

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
FIRST ANNUAL CONVOCATION  
OF THE  
GRAND CHAPTER  
OF  
ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF QUEBEC  
HELD IN THE  
CITY OF MONTREAL

On 27th September, A. D. 1877, A. L. 2407,

WITH

PROCEEDINGS OF CONVENTION, HELD IN THE CITY OF MONTREAL,  
ON THE 12TH DECEMBER, A. D. 1876, A. L. 2406.

*Ordered to be read in all Chapters and Preserved.*



M. E. Comp. JOHN HAMILTON GRAHAM, Richmond, Grand Z.  
R. E. Comp. JAMES T. McMINN, Montreal, Grand Scribe E

MONTREAL:  
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PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION  
OF  
ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF QUEBEC

*Held at the City of Montreal, Province of Quebec,*

ON TUESDAY

*The 12th day of December, A. L. 2406 & A. L. 5876.*

A Convention of Delegates from the Chapters of Royal Arch Masons of the Province of Quebec, was held in the Royal Albert Chapter Rooms, in the city of Montreal, the 12th day of December, A. L. 5876, in conformity with the following Circular, to wit :

[CIRCULAR.]

*To the Right Excellent, Very Excellent, and Excellent Principals and Past Principals, Officers and other Companions of the several Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in the Province of Quebec :*

WHEREAS, in the opinion of the Subscribers, and of a large and influential number of Royal Arch Masons, with whom they have communicated on the subject, the time has now come when, in the interests of Royal Arch Masonry, a Grand Chapter should be formed for the Province of Quebec.

And whereas, the Grand Chapter of Canada, having in view its obligations and duties in this matter, at its Seventeenth Annual Convocation, held in the Masonic Hall, in the City of Ottawa, on the fourteenth day of October, A. D. 1874, did resolve and place upon record in the Proceedings of the said Convocation, the following resolution :

"Moved by R. E. Companion Daniel Spry, and seconded by R. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, and Resolved :

"That permission be given to the Chapters in Quebec to meet for the purpose of considering what action, if any, they may deem it advisable to take towards securing the formation of a Grand Chapter for that Province, and that the Most Excellent the Grand Z. be authorized to take such action in the matter as he may consider for the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry."

Therefore, we, the undersigned Royal Arch Masons in good standing, do hereby request all the Chapters in this Province, to be duly represented at a Convention to be held in the Royal Albert Chapter Rooms, in the City of Montreal, on Tuesday the Twelfth day of December next, at Seven o'clock P. M., for the pur-

pose of taking into consideration the present state of Royal Arch Masonry in this Province, and to proceed, if so decided, to the formation of a Grand Chapter for the Province of Quebec.

And we do hereby request all the Chapters to be duly and constitutionally represented at the Convention aforesaid, if practicable, by all their Principals and Past Principals, for the important object before mentioned.

(Signed,)

George H. Borlase, Z.

John Hamilton Graham, Past Z.

*Golden Rule Chapter, No. 9.*

H. W. Wood, Past Z., and G. Super, E.T. Dis.

Stevens Baker, Z.

*Prevost Chapter, No. 14.*

Isaac H. Stearns, Z. and Past Grand H., &c.

T. C. Stratton, H.

Angus Grant, J.

James T. McMinn, Past Z.

John Helder Isaacson, Past J.

*Carnarvon Chapter, No. 21.*

Thomas Milton, Past Z., Past G. Sup., &c.

Wm. Johnson, Past Z.

Richard Handsley, Past Z.

C. W. Woodford, Z.

Charles Willis, H.

James Martin, J.

*Mount Herod Chapter, No. 25.*

William Nivin, Past Z.

John McLean, H.

H. A. Earle, J.

John H. Jones, Past J.

S. R. Parsons, Past J.

*Montreal Chapter, No. 42.*

Eugene M. Copeland, Z., Past G. Sup., &c.

Frank Edgar, Past Z. Past G. Sup., &c.

James Joseph Barnard, Past Z.

Henry M. Alexander, Past H.

Henry W. Atwater, Past H.

Albert D. Nelson, H.

Thomas R. Alexander, Past J.

*Royal Albert Chapter, No. 43.*

Alexander Murray, Past Z.

James Gibson, Z.

George Crawford, H.

W. M. Lemesurier, J.

Wm. Young, Past H.

*St. Charles Chapter, No. 51.*

Montreal, 15th November, 1876.

The Convention being assembled, it was moved by R. E. Companion Stearns, seconded by E. Companion McLean :

That R. E. Companion Milton do act as Chairman of the Convention.—  
*Carried unanimously.*

It was moved by R. E. Companion Stearns, seconded by R. E. Companion Edgar ;

That R. E. Companion McMinn do act as Secretary of the Convention.—  
*Carried unanimously.*

The Secretary read the Circular calling the Convention.

