undertaking to criticise the action of the Grand Chapter of Nevada:

"We must differ with you, Companion Titcomb, and agree with our Grand Secretary Noteware, under whose administration the ruling was made. It is attempted in law to find out the intent and purpose. This is very difficult often to do. *In the case in question the intent and purpose might make it a masonic offense,*" (Italics ours) "but in general law, as the decisions stand, it would not."

"It is stated that King Solomon gave the secrets of Masonry to a young man and solemnly bound him never to reveal the same in writing; that afterwards he requested this young man to write an account of what he had learned and been taught. Do you think, Companion T., King Solomon was guilty of a masonic offense?"

In attempting to maintain our position we would remark that, under the common law, persuading or requesting any one to do a wrong, made the persuading party accessory before the fact, while he, who concealed a wrong-doing, was accessory after the fact, but now the law holds both parties to be associate principal offenders. At least it is so in this State. As between the enticer and the enticed there is but a distinction.

"Strange, what difference there should be
"Twixt tweedle-dum and twedle-dee!"

Companion Bird's question about King Solomon, furnishes us

a good opportunity for respectfully intimating that, while we are not unfamiliar with the theory that a most impressive lesson is taught by the attempt to induce one to do what he *must not do*, while he is also prevented from complying with the request, nevertheless this is not the first time it has occurred to us that said particular practice ought to be eliminated. The desired impression could be otherwise made.

"Lead us not into temptation."

The Grand Convention of the Order of High Priesthood elected two Companions who will be consecrated and set apart at next annual convention.

M. E. Grand High Priest, M. A. Murphy.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Chauncey N. Noteware.

NEW BRUNSWICK—12TH ANNUAL, ST. JOHN, AUGUST,
1899.

No. of Chapters, 8; membership, 454.

Grand Representatives of nineteen Foreign Jurisdictions present.

M. E. Grand High Priest, John V. Ellis, in the chair.

The Grand High Priest intimated in his address that he had yielded to the kindness of his Companions, by accepting office for the sixth time, but he had done so against his judgment; he thought it not to the interest of our association to continue any executive officer too long in one position. He positively declined re-election.

His official acts had been few. He had issued two dispensations—one to enable a Chapter to confer the degrees upon candidates resident in jurisdiction of another Chapter. The latter Chapter had declined to grant permission for said first named Chapter to confer the degrees, but, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, the Grand High Priest had felt justified in using his authority to overrule the objection mentioned above, and allow the degrees to be conferred by the Chapter asking said permission.

The other dispensation was for election and installation at other than the regular time.

The Grand High Priest feelingly remembered the fraternal dead.

He recommended recognition of the Grand Chapter of New Zealand.

The Grand Chapter of Scotland had not yet responded to the request for interchange of representatives. While this was not, perhaps, a matter of much importance, still he greatly regretted that the Grand Chapter of Scotland had failed to pay attention to this request for friendly relations.

The committee on the address, admitting the force of the Grand High Priest's words in reference to continuing one Companion in the same executive position for several years, still desired to say that the Grand Chapter had been fortunate in having at its head, so long a time, "one so capable of filling the position, and so energetic in matters appertaining to the Craft;" at the same time congratulated the Grand High Priest on the success of his administration. The committee approved his official acts, as well as his recommendation that recognition be accorded to New Zealand.

By resolution offered and adopted, such recognition was extended to the Grand Chapter of New Zealand.

The Executive Committee found the books and accounts, with vouchers, of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer O. K. Balance on hand and receipts amounted to \$461.19. Expenditures, \$127.32. Balance on special deposit and cash on hand, \$333.87.

The committee congratulated the Grand Chapter on the very satisfactory condition of its finances, and the care taken in the accounts.

No report on correspondence.

M. : E. : Grand High Priest, John A. Watson.

R. : E. : Grand Secretary, William B. Wallace.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—80TH ANNUAL, CONCORD, MAY, 1899.

25 Chapters on roll, all making returns. Membership, 3,594; net increase, 26.

M. : E. : Grand High Priest, Companion C. H. Webster.

Grand Representatives of twenty-four Foreign Jurisdictions were present at the opening.

The Grand High Priest made, in his address, the gratifying statement that peace and harmony had continued in the jurisdiction, and the Chapters had experienced a healthy growth.

Under the heading, Necrology, he paid fitting tribute to the memory of P. G. H. P. Edward Gustine, and the four other departed Companions of the N. H. Jurisdiction.

He had granted but one dispensation, and that was for the purpose of enabling a Chapter to hold public installation of officers.

That he reported no decisions, seems to indicate familiarity with the Regulations, on the part of the constituent Chapters. Only a few questions were asked of him, and those were clearly answered by the Regulations of the Grand Chapter.

His visitations were very agreeable and satisfactory.

He suggested that, by a resolution, or an amendment to the Regulations, the attention of the subordinate Chapters be directed to the importance of procuring Books of Marks. In many of the Chapters such books are not well kept up.

This is no trifling matter. At the last Alabama convocation, Grand Secretary H. Clay Armstrong made an earnest appeal to his Companions on the same subject, setting in strong light the benefits which had, in several instances, accrued from the use of the Mark under trying circumstances.

The Committee on Finance made report that on examination the following statements of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer were found correct: Receipts of the Grand Secretary, \$1,045.25; receipts of Grand Treasurer, including balance as per last report, \$1,428.69; disbursements, \$1,045.54; leaving balance in hand, \$383.15. Concurred in.

The suggestion of the Grand High Priest as to the subject of "Books of Marks" having been referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, that committee asked for further time to consider the same. Granted.

CORRESPONDENCE.

M. E. Companion Albert S. Wait, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, submitted his report, presenting a review of the proceedings of forty-nine Grand Chapters (six for two years). That his reports are, always, not only dignified and courteous, but also of marked ability, goes without saying.

Alabama-1898 received most fraternal consideration: We can but glance at this well-written report.

Under Arkansas-1898, denying the necessity of the actual presence of the charter, he said:

"We have often expressed the belief that the doctrine is supported neither by logic nor law."

Candor compels us to state that we do not agree with Companion Wait on this point.

Under Canada, 1899, he ably defends his consistency in objecting to recognition of bodies of O. E. S., as so far, Masonic as to admit them bodily into our R. A. Chapters.

He does not (Delaware, 1899), with Comp. Pearson, of Illinois, brand "dependent membership" with the term, *modern fad*, but stands "on that side of the fence."

As for ourselves, we stand squarely with Companion Harrison, of Delaware, for the doctrine of dependent membership.

As to the imputation of its being newly fledged, we ask, for information, how long it has been the case that, in England, an application for a Charter, or Warrant for a new Chapter, must contain the words, "to be attached to Lodge No.—."

As to courtesies to the O. E. S., the only difference between Companion Wait and us, is that we object to the use of our Masonic halls by any non-Masonic organization under the sun.

Companion Wait does not himself, assert that the custom, sometimes prevalent, of instructing a Companion to cast the vote of the Grand Chapter, is un-Masonic, but quotes the Grand High Priest of Missouri, as so deciding. (Missouri, 1898.)

Now will some kind Companion point out the specific un-Masonic quality of such usage?

A general charge is easy to make; but let us have the specifications.

Grand Council received six accessions. The Recorder reported the present membership as one hundred forty-seven.

These Proceedings are admirably printed.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Chas. H. Webster.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Geo. P. Cleaves.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—81ST ANNUAL; CONCORD, MAY, 1900.

Chapters on roll, 25; making returns, 25; membership, 3,646; net increase, 52.

A special convocation had been held at Nashua in February, for the purpose of exemplifying the degrees.

At the annual convocation opened May 15th, M. E. Grand High Priest, Chas. H. Webster, sat in the oriental chair. With a quorum of delegates from the constituent Chapters there were present eleven Past Grand Officers and representatives of thirty Grand Jurisdictions. Alabama does not appear on the roll of Grand Chapters having representatives near the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.

The M. E. did not in his address forget those who "have gone before."

He had made a number of visitations with undoubted good results.

He had mailed a letter to each High Priest in the Jurisdiction calling especial attention to Section 40 and Section 43 of the regulations. Section 40 is as follows:

"Every High Priest shall see that the degrees are conferred with full ceremonies, without additions, and in due solemnity, avoiding all trifling and levity, and he shall be held responsible for the conduct of his Chapter on all such occasions."

Section 43 reads thus:

"Every High Priest in conferring the degree of Past Master, shall restrict the same to the narrowest Constitutional limit, &c."

In said "letter," was included the following:

"The objectionable features introduced in conferring certain degrees in some of the Chapters, *must* be omitted as they will be no longer tolerated by the Grand Chapter, and it is hereby ordered that this be done, also that all material or paraphernalia now or heretofore in use in your Chapter, which if used, may be dangerous to life or limb, shall be immediately removed from the Masonic apartments, and be no longer used."

"Nothing herein is intended to refer to the historical or explanatory lecture of the Prin. Soj. in the R. A. Degree."

Elimination of fun-making will surely dignify the work of the Royal Craft.

Visiting Chapters for several years had led the Grand High Priest to believe that a Lecturer should be added to the list of officers of the Grand Chapter. He thought that, if special convocations for exemplifying the work were continued, as he hoped they would be, such an officer would be needed.

The Committee on Doings of Grand Officers reporting on this suggestion of the Grand High Priest was "not prepared to

recommend the present establishment of the office of Grand Lecturer, and recommended that the subject be indefinitely postponed." Grand Chapter concurred in the report of the committee.

The Grand High Priest favored appropriation of a sum sufficient to defray the expenses of a representative to the next Triennial of the General Grand Chapter, if the state of the finances warranted the same.

He also suggested that the Finance Committee consider the advisability of raising the per capita tax for a year or two, the large expenditures, a few years since, having left the treasury in such a condition as, at times, afforded hardly money enough to meet the necessary bills.

The reports of the D. G. H. P., G. K. and G. S. were not at all discouraging.

The funds in the hands of the Grand Treasurer amounted to \$1,445.71, of which he disbursed \$1,215.36.

Finance Committee recommended that the dues per capita be increased to 35c. for the next two years. Concurred in.

The Committee on Jurisprudence made an excellent report on the subject of "marks," and recommended the adoption of the following addition to the Regulations:

"Each Chapter shall also have a suitable Lodge Book of Marks, in which shall be recorded the mark of each member."

"Every Mark Master Mason attached to a Chapter under this Jurisdiction must, before being exalted to the R. A. degree, select his mark and have the same recorded in the Book of Marks kept by the Chapter for that purpose. Every candidate for membership must exhibit his mark to the Chapter and have the same recorded before being permitted to sign the by-laws." Under the rules this recommendation had to go over to the next annual convocation for adoption. The report of the committee was concurred in.

This is substantially the action in respect of marks taken by the Grand Chapter of Alabama at its last annual convocation.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The one word, admirable, best expresses our opinion of the manner in which Past Grand High Priest, Companion Albert S. Wait, chairman of the F. C. Committee, has discharged his duty as correspondent. His report is a review of the proceedings of forty-two Grand Chapters (three of them for two years,)

and embraces within the compass of ninety-five pages a vast deal of good reading. Alabama is treated most courteously. The reviewer says:

"The report of the Grand Secretary, Companion H. Clay Armstrong, P. G. H. P., is an interesting paper."

He refers, approvingly, we opine, to Companion Armstrong's resolutions on the subject of marks.

He also says:

"We regret to find that our proceedings are not among the number reviewed. Companion Titcomb succeeds in that work the lamented Companion Pillans, and his paper gives assurance that the work of the foreign correspondence of our Companions of Alabama is by no means assuming a lower standard by the removal of that able and accomplished Companion."

We unite with Companion Wait in the regret that the New Hampshire proceedings were not before us at the making up of our last report.

The exceedingly kind compliment paid us in our New Hampshire Companion's concluding sentence should stimulate us to strenuous endeavor to merit such high commendation. We make our profoundest bow to you, Companion Wait.

The council of the Order of High Priesthood received seven accessions.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Franklin A. Rawson.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Frank D. Woodbury.

NEW JERSEY—44TH ANNUAL, TRENTON, MAY 1900.

Number of Chapters, 38; number of members, 3,483.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Levi G. Bliss in the Chair.

Present—besides a Constitutional number of delegates—thirteen Past Grand Officers and Representatives of thirty Grand Chapters, among them R. E. Companion Frederic G. Wiese for Alabama.

The Grand High Priest's address was strictly a business paper. He paid fitting tribute of respect to the memory of Companions "gone before." He had granted but few dispensations. No decisions were submitted.

A number of applications for certificates to replace lost dimits, had been received. Some of the lost dimits had been granted

ten years prior to application for certificates, and some from ten to thirty years before said applications were made. The Grand High Priest was led to believe that, in view of these facts, the applicants had very little love for Capitular Masonry. He recommended that action relative thereto be taken by the Grand Chapter at this Convocation.

The matter was subsequently referred to the Committee on Constitutions which reported on the subject as follows:

"The matter is one of such grave importance that we deem it expedient to let the same go over till the next annual Convocation, so that sufficient time shall be given to its consideration."

Adopted.

Those Companions who had suffered so many years to pass in silence must have been impelled by some selfish motives to seek re-habilitation. The Royal Craft could "get on" without them.

From the Grand Secretary's report it appears that receipts amounted to \$1,825.00.

The Grand Trustees reported total sum standing to the credit of the Grand Chapter \$3,774.90.

A pleasing episode in the day's proceedings was the presentation of a testimonial to the accomplished and efficient Grand Secretary, Companion Geo. B. Edwards. The gift was a silver loving cup together with an oak chest containing eighty-four pieces of silver table-ware, all evidencing the high appreciation of Grand Secretary Edwards entertained by his companions.

The Committee on Charity, the Committee on Warrants and Dispensations and the Committee on Constitutions severally reported that nothing had come before them for consideration. Reports concurred in. The last named Committee deemed it fit to add a word to the feeling and impressive remarks of the Grand High Priest on the death of Past Grand High Priest James H. Durand, late Chairman of said Committee, and concluding, said:

"We were all jealous of his esteem, for he was the embodiment of the highest type of a Mason, and because of his charming personality. His was a character—free, broad, rich—which should be our inheritance, and we bring this tribute to his memory simply because no heart can resist the emotion."

The Committee on Memorials made suitable report embalming the memory of Past Grand High Priest, James H. Durand. Adopted.

A supplemental report of the Committee on Constitutions concerning the matter of replacing lost dimits with certificates, has already been noticed.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence recognition was extended to the Grand Chapter of New Mexico.

It is sufficient to say of the report of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances, that the Grand Chapter sustained the Committee's recommendation.

Thirteen High Priests were elected and anointed by the Grand Council of High Priesthood.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence, submitted by Past Grand High Priest, Charles Belcher, one of the Committee, embraces a review of the proceedings of fifty-one Grand Bodies (one for three years) and makes ninety-six printed pages. Alabama—1899. receives a fraternal, two-page notice.

Companion Belcher says about the introduction of our last report:

"His introduction is redolent of humility, and, to ward off censure and criticism, he invites his confreres to pitch in, well knowing that the invitation will disarm them; we are in the same boat and appreciate the situation."

Well! well! Companion B. confidently asserts that our "invitation" to criticise us, "will disarm" the knights of the quill, but instantly proves the fallacy of his own assertion by smiting us "hip and thigh," he imputes to us motives which are the offspring of his own brain. Take care, Companion, if you "are in the same boat" with us, lest you so rock the frail bark as to give us both a ducking.

Seriously, however, we do not mind being *hazed* at the outset—or later on as to that matter, and thank Companion Belcher for his kind conclusion, in which he says:

"Like all good things this report has an ending, and we have reached it with regret for it has been pleasant reading."

Having already ventilated our notion about gratuitous degrees for ministers, we may be pardoned for silence on that subject now.

We frankly confess our error in estimating the comparative numerical strength of St. John's Chapter and thank Companion B. for his correction. We did not have statistical tables before us at the time.

