

when one Alexander Deuchar, Eminent Commander of Edinburgh Early Grand Encampment No. 31, seceded and formed a new body, which he styled a Royal Grand Conclave, under which, as under the Early Grand, the Arch continued to be wrought. From his further statement, we quote:

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

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

installed degrees of Noah, J. H., and Z. The minimum fee for all is £1 1s.

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

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

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

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

From *The Scottish Freemason* of June, 1895, we learn that meetings of the two Grand Chapters were held in Glasgow on May 11th, called for the purpose of consummating the union. The Early Grand Chapter convened in St. John's Hall at 3 p.m., M. E.; Comp. M. McB. Thomson, Grand Z., in the chair, supported by W. Dalglish, Grand J., and A. Cameron, acting Grand H. The Grand Z. stated that the business of the meeting would be simply to carry out the resolution of the last Grand Chapter meeting avert the dissolution of that Grand Chapter and uniting with the Supreme Grand Chapter. The calling of the roll by the Grand Scribe E. disclosed the fact that there were represented the follow-

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