It was moved by R. E. Companion Edgar, seconded by R. E. Companion Stearns :

That E. Companions Murray, Borlase and Baker, be appointed a Committee on Credentials, and that said Committee do proceed to examine the Credentials of the Companions present.—*Carried unanimously.*

The Committee on Credentials having proceeded with their duties, subsequently reported the following Chapters duly represented :

- |                          |        |             |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------|
| 1. Golden Rule Chapter,  | No. 9, | Sherbrooke. |
| 2. Prevost Chapter,      | " 14,  | Dunham.     |
| 3. Carnarvon Chapter,    | " 21,  | Montreal.   |
| 4. Mount Horeb Chapter,  | " 25,  | "           |
| 5. Montreal Chapter,     | " 42,  | "           |
| 6. Royal Albert Chapter, | " 43,  | "           |
| 7. St. Charles Chapter,  | " 51,  | "           |

Which report, on motion of E. Companion Adams, seconded by E. Companion Woodford, was received and adopted by the Convention.

A number of Companions, hailing from different Chapters, being in attendance, the R. E. Chairman was pleased to grant permission for their entrance to the Convention.

It was moved by E. Companion McLean, seconded by E. Companion Earle :

That the Rules and Regulations for conducting public business, contained in the Book of Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Canada, *mutatis mutandis*, be the Rules and Regulations governing this Convention.—*Carried unanimously.*

The R. E. Chairman then declared as duly opened the Convention assembled for considering the propriety and advisability of forming a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec.

It was moved by E. Companion Borlase, seconded by E. Companion Stevens Baker :

That each Chapter represented at this Convention be entitled to three votes.—  
*Carried unanimously.*

R. E. Companion Edgar, made a statement to the Convention, explanatory of his reasons for declining installation as G. J. of the Grand Chapter of Canada, to which office he was elected, at the last Annual Convocation of that Grand Chapter, and produced voluminous correspondence with several Companions in reference thereto.

R. E. Companion Stearns addressed the Convention, giving the purport of conversations had with E. Companion Dunbar of Quebec, and R. E. Companion Moore, and also read extracts of letter from M. E. Companion Harrington.

At the request of the R. E. Chairman, R. E. Companion Graham addressed the Convention.

R. E. Companion Graham delivered a very eloquent address, dwelling chiefly on the great responsibility resting on the members of this Convention, as to their action in forming a Grand Chapter of Quebec, and the influence such action will have on the future extension and increased usefulness of Royal Arch Masonry, not only in this Province, but throughout the Dominion:

E. Companion Murray addressed the Convention in reference to the opinions and feeling of the Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada, held in the City of Ottawa, in 1874, and which he stated was unanimous in its approbation of the movement for the formation of a Grand Chapter of Quebec.

E. Companion Woodford confirmed E. Companion Murray's statement as to the position of the Convocation of Grand Chapter of Canada, in Ottawa, in 1874, and stated that at a subsequent Convocation of same Grand Chapter, held at St. Catharines, a similar feeling was manifested.

In answer to a question of E. Companion Jones, as to the organization of other Grand Chapters, R. E. Companion Stearns favored the Convention with interesting information in reference to several of the Grand Chapters of the United States, which after many years of duration, had no more subordinate Chapters under their jurisdiction than the number now represented in the Convention, and some of them not even so many.

It was moved by E. Companion Woodford, seconded by E. Companion McLean :

That E. Companions Graham, Borlase and Murray, and R. E. Comps. Edgar and Stearns be a Committee to prepare Resolutions for the consideration and adoption of the Convention.--*Carried unanimously.*

The Convention adjourned for ten minutes.

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The Convention resumed its sittings at 9.30 p. m., R. E. Companion Milton presiding.

E. Companion Borlase, on behalf of the Committee appointed to prepare Resolutions for the consideration and adoption of the Convention, submitted the following Preamble and Resolution, to wit:

## [PREAMBLE.]

That this Convention, representing a majority of the Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in the Province of Quebec, do hereby recommend that this Convention do at once proceed to the establishment and formation of a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in and for the said Province of Quebec, and that the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Canada be for the present adopted *mutatis mutandis*.

## [RESOLUTIONS.]

1. *Resolved*.—That a Grand Chapter of Quebec be and is hereby declared established in accordance with the ancient constitutions of the Fraternity, and adopting for its government the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Canada as recommended in the above preamble.

2. *Resolved*.—That the title of the said Grand Chapter shall be the "M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal-Arch Masons of Quebec."