M. : E. : Grand High Priest, George C. Woolson.

R. : E. : Grand Secretary, George B. Edwards.

NEW MEXICO.—1ST AND 2ND ANNUAL, ALBUQUERQUE,
OCTOBER, 1898 AND 1899.

Chartered Chapters, 8; U. D. Chapter, 1; Membership, 405.

Our Companions of New Mexico are to be congratulated on the complete success which has resulted from their earnest and faithful efforts to secure the establishment of a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. Their Grand Chapter has now fairly begun a career which will, it is trusted and believed, reflect lustre on the Masonry of New Mexico.

The first annual was held October 3d, 1898.

By virtue of authority from M. : E. : General Grand High Priest, Reuben C. Lemmon, Companion William Henry Seamon was installed first Grand High Priest, and Companion John W. Poe as first Deputy Grand High Priest. These two and the other Grand Officers having been installed, proclamation was made that the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Mexico was duly constituted and organized. No further business appearing, Grand Chapter was closed in Ample Form.

At the Second Annual October 4th, 1899, all the constituent chapters save one were represented.

M. : E. : Grand High Priest, Wm. H. Seamon in the Chair.

His address is highly interesting paper, which evinces much research.

From the report of the Grand Secretary and that of the Grand Treasurer we learn that the receipts were \$350.00; and the disbursements \$6.05, leaving balance on hand \$349.95.

A Charter was granted to the Chapter U. D. Of the eight previously chartered Chapters the largest membership is 93, the smallest, 23, and the average number to the Chapter 50.6. By the way a fine average for a sparsely populated country.

The Grand Chapter dues are 50 cents a head, while the tax on each exaltation is \$3.00.

The ritual of the General Grand Chapter, in the opinion of

Companion Seamon, is commendable in many respects, objectionable in some, but, on the whole, he thought Grand Chapter would act wisely to adopt it for the sake of uniformity.

Adopted.

Peace and harmony prevailed from opening to close of this Convocation.

M. E. Grand High Priest, John W. Poe.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Alpheus A. Keen.

NEW YORK—103D ANNUAL; ALBANY, FEBRUARY, 1900.

Chartered Chapters, 188; members, 21,223.

February 6th, in the city of Albany, M. E. Comp. John W. Palmer, Grand High Priest, opened the Grand Chapter in presence of delegates from 182 Chapters, twelve permanent members, and forty Grand Representatives, including R. E. P. Frederic Lenhart for Alabama.

The wisdom of the following resolution adopted at the opening, is beyond question:

“Resolved, That Royal Arch Masons in good standing be admitted to Grand Chapter during this annual convocation except during the election of Grand Officers.”

The Grand High Priest's address filling forty pages, merited the close attention of the assembled Companions. From his wise counsels, if heeded, much good should result. The subject of necrology took up more than nine pages to record the demise of Companions—domestic and foreign.

In recognition of the necessity of a great deal of correspondence in the matter of waiver of Jurisdiction, the Grand High Priest suggests that such correspondence should in the future be transmitted through the representatives of the sister Grand Jurisdictions resident near the Grand Chapter, which would dignify that position and greatly relieve the G. H. P. of a volume of correspondence. Another good suggestion was: That failure of Grand Representatives to attend three consecutive convocations should cause notice of same to be sent to the jurisdictions represented (or, rather unrepresented) with request to appoint, on nomination by the G. H. P., new companions for such positions.

Announcement was made of the appointment of Grand Rep-

representatives near the Grand Chapters of New South Wales and Victoria.

None of the seventeen dispensations granted were for conferring degrees out of time.

The few decisions submitted are so manifestly in accordance with law and usage universally recognized that it is not worth while to copy in detail.

One decision was in response to a question like the following:

"A brother having been proposed and elected to receive the degrees in a Chapter, can he be proposed, elected and receive the degrees in another Chapter, without asking permission of the Chapter in which he was first proposed and elected?"

"I decided--That a Chapter does not acquire jurisdiction over a candidate by a favorable ballot upon his petition for the degrees."

The third decision was to the effect that the High Priest of a Chapter should be the Judge of the candidate's qualifications under the law. It was in answer to the inquiry: "Would a Master Mason having lost his limb below the knee, he thereby disqualified for the Chapter degrees?"

None of the Grand High Priest's decisions were disapproved by the Jurisprudence Committee.

One new Chapter was duly constituted, and special dispensations were granted to organize two new Chapters U. D., and the material being found good, and due proficiency on the part of these Chapters, having been shown, it was recommended that, in each case, a warrant of constitution be granted.

The G. H. P. made forty-nine official Visitations, honorable to himself and profitable to the Royal Craft.

On two occasions the Grand Council of Anointed High Priests was convened to confer the Order on High Priest named in the Warrant. Again, Jan. 31st, 1900, Grand Council was convened and twenty-two Companions were duly anointed, consecrated and solemnly set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

The Grand Treasurer's report shows total receipts as \$18,359.10, and disbursements \$12,340.62, leaving balance cash on hand \$6,018.48.

The total funds of Grand Chapter consist of cash on deposit, and stock in Albany City Bank, \$8,018.48.

From some interesting statistics found in the Grand Secretary's excellent report we extract the following:

"Of the present number of Chartered Chapters (188) 48 have a membership of 50 or less; 63, from 50 to 100 members; 40, from 100 to 150; 16, from 250 to 200; 7, from 200 to 250; 2, from 250 to 300; 3, from 300 to 350; 5, from 350 to 400. One Chapter has a membership of 414, one of 474, one of 547, and one of 719. The smallest number reported by any Chapter is 20."

"The returns for the year," says the Grand Secretary, "furnish conclusive evidence of returning prosperity general throughout the Jurisdiction * * *."

The committee on John L. Lewis' monument made final report on the same, and the report was received and the recommendations referred to standing committee on Finance and Accounts.

That committee approved the recommendations of the Monument Committee. Adopted.

The design for the monument to P. G. H. P. Lewis, was for a memorial shaft of Barre granite, dim gray in color, and hammer finished. The monument is thirty-three feet high and eight feet square at the base. The cut of the shaft, which appears in these proceedings, presents an excellent piece of work.

Committee on Chapters recommended that warrants be granted to the two Chapters U. D. as urged by the Grand High Priest.

Great pleasure was expressed by the Committee on Appeals and Grievances at having no cases to report on.

The address of Grand Chaplain, the Rev. James Byron Murray on "The Less Noticed Things Of Free Masonry" was eloquent and most instructive. To make brief extracts therefrom, would do the orator sheer injustice; hence we forbear.

The Committee on Memorials make a touchingly beautiful report on departed Companions. Scant space precludes copying it in this paper.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on Correspondence submitted by Comp. George J. Gardner, Chairman of F. C. Committee, is a review of fifty-three Grand Bodies, and covers one hundred and thirty-three pages. This fine report, if attentively read, will richly repay the reader.

Alabama—1898 receives a truly fraternal notice of about two pages.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Joseph A. Crane.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Christopher G. Fox.

NEW SOUTH WALES—QUARTERLY CONVOCATIONS, SYDNEY, AUG., AND NOV., 1899.

We are in receipt of proceedings of the Quarterly Convocations, Aug., and Nov., 1899, of the Supreme Grand Chapter, R. A. M., of New South Wales.

M. E. Grand Z., Alfred Rafe, in the Chair. Representatives of twelve Grand Chapters were present.

The Grand Committee of General Purposes, reported that Florida had accorded recognition to Grand Chapter of New South Wales, and recommended a Companion to represent "The Land of Flowers", in N. S. W. Grand Chapter.

The Constitution of the United Grand Lodge, of that Territory, having lately been revised, the Committee submitted certain changes in the Royal Arch Regulations, to fit the new order of things.

Fraternal Correspondence and Reports of Proceedings had been received during the quarter, from Grand Chapters of England, Arkansas, California, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Montana, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota and Washington. Report of the Committee adopted.

The Grand Treasurer's statement of receipts, for year ending 31st Aug., 1899, gave as the amount \$442.30.

Assets of Grand Chapter amount to \$1,750.00, and liabilities, to \$644.00.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.

The Half yearly Communication of this Grand Body was held in Sydney, 22nd November, 1899.

M. W. Grand Master, Alfred Rafe.

V. W. Grand Secretary, Alf. J. Burbidge.

Proceedings were brief and of local interest, mainly. Fraternal relations were established with the Grand Orient of Italy.

NORTH CAROLINA—52ND ANNUAL, CHARLOTTE, JUNE,
1900.

Chapters, 19; Members, 787.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion William R. Randolph, presided. Five Past Grand Officers were present at the opening of Grand Chapter.

In his address the Grand High Priest, reporting the dead among Companions, presented his circular letter announcing the demise of Past Deputy Grand High Priest, Robert Brank Vance—"a tribute to the closing of a noble life."

The M. E. reported gratifying indications of reviving interest in the Capitular ranks, "largely the result of the painstaking efforts of Grand Secretary Munson."

He had granted a few dispensations for various purposes, seven of them being permissions to ballot on petitions without awaiting the constitutional time. One, for good reasons, was refused.

The Grand High Priest renewed the recommendation of his predecessor that an increase be made in the per capita dues of Subordinate Chapters, intimating that immediate provision for meeting necessary expenses was imperative.

Among the good results to flow from such action by his Grand Chapter, not the least would be the assurance that the valuable reports on Correspondence, by Companion Southgate, would not suffer further interruption on account of a depleted treasury.

The Grand Lecturer's report gives promise of much improvement in capitular Masonry.

The Grand Treasurer reported receipts as \$496.50 and disbursements as \$238.00.

Without doubt, Grand Secretary Munson is the very man for the responsible position which he holds; his reports evince the greatest painstaking and care.

He realizes that he has passed the age usually allotted to man, and thinks a younger person could and would serve the Grand Chapter better than himself, as Grand Secretary, still, we are glad the Grand Chapter did not agree with him on that point.

We, too, have reached three score and thirteen years, but do not adequately realize that we are in the "sere and yellow." Let us work on, Companion, trusting "the Ruler with His skies."

The Grand Lecturer made a second report, part of which was in reply to a letter from the Grand High Priest, in relation to the

charge that, Chapter No. —, had received members at *reduced rates*. In this report the Grand Lecturer undertakes to defend said Chapter on the ground, as he understood the case, that full fees were received and afterwards, in part, donated to the members in question, stating also that the Chapter was under the impression that it had the right to do as it pleased with *its own money*. He trusted that no more would be said about it, thought that would be best.

We shall presently see what the Law Committee had to say about the matter.

Committee on Necrology recommended that a memorial page be set apart in the Journal of Proceedings for the names of the fraternal dead. Adopted.

Committee on Jurisprudence approved the several dispensations of the Grand High Priest.

The Committee further reported as follows:

"It having come to the knowledge of this Grand Chapter, that some of the Subordinate Chapters have been conferring the Degrees for less than the stated sum, twenty dollars, your Committee is of the opinion that any Chapter, so violating the law, as plainly expressed in Article —, Section —, of our Constitution, should have its Charter arrested, and the Grand High Priest is hereby requested to take cognizance of any such flagrant violation of the law and apply the penalty. The law does not contemplate a return of any portion of the regular fee, and this custom is hereby prohibited by this Grand Chapter."

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances had nothing to report. Accepted.

The recommendation of the Grand High Priest as to increase of dues to the Grand Chapter, was referred to the Finance Committee, but diligent search for the Committee's report on that recommendation, has gone unrewarded. Possibly the Committee pigeon-holed the matter.

There was another recommendation of the M. E. which, as it seems, escaped notice, viz: the taking of such steps as are necessary to confer the Order of High Priesthood on those entitled to receive the same.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on Correspondence was, after an interregnum of one year, again submitted by Past Grand High Priest, Compan-

ion James Southgate, Chairman of the Committee, in an exceedingly good review of the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Chapters, covering one hundred thirty-five pages.

Alabama, 1899, is accorded the kindest consideration. Companion H. Clay Armstrong's report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Alabama, is pronounced "most exhaustive." Companion Southgate thinks the utility of "marks" extremely doubtful, but raises no objection to their use by those who esteem them valuable.

He favors the report on Correspondence, by this scribe, with a kind, complimentary and somewhat extended notice, for which we tender our respectful acknowledgements.

We are pleased to see, under "Rhode Island," that he coincides with Companion Rugg, in support of the decision of Grand High Priest Josiah Jernigan, on physical qualifications, adopted by the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

Companion Southgate's conclusion to his able report is happily conceived and well expressed.

M. E. Grand High Priest, James K. Norfleet

R. E. Grand Secretary, Horace H. Munson.

NORTH DAKOTA—11TH ANNUAL, FARGO, JUNE 1900.

Number of Chapters, 13; members, 1004; net gain 79.

M. E. George L. McGregor, Grand High Priest.

Besides the Grand Officers there were present—four Past Grand Officers, a constitutional number of delegates from the constituent Chapters, and Grand Representatives of thirteen Grand Jurisdictions, not including Alabama.

In his address the Grand High Priest gave utterance to the following words of cheer:

"We have every reason to congratulate each other that we meet under such favorable circumstances as seems to be our privilege at this time. The field of labor in Capitular Masonry during the past year, in this Jurisdiction, has been an active one. Our growth in numbers has been the largest in the history of this Grand Chapter. Our finances are in good condition; all the officers of Grand Chapter have been given health and prosperity during the year. No word of discord or dissension has come to me during the year, but perfect harmony seems to exist throughout the entire Jurisdiction and the most cordial relations are maintained with our sister Jurisdictions."

Three dispensations had been granted for reasons deemed good and sufficient.

The Grand High Priest facetiously stated that no questions requiring adjudication by the Grand High Priest, having appeared, the Committee on Jurisprudence would not have the pleasure of reversing him in having made any wrong decision.

The Grand Treasurer reported total receipts for the year, with balance on hand—\$2,570.63. After all disbursements, balance in his hands, June 21st, 1900, \$1,650.50.

It was, doubtless, a great satisfaction to the Grand Secretary to be able to report that all the Annual Returns of the Subordinate Chapters, with fees, came in on time.

No dispensations had been issued for new Chapters during the year. The Grand Secretary thought that no wiser act could be done by Grand Chapter than to make provision for visitations of a Grand Lecturer to all of the Chapters in the State. Report adopted.

The Grand Chapter made provision for visitations, by Grand Lecturer, to all the Chapters.

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported that nothing had come before it for consideration. Adopted.

No report on Correspondence.

M. : E. : Grand High Priest, DeWitt C. Moore.

R. : E. : Grand Secretary, Frank J. Thompson.

NOVA SCOTIA—30TH ANNUAL, ANNAPOLIS, JUNE, 1899.

Number of Chapters, 14; present membership, 715; loss, 25.

There were nine Chapters represented. Fifteen Foreign Grand Chapters were represented at the opening. Eleven visitors received masonic welcome.

Cheered by the presence of twenty-nine Past Grand officers, M. : E. : Grand High Priest, Comp. Thomas Treneman, opened the Grand Chapter in Ample Form.

In his address the Grand High Priest made satisfactory report of his several visitations, showing that the fires were burning bright on most of those Masonic Altars.

He had issued twelve dispensations—eight of them for conferring R. A. degree on one candidate—two substitutes in each instance—

The following two decisions were submitted:

"1st, It is competent for a Companion to select as his own the mark of a deceased Companion."

"2nd, Companion B. having announced in open Chapter that since the date of Brother A's election to the Chapter something had transpired, for which, had it happened before the ballot was taken, he Comp. B. would have black-balled A. Held, that it is the duty of Companion B. to prefer charges against Brother A. Said charges will be fully investigated by the Chapter, Brother A. having opportunity to defend himself."

Committee on Grand High Priest's address was in full accord with him, approving his dispensations and decisions—in a word, endorsing all his official acts. Adopted.

Companions commissioned by him to visit Prince Edward Island, New Foundland, and Cape Breton, made encouraging reports from those provincial Chapters—more correctly speaking—from those Chapters associated with the N. S. Chapters under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia.

Grand Secretary's accounts showed receipts for the year to be \$257.75.

