

principals of chapters, according to seniority and the powers of any such *pro tempore* presiding officers shall be the same as those properly belonging to the office so filled by him.

XIII. The grand chapter is declared open in *ample form* when the grand Z. is present, at all other times in *due form* but with the same authority.

XIV. An annual report of the transactions of the grand chapter, with an account of the funds and property belonging to it, shall be printed without delay, and one copy thereof transmitted to every officer of the grand chapter, and two copies to every subordinate chapter, immediately after the annual convocation. Returns of subordinate chapters shall be made up to the 31st of May in each year, and the financial year of grand chapter shall end on the 30th of June.

XV. In the grand chapter alone resides the power of enacting laws and regulations for the government of the royal arch, and of altering, amending, repealing and abrogating them. The Grand Chapter has also the inherent power of investigating, regulating and deciding all matters relating to the royal arch, and the intermediate degrees, and to subordinate chapters and individual companions, which it may exercise either of itself or by such delegated authority as it may appoint; but in the grand chapter alone resides the power of erasing chapters and expelling companions from this order of free masonry.