3. *Resolved*.—That the said Grand Chapter do now proceed to the election of Grand Officers, who shall hold office until their successors are duly elected, invested and installed.

It was moved by E. Companion Borlase, seconded by E. Companion Stevens Baker:

That the Report of the Committee on Resolutions, just read, be received and adopted by this Convention.—*Carried unanimously.*

On motion of E. Companion Borlase, seconded by E. Companion Lemesurier, the minutes of the Convention were read, and unanimously confirmed.

It was moved by E. Companion Woodford, seconded by E. Companion Gibson:

That the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Canada, having been adopted *mutatis mutandis*, the Convention proceed at once to the election of Grand Chapter Officers, to hold office until their successors in office be regularly invested and installed, and that the R. E. Chairman do appoint Scrutineers to examine the ballot.—*Carried unanimously.*

R. E. Companion Milton then appointed E. Companions Murray, Lemesurier and Adams as Scrutineers.

The following officers were subsequently declared duly elected :

M. E. COM.	JOHN HAMILTON GRAHAM,	GRAND Z.
R. E.	GEO. H. BORLASE,	H.
" "	JAMES DUNBAR,	J.
" "	JAMES T. McMINN,	S. E.
" "	JOHN McLEAN,	S. N.
" "	JAMES GIBSON,	P. S.
" "	I. H. STEARNS,	TREAS.
" "	C. W. WOODFORD,	REG.
" "	JOHN PORTEUS,	JANITOR.

And as Grand Districts Superintendents :

R. E. COMP.	THOMAS MILTON,	G.D.S. Montreal District.
" "	W. H. WOOD,	Eastern Township. do.
" "	CHRIST. STAVELY	Quebec District.

The balloting having been concluded, R. E. Companion John Hamilton Graham, Grand Z. elect, and E. Companion George H. Borlase, Grand H. elect, were duly presented by R. E. Companion Stearns and E. Companion Murray to R. E. Companion Milton, senior Past Z., presiding, for installation.

R. E. Companion Milton, then proceeded to invest and instal the M. E. Companion John Hamilton Graham, as Grand Z., and R. E. Companion George H. Borlase as Grand H., in due and ancient form, after which they were seated on their thrones and proclaimed in due and ancient form.

R. E. Companion Stearns acted as Grand J.

The M. E. the Grand Z., then severally installed the following Grand Officers, who were proclaimed in due and ancient form, and took their respective seats :

R. E. COMP.	JAMES T. McMINN,	GRAND S. E.
" "	JOHN McLEAN,	S. N.
" "	JAMES GIBSON,	P. S.
" "	I. H. STEARNS,	TREAS.
" "	C. W. WOODFORD	REG.
" "	JOHN PORTEOUS,	JANITOR.
R. E. COMP.	THOMAS MILTON.	G.D.S., Montreal District.
" "	W. H. WOOD,	E. Townships.
" "	CHRIS. STAVELY,	Quebec.

E. Companion Murray declared—

That in the name, and by the authority of the Ancient Constitutions of Royal Arch Masonry, and the proceedings of a regularly assembled Convention, convened pursuant to the same, I hereby proclaim this Grand Chapter, by the name of The Most Excellent the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, duly constituted, and the several Grand Officers of the same duly installed.

M. E. Companion John H. Graham, in suitable and appropriate terms, acknowledged the honor conferred upon him.

It was moved by R. E. Companion Edgar, seconded by E. Companion Addie :

That the Grand S. E. be instructed to write to all Subordinate Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, to furnish him with the date of their Chapter, and the number of their Chapter—*Carried unanimously.*

It was moved by R. E. Companion Edgar, seconded by E. Companion Stevens Baker :

That the next Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, be held in the City of Montreal, on the day following the day of assembling of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.—*Carried unanimously.*

It was moved by R. E. Companion McMinn, seconded by V. E. Companion Grant :

That the M. E. the Grand Z be authorized to form the necessary Committees for conducting the business of the Grand Chapter of Quebec.—*Carried unanimously.*

It was moved by R. E. Companion Stearns, seconded by R. E. Companion Borlase :

That a vote of thanks are due, and are hereby tendered to R. E. Comp. Thomas Milton, for his able and efficient performance of his duties as Chairman of this Convention, and also for his services as installing Master in his capacity of the senior Royal Arch Mason attending the Convention.—*Carried unanimously.*

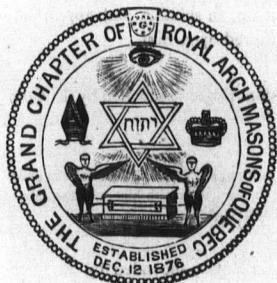
It was moved by R. E. Companion McLean, seconded by R. E. Companion Woodford:

That the thanks of the Grand Chapter of Quebec are due, and are hereby tendered to the Officers and Companions of Royal Albert Chapter, for the use of their Chapter Room and Regalia on the present occasion.—*Carried unanimously.*

The labors of the Grand Chapter of Quebec being ended, the Chapter was closed in due and ancient form at 11.30 P.M.