Grand Treasurer reported balance on hand, as per last report, \$251.82, cash from Grand Secretary \$257.75—total 509.07.

Grand Secretary regretted having cause to complain that some Secretaries of subordinate Chapters were tardy in sending up returns.

Board of General Purposes recommended that the *per capita* tax be raised to fifty cents. Hitherto it has been, if we mistake not, twenty-five cents.

CORRESPONDENCE.

R. . E. . Companion, P. A. Cossmann, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, submitted his report in which he reviewed the proceedings of forty-eight Grand Chapters, presenting in the compass of thirty pages a very full synopsis of the transactions of Foreign Jurisdictions.

Companion Cossman will please accept our acknowledgement of his courteous and brotherly notice of "Alabama—1898."

M. . E. . Grand High Priest, Geo. M. Doull.

R. . E. . Grand Secretary, D. H. Campbell.

OHIO.—83D ANNUAL—CLEVELAND, SEPTEMBER, 1899.

Chapters, 149; Membership, 15,512; Net Increase, 373; Receipts for year, \$5,773.49; Expenditures, \$7,153.56; Donation to Masonic Home, \$500.00.

M.: E.: Comp. G. H. Robinson, P. G. H. P., in the Chair:

A committee of five received and introduced the M.: E.: Grand High Priest and the other elected officers; then the Grand High Priest, M.: E.: Brenton D. Babcock, appointed and installed the remaining Grand Officers, and the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of the State of Ohio was duly at labor after having been opened in Ample Form by the M.: E.: G. H. P.

Present, as Permanent Members, all the living Past Grand High Priests, twelve in number; also present, representatives of all the one hundred forty-nine active chapters.

In his address the Grand High Priest fittingly mentioned the fraternal dead of his own Jurisdiction, and of Foreign Grand Chapters, referring impressively to those two Ohio Masons who have gone up higher—"the old masonic war horse, Enoch T. Carson, and Past Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary, Charles C. Kiefer.

He had granted a dispensation for the removal of a Chapter from its (then) present location to most desirable quarters in the new and beautiful Masonic Temple erected in the same town.

The decisions submitted were five in number. They would interest our readers, but we must confine ourselves to reproducing but one or two of them:

"A High Priest writes:

Dear Sir and Companion—I would like a little information in regard to Chapter rules. In this case a Companion brought in a Brother's petition, a committee was appointed, and one Companion reports favorable and one not favorable, the third did not report? Was this a majority report? Did the Companion bringing in the petition have the right to withdraw same after Secretary had read the report? Some Companions contended he had, others, not.

'In view of the controversy I laid the petition over till the next meeting, when the same state of affairs existed as before. Had the third Companion the right to report at the last meeting? He did so, and I allowed the ballot to proceed, when the candidate was rejected. Was the proceeding legal or illegal? If illegal should the proceedings be stricken from the minutes, and wherein did I err, if at all?"

"To which I replied as follows:

My Dear Sir and Excellent Companion—I am in receipt of your favor of the 3d instant, and in reply to your inquiries answer as follows:

First—A report made to a Chapter by two members of a committee of three on a petition for degrees or membership is a majority report, although one may report favorable and the other unfavorable.

Second—A majority report of a committee on a petition for degrees or membership having been made to a Chapter, the petition can not then be withdrawn except by an affirmative vote of at least three-fourths of the members present. (See Rule 26)

Third—After a majority report of a committee on a petition for degrees or membership has been made to the Chapter, the High Priest may order a ballot at once, or he may postpone further action on such petition until the next regular convocation of the Chapter if he believes there is good cause for such action.

Fourth—A member of a committee on a petition for degrees or membership has a right to report to the Chapter at any time previous to the ballot.

Fifth—The proceedings as reported in your letter to me were legal."

To our feeble comprehension this decision of the Grand High Priest appears to be eminently just. Even though the views of the two members reporting are divergent—opposite, if any please—a report is, surely, therein had from two-thirds of the membership of the committee. The law does not say that two of the committee shall be of the same opinion on the merits of the case before a report can be made.

Another decision was the following:

"*Held*—That a Chapter cannot be legally opened by nine R. A. Masons, one of them acting as Grand. Nine regular Royal Arch Masons must be on the floor filling the respective offices."

In our humble opinion that is unquestionable.

According to the Grand Treasurer's report, the balance on hand, and amounts received during the year were in the sum of \$20,193.87. Balance after all disbursements, Sept. 27th, 1899, amounted to \$10,494.99.

The Committee on Capitular Jurisprudence made report on a plan of Uniform Code of By-Laws, which was adopted. We can not spare space for insertion of the same in this report.

The same committee, to which the address of the Grand High Priest, in respect of the decisions submitted, had been referred, offered the following resolution in regard thereto:

"Resolved, That the decisions of the Grand High Priest, as

presented in the annual address, be, and the same are hereby approved and confirmed."

Reporting on the subject of "Life and Veteran Membership," the same committee did not favor any cast-iron legislation inhibiting the practice, on the part of constituent Chapters, of thus providing for members who had borne the burden and heat of the day, but recommended that, in the exercise of such privilege the greatest care should be taken: further, that no By-Law to such effect should be valid until approved by the Grand Chapter. Adopted.

In the earnest and excellent report of the Committee on Charities we note a few statistics of general interest: "the *total sum* paid out by other Jurisdictions heard from, to objects of charity during the past year was \$2,040 00. Missouri reports having contributed to its Masonic Home during the past five years, \$10,000.00. New York has contributed in all up to date, \$37,500.00. Neither of these makes yearly donations for the support of the inmates of these homes. Pennsylvania gives \$500.00 a year, and Illinois gives from \$500.00 to \$1,000 00 a year.

"This, in brief, is the charity work done by sister jurisdictions. This grand commonwealth of Ohio gives to charity more than \$3,000 00 a year. It conceived the Home in Springfield, which today is a shelter for the orphan, an asylum for the indigent and the distressed, and the pride of the Mason everywhere."

"Elijah found the poor woman with but little meal and only a cruse of oil, but from that little store she fed God's poor, and the oil never gave out. The Grand Chapter of Ohio inaugurated this plan to help God's poor. Other powerful helps responded. The work goes on. Each year this Grand old Body gives from her revenues and the Lord blesses her with an abundance. Good fellowship and harmony prevail, and today the Grand chapter of Ohio is richer, stronger and more useful than ever."

The report closes with an eloquently touching appeal on behalf of the orphan. Report accepted and ordered printed with the minutes.

The total of amounts contributed by the Grand Bodies—Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery—to Masonic Home was \$102,743 21.

The magnitude of that benevolent enterprise, the Home, may be judged by the amount of total average, monthly, disbursements for its maintenance—it is \$2,319.38.

The Committee on Necrology made a report which is of great value to friends of the departed Companion.

The Grand Council received forty-four accessions—an unusual large number.

The officers of Grand Council are all good-looking men.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on correspondence submitted by the Chairman of the F. C. Committee, Companion S. Stokes Williams, embraces a review of proceedings of fifty-seven Grand Chapters. A perusal of this report will satisfy anybody that it is a paper of marked ability.

The introduction consists of a carefully prepared History of Capitular Masonry in the Northwest.

Alabama—1898, receives courteous attention in a notice covering a page and a half. The reviewer copies from Grand High Priest Josiah Jernigan's address the beautiful tribute paid to our departed Companion, P. J. Pillans.

Alluding to our admission of ministers into the Chapter, free of charge, he sides with M. E. Comp. V. V. Harrison of Delaware, who can see no reason why ministers should receive the degrees for nothing, while others must "go down into their pockets" for the privilege.

Elsewhere our own views of the matter have been stated; so remark is, here, unnecessary.

Under "Delaware" he quotes Comp. Harrison's objection to the practice of conferring the degrees on ministers gratuitously; also, notes that correspondent's commendation of Comp. Jernigan's decision on physical qualifications of candidates.

M. E. Grand High Priest, O. P. Sperra.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Edwin Hagenbuch.

OREGON—40TH ANNUAL, PORTLAND, JUNE, 1900.

No. of Chapters, 25; members, i. g. s., 1,401; net gain, 111.

M. E. Grand High Priest, in the chair, Comp. W. T. Wright. Present, eleven Past Grand Officers, and ten Representatives of other Grand Chapters. Alabama was not "in it."

In his address the Grand High Priest, congratulated the Com-

panions on the general prosperity and harmony which have subsisted in the Jurisdiction during the past year. He referred to the very substantial gain in membership, stating that "the Chapters had worked earnestly and well, and had taken in good material."

The M. V. E. V. made touching allusion to the death of the following Companions: Past Grand High Priest, W. C. Crawford; the eminent chairman of important committees, Robert Clow; and that distinguished Mason, Thomas C. Reames; also submitted a list of the fraternal dead in the Oregon Jurisdiction and in other Grand Chapters.

We note that, of the eleven dispensations reported, five were to confer degrees upon one candidate.

Well! If there may be one "substitute," why not two? According to our crude way of thinking, it is just a little farcical to have *any* substitute in Capitular work.

The following decisions were submitted:

"A chapter has no right to confer, gratis, the degrees upon a worthy brother too poor to pay the fees as required by the Regulations."

"A subordinate chapter may, by amendment of its by-laws, elect the High Priest, King, Scribe, Captain of the Host, Treasurer and Secretary, leaving all the other officers to be appointed by the High Priest."

It is shown by the report of the Grand Treasurer, that balance on hand and receipts from Grand Secretary, amounted to \$3,075.-92, the Grand Secretary's receipts for the year having been \$1,204 50.

The Grand Librarian reported that, during the year, there were few accessions to the library outside of the proceedings of other Jurisdictions. The library contained unbound proceedings enough to make, when bound, about one hundred volumes: he asked an appropriation to cover expense of binding the same. Appropriation made.

The Committee on Jurisprudence recommended the decisions submitted by the Grand High Priest for approval, as in accordance with the law and usage of the Royal Craft. Concurred in by the Grand Chapter.

The Grievance and Appeals Committee had no case to report upon. Report accepted.

Again we say it is pleasant to see so many Grievance Commit-

tees reporting themselves out of a job. It speaks well for Masonry.

The Committee on Fraternal Dead, well discharged its sad duty.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Past Grand High Priest, Comp. J. M. Hodson, Chairman of the F. C. Committee, again submits one of his admirable reports on Correspondence, in a review of the proceedings of forty-seven Grand Chapters (2 of them for 2 years), Alabama, 1899, included and treated with marked courtesy.

We find ourselves in accord with Companion Hodson on many questions, and, if we venture to differ on a few points, it is not without hesitation that we do so, for he is a forcible and luminous, as well as most courteous scribe.

We have marked several places for extraction but must withhold our hand.

In his notice of Alabama, Companion Hodson, after alluding to Grand High Priest Gatchell's reference to the death of Comp. W. C. Cleveland, and that of P. G. H. P. William Story Foster, says:

"We are pleased to note that Companion George A. Beauchamp was present, representing Oregon, and serving on the Committees on Work and Finance."

He graciously said that this writer "presented a very pleasing and instructive report. His humility bespeaks his merit." Listen. Then quoting, from our introduction, the invitation to score us when we should lay ourselves open to criticism, he proceeded to say:

"Brethren of the quill, look just a little out, he is only laying for us, and the first we know he will be the turning tables and 'have at us' instead. It's safe to handle one of these meek fellows with care; for, listen again, under Arizona, he pronounces sound Law on less than nine forming a quorum." And again quotes us.

Companion Hodson is quite facetious. His delicate bit of irony is so gracefully put—cuts with so keen a stroke, as to remind us of the story about the Saladin's polished blade, whose smooth edge was so sharp that a silken pillow, dropped upon it, fell to the earth cleft in twain.

Why could not our Companion of Oregon, and Companion

Belcher, of New Jersey, suffer us to eat our "humble pie" in peace, well knowing that we were entering the lists for encounter with valorous knights of renown, armed *cap-a-pie*, mounted on noble steeds, and with *well-seasoned* lance in rest for great empress in tilt or tournament, while we, prancing in on a Mustang pony and bearing a spear fashioned out of lath, might hope for nothing better than to find our weapon shivered against shield or, visor, perchance, of opposing knight. But, badinage aside, rest assured, Companion, that we set great store by your words of encouragement.

The Grand Council O. H. P. received five accessions.

M. E. Grand High Priest, O. O. Hodson.

R. E. Grand Secretary, James F. Robinson.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Chapters, 123; members, 18,049; Mark Master Mason Lodges, 3.

We have before us a handsome volume of proceedings of the March, June, September and December Quar'terly Convocations of 1899, and at the Annual Grand Convocation, December 27th, 1899. For the most part these proceedings would not specially interest our Alabama readers. It is noted with pleasure that, among the Grand Representatives, Comp. Edward J. James represented Alabama at every Quarterly.

At the June Quarterly the Committee on Jurisprudence reported on a communication from the Grand High Priest, submitted to said Committee, and involving a matter about which opinions, in some quarters, differ. The question at issue was whether or not the distance from a petitioner's residence to the nearest Chapter should be measured on a straight line, or by the route usually traveled. The Committee recommended that the decision of 1888, on that subject, confirmed in 1896, be again confirmed. Said decision is as follows:

"Jurisdiction.—Distance from the residence of a petitioner to the nearest Chapter must be measured on a straight line without regard to roads or lines of communication.

The Committee's report was unanimously adopted.

The Committee on Finance; at the Quarterly of December 7th, reported the books and accounts of the Grand Secretary and

Grand Treasurer for the year ending November 20th, 1899, correct, showing that cash on hand, and receipts amounted to \$10,119.13, and expenditures, to \$7,801.45. Balance in Grand Treasurer's hands, \$2,317.68.

The Annual Grand Convocation was opened December 27th, 1899, in Philadelphia, by M. E. Companion Michael William Jacobs, Grand High Priest.

In his address the Grand High Priest states that the annual increase of members continues to be over 500; that, financially, the Grand Chapter was never more prosperous; that, besides possessing an invested fund of considerable amount, it has promptly and easily paid all it owed, and has kept up its yearly appropriation of \$500.00 to the Masonic Home. Not only this, but it has a balance left in the Treasury.

Without comment we copy some of the few decisions submitted by the M. E.:

"1st. The use of postal cards in sending Chapter notices is not permitted."

"2d. Upon a favorable report of a Committee of Inquiry, a motion to receive the report, discharge the Committee and ballot for the candidate, is not only unnecessary but improper. Under the Constitution of the Grand Chapter it is clearly the duty of the High Priest, upon such report, to order a ballot to be taken on the petition, and it is equally clear that, even if such motion be made, and determined in the negative, it would still be his duty to order a ballot, unless a majority of the members present, by vote, grant permission to withdraw the petition."

"4th. When upon an inquiry made of the Chapter nearest the place of residence of a petitioner for the degrees and membership, such chapter replies that there is Masonic objection to the chapter, to which the petition is addressed, acting thereon, said last named chapter is the one in which the petitioner is rejected and the date of the stated meeting of the chapter at which said reply is received and entered on the minutes, is the date of his rejection, from which date is to be computed the time within which a second petition may be presented. In such case if the rejected petitioner subsequently applies to the chapter in which such Masonic objection has been asserted, the usual inquiry must be made of the chapter to which his former petition was addressed, and in which he was so rejected."

"5th. A Master Mason, who since becoming a Master Mason has lost the thumb and first, and second finger of his right hand, is not eligible to receive the degrees in the chapter."

The Grand High Priest discussed at some length the subject of determining distance to the "nearest chapter," but adhered to the rule enforced by his predecessors. As we have seen the Com-

mittee on Jurisprudence settled the matter definitely so far as Pennsylvania is concerned.

He commended the "Temple School of Instruction" as largely contributing to keep the work uniform and accurate.

His intimation that Grand Chapter should aid in supporting the Grand Lodge Library, at least, in the department of Capitular Masonry, was worthy of earnest consideration

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence, of which P. G. H. P., Comp. Matthias H. Henderson is Chairman, embraces a review of the proceedings of fifty-three Grand Jurisdictions, the work of reviewing the same being about equally divided among the five members of said Committee. It is not too much to say, that this report contains a very valuable compendium of Masonic information.

