

beginning of the Masonic year, be composed entirely of Right Worshipful Masters, and actual Wardens, and Past Masters."

A notice of motion for discussion at the next quarterly communication was, in the following terms, proposed by Bro. Captain Neill, seconded by Bro. Halkett:—"That for the good of Freemasonry in this country, it is expedient that business meetings of Grand Lodge be held in different places in Scotland, the suitable time and places for such meetings to be determined by the Grand Committee, or in such a manner as Grand Lodge may direct."

Grand Lodge was thereafter closed in due form, and the brethren dispersed.

THE ANCIENT AND VARIOUS NAMES OF GOD.

This thrilling and important subject has often arisen in the history of the world, and it was never more prominently brought forward for the investigation of the Craft, than it was in the Triennial Convention of the General Grand Chapter of the United States in Baltimore, September, 1871. Extracts from the following article upon this subject by the G. H. P. of Massachusetts, one of the best scholars of the age, will be found intensely interesting to Freemasons of all degrees, and in fact, to those who are not Masons at all. From the great importance of the subject, we shall ask no apology for the space occupied. Any intelligent Mason who commences the article, will certainly read it through:

The Tetragrammaton.

BY ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

Reported to the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts. September 10, 1872.

The subject of the Tetragrammaton, and the action thereon by the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, having been referred to the Grand Council, the Grand High Priest, in their behalf, made the following report:

COMPANIONS:—

At the Triennial Convention of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, held in the city of Baltimore in September, 1871, the Tetragrammaton became a subject for discussion.

Jah, was by all, admitted to be the Hebrew name of God; but it was broadly stated that Baal or Bel, was the name of the devil, while On, was a city in Egypt, hence the error, and hence the impropriety of using them, or of alluding to God under either of those names.

This view was urged apparently with great confidence by eminent and learned companions, though I did not admit either its disinterestedness or correctness, nor has such a view ever been taken by this Grand Chapter, either in theory or in practice.

I expressed my disbelief in the right of the General Grand Chapter to eliminate those words from our practice: and, by suggestion, questioned its power to enforce such a decision.

To the Christian worshipper, Baal or Bol, may stand as the name of a false devil; but, "the Assyrians, Babylonians, Phœnicians, and Carthaginians, all possessed a nearly identical religion. They all believed in a *Supreme God*, called by the different names of *Ilu, Bel, Set, Hadad, Moloch, Chemosh, Joah, El, Adon, Ashur.*"