J. T. McMINN,

*Grand S. E.*



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## OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER, 1876-77.

JOHN HAMILTON GRAHAM, Richmond P. Q.	M. E. First Principal	Z.
GEORGE H. BORLASE, Montreal	R. E. Second	H.
JAMES DUNBAR, Quebec	Third	J.
JAMES T. McMINN, Montreal	Grand Scribe	E.
JOHN McLEAN, Montreal	Scribe	N.
*ALBERT D. NELSON, Montreal	P. Sojourner.	
ISSAC HENRY STEARNS, Montreal	Treasurer.	
CHAS. W. WOODFORD, Montreal	Registrar.	
STEVENS BAKER, Dunham	V. E.	F. A. Sojourner
JAMES ADDIE, Sherbrooke	S.	" "
WM. M. LEMESURIER, Montreal	Sword Bearer.	
H. P. NEWELL, Cowansville	Standard	" "
DAVID WRIGHT, Montreal	D. of C.	
THOS. C. STRATTON, Montreal	Organist.	
H. A. EARLE, Montreal	Pursuivant	
REV. C. P. MALLORY, Huntingville	Steward	
HENRY DUNNE, Montreal	"	"
GEORGE CRAWFORD, Montreal	"	"
JOHN S. FERGUSON, Montreal	"	"
JOHN PORTEOUS, Montreal	"	Janitor.

## GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS.

THOMAS MILTON, Montreal	R. E. G. Super.	Montreal District.
H. W. WOOD, Knowlton	" "	E. Townships District.
CHRIS. STAVELY, Quebec	" "	Quebec District.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

## MEMBERS Ex-OFFICIO.

R. EX. COMP. GEO. H. BORLASE	Grand H.
" " " JAMES DUNBAR	" J.
" " " THOMAS MILTON	" D. S.
" " " H. W. WOOD	" "
" " " CHRIS. STAVELY	" "
" " " J. T. McMINN	" S. E.
" " " JOHN McLEAN	" S. N.

## APPOINTED MEMBERS.

R. EX. COMP. I. H. STEARNS	G. Treasurer.
V. " " STEVENS BAKER	1st. A. Sojourner.
" " " JAMES ADDIE	2nd. " "
" " " W. M. LEMESURIER	G. S. Bearer.
" " " WM. NIVIN	

\* Appointed by M. E. Z., Vice R. Ex. Companion Gibson, deceased,

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# GRAND CHAPTER OF QUEBEC.

## PROCEEDINGS.

The First Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec was held in the Royal Albert Chapter Rooms, in the city of Montreal, on Thursday the 27th day of September, A.D. 1877, A.I. 2407.

### PRESENT:

M. E. COMP. J. H. GRAHAM.....	Grand Z.	} GRAND COUNCIL.
R. E. COMP. FRANK EDGAR, as.....	Grand H.	
R. E. COMP. THOMAS MILTON, as.....	Grand J.	
ON THE THRONE.		
R. E. COMP. J. T. McMINN.....	Grand Scribe E.	
R. E. COMP. JOHN McLEAN.....	Grand Scribe N.	
R. E. COMP. ALBERT NELSON.....	Grand Principal Sojourner.	
R. E. COMP. I. H. STEARNS.....	Grand Treasurer.	
R. E. COMP. CHAS. W. WOODFORD.....	Grand Registrar.	
V. E. COMP. STEVENS BAKER.....	Grand 1st Assistant Sojourner.	
V. E. COMP. JAMES ADDIE.....	Grand 2nd Assistant Sojourner.	
V. E. COMP. W. M. LEMESURIER.....	Grand Sword Bearer.	
V. E. COMP. H. P. NEWELL.....	Grand Standard Bearer.	
V. E. COMP. A. G. ADAMS as.....	Grand Director of Ceremonies.	
V. E. COMP. THOMAS C. STRATTON.....	Grand Organist.	
V. E. COMP. H. A. EARLE.....	Grand Pursuivant.	
V. E. COMP. HENRY DUNNE.....	} Grand Stewards.	
V. E. COMP. GEORGE CRAWFORD.....		
V. E. COMP. JOHN S. FERGUSON.....		
COMP. JOHN PORTEOUS.....	Grand Janitor.	