Under "Indiana," Companion Stockton Bates extracts (or clips) Grand High Priest, Comp. Thomas B. Long's admirable, full-page eulogy on the late R. E. Comp. Palmer J. Pillans.

Companion Henderson includes in his ten volumes reviewed, Alabama—1898, generously according her two and a half pages of courteous notice, over a page of the same being devoted to feeling and eloquent remembrance of Comp Pillans.

Comp Bates, under "General Grand Chapter," facetiously says ;

"This imposing volume of 416 pages lay upon our table like an incubus until we took courage and opened its covers."

"Then, like the fourteen little, thin bugs, caught out in a shower,

" We smelt it, we tasted it—
Yes indeed its nice
Leaflet after leaflet
Vanished in a trice,"

and then again like the Bowery boys at the dinner,

" We ate every thing we found on the bill of fare,
And then looked on the back to see if any more was there."

To make an extended notice of these papers would be a pleasure; nevertheless the file of proceedings on our table admonishes us to forego that pleasure.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Michael W. Jacobs.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Charles Cary.

QUEBEC—23RD ANNUAL, MONTREAL, JAN. 1900.

No. of Chapters, 11; members, 553.

Total receipts for the year, \$459.50, and balance in hands of Grand Treasurer, amounted to \$912.27; expenditures, \$363.85.

Benevolent Fund, Jan. 30th, 1900, was \$940.85.

The M. V. E., the Grand First Principal Z., Companion H. S. Fuller, M. D. filled the chair Twenty-five P. G. O's., were present, as were Grand Representatives of twenty-three sister Jurisdictions, Alabama included.

In his address the Grand Z., said:

"There has not been any extra or considerable increase in membership, yet the reports of the Grand Scribe E. and the Grand Superintendents will show that Capitular Masonry is steadily making itself felt in the Province of Quebec."

One dispensation only, was issued, and that was for installation as Second Principal, a Companion not qualified according to the Constitution.

No decisions were called for during the year.

The Grand Scribe E., Companion W. H. Whyte, fully justifies, by his excellent work, the encomiums of the Grand Z., who, under the inspiration of his experience with Companion Whyte as his Grand Secretary, intimates that as an able Grand Scribe E., is, by odds, the most important officer of a Grand Chapter.

Interest in Capitular Masonry appears to have increased in consequence of an inauguration of Union Convocations at some points in the Province of Quebec, a few chapters, occasionally holding a Joint Convocation.

Due respect was paid to the memory of P. G. 1st Prin. Z., the late Comp. John H. Graham, in a memorial tablet and in a sketch of his life.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Before the report of the Chairman of Committee on Foreign Relations and Correspondence had been read, the excellence of that report was assured, because its author was none other than P. G. 1st Prin. Z., Comp. E. T. D. Chambers.

To first-class ability, Comp. Chambers adds that invaluable quality, unfailing courtesy.

He reviews the proceedings of forty-six Grand Chapters, in-

cluding Alabama, 1898 and 1899; also those of the General Grand Chapter, 1897. Fraternal kindness marks the two-page notice of Alabama.

Of this scribe the reviewer says:

"He does his work well, and has kindly and fraternally reviewed Quebec. We congratulate him upon the marked success of his first effort, and bid him a cordial welcome to the guild."

Commendation by Companion Chambers is highly appreciated. Our best thanks are returned to him.

M. E. Grand 1st Principal Z, H. L. Fuller.

R. E. Comp. Wm. H. Whyte, Grand Scribe E.

SOUTH CAROLINA—89TH ANNUAL, CHARLESTON, FEBRUARY, 1900.

No. of Chapters, 19; present membership, 649; net gain, 19.

Total receipts, \$1,625.85. Balance cash on hand, Feb. 12th, \$858.15.

M. E. Comp. F. T. Wilhite, Grand High Priest.

Present, Grand Representatives of sixteen Grand Chapters (Alabama's Representative not included), and a quorum of delegates from the constituent chapters.

No one who reads the Grand High Priest's address, will fail to recognize the conscientiousness and ability of his administration.

For good and sufficient reasons, as it seemed, seven dispensations were issued—one of them to ballot on applications at a Special Convocation.

In August the Grand High Priest found that it would be impossible for him to visit chapters, so he requested Grand Secretary Barron, to act as his Special Deputy, in that regard. How well Companion Barron discharged the duties thus assumed, is easily learned from the fact that his performance of these duties elicited the highest encomiums from the Committee on Topical Reference.

The committee just named, found nothing before it requiring reference to Committee on Jurisprudence, no decisions having been submitted in the address.

Committee on Charters and Dispensations had no special recommendations to make. Adopted.

Committee on Finance endorsed the reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary Adopted.

It was uninterrupted holiday for the Committee on Appeals and Grievances; the same for Committee on Jurisprudence.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Always marked by dignity and courtesy, as well as by signal ability, the reports on Correspondence, submitted by R. . E. . Grand Secretary, Comp. Jacob T. Barron, Chairman of F. C. Committee, are most readable.

Why Alabama, 1899, does not appear in the list of Jurisdictions reviewed, we are unable to say, unless the failure so to do, is explained by the fact that the Grand Chapter of South Carolina holds Convocation so soon after close of Grand Chapter of Alabama.

Would that these proceedings had come in earlier, so that some extracts might have been made from Companion Barron's report. It is now half-past the eleventh hour.

M. . E. . Grand High Priest, John R. Bellinger.

R. . E. . Grand Secretary, Jacob T. Barron.

SOUTH DAKOTA—11TH ANNUAL, ABERDEEN, JUNE, 1900.

No. of Chapters, 27; membership, 1,565; gain, 56.

M. . E. . Benj. F. Ives, Grand High Priest.

A constitutional number of representatives of constituent Chapters answered roll call, also six Past Grand High Priests and Grand Representatives of nineteen Grand Chapters, Comp. Frank A. Brown representing Alabama.

The address of the Grand High Priest was short but compact and businesslike.

On the subject of Ritual he said:

"It is our opinion that the honor and dignity of Capitular Masonry demand a more rigid compliance with the rules and edicts of this Grand Chapter as regards Ritual; and the more particular observance of the ancient usages and customs of the Craft. The Royal Arch Degree is too sublime and exalted to permit the introduction of anything that even hints at buffoonery, or that is calculated to distract the minds of postulants from its lessons, so fraught with high and noble thoughts." * * * *

"Dec. 22d, wrote letters to each Chapter in the Jurisdiction warning them against the use of a (so called) 'Aid to Memory,' advertised and scattered broadcast over the State."

Balance on hand and receipts for the year \$2,223 28. Balance in Grand Treasurer's hands, June 14th, 1900, \$1,077 03.

Committee on Grievances and Appeals regarded the absence of any cases of appeal as evidence that Companions throughout the Jurisdiction had observed the rule, "Do unto others as ye would that that they should do unto you." Concurred in.

Report on Dispensations and Charters was approved.

The Committee on Jurisprudence approved the decisions with one exception, the first. Decision 1 was to the following effect: A Chapter in N. D., having rejected the application, for admission on dimit, of a Companion,—member of a Blue Lodge in this State—who moved to another State and remained there, but after two years again made application for admission into said Chapter, can not entertain said application. He must apply in the Jurisdiction where he resides.

The committee held that an unaffiliated Royal Arch Mason, holding a dimit, can apply to any legally constituted Chapter that he may elect, and the Chapter so applied to has a legal right to receive his petition and elect him to membership. Report of the committee concurred in.

Committee on Obituary made an appropriate report.

CORRESPONDENCE.

An excellent report on Correspondence was submitted by P. G. H. P. Comp. Louis G. Levoy, Committee on Correspondence. The proceedings of forty-nine Grand Chapters (one for 3 years) passed under review, Alabama—1899, included in a fraternal notice of a page and a half.

Companion Levoy intimates that it is customary in Alabama to railroad candidates. Individually we are opposed to "rail-roading," but do our "kicking" when other Grand Bodies "rail-road" without counting crossties.

He says:

"The Grand Secretary makes a report that would be a credit to the M. E. himself." Of our last report on Correspondence, he says:

"It reads as if its author were familiar with the work or had at some time written for some Grand Body. Anything but a

green hand is very evident, and we compliment him on his first to Grand Chapter and welcome him to the famous round table."

Many thanks, Companion, for your very kind compliment—all the same, we *are* a "green hand," never before the death of our distinguished predecessor having done any reportorial work for any body of men; hence the task was taken up with much trepidation. With Com. Levoy's "conclusion" in respect of dependent membership we are in hearty accord.

The Grand Council elected seven new members.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Martin G. Carlisle.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Geo. A. Pettigrew.

TENNESSEE—71ST ANNUAL; NASHVILLE, JANUARY, 1900.

Chapters on the Roll, 71; Total Membership, 2,644.

At this Annual Convocation M. E. Grand High Priest E. S. Miller was the presiding officer.

Present—Constitutional number of representatives of constituent Chapters, and six Past Grand Officers. We find no list of Grand Representatives present.

The Grand High Priest, in his address, gave good reasons for his failure to make visitations to the several chapters, to-wit: illness during the spring and early summer, being quarantined on account of smallpox in his home town, prevalence of that disease in large portion of the State, and absorbing duties as a practicing physician. Excusable beyond a peradventure.

He had executed commissions for six Grand Representatives.

He submitted one ruling:

"A Companion dimitting from his Lodge and remaining a voluntary non-affiliate for six months, is not eligible to the office of High Priest in a Chapter, and can not, lawfully, be installed as such."

The Committee on Jurisprudence approved this decision, and Grand Chapter concurred in the same.

Twenty dispensations had been granted—most of them to elect and install at times other than that set by law; one, however, was to receive and ballot on a petition at the same convocation.

Referring to that dispensation the Jurisprudence Committee said:

"This is contrary to the written law, and we are of opinion that this should be done only in extreme cases."

The M. E. L. submitted reports from eight of the Grand Visitors, remarking, "Some show commendable zeal on the part of the Grand Visitors," and earnestly urging all of them to do their full duty and make due report of the same.

With reference to the foregoing, the law committee said:

"From the reports of Grand Visitors filed with the Grand High Priest, we would naturally conclude that this office has outlived its usefulness. The Grand Visitor should visit every chapter in his district, and make written report thereon before the meeting of the Grand Chapter." Concurred in.

Ten Grand Visitors were appointed for ensuing year.

We can imagine a smile suffusing the countenance of the Chairman of the Committee on Appeals as he reported himself and his associates out of a job.

On motion the charters of four chapters were arrested. Cause does not appear in these proceedings.

Before closing his address the Grand High Priest stated that there were one hundred sixteen widows and orphans in the Masonic Home. "A noble work is being done there."

A cordial welcome was extended to a visiting Past Grand King of Grand Chapter of N. J.

In the Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood eighteen High Priests were "elected, consecrated, anointed and set apart."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Rarely do we find a stream of thought flowing more smoothly than does flow the current of Companion Henry H. Ingersoll's report on proceedings of Sister Jurisdictions. Within the compass of seventy-three pages, he gives us the salient features in the transactions of the various Grand Chapters reviewed. Here and there he has thrown in bits of pleasantries which by no means mar the beauty of his production; on the contrary they add to its interest.

Alabama—1898 is generously accorded a couple of pages of brotherly notice.

Alluding to our resolution concerning Book of Marks, Companion Ingersoll says:

"The most important act of the Grand Chapter was a resolution requiring the Secretaries of Subordinates to file with the Grand Secretary a copy of their respective Book of Marks. * *."

Our Companion also says, referring to our last annual:

"We have as yet no report of it, which makes us wish that Comp. Henry Clay Armstrong, Grand Secretary, were on such terms with our Tenn. Secretaries, as to learn from them the art of immediate publication. Our own Secretary gets out the Chapter proceedings within ten days. And Companion Foster has been known to publish the Commandery proceedings the day after the adjournment of the Grand Commandery. That, too, in the nineteenth century! In the next century we expect to even outdo this."

M. . E. . Grand High Priest, A. S. Myers.

R. . E. . Grand Secretary, W. A. Clendenning.

TEXAS—50TH ANNUAL, HOUSTON, December, 1899.

Number of Chapters on Roll, 146; membership, 6,494; gain, 120.

M. . E. . Grand High Priest, Comp. J. C. Kidd.

Twelve Past Grand High Priests graced the opening. Grand High Priest Kidd had granted dispensations for forming three new Chapters and had given his consent to — Chapter, No. —, authorizing said Chapter to mortgage its property for the purpose of uniting with Lodge No. —, in erecting in the city of McKinney a new Masonic Temple.

He appointed Comp. W. Y. R. Watson, of Houston, Grand Representative of Alabama near the Grand Chapter of Texas.

The Grand Chapter of Texas does not object to public installations. Nor do we.

The eighteen decisions of the Grand High Priest were pronounced by the Jurisprudence Committee—to which they were referred, and whose report was adopted—conformable to the law of the Jurisdiction. The Committee, however, suggested an additional clause to decision No. 2, which decision is as follows:

"Where a mark has been selected and recorded in the Book of Marks of a Chapter it is not necessary to have it recorded in the Book of Marks of a Chapter of which the Companion may subsequently become a member."

The additional clause recommended by the Committee was substantially as follows:

The Committee believed that the Secretary should have a record made of the fact that the Companion had selected a mark; that it was recorded in the Book of Marks of the Chapter to which he formerly belonged, giving the name and number of the Chapter, and a description of the Mark.

Decision 17 was in answer to the following question:

"Can a Chapter in this Jurisdiction receive and act upon an application for membership, from a Companion R. A. M., in good standing resident of another State?"

"To this I answered that I knew of no law against it. That our Grand Chapter had no law on the subject that I knew of. That the law of the Grand Lodge says, 'that a Master Mason has the right to apply for membership to the Lodge of his choice wheresoever located.'"

"Such being the case, I could but think the converse is allowed, viz: that a Lodge can receive the application of a Master Mason for membership wheresoever he is located."

The Committee believed that the decision of the Grand High Priest was sustained by the law as found in Article 410, Resolutions and Edicts of the Grand Lodge, on which it was based; but the Committee did not approve the law as applied to the Grand Chapter, and offered the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, (1st,) That any dimitted Royal Arch Mason in this State has the right to petition any Chapter, regardless of location, under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter for affiliation."

"(2d,) No Chapter under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, shall receive the petition of a dimitted Royal Arch Mason for affiliation unless the petitioner is a resident of this State."

This is explicit enough: "he who runs may read."

Decision 9 was the following:

"No. 9, That a Chapter can use two substitutes if it so desires "

How unimportant soever our individual opinion may be, nevertheless we give it for what it is worth: In our judgment, the employment of substitutes impairs the effect of the legend, because it carries on its shoulders a *sham*.

The Grand Treasurer's report showed receipts to have been \$9,340.37; disbursements, \$4,623.14, leaving a balance on hand, to amount of \$4,717.23.

The Grand Secretary stated that of the 146 Chapters on the Roll, 109 had done work; 37 had done no work; 69 showed a gain; 60 showed a loss, and 17 had held their own.

The Grand Chapter of Texas has been duly incorporated. That result has been accomplished through the zealous and efficient labors of the special committee appointed for the purpose at the last preceding Annual Convocation.

The reports of the seven Grand Visitors were cheering and full of encouragement. From the tenor of those reports the Committee on Grand Officers felt that it was fully justified in saying, "All is well."

The Committee on Obituaries made an eloquent and feeling report on the death of Past Grand High Priest, Harton Twomey, which was read, and adopted by a rising vote.

One item in the report of the Committee on Finance covers that Committee with glory: it was the recommendation that the Grand Chapter appropriate \$1,000.00 to the Widows' and Orphans' Home. The Grand Chapter entitled itself to 100 per cent. of that glory by adopting said recommendation.

The following resolution, which was adopted, accords with the general practice, we believe:

"Resolved, That a protest after ballot, at any stage prior to the conferring of the Royal Arch Degree shall operate as a black ball, unless withdrawn by the Companion who entered it."

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was submitted, as usual, by Companion John L. Terrell, Chairman of the Committee, in an excellent paper of about ninety pages, reviewing the proceedings of forty-nine Grand Chapters.

Alabama for 1898 received most courteous notice. The address of P. G. H. P. Comp. Josiah Jernigan was quoted at some length, especially in reference to the life and character of our beloved and lamented predecessor on the F. C. Committee of this Jurisdiction.

Companion Terrell said:

"Companion Wm. Y. Titcomb will undertake the difficult task of filling the place of Companion Pillans as correspondent."

None will deny that the task is difficult, but while we can not hope to *fill* the place of Companion Pillans, nevertheless, we shall "do our level best" to discharge the duties our position imposes upon us.

Companion Terrell takes the proper view of the subject of physical qualifications. We cannot agree with him, that the actual presence of the Charter is not necessary.

His review is worthy of careful perusal.

The Grand Council gained nineteen members.

M. E. Grand High Priest, W. L. Burdett.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Geo. Lopas, Jr.

VERMONT—83D ANNUAL, BURLINGTON, JUNE, 1900.

27 Chapters; 2,892 members.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Chas. A. Caldeswood was in the chair; while three P. G. H. P's. lent the dignity of their presence to the occasion.

The Grand High Priest submitted his annual address without any effort in the direction of rhetorical display, paying tribute to the worth of departed Companions, as well as giving account of his official acts during the year.

He had granted but few dispensations, four of them being permissions to receive and ballot on petitions without the usual lapse of time.

He submitted no decisions. He earnestly recommended "that this Grand Chapter place the ritual in the hands of a committee, to be appointed by the incoming Grand High Priest, with power to call to their aid whomsoever they may choose, vested with authority to re-write and arrange as in their judgment seems best, and, also with power to formulate a system of floor work, and report the same at our next annual convocation, for adoption, if, in the judgment of this Grand Body, it seems best.

The M. E. paid high compliment to the Grand Lecturer, and recommended an appropriation of \$50.00 for that able and faithful officer.

The Grand Lecturer recommended a revision of the present published ritual (stating that there were over a hundred typographical errors therein, or what may be properly so called), to conform to the essentials required by the General Grand Chapter.

Grand Lecturer had addressed a circular letter to each Grand Jurisdiction in the United States, asking if they conferred the Past Master's degree "in full" or in the manner recommended by General Grand Chapter. Thirty-eight replied. Of these, eleven worked the degree in full form; twenty-one conformed

to the recommendation of the General Grand Chapter; five worked it generally in brief form, but occasionally broke over to accommodate companions who wanted a little fun, and one (Pennsylvania) did not include the P. M. degree in the capitular series.

Companion Montague gives no countenance to "fun" making in capitular work.

As to matters financial, they appear to be in prime condition. Balance on hand and receipts amounted to \$8,156.06. After all expenditures there remained, June 15th, 1900, in the treasury a balance of \$7,570.47.

Finance Committee recommended appropriation of \$125.00 to defray expenses of G. H. P to Triennial of General Grand Chapter. Adopted.

The Committee on Doings of Grand Officers, after expressing high appreciation of the zeal and fidelity of the M. : E. : Grand High Priest, cordially endorsed his recommendations in respect of the ritual and, pursuant thereto, recommended that the entire disposition of the whole matter be placed in the hands of the Grand Lecturer with full power to act, and that he be invested with all the authority possessed by the present Special Committee on Ritual. Adopted.

No higher compliment than this could be bestowed upon an officer.

The Committee on Grievances had nothing to report. Accepted and adopted.

The reports of the District Deputies are, upon the whole, quite encouraging.

The convention of the Order of High Priesthood elected, received and anointed nine companions.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on correspondence is again submitted by Past Grand High Priest, Companion Marsh O. Perkins, Chairman of Correspondence Committee, in a first-class review of the proceedings of fifty Grand Chapters (one for three years.)

We have marked for reference, several passages in this highly interesting report, but, admonished by the reflection that, in notices of several Jurisdictions we have neared the danger line

in our consumption of space, the pleasure of such reference must be denied to us.

Alabama—1899 receives timely, courteous and brotherly attention covering nearly two pages. Rest assured, Companion, that had the Vermont proceedings been on our table they would not have been passed unnoticed last year.

Companion Perkins quotes our remark *anent* conferring the degrees on clergymen gratuitously, and says :

"Under 'Colorado' he undertakes to defend Alabama's pauperizing of the clergy."

He then reads us a little homily on our duty in this regard. Her says:

"Now if our Companions of Alabama do not wish to continue a class distinction, in fact, foster caste, let them contribute from their individual pockets in payment for the degrees of these brethren whom they would invest with capitular advancement, and not rob the treasury of the Chapter. By so doing they will not only aid in preserving the self-respect of the recipient of the favor, but undeserving Tom, Dick and Harry of the cloth will not be found loafing around the quarries, and, by their example, leading the Craftsmen into paths of indifference and apathy. Men meet on the level in Free Masonry, and the distribution of free passes from Babylon to Jerusalem should be looked upon askance, or poor, struggling lawyers, physicians, editors, machinists and others should be treated 'on the square' with him who happens to wear a ministerial choker."

Our Companion puts his side of the question takingly, but the force of his observation is greatly impaired by his suggestion that the Companions contribute individually to defray the expense of the degrees to be conferred on a clergyman.

The gist of the argument against giving ministers the degrees without expense to themselves, lies in the idea that the cost of the degrees should be the same for all, without distinction—on the level.

Now how much more, pray, will it cost the clerical brother if, instead of the Chapter giving him the degrees for nothing, the Companions chip in and pay his fees for him, or how much will the latter alternative increase his self-respect? It is a "free pass" in either case.

Companion Perkins will please accept our grateful acknowledgment of his kind welcome to the Guild Capitular.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Charles H. Williams.

R. E. Grand Secretary, M. E. Marsh O. Perkins.

VICTORIA—SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

A pamphlet containing proceedings of five convocations of this Grand Chapter, viz—July, September, December, 1898, March and June, 1899, is now before us.

M. E. Comp. George Baker as G. Z., in the chair.

The transactions at these convocations were characterized by dignity and business like methods.

It appears from statements of the Grand Treasurer that the finances of the Jurisdiction are in a healthy condition.

At the September convocation it was moved that the following notice of motion be considered:

“That it be an instruction to the Committee, now revising the constitution, to make provision for the restitution of the Mark Master's degree as a portion of Capitular Masonry.

After a long discussion the mover was permitted to withdraw his motion.

Grand Lodges of Mark Master Masons are greatly increasing in strength and influence. While our ideas on the subject are, no doubt crude, it seems to us that ours is the better way. Incorporate the Mark Master Degree in the Chapter work and thus avoid growing diversity of interests.

The Committee on Uniformity of Working is nearly ready to report a Composite Ritual for which light has been thrown from the best English and American sources.

M. E. Comp. H. T. Tomsitt represented the Jurisdiction of Alabama at these convocations.

All business being ended the Grand Chapter was closed “in Antient and Solemn Form.”

M. E. Comp., A. J. Peacock, Pro. Grand Z.

E. Comp., John Braim, Grand Scribe, E.

VIRGINIA—92ND ANNUAL, RICHMOND, NOV. 1899.

Active Chapters, 41; Membership of 38 Chapters, 2,737; Returns of 3 remaining Chapters not in; Total receipts from Chapters, for 1899, \$1,299.50.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Thos. E. Schwartz, in the Chair. Two Past Grand High Priests were present, one of whom was

Alabama's representative, Companion A. S. Lee. Seventeen Sister Jurisdictions were represented at opening.

In his address the Grand High Priest spoke as a true Mason, when he said:

"Another year has passed and our ranks are unbroken, for which we should give thanks to the Great I A M. 'For He is good and His mercy endureth forever.'"

He submitted but one decision:

"A Chapter suspended a Companion on account of his suspension N. P. D. by the Blue Lodge. After an absence of nine years, he applied for a remittance of dues, reinstatement to the rights and benefits of Masonry and restoration to membership, and requested a dimit. The Chapter wished to comply because the Blue Lodge had complied with his request. There were but two Companions present who had ever known him. I decided that the matter should be postponed, and due inquiry made as to his conduct as a man and a Mason during the nine years of his absence, and then notify the Companions of a meeting to act upon the case. I did what I conceived to be right—there being no law to cover the case—and just to our Companions with whom he might wish to unite. He was not only without the Jurisdiction of his Lodge and Chapter, but also without the Grand Jurisdiction of Virginia, no one of his Chapter knew where."

The Grand High Priest stated that he had requested the District Deputies to urge upon those Chapters which had taken no action in the matter, the importance of contributing a portion of the exaltation fees to the Masonic Home.

He had granted special dispensations at various times to receive and act on petitions out of time. In every instance having been assured that the granting of such dispensations would be for the good of Capitular Masonry.

We have already aired sufficiently our own opinion on that subject.

The Grand Lecturer made a full report which was, for the most part, highly satisfactory.

The reports of the nine Deputies reporting were, on the whole, encouraging, although in a few instances a good shaking up of the dry bones might be quite beneficial. In District No. 1, Mt. Vernon Chapter No. 14 must be a hustler—forty exaltations in the last two years, and since last June frequent called Conventions to meet the demands of the work.

This must have entailed on petition committees considerable

effort in the way of carefully scrutinizing petitioners' characters.

The committee on the address heartily concurred in the decision submitted as well as in all the recommendations therein set forth.

"Grand Committee of the Whole" submitted a resolution recommending a Charter for Castlewood Chapter U. D.; also the following: "*Resolved*, That the Grand Chapter abandon the practice of having a banquet at each Grand Annual Convocation;" also the following resolution signed by twenty-nine Companions:

"*Resolved*, That it shall be considered a Masonic offense for any Royal Arch Mason of Virginia to make or have in his possession any form of letter, figure or cipher of the unwritten work of the Grand Chapter of Virginia, legible or intelligible to himself or any other person." Report of the committee was adopted.

The Grand Treasurer had received from the Subordinate Chapters, during the year, \$1,692.83, and had paid out all, except \$21.18, of that amount.

We learn from the Grand Secretary's report that fraternal relations with Grand Chapter of New Zealand had been established, and an interchange of representatives had been asked for.

CORRESPONDENCE.

In a seventy-page review of forty-nine Grand Chapters, Companion Charles A. Nesbitt supplies us with a report well worth reading. The excellent tone therein manifested and its just discrimination command our approval.

Alabama, 1898, receives courteous attention. Grand High Priest Josiah Jernigan's address is largely extracted from.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Fred. Greenwood.

R. E. Grand Secretary, James B. Blanks.

WASHINGTON—16TH ANNUAL, TACOMA, June, 1900.

Whole No. of Chapters, 19; Members, 1,235; net gain, 51.

M. E. D. Lew Paramore, Grand High Priest.

Present—Six Past Grand Officers and constitutional number of representatives of constituent chapters.

The Grand High Priest's address evinces painstaking discharge of the duties pertaining to his high office.

He had granted seven dispensations, also three dispensations to form new chapters. He submitted no decisions. He had made fifteen official visitations with profit to all concerned.

He paid fitting tribute to the late Grand Treasurer, Past Grand High Priest William McMicken.

Among his recommendations are the following:

"I would recommend that this Grand Chapter receive Grand Representatives from all sister Grand Chapters, and all foreign Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, and appoint suitable persons to represent this Grand Chapter near all other Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons."

"I would recommend that a fee of \$5.00 be charged for a dispensation to confer degrees out of the regular order, and for allowing the use of a substitute a fee of \$3 00 "

"I would recommend that the Grand High Priest be authorized to grant permission to any chapter to hold special convocations in any Masonic Lodge room within the jurisdiction of said chapter for the purpose of conferring the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master, no other business to be transacted at such special convocations, the jurisdiction of said chapter to be in nowise affected thereby."

Total receipts as per Grand Treasurer's report, \$2,050.70. Balance on hand June 8th, 1900, \$1,741.35.

The Grand Orator delivered an appropriate address.

The Committee on Grievance and Appeals had no cases of appeal to report. Adopted.

Committee on Obituary made suitable report. Adopted. By request, an excellent memorial address on the life and character of late Companion Wm. McMicken was delivered, and ordered put on the records of Grand Chapter.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to which the recommendations of Grand High Priest, heretofore mentioned, were referred, approved the recommendation that a \$5.00 fee be charged for any special dispensation, but the Grand Chapter did not concur with the committee in that matter.

The same committee recommended that the Grand Chapter disapprove of the recommendation authorizing the Grand High Priest to hold special communications for work in any Masonic Lodge room in the Jurisdiction of the Chapter. This report of the committee received the concurrence of the Grand Chapter, as, also, did the committee's suggestion that in the matter of Representatives near other Grand Chapters, no action be taken at this Grand Convocation.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on Correspondence was presented by Companion Yancey C. Blalock, Correspondent, who reviewed the proceedings of forty-five Grand Chapters (4 of them for 2 years, 1 for 3 years). This review is mostly composed of judicious extracts and statistics with occasional short comments. Companion Blalock is happy in his selections. Alabama is not in the number of Grand Jurisdictions reviewed.

Seven accessions to the Order of High Priesthood.

M. E. Grand High Priest, S. Harry Rush.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Yancey C. Blalock.

WEST VIRGINIA—29TH ANNUAL, MARTINSBURG, NOVEMBER, 1899.

Chartered Chapters, 24; Chapters U. D., 2; Present membership, 1,836; net gain, 157; Receipts, \$3,506.67, including balance on hand; disbursements, 583.52.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion, Fred N. Siebert in the Chair.

Four Past Grand High Priests cheered the Presiding officer with their presence. At the same time representatives of twenty Grand Chapters were present, and were formally welcomed.

In his address the Grand High Priest gave the comfortable assurance that Capitular Masonry within the bounds of the West Virginia Grand Jurisdiction had experienced a healthy growth during the year.

Departed Companions were not forgotten. Especially noted was the death of Past Grand High Priest, Alexander M. Evans, "An honored Mason, an eminent physician, a brave and gallant soldier, a true and faithful friend." Companion Evans was also representative of the Grand Chapter of Alabama near the Grand Chapter of West Virginia.

Six dispensations had been granted—two of them for receiving petitions and balloting out of time; and one of like import refused on the ground that his term of office would expire before the dispensation asked for, October 28th, 1899, could, if granted,

take effect. He thought it incompetent for him to pass upon that which was to be effected during the incumbency of his successor. Dispensations all approved.

Under the heading, decisions, four decisions were submitted, all of which were approved, except the following:

"On inquiry of Companion" — of — "as to which Chapter should be applied to for a recommendation to organize a new Chapter U. D. at that place, I replied that" — "Chapter U. D. of" — "had Jurisdiction in the premises. On reflection I have some doubt as to the extent of Jurisdiction of Chapters U. D., and therefore respectfully refer the matter to the Grand Chapter for its decision."

The Jurisprudence Committee, having the foregoing decision under consideration, disapproved of the same on the ground that the Constitution provides that no dispensation shall issue except upon petition, " &c.," which petition must be recommended by the nearest Chartered Chapter." The Chapter working under a dispensation had no Jurisdiction in the matter. Report of the Committee adopted.

Two Charters were issued to Chapters U. D. and a dispensation was granted by Grand Chapter to organize the Chapter U. D., referred to in the decision which the Grand High Priest desired the Grand Chapter to pass upon, he himself being, upon reflection, somewhat doubtful of its conformity to law.

Here, again, comes Committee on Grievances and Appeals with the gratifying report that nothing has been presented to it for consideration.

On motion Grand Secretary, Companion Hugh Sterling, was appointed a Committee on Correspondence; hence the next proceedings will no doubt include what the volume before us lacks—a report on Correspondence.