### GRAND SUPERINTENDENT.

R. E. COMP. THOMAS MILTON..... Montreal District.

### GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

R. E. COMP. I. H. STEARNS ..... For Georgia.  
R. E. COMP. J. T. McMINN..... For New Jersey.

A constitutional number of Chapters being in attendance, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec was opened in ample form, at 8 o'clock p. m.

The Committee on Credentials of Representatives reported the following as being present during the session :

*Golden Rule Chapter, Sherbrooke.*

V. E. Comp. James Addie, Z.  
M. E. Comp. J. H. Graham, Past Z.

*Prevost Chapter, Dunham.*

V. E. Comp. Stevens Baker, P. Z.  
V. E. Comp. H. P. Newell, Z.

*Carnarvon Chapter, Montreal.*

R. E. Comp. I. H. Stearns, Z. and Grand Treasurer.  
V. E. Comp. Thomas C. Stratton, P. H. and Grand Organist.  
E. Comp. William H. White, J.  
R. E. Comp. J. T. McMinn, P. Z., and Grand Scribe E.

*Mount Horeb Chapter, Montreal.*

R. E. Comp. C. W. Woodford, P. Z. and Grand Registrar.  
V. E. Comp. Henry Dunne, J., Grand Steward.  
V. E. Comp. Charles P. Willis, H.  
V. E. Comp. R. Handsley, P. Z.

*Montreal Chapter, Montreal.*

R. E. Comp. John McLean, Z. and Grand Scribe N.  
V. E. Comp. H. A. Earle, H., Grand Pursuivant.  
E. Comp. A. J. Adams, J.  
E. Comp. William Niven, P. Z.

*Royal Albert Chapter, Montreal.*

R. E. Comp. Albert D. Nelson, Z. and Grand Principal Sojourner.  
R. E. Comp. Frank Edgar, P. Z. and P. District Superintendent.  
E. Comp. Thomas R. Alexander, H.  
V. E. Comp. John S. Ferguson, J.

*St. Charles Chapter, Montreal.*

V. E. Comp. W. M. Lemesurier, Z. and Grand Sword Bearer.  
E. Comp. Daniel Rose, J.  
E. Comp. Alexander Murray, P. Z.  
V. E. Comp. Wm. Young, P. H.  
V. E. Comp. George Crawford, P. H.  
R. E. Comp. Thomas Milton, P. Z. and Grand District Supt.

On motion, the Report of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

The M. E. the G. Z. granted permission for the admission of all Royal Arch Masons in good standing, during the session of the Grand Chapter, as visitors.

The M. E. G. Z. then read the following address to the Companions assembled in Annual Convocation :

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## ADDRESS.

*To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec—*

## GREETING :

COMPANIONS:—By the favor of the Great Ruler of the universe, we are permitted to assemble within these hallowed precincts, on the first annual Convocation of the Most Excellent, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the Province of Quebec. Let us therefore devoutly implore His blessing on our undertakings. May our work thus begun in order, be continued in peace, and closed in harmony.

With profound satisfaction, I beg to congratulate you, and all Royal Arch Masons within our jurisdiction, on the auspicious organization of this Grand Chapter, on the 12th day of December last, and on the fraternal welcome already extended to it by sister Grand Bodies in the Dominion, and elsewhere in the Masonic world.

A hearty vote of thanks is due, and I am sure will be unanimously passed by you in acknowledgment of the wise and truly Masonic course pursued by the officers and companions of the mother Grand Chapter of Canada, anent the establishment,—the recognition,—and the graceful, fraternal welcome accorded to us as a sister Grand Body. The kindly expressions by the M. E., the first Grand Principal of the parent Grand Chapter, and their endorsement by the assembled Companions,—of their confidence in our preparedness for, and capability of supreme local self-government, and its successful administration,—are alike honorable to them, and gratifying to us, and will greatly tend to cement us in enduring friendship, and incite us to every laudable endeavour to carry on to complete success the erection of our grand superstructure, whose foundations have been so auspiciously laid.

In response to our address to the Grand Chapters of the world, many fraternal communications have been received, assuring us of prompt recognition when their Grand Bodies hold their Annual Convocations.

I have great pleasure in announcing to you that the Grand Chapters of Canada, Georgia, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Wisconsin and Vermont have extended hearty fraternal recognition to this Grand Chapter, and have expressed their desire for the establishment of Grand Representation between themselves and us. I beg therefore to recommend Grand Chapter to pass a resolution adopting and establishing the system of appointment by the M.E., the Grand Z., of Grand Representatives, *near* sister Grand Bodies, subject to ratification by the Grand Chapter.