M. E. Grand High Priest, William W. Van Winkle.

R. E. Grand Secretary, Hugh Sterling.

WISCONSIN—50TH ANNUAL, MILWAUKEE, FEBRUARY, 1900.

74 Chapters; 6,145 members; gain, 39.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Jesse D. Carr.

On Tuesday, February 20th, the representatives of Capitular Masonry in Wisconsin met in Annual Convocation within the gates of that thriving city which adorns the western shore of the Michigan Lake.

Sixteen P. G. O's graced by their presence the opening of the Convocation.

The Annual address of the Grand High Priest was not lengthy, still it was sufficiently comprehensive, and dealt fairly and squarely with every subject presented.

Two decisions were submitted: the first was as follows:

"A brother presented his petition to the Chapter, was elected and advanced to the degree of Mark Master. After a lapse of seven or eight years he applied for the remaining degrees. When the original petition was made the by-laws of the Chapter fixed the fees at \$50, (\$10 with the petition and \$10 for each degree.) When the application for advancement was received the by-laws had been changed and the fee required was \$40, (\$10, with the petition and \$10 for each degree except the P. M., for which no fee was required."

Question.—Should the brother pay according to provisions of the old by-law, or receive the P. M. degree free under existing by-law?"

"Answer.—The brother should pay the fees prescribed at the time he takes the degrees, under the circumstances of this case."

The second decision was the following:

"A brother petitioned the Chapter, was duly elected and received the M. M. and P. M. degrees: Four years later he made application for the two remaining degrees. Should a ballot be ordered?"

"Answer:—Yes."

The law Committee to which the foregoing decisions were referred, recommended approval of the first, disapproval of the second, the question involved in the latter, having been settled by Grand Chapter in 1896. Adopted.

The Grand High Priest's dispensations and recommendations were approved, except as to amendments to Constitution.

From Report of Trustees, based on Grand Secretary's report, it appears that the whole amount of cash on hand, and received during the year made \$7,066.24; amount paid out \$3,961.60. Balance in hands of Grand Treasurer \$3,104.64. Total assets \$6,259.74.

In his report the Grand Lecturer well observes:

"There is no place in any of the degrees of Masonry for levity, or anything which will tend to lower the self respect, and natural dignity of a candidate."

Committee on Obituary made report in reference to those Companions who "have gone before."

SEMI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

On the evening of February 20th, the assembled Companions celebrated the Grand Chapter's first half century of life with a "high-heeled" dinner at the Plankinton House in the city of Milwaukee.

After the banquet, addresses interspersed with music cheated the hours, and knitted closer the ties of companionship. Not the least interesting event of the evening was the presentation of a beautiful Keystone badge to the genial and accomplished Grand Secretary, John W. Loffin, as a token of his companions' appreciation of his most valuable services, and of the high esteem in which he is held by them. The presentation address, by M. E. Jesse D. Carr, was very happy and ingenious.

The Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood held a short session the proceedings of which would not be of interest to outsiders.

No accessions are reported. The membership as stated by the Grand Recorder is 1,133. Assets \$190.55.

Companion W. W. Perry was elected M. L. Grand Master for the ensuing year.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on correspondence was submitted by Comp. Wm. C. Swain, Committee, in a hundred seventeen-page review of the proceedings in forty-seven Grand Chapters.

Our Companion is a vigorous defender of his views, and does not hesitate to lay lance in the rest for encounter with any, even the most redoubtable knight of the goose-quill.

This report contains numerous extracts together with more or less comment thereon, as the subject may require.

Alabama—1898 receives a little over half a page of notice. Alluding to our Constitutional amendment giving Chapters the right to admit clergymen free of charge, this correspondent says:

"We have already many times expressed ourself in opposition to such humiliation of clergymen. We are naturally led to enquire what kind of clergymen they have in Alabama who will receive such donation."

Whatsoever our individual opinion may be as to the wisdom of the law, we like any loyal member, acquiesce in the decision of our Grand Body, and further, we can confidently affirm that, in the adoption of that amendment, the impelling motive expressed, through that action, recognition of the minister's sacred office, as well as a disposition to be helpful to the servant of God not possessed, by any means, as a rule, of a "superfluity of this world's goods.

When Comp. Swain asks what kind of clergymen we have down here in Alabama, we cannot refrain from responding that they would not compare unfavorably with the ministers of other States, not excepting even Wisconsin. Taken as a class, they are a grand set of men, but we have yet to see the first one who seemed to be humiliated by his free admission to Masonry.

It is with real regret that we turn away from Comp. Swain's interesting and spicy review.

M. E. Grand High Priest, Edwin F. Gibbs.

R. E. Grand Secretary, John W. Loflin.

CONCLUSION.

In closing this report it affords us pleasure to feel able to congratulate the Grand Chapter on the bright prospects of Capitular Masonry all over the Masonic world.

The discussion of questions which are exercising the minds of many leading Masons we, for the present, leave to wiser heads: should the time come, when all are expected to "talk out in meeting," we may "rise to explain" what are our views on pregnant questions.

And, now, to our Companions of the Guild, who have said such nice things about our first effort at reporting, we say: Pardon our short-comings, and accept the greetings of a heart which wishes you, all good—no ill.

WILLIAM YATES TITCOMB, Chairman.

We append the following table of statistics, compiled by Companion William H. Mayo of Missouri.

THE HISTORY OF THE

... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...

... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...

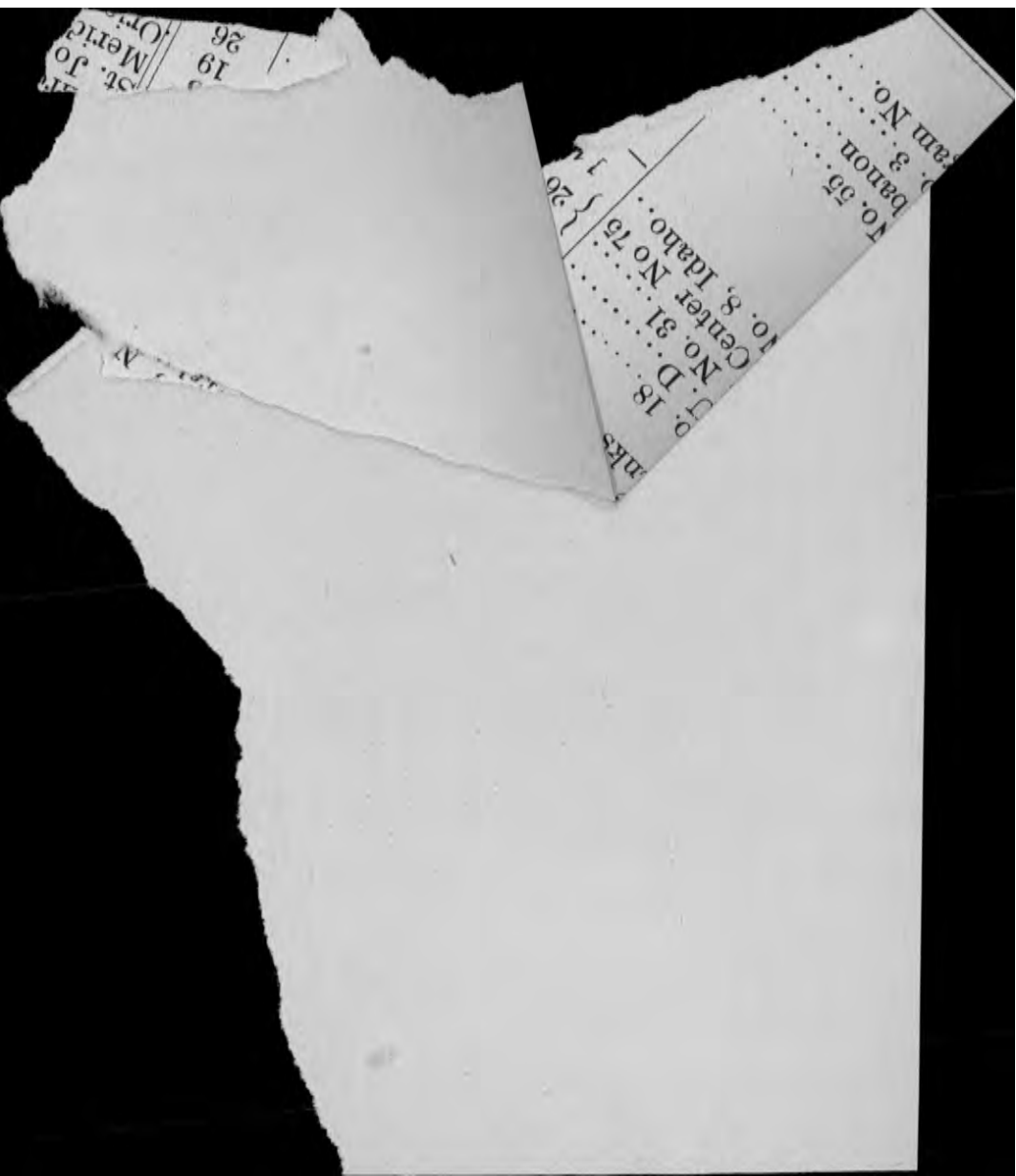
... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...

... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...

... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...

AYO, GRAND SECRETARY OF MISSOURI.

of m- rs.	LARGEST CHAPTER,		LARGEST NET GAIN.	
	Name.	No. of Mem- bers.	Name.	Net Gain.
2	Mineral City No. 101..	140	Tuscaloosa No. 1.....	27
4	Arizona No. 1.....	72	Arizona No. 1.....	6
1	Union No. 2.....	110	Paragould No. 103.....	17
7	California No. 4.....	600	Signet No. 46.....	26
5	Denver No. 2.....	531	Trinidad No. 13.....	10
23	Pythagoras No. 17.....	598	Pulaski No. 26.....	22
28	St. John's No. 4.....	334	St. John's No. 4.....	11
46	Columbia No. 1.....	447	Lafayette No. 5.....	45
19	Halifax No. 5.....	57	Plant City No. 16.....	5
14	Mount Zion No. 16.....	234	Rome No. 26.....	21
22	Washington No. 43.....	669	Bloomington No. 26.....	36
6	Terre Haute No. 11.....	282	Alexandria No. 99.....	12
5	Muskogee No. 3.....	70	Hiram No. 19.....	21
1	Corinthian No. 14.....	177	Cope Stone No. 78.....	22
8	Topeka No. 5.....	279	Ellsworth No. 54.....	14
	Eureka No. 101.....	240	Wingo, U. D.....	42
	Concorde No. 2.....	240	Hammond No. 20.....	12
	Greenleaf No. 13.....	531	Searsport, U. D.....	17
	St. John's No. 19.....	397	St. John's No. 19.....	} 13
	St. Paul's.....	1119	Ithial No. 27.....	
	Cope No. 1.....	658	St. Paul's.....	39
	St. John's No. 9.....	647	King Cyrus No. 113.....	36
	Corinthian No. 25.....	80	Ark No. 53.....	34
	St. Louis No. 102.....	506	Hattiesburg No. 114.....	14
	Deer Lodge No. 3.....	140	St. Louis No. 8.....	43
	Chaldean, U. D.....	200	Deer Lodge No. 3.....	14
	Keystone No. 6.....	72	Chaldean, U. D.....	12
	St. Alban No. 15.....	377	Keystone No. 6.....	9
	Trinity No. 38.....	398	St. Alban No. 15.....	14
	Socorro No. 8.....	93	Trinity No. 38.....	14
	Central City No. 70.....	689	Socorro No. 8.....	5
	Salisbury No. 20.....	69	Central City No. 70.....	30
	Keystone No. 5.....	168	Salisbury No. 20.....	12
	Thatcher No. 101.....	649	Keystone No. 5.....	11
	Washington No. 18.....	147	Thatcher No. 101.....	29
	Harmony No. 206.....	69	Washington No. 18.....	15
	Union No. 5.....		Harmony No. 206.....	29
			Union No. 5.....	15
				5
				9
				7



Deer	12	Union No. 1	100
Omaha	19	Vermilion No. 21	413
Lewis	27	Ed. G. Corbitt No. 147	62
Mount H	24	Davenport No. 17	114
Siloam No. 19	28	Castlewood No. 34	145
Rio Grande No. 18	20	Spokane No. 2	151
Hamilton No. 14	26	Oriental No. 19	318
Ashville No. 3	21	Odel S. Long, U. D.	217
Keystone	22	Waukesha No. 37	208
	23	Utah No. 1	250
	24		
	25		
	26		
	27		
	28		
	29		
	30		
	31		
	32		
	33		
	34		
	35		
	36		
	37		
	38		
	39		
	40		
	41		
	42		
	43		
	44		
	45		
	46		
	47		
	48		
	49		
	50		
	51		
	52		
	53		
	54		
	55		
	56		
	57		
	58		
	59		
	60		
	61		
	62		
	63		
	64		
	65		
	66		
	67		
	68		
	69		
	70		
	71		
	72		
	73		
	74		
	75		
	76		
	77		
	78		
	79		
	80		
	81		
	82		
	83		
	84		
	85		
	86		
	87		
	88		
	89		
	90		
	91		
	92		
	93		
	94		
	95		
	96		
	97		
	98		
	99		
	100		

STATISTICAL TABLE OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS FOR 1899, C

GRAND CHAPTER.	Number of Chapters.	Exalted.	Affiliated.	Reinstated.	Dimitted	Suspended for Non-Pa't Dues.	Suspended for Un Mas. Cond't	Expelled.	Died.	Net Gain.	Net Loss.	Membership.
Alabama.....	29	92	9	9	18	51			27	14		
Arizona.....	6	41	17		10	7			3	38		
Arkansas.....	52	120	17	8	24	98	3	1	55		101	
California.....	68	365	83	5	55	110			123	143		
Colorado.....	32	138	48	10	46	45			40	50		
Connecticut.....	39	222	6	3	8	67			103	42		
Delaware.....	4	35			5			1	8	21		
Dist Columbia.....	11	203	19	12	28	48			42	116		
Florida.....	17	53	10	2	23	6		1	10	52		
Georgia.....	87	269	47	17	131	140			62	206		
Illinois.....	185	902	230	106	278	440		2	2	8	250	
Indiana.....	95	367	61	14	136	130	8	7	106	55		
Indian Territory.....	25	118	10	3	19	11			18	83		
Iowa.....	122	423	95	32	166	142	50	3	92	125		
Kansas.....	82	307	58	28	122	131	4	3	66	67		
Kentucky.....	73	282	55	30	58	125		4	60	120		
Louisiana.....	19	86	9	2	9	36			23	29		
Maine.....	56	264	11	17	49	53			96	94		
Maryland.....	19	94	19	3	30	20			22	44		
Massachusetts.....	74	726	752		164	147			238	203		
Michigan.....	131	617	58	22	148	184	8	8	181	68		13389 North
Minnesota.....	61	244	44	20	94	122			44	48		4996 North
Mississippi.....	43	157	12	9	34	72	1	1	36	34		1450 W H
Missouri.....	96	448	90	39	160	202	4	4	83	124		6924 Haggard
Montana.....	15	59	7	4	9	23	1	1	15	21		832 Yellow
Nebraska.....	53	129	29	22	68	87		4	39		19	2900 haldea
Nevada.....	8	22	3	1	9				13	5		308 Austin
New Hampshire.....	25	10	124	8	20	13			73	26		3594 Bell No
New Jersey.....	38	189	14	18	73	67		1	54	26		3373 Boonton
New Mexico.....	9	19	2	7	20	2			1	5		405 Socorro
New York.....	189	1200	131	149	245	608		2	272	353		20560 Union
North Carolina.....	19	57	5	2	15	6		1	10	34		749 Rock M
North Dakota.....	13	76	7	1	17	4		1	4	59		926 Mystic
Ohio.....	149	984	90	148	162	447	1	5	246	373		15512 Somerse
Oregon.....	26	78	11	3	19	31	1		23	18		1312 Nugen
Pennsylvania.....	123	1115	139	33	174	336		2	372	368		18417 Linn N
Rhode Island.....	10	149	5	35	3	108			47		4	2597 Arnold
South Carolina.....	19	59	3	3	9	32			15	3		654 Aquine
South Dakota.....	27	62	13	4	46	21			14		1	1492 Winnsh
Tennessee.....	68	106	31	9	82	40	2	1	61	42		1492 St. Law
Texas.....	146	504	110	37	239	187		6	97	120		2714 Bodine
Vermont.....	26	97	8	3	22	2		1	50	33		6494 Saint J
Virginia.....	41	253	34	7	114	110			43	27		2786 Lafayet
Washington.....	18	51	23	7	23	28			18	12		2787 D. C. S
West Virginia.....	26	217	41	7	46	46			17	157		1171 Tekoa
Wisconsin.....	74	337	34	25	99	99	3	2	84	109		1826 Athens
G. G. Chapter#.	27	106	20	4	42	23		1	22	108		6083 Colum
Totals.....	2575	12562	2644	928	3370	4500	98	63	3396	3925	125	215439 Richlan
Canada.....	96	500	60	13	112	104			68	293		1491 Payette
New Brunswick.....	8	49	2		18				16	17		5594 Niagar
Nova Scotia.....	14	28	3	2	23	12			13		25	454 Mount
Quebec.....	11	34	4		8	15			6	9		715 Hiran
Totals.....	2704	13173	2713	943	3531	4838	98	63	3499	4244	150	222738 Shawe