To promote the highest interests of this Grand Body, and to extend and upbuild Capitular Masonry throughout our Province, I take the liberty of urging all the officers of this Grand Chapter, and especially the District Superintendents and Principals of Chapters within our jurisdiction, to renewed zeal and fidelity in the discharge of their important duties. Our peculiar circumstances, and the highest good of our common country, loudly call for the utmost possible expansion of our loyal, peaceful and charitable fraternity. Let every true craftsman faithfully, prudently and zealously perform his whole duty to our ancient, honourable and Royal Institution.

The recent successful establishment of the M. W., the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Quebec, began a new era of prosperity in that department of our craft within our jurisdiction, and the organization of this Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, as a necessary and logical sequence of our former action, will be received with the highest satisfaction by that Grand Body, and every worthy and zealous Craftsman should, as circumstances permit, seek admission into our Chapters, and thereby attain to the perfection and consummation of Ancient Craft Freemasonry. From past success and present indications, we may also reasonably anticipate that the cognate and duly organized Orders of Knight Templars and the Ancient Rite, will, at no distant day, assume sovereign local self-government, and thus complete the full embodiment and final organization of our fraternity in all its great divisions on an equality of independence and supremacy with the sister Grand Bodies in the several Provinces, States, Kingdoms, and Empires of the world.

In view of the establishment of this sovereign Grand Chapter, and considering the intimate fraternal relations hitherto so happily existing between the Craft in this Province, especially since the memorable Masonic administration in Lower Canada, of the late Duke of Kent,—and the parent Grand Bodies in the Mother Country, I beg most respectfully to submit to this Grand Chapter, that an humble and loyal address be duly prepared and presented to His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, the illustrious Chief of our Fraternity in England, expressive of our devoted attachment to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and to his Royal Highness, the Heir apparent,—of our unswerving loyalty, and our affection for, and love to the parent Masonic Grand Bodies and to the Mother Land,—and our earnest desire to remain in a perpetual league of fraternal amity with the Craft therein, over which our illustrious and Royal Brother so worthily presides, and that the said humble address be duly signed and certified by the Grand Principals and Scribe E., of this Grand Chapter.

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It is also my pleasant duty to speak in the highest terms of commendation of the zeal and fidelity of our Grand Scribe E.,—the Grand Treasurer, and other officers and members of this Grand Body since its organization.

The destroyer Death has been amongst us, and I am called upon to record the decease of our esteemed companion, the first Principal Sojourner, R. E. Companion, James Gibson, and to recommend that a memorial page in our proceedings be set apart to his memory.

I have further to advise that a committee be appointed in conjunction with the Grand Scribe E. to procure and superintend the publications, during the ensuing year, of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, for the use and government of this Grand Body and for its subordinate Chapters and members thereof. I beg also to suggest the appointment of a committee on Ritual, for the performance of such duties as may be devolved upon them.

In conclusion, permit me to express to you my grateful appreciation of the distinguished honor which you conferred upon me by electing me the first Grand Principal of this newly established Grand Chapter, and the pleasure afforded me of being associated in this government with so many eminent Companions,—and may the blessing of the Most High ever rest upon us and all Companions of the Holy Royal Arch and all members of our Fraternity throughout the Universe,—world without end. So mote it be.

JOHN H. GRAHAM,  
Grand Z., &c. &c.

It was moved by R. E. Companion Edgar, seconded by R. E. Companion Milton, and

*Resolved*,—That the Address of the M. E. Grand Z. be referred to a Committee consisting of Ex. Comps. Murray, Niven and Stratton, to report thereon during the present session of Grand Chapter.

The Reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts were received, and on motion of R. E. Comp. Edgar, seconded by R. E. Comp. Stearns, referred to a Committee consisting of V. E. Comp. Lemesurier and Ex. Comp. Handsley, to report thereon during the present session of Grand Chapter. The Reports are as follows:—

MONTREAL DISTRICT.

*To the Most Excellent the Grand Council, and Companions of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Quebec.*

In accordance with the constitutional requirements of Grand Chapter, I beg leave to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the District of Montreal.

During the brief period that this Grand Chapter has been in existence, and the

short time that I have had the honor to preside over this District as Grand Superintendent, nothing of special moment has transpired to mar the harmony and steady onward progress recorded in times past. The five Chapters comprising the District have pursued the even tenor of their way, faithfully discharging their duties, and laboring with commendable zeal to build up that moral edifice the perfection of which is the strength and glory of the Royal Art.

No Masonic complaints have been made to me officially during my term of office, nor has there been any occasion of complaint; all has been peace and good fellowship, and I have to congratulate the Chapters of the District on the brotherly love and harmony which exists among the Companions.

It is with deep regret that I record the death of R. E. Companion James Gibson, for years an active member of the Order, and at the time of his death Grand Principal Sojourner of this Grand Chapter, a zealous and worthy Mason, whose loss is deplored by all who enjoyed the pleasure of his acquaintance.

All which is most respectfully submitted.

THOMAS MILTON,  
*Grand Superintendent Montreal District.*

#### EASTERN TOWNSHIPS DISTRICT.

*To the Most Excellent the Grand Council, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Quebec.*

I beg to submit the following report upon the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Eastern Townships District:—

There are three Chapters in this District, viz: Golden Rule, Sherbrooke; Prevost, Dunham; and Dorchester, Waterloo.

Golden Rule Chapter, I am sorry to say, I have been unable to visit during the year; I understand however it is making good progress owing to the efforts of E. Comp. Addie and others. I believe they are working according to the American Ritual, however, and I would recommend that an effort be made to induce them to adopt the English work, in order that uniformity may exist in the working of all Chapters in this jurisdiction.

Dorchester Chapter is not working. A vigorous attempt ought to be made to resuscitate this Chapter, as it is situated in the immediate vicinity of several good working lodges.

I am sorry to be obliged to report the death of Comp. Galloway L. Kemp, of Prevost Chapter. He had been an active member, and was elected 3rd P. J. at last election of officers, but had not been installed at time of his death.

No masonic complaints during the year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. W. WOOD,  
*Grand Superintendent Eastern Townships District.*

KNOWLTON, Sept. 26th, 1877.

The M. E. Grand Z. stated that R. E. Comp. Whitcomb, and Comps. Washburn, True and Farnsworth, forming a Delegation from the Grand Chapter of Vermont, desired to address the Convocation.

R. E. Comp. Whitcomb, Grand Secretary of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Vermont, on behalf of the Delegation, in a few graceful words, conveyed to the Convocation the pleasing intelligence that at the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Vermont, held

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the previous day, the 26th inst., a resolution was adopted extending cordial and fraternal recognition to the Grand Chapter of Quebec. R. E. Comp. Whitcomb handed to M. E. Grand Z., official confirmation of the recognition in the form of a Communication from M W., E. S. Dana, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Vermont, of which the following is a copy:—

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF VERMONT,  
*Office of Grand Secretary.*

BURLINGTON, Vt. Sept. 26th, 1877

*To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec.*

COMPANIONS:—I have the honor to advise you that the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Vermont this day, in Annual Convocation, adopted the following resolution:—

“We cordially recommend the fraternal recognition of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, and that we establish brotherly communication and representation with them at this time.”

I have the honor to be, Companions,

Most truly and fraternally yours,

EDWARD S. DANA,

*Grand High Priest.*

Attest,

W. H. S. WHITCOMB,  
*Grand Secretary.*

In fulfilment of this Resolution, R. E. Comp. Whitcomb delivered to the M. E. Grand Z., Credentials in favor of R. E. Comp. Geo. O. Tyler as Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Vermont near the Grand Chapter of Quebec. The M. E. Grand Z. expressed the pleasure it would give him to have an early opportunity of approving of the name of a worthy Companion to represent his Grand Chapter near that of Vermont.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Edgar, seconded by R. E. Comp. Stearns, and carried unanimously:—

“That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be tendered to the delegation from the Grand Chapter of Vermont, for their kindness and fraternal consideration in conveying to this Grand Chapter the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Vermont, thus adding one more to the many favors extended by the craft in Vermont to the Fraternity under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Quebec.”

M. E. G. Z. tendered the thanks of the Grand Chapter to the Delegation from the Grand Chapter of Vermont, and suitable honors were accorded them.

The several R. E. Comps., members of the Delegation, replied in fitting terms.



Comps. whose names have been submitted to and approved of by M. E. Grand Z. as Grand Representatives of this Grand Chapter near these several Grand Bodies, but it was considered desirable to await the action of the Grand Chapter at the approaching Convocation; the forwarding of the Credentials has therefore been postponed until after the Convocation, when the system will doubtless be adopted.

The G. S. E. has also to report that, pursuant to instructions of the M. E. G. Z. he requested the Subordinate Chapters to furnish him with a record of Companions on their books on the 12th Dec. last, the date of the formation of this Grand Chapter, so as to enable him to form a complete Register of the Grand Chapter; and he is very glad to be able to announce that all the subordinate Chapters in good working order in this jurisdiction have promptly responded with the necessary information. To place the same on record, and as an interesting fact for future reference, I give here the actual strength of our Grand Chapter as on 12th December, 1876.