H. M.

LED

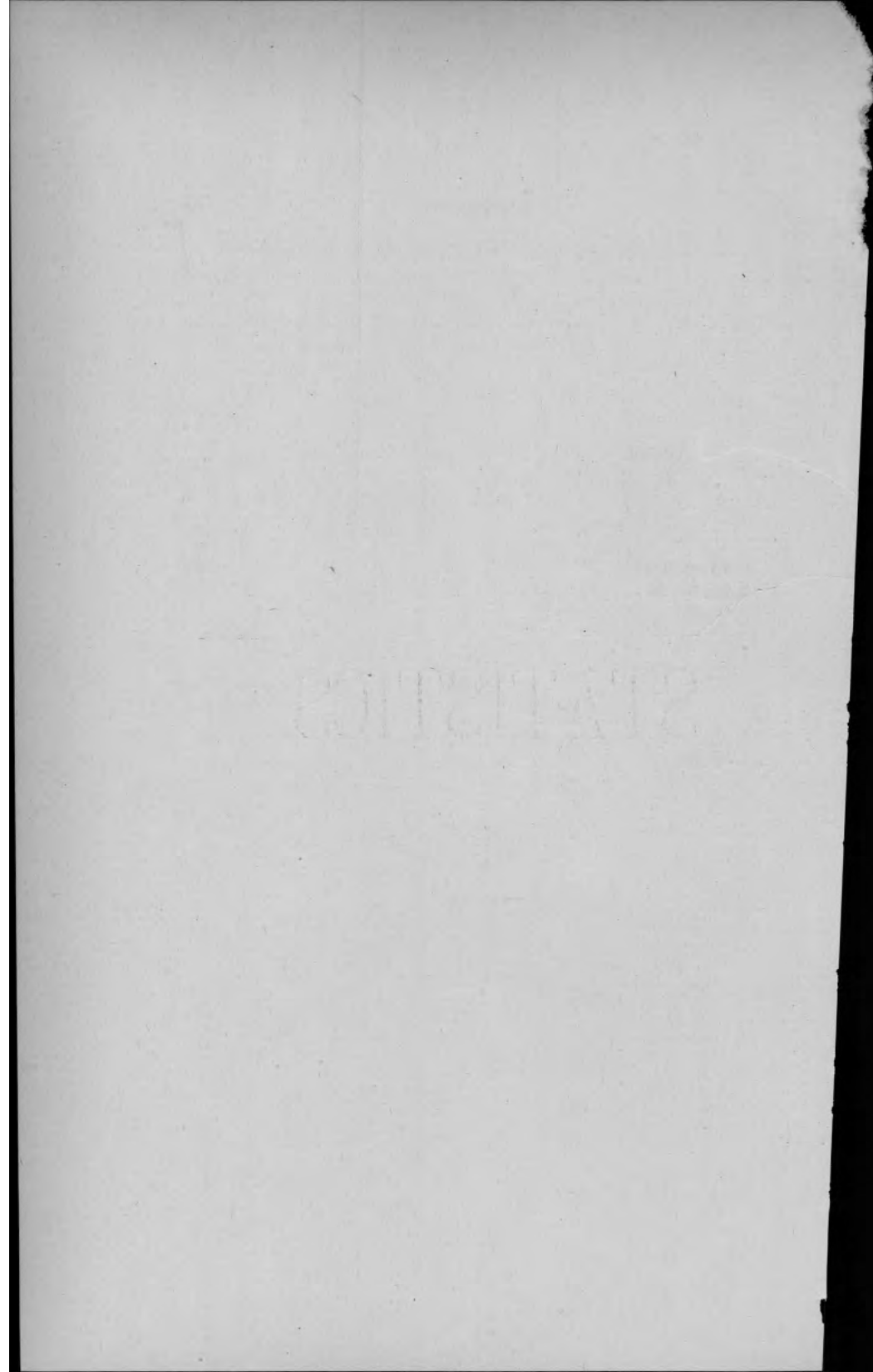
LES

18

No. 20

No. 34.
Warr
ranch
Lig
ilkins
No. 65
stone
U. D.
o. 3...
25...
No. 3

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, Dimited, Died, Suspended, and Reinstated since last return.

Number.	NAME.	No. of Members.	Amount of Dues Received.	Advanced.	Presided.	Rec'd and Accep'd	Exalted.	Affiliated.	Dimited.	Died.	Suspended.	Reinstated.	Expelled.
1	Tuscaloosa.....	39	\$29 25	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
5	Eunomia.....	23											
10	Tuscumbia.....	23											
12	Marion.....	26	19 50	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	3	1	1
19	Vt. Moriah.....	32	24 00							1	2		
21	Mobile.....	47	35 50	6	5	5	5	1	1	1	1		
22	Montgomery.....	43	31 50	4	4	4	4	1	1	3	1	2	
23	Talladega.....		20 25										
24	Eufaula.....	37	27 75						2	2	2	1	
25	Courtland.....	17	12 75	4	3	3	3				1		
26	Union.....	32											
28	St. Johns.....	27	*43 50	3	3	3	1	1	1	3			
32	Fulton.....	18	13 00							2			
38	Decatur.....	55	41 25	8	8	8	8	2		1	7	3	
54	Tyrian.....												
56	Zerubbabel.....	13											
64	Central.....	17								1			
71	Landmark.....	21	15 75	3	3	3	3	1	1	3	1		
79	Hillabee.....												
80	Myles J. Greene..	25	18 75										
88	Springville.....	17	12 75								1		
92	Notasulga.....	15	10 75	2	2	2	2	1	1				
93	Columbus.....												
96	Daniel Pratt.....	13	9 75							1	2		
99	Thomas M. Bragg												
101	Mineral City.....	149	111 75	11	14	14	13	2	10	2		6	
105	Anniston.....	12											
108	Pratt City.....	54	40 50	8	8	5	5			1	1		
109	Blocton.....	30	22 50	5	5	5	2	1			1		
111	Piedmont.....	28		17	17	17	17						
112	Brewton.....	37		28	28	28	28						
115	Thomasville.....	29		15	15	15	15						
		856	\$ 540 75	120	121	118	112	8	18	18	28	14	1

*Dues for 2 years.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

-
- Marion No. 12: Herbert L. Brown, J. B. K. Spain, Leonard C. Savage.
Mount Moriah, No. 19: Sam'l J. Carpenter, Jno. R. Hill.
Mobile, No. 21: Walker S. Scott.
Montgomery, No. 22: Francis M. Purifoy.
Eufaula, No. 24: Thos. A. Shipp, Jr., Stephen B. Shipp.
Courtland, No. 25: Samuel T. Torean.
Union, No. 26: Thomas Hudson.
St. Johns, No. 28: Giles O. Carlovitz, Ray Knight, Nathan Kahn.
Decatur, No. 38: Ferd Ambrosious, H. B. Crocker, S. H. Robinson, Thomas F. Turley, D. F. Wachter, John C. Eyster, Frank Turpin.
Landmark, No. 71: John M. Mathison, Wohl Morris, Yancey Carroll.
Daniel Pratt, No. 96: E. Y. McMorris, J. C. Slaney.
Blocton, No. 109: Wm. B. Martin.

SUSPENDED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

-
- Pratt City, No. 108: John A. Gossett.

EXPELLED.

-
- Marion, No. 12: Wm. Bowie.

DIMITTED.

Tuscaloosa, No. 1: Jos. H. Tyler.
Mobile, No. 21: Robert B. Dumont.
Montgomery, No. 23: Solomon A. Jennings.
Eufaula, No. 24: Marion A. Brunson, Robert H. Walker.
St. Johns, No. 28: Homer L. Hungerford.
Landmark, No. 71: H. D. Goynes.
Notasulga, No. 92: Hiram J. Beard.
Mineral City, No. 101: Murry Cannon, Syd J. Cannon, John M. Collins, Edward P. Goodwin, Thomas E. Newton, Robert F. Peters, Henry B. Crabst, Robert C. Robertson, John F. Sanford, H. J. Montague.

REINSTATED.

Montgomery, No. 22: John M. Riley, Dave B. Bryant.
Eufaula, No. 24: Robert H. Walker.
Decatur, No. 38: John A. Hessec, John B. Turley, Jr., John Matthews.
Landmark, No. 71: H. D. Gaynes.
Springville, No. 88: John O. Turner.
Mineral City, No. 101: Chas. F. Douthitt, Wm. L. Dillheim, Frank W. Hallister, Sam Will John, John W. Tinklepaugh, Robert D. Taylor.

AFFILIATIONS.

Marion, No. 13: James M. P. Otto.
Mobile, No. 21: Cary W. Butt.
Decatur, No. 38: John M. Ferran, J. S. Richardson.
Notasulga, No. 92: George W. Arberry.
Mineral City, No. 101: A. L. Fullenrider, Oscar P. Speigel.
Blocton, No. 109: Jacob N. Ray.

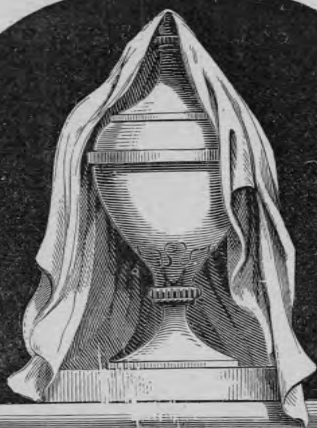
THE HISTORY OF THE

... of the ...
 ... of the ...
 ... of the ...
 ... of the ...

... of the ...
 ... of the ...
 ... of the ...
 ... of the ...

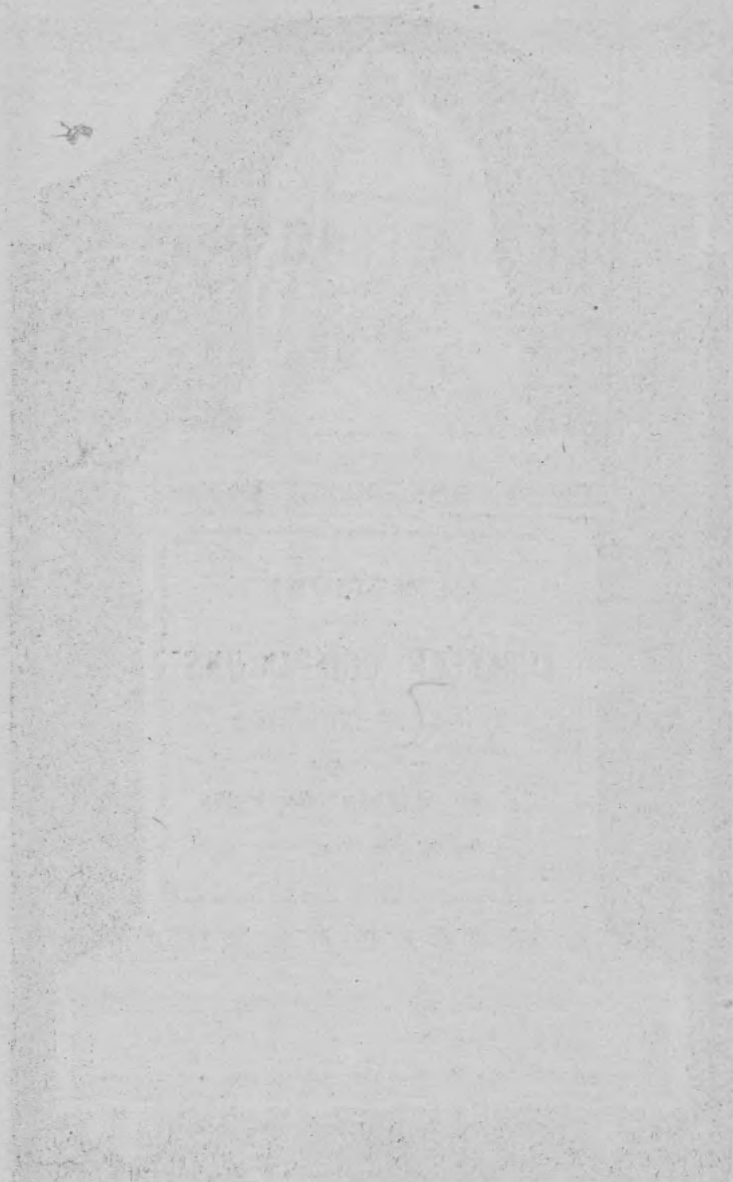
CHAPTER I.

... of the ...
 ... of the ...
 ... of the ...
 ... of the ...



IN MEMORY
of the
EIGHTEEN COMPANIONS
Of Our Own Jurisdiction
who have
Passed Within the Vails
During the Past Year.

WE CHERISH THEIR MEMORY.



OUR FRATERNAL DEAD.

CHAPTER.	No.	NAME.	DATE.	AGE
Tuscumbia ...	10	Thos. T. Rowland...	May 30, 1900	63
Mt. Moriah....	19	Richard C Collins...	Feb. 28, 1900	—
Mobile	21	Georgs H. Hall	—	—
Montgomery ..	23	Jacob Greil	Mch. 19, 1900	—
"	22	Donald C. Hanson...	Aug. 10, 1900	—
"	23	David B. Bryant....	Aug. 16, 1900	—
Eufaula	24	Robt. Moulthrop....	Sep. 10, 1900	63
"	24	Joseph L Pitts	Oct. 4, 1900	43
St. Johns	28	John A. McKinnon ..	Apr. 1900	58
Fulton.....	33	William Bell	—	—
"	32	Walter M. Beard....	Feb. 28, 1900	—
Decatur	33	Marion Simon.....	Dec. 1899	—
Central.....	64	Wilson M. Rhodes...	—	—
Landmark. ...	71	H. T. Edwards.....	Mch. 12, 1900	42
Daniel Pratt...	96	C. A. Edwards	—	—
Mineral City ..	101	W. J. Pearce.....	Dec. 11, 1899	—
"	101	George Schoch.....	Dec. 4, 1899	—
Pratt City	108	Thomas W. Stone ...	Feb. 4, 1900	—

To the Officers and Companions of the Grand and Subordinate Chapters:

This page of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter is dedicated to the memory of our beloved Companion,

HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG,

Past Grand High Priest, and R. E. Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

On December 17, 1900, at his home in Auburn, Alabama, there passed out from the shadows and sorrows of this nether world into the realm of light and life eternal one who was a bright example of all the Masonic virtues—Companion Henry Clay Armstrong. He was born June 1, 1840, at Lafayette, Ga., but came to Alabama when a boy eighteen years of age, and located at Garland, Ala. The civil war came on shortly afterwards and he entered the army as a Captain and was assigned to Gen. J. T. Holtzclaw's brigade. He was promoted for conspicuous gallantry in the battles around Atlanta, Ga., and became a Major in General Ross' cavalry brigade. Brave and true as a soldier, he was ever reticent about his services in the army and never referred to the war or its incidents unless interrogated about it. He became as true and loyal citizen of the United States as he had been of the Confederacy. He located after the war in Macon county, Alabama, and was successively elected County Superintendent of Education, State Superintendent of Education, and Speaker of the House of Representatives. He was appointed by President Cleveland Consul General at Rio Janeiro, Brazil, and for four years filled that office, receiving the highest praise for the manner in which he discharged his duties as the representative of our Government. In all these positions he served his people with the greatest fidelity.

His career as a Mason was no less distinguished. He was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, and Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter. It was as the Chairman of the Committee on Work in this Chapter and in his active work in conferring the Capitular degrees that he endeared himself to his Companions and secured their individual affection and esteem. His magnificent presence and impressive delivery gave a charm to his rendition of our ritual seldom equalled and never excelled.

We have lost the brightest masonic jewel of our Grand Jurisdiction! May we all imitate his masonic virtues and zeal. This memorial will take the place of the notices usually sent to the subordinate chapters on such occasions and it is hereby ordered that it be read in each subordinate chapter on the receipt of the Proceedings.

Our sorrow will not need such "seeming reminders," but it is further ordered that the altars be draped in mourning for thirty days as a tribute of respect for the memory of our deceased Companion.

GEORGE FLEMING MOORE,

Grand High Priest.

APPENDIX.

165

RECAPITULATION.

Chapters that made returns.....	26
Chapters that paid dues.....	19
Chapters that were represented.....	30
Number of members present.....	50
Members reported at this convention.....	856
Dues Received at this convention.....	\$540 75
Received for dispensations.....	\$90 00

WORK FOR THE YEAR.

Advanced.....	120
Presided.....	121
Received and accepted.....	118
Exalted.....	112
Affiliated.....	8
Dimitted.....	18
Died.....	18
Suspended for non-payment of dues.....	27
Reinstated.....	14
Expelled.....	1
Suspended for unmasonic conduct.....	1

STATE OF THE CHAPTERS.

Chapters square on the books.....	19
-----------------------------------	----

CHAPTERS DELINQUENT IN NOT MAKING RETURNS AND PAYING DUES.

Nos. 5, 10, 23, 26, 54, 56, 64, 79, 93, 99, 105.
 Charters forfeited, No. 31

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

NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POST-OFFICE.	HIGH PRIEST.	SECRETARY.	CONVOCA-TION.
1 Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa	Mike M. Hufner	Charles A. Strickland	2d W. in Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept. and Nov.
5 Eunomia	Huntsville	Madison	Huntsville	Edward W. Griffith	Amos L. Moody	1st Tuesday
10 Tusculum	Tuscumbia	Colbert	Tuscumbia	Jas O. Bailey	G. F. Schulze	1st Monday and 2d Sat'y
12 Marion	Marion	Perry	Marion	Joseph P. McQueen	Walter F. Eatman	1st Tuesday
19 Mt. Moriah	Eutaw	Greene	Eutaw	Robt. L. Douglass	Charles E. Pearce	2d Friday
21 Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Robt. S. Teague	William H. Dingley	1st and 3d Monday
22 Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	George A. Beachamp	James P. Hill	2d Tuesday
23 Talladega	Talladega	Talladega	Talladega	Reese B. Porter	William T. Simmons	2d Friday
24 Eufaula	Eufaula	Barbour	Eufaula	John B. Christian	Jonie Harwood	1st and 3d Thursday
25 Courtland	Courtland	Lawrence	Courtland	Thomas P. Whitty	Elbert S. Starr	3d Tuesday
26 Union	Uniontown	Perry	Uniontown	Jas. B. Ellis	Eugene M. Marshall	1st Thursday
28 St. Johns	Selma	Dallas	Selma	Thomas A. Kenyon	Charles F. Tuttle	4th Monday
32 Fulton	Orville	Dallas	Orville	James M. Smith	Thomas A. Shepherd	4th Friday
33 Decatur	New Decatur	Morgan	New Decatur	William A. Arnold	Thomas J. Hoskings	2d and 4th Saturday
34 Tyrion	Troy	Pike	Troy	H. Clay Armstrong	Berry P. Garner	2d Sat. aft full moon
56 Zerubbabel	Camp Hill	Tallapoosa	Camp Hill	Jas. M. McLaughlin	James T. Green	Friday bef 4th Sunday
64 Central	Aldrich	Shelby	Aldrich	Wm. T. Duke	James H. Williams	1st Monday
71 Landmark	Ozark	Dale	Ozark	George L. Smith	Joseph B. Bell	1st Tuesday
79 Hillabee	Alex. nder City	Tallapoosa	Alex. nder City	Wm. W. Ransom	Charles J. Geobegan	2d and 4th Tuesday
80 Myles J. Greene	Opelika	Lee	Opelika	Jos. Francis John	Wm. Henry Weatherly	2d and 4th Thursday
86 Coosa	Gadsden	Etowah	Gadsden	Geo. B. Bainbridge	David M. Lewis	1st and 3d Tuesday
88 Springville	Springville	St. Clair	Springville	Hezekiah G. Earnest	Thomas A. Howard	2d and 4th Monday
92 Notashula	Notashula	Macon	Notashula	Jas. B. Rankin	Daniel Gillis	Saturday bef 2d Sunday
96 Daniel Pratt	Prattville	Autauga	Prattville	Marmaduke Kimbrough	Wm. B. Jackson	1st Tuesday af full moon
99 Thos. M. Bragg	Luverne	Crenshaw	Luverne			3d Thursday
101 Mineral City	Birmingham	Jefferson	Birmingham			
105 Anniston	Anniston	Calhoun	Anniston			
108 Pratt City	Pratt City	Jefferson	Pratt City			
109 Blocton	Blocton	Bibb	Blocton			
111 Piedmont	Piedmont	Calhoun	Piedmont			
112 Brewton	Brewton	Escambia	Brewton			
115 Thomasville	Thomasville	Clarke	Thomasville			

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

Arkansas.....	Basil M. Hill.....	Springville.
Canada.....		
Colorado.....	John B. Christian.....	Uniontown.
Connecticut.....	Wm. Y. Titecomb.....	Anniston.
Dis't of Columbia.....		
Florida.....		
Georgia.....	Edward F. King.....	Gainesville.
Illinois.....	Geo. F. Moore.....	Mentgomery.
Indiana.....		
Indian Territory.....	Josiah Jernigan.....	Troy.
Iowa.....	William Smaw.....	Eutaw.
Kansas.....	John G. Harris.....	Montgomery.
Kentucky.....	Edward S. Gatchell.....	Selma.
Louisiana.....		
Maine.....		
Maryland.....		
Massachusetts.....	Geo. A. Joiner.....	Talladega.
Minnesota.....	Walter Smith.....	Tuscaloosa
Mississippi.....	Joseph A. Groves.....	Orrville.
Missouri.....	Newton N. Polk.....	Birmingham.
Nebraska.....	John G. Smith.....	Birmingham.
New Jersey.....	John R. Barr.....	Eufaula.
New York.....	John W. Bush.....	Birmingham.
Nevada.....	Chas. R. Bricken.....	Luverne.
North Carolina.....	Wm. G. Cochrane.....	Tuscaloosa
Nova Scotia.....	Louis J. Adler.....	Uniontown.
North Dakota.....	Thomas J. Rowland.....	Tuscumbia.
Ohio.....	John G. Smith.....	Birmingham.
Oregon.....	Geo. A. Beauchamp.....	Eufaula.
Quebec.....	Henry H. Matthews.....	Montgomery.
Rhode Island.....	James T. Beck.....	Camden.
South Carolina.....	James O. Bailey.....	Marion.
South Dakota.....	Simon Klotz.....	Birmingham.
Tennessee.....	William W. Screws.....	Montgomery.
Texas.....	Geo. P. Harrison.....	Opelika.
Vermont.....	James E. Cobb.....	Tuskegee.
Victoria.....	Thomas T. Rowland.....	Tuscumbia
Virginia.....	Philip C. Candidus.....	Mobile.
Wisconsin.....		

[This list will be revised and appointments made by the Grand High Priest before the next Grand Annual Convocation.]

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

R. M. Smith.....	Hot Springs.....	Arkansas.
Wm. B. McArthur.....	Ottawa.....	Canada.
Tyler D. Heiskell.....	Fort Morgan.....	Colorado.
Isaac Baker, Jr.....	Hartford.....	Connecticut.
Charles W. Hancock.....	Washington.....	Dis't of Columbia
George S. Hallmark.....	Warrington.....	Florida.
		Georgia.
Philander W. Barclay.....	Cairo.....	Illinois.
Nicholas R. Buckle.....	Indianapolis.....	Indiana.
Louis I. Byrd.....	Muldrew.....	Indian Territory.
William Walbraham.....	Creosa.....	Iowa.
H. L. Millard.....	Sterling.....	Kansas.
William Ryan.....	Louisville.....	Kentucky.
William Robson.....	Robson's.....	Louisiana.
James M. Nevens.....	Bucksport.....	Maine.
Gustav A. Eitel.....	Baltimore.....	Maryland.
William B. Lawrence.....	Medford.....	Massachusetts.
William F. Dickinson.....	Redwood Falls.....	Minnesota.
Robert L. Saunders.....	Jackson.....	Mississippi.
Thomas E. Garrett.....	St. Louis.....	Missouri.
John N. Westburg.....	Omaha.....	Nebraska.
Frederick G. Weise.....	Bordentown.....	New Jersey.
J. J. Whitaker.....	Enfield.....	North Carolina.
William McMillan.....	Virginia City.....	Nevada.
William H. Tapping.....	Grand Forks.....	North Dakota.
David Small.....	Brooklyn, P.O. Box 2065.....	New York.
C. C. Bates.....	Akron.....	Ohio.
Rocky R. Earhart.....	Portland.....	Oregon.
Edward J. James.....	Philadelphia.....	Pennsylvania.
Chas P. O'Connor.....	Montreal.....	Quebec.
John P. Sanborn.....	Newport.....	Rhode Island.
Augustine E. Smythe.....	Charleston.....	South Carolina.
Frank A. Brown.....	Aberdeen.....	South Dakota.
William S. Mathews.....	Memphis.....	Tennessee.
W. V. R. Watson.....	Houston.....	Texas.
Justin W. T. Washburn.....	Montpelier.....	Vermont.
H. T. Tomsitt.....	Melbourne.....	Victoria.
Alfred S. Lee.....	Richmond.....	Virginia.
Edward L. Ingram.....	Seattle.....	Washington.
Alexander M. Evans.....	Midway.....	West Virginia.
William G. Swain.....	Milwaukee.....	Wisconsin.

GRAND SECRETARIES AND THEIR ADDRESSES.

Alabama.....	Lew. Lazarus.....	Montgomery.
Arizona.....	George J. Roskrige.....	Tucson.
Arkansas.....	John C. Bone.....	Little Rock.
California.....	Wm. A. Davis.....	San Francisco.
Canada.....	George J. Bennett.....	Toronto.
Colorado.....	Ed. C. Parmelee.....	Denver.
Connecticut.....	James McCormick.....	Hartford.
Delaware.....	James H. Price.....	Wilmington.
District of Columbia.....	Arvine W. Johnson.....	Washington.
England.....	Edward Letchford.....	London, W. C.
Florida.....	Wilber P. Webster.....	Jacksonville.
Georgia.....	W. A. Wolihin.....	Macon.
Illinois.....	Gill W. Barnard.....	Chicago.
Indiana.....	Calvin W. Prather.....	Indianapolis.
Indian Territory.....	Joseph L. Murrow.....	Atoka.
Iowa.....	Alf Wingate.....	Des Moines.
Ireland.....	Henry E. Flavelle.....	Dublin.
Kansas.....	Wm. M. Shover.....	Salina.
Kentucky.....	Henry B. Grant.....	Louisville.
Louisiana.....	Richard Lambert.....	New Orleans.
Maine.....	Stephen Berry.....	Portland.
Maryland.....	Geo. L. McCahan.....	Baltimore.
Massachusetts.....	J. Gilman Waite.....	Boston.
Michigan.....	Jefferson S. Conover.....	Cold Water.
Minnesota.....	Thomas Montgomery.....	St. Paul.
Mississippi.....	J. L. Power.....	Jackson.
Missouri.....	Wm. H. Mayo.....	St. Louis.
Montana.....	Cornelius Hedges.....	Helena.
Nebraska.....	Francis E. White.....	Platts mouth,
Nevada.....	Chauncey N. Noteware.....	Carson City.
New Brunswick.....	John A. Watson.....	St. John.
New Hampshire.....	George P. Cleaves.....	Concord.
New Jersey.....	Geo. B. Edwards.....	Jersey City.
New South Wales.....	Alf J. Burbridge.....	Sydney.
New York.....	Christopher G. Fox.....	Buffalo.
New Zealand.....	Herbert J. Williams.....	Wellington.
North Carolina.....	H. H. Munson.....	Wilmington.
North Dakota.....	Frank J. Thompson.....	Fargo.
Nova Scotia.....	D. H. Campbell.....	Halifax.

Ohio.....	Edward Hagenbuch....	Urbana.
Oregon.....	James F. Robinson.....	Eugene.
Pennsylvania.....	Chas. Carey.....	Philadelphia.
Quebec.....	Will H. Whyte, Box 1207.	Montreal.
Rhode Island.....	Wm. R. Greene.....	Providence.
Scotland.....	R. S. Brown.....	Edinburgh.
South Carolina.....	J. T. Barron.....	Columbia.
South Dakota.....	George A. Pettigrew....	Flandreau.
Tennessee.....	W. B. Clendening.....	Nashville.
Texas.....	Geo. Lopas, Jr.....	Floresville.
Vermont.....	Warren G. Reynolds....	Burlington.
Victoria.....	Jno. Braim.....	Melbourne.
Virginia.....	James B. Blanks.....	Petersburg.
Washington.....	Yancey C. Blalock.....	Walla-Walla.
West Virginia.....	Robert C. Dunnington..	Fairmont.
Wisconsin.....	John W. Laflin.....	Milwaukee.
General Gr. Chapter.	Christopher G. Fox....	Buffalo, N. Y.
England.....	C. F. Matler, M. M. Hall.	London, W. C.

INDEX.

REPORTS BY

Grand Treasurer.....	12
Grand Secretary.....	13
H. Clay Armstrong.....	16
Committee on Work.....	14, 16
Grand H. P. Address.....	19
Finance.....	20, 21
Chartered Chapters, No. 1.....	17
Chartered Chapters, No. 2.....	17
Dispensations.....	19
By-Laws, Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals....	18
Correspondence.....	13, 14

RESOLUTIONS BY

George F. Moore.....	15
C. L. C. Atkeson.....	20
Robert S. Teague.....	21
J. D. Bloch.....	23
Edward S. Gatchell.....	24

COMMITTEES.

On Grand H. P. Address.....	18, 19
Special.....	24
Foreign Correspondence.....	24
Work.....	24
Masonic Jurisprudence.....	24
Chartered Chapters, No. 1.....	14
Chartered Chapters, No. 2.....	14
Dispensations.....	14
By-Laws, Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals.....	14
Finance.....	14
Standing Committees.....	24

MISCELLANEOUS.

Grand Officers Present	3
Past Grand Officers Present.....	4
Representatives of other Grand Chapters.....	4
Officers of Subordinate Chapters.....	4, 5
Opening Exercises.....	5
Grand High Priest's Address.....	6 to 11
Election of Grand Officers.....	21
Installation of Grand Officers	22
Chapters making Returns.....	157
Suspended for N. P. D.....	158
Dimitted.....	159
Reinstated.....	159
In Memoriam.....	161
Recapitulation.....	165
State of the Chapters.....	165
Register of Chapters.....	166
Representatives of other Grand Chapters.....	167
Representatives near other Grand Chapters	168
Grand Secretaries and their Addresses.....	169, 170