Golden Rule Chapter, Sherbrooke, Members 99			
Prevost	"	Dunham,	" 49
Carnarvon	"	Montreal,	" 41
Mount Horeb,	"	"	" 84
Montreal,	"	"	" 41
Royal Albert,	"	"	" 67
St. Charles,	"	"	" 47

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The G. S. E. begs to tender his thanks to the S. E. of the subordinate Chapters for their promptness in forwarding the above returns, as well as the half yearly returns to 30th June last, which have been all received by him properly filled up, the dues in order. As some of the Chapters had already to assist in defraying preliminary expenses, advanced certain amounts to the Grand Chapter against their fees, the G. S. E. will, as soon as he conveniently can, render accounts to Chapters interested.

The following amounts have been received and disbursed by the G. S. E. and the balance paid over to the Grand Treasurer:—

<p>1877</p> <p>Jan. 13. From St. Charles Chapter for dispensation. . . . . 1 00</p> <p>" 19. From Royal Albert for dispensation. . . . . 1 00</p> <p>" 31. From Carnarvon against fees. . . . . 30 00</p> <p>" 31. From Mount Horeb ag't fees. . . . . 30 00</p> <p>Feb. 9. From Montreal ag't fees. 27 00</p> <p>April 30. From Golden Rule ag't fees. . . . . 50 00</p> <p>Sept. 22. From St. Charles, fees. 5 80</p> <p>" 26. From Royal Albert " . 22 20</p> <p>" 27. From Prevost, fees. . . . 7 90</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: right;">\$174 90</p>	<p>1877</p> <p>Jan. 31. Postages, &amp;c. to date. . . 3 25</p> <p>" 31. Cash to Grand Treasurer. 60 00</p> <p>Feb 14. Cash to Grand Treasurer. 20 00</p> <p>May 31. Postages. . . . . 1 26</p> <p>" 31. Cash to Grand Treasurer. 50 00</p> <p>" 31. Cash for Tin Box. . . . . 2 00</p> <p>Aug 31. Postages to date. . . . . 2 44</p> <p>Sept 27. Postages to date. . . . . 0 50</p> <p>" 27. Advertising Her. &amp; Gaz. 3 00</p> <p>" 27. Minute Books &amp; Postage. 1 45</p> <p>" 27. Balance p'd Grand Treas. 31 00</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: right;">\$174 90</p>
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The whole respectfully submitted.

J. T. McMINN,

G. S. E.

Montreal, 27th Sept. 1877.

## ADDRESS TO THE GRAND CHAPTERS OF THE WORLD.

OFFICE OF THE GRAND Z.

RICHMOND, P.Q., *Dominion of Canada,*

A. I. 27th Dec, 2406, and A. D. 27th Dec., 1876.

*To the M. E. First Grand Principal and other Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of \_\_\_\_\_*

FRATERNAL SALUTATIONS.

M. E. SIR AND BELOVED COMPANIONS :

I have the honor officially to notify you, that, on the 12th instant, a regularly assembled convention of Royal Arch Masons, duly representing the seven Chapters then working under Warrants from the Grand Chapters of Canada, was held in the City of Montreal, and, having taken into careful consideration the condition of Capitular Masonry in their said Province, unanimsously and in perfect harmony formed and established a Grand Chapter in and for the Province of Quebec, in accordance with the Ancient Customs, Constitutions, and Land-Marks of the Order.

The Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, therefore, hereby sends hearty fraternal salutations to your M. E. Grand Chapter praying that your Grand Body will be pleased to extend fraternal recognition to, and establish fraternal communication and representation with us as a duly constituted Grand Chapter, holding and entitled to exercise supreme and exclusive Royal Arch Masonic jurisdiction within our said Province of Quebec.

It affords me extreme satisfaction further to inform you that the formation of the Grand Chapter of Quebec has the concurrence of the M. E. the Grand Chapter of Canada, by permissive resolution passed at its Annual Convocation, in 1874.

Heartily wishing your M. E. Grand Chapter ever continued peace and prosperity, and praying that the benediction of the Most High may rest upon all faithful Companions throughout the world, I have the honor, with profound regard, to be, yours fraternally,

J. H. GRAHAM,

Grand Z. Grand Chapter of Canada.

J. T. McMINN,

Grand Scribe E.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Edgar, seconded by R. E. Comp. Milton, that E. Comp. H. M. Alexander, V. E. Comp. Young, and E. Comp. Whyte, be appointed a Committee to audit the books and

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accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Scribe E. and report thereon during the present session.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment for the space of half an hour :

On the Grand Chapter resuming labor the Committee appointed on the Address of the M. E. G. Z. reported as follows :—

REPORT.

Your Committee appointed to consider the address of the M. E. Grand Z. beg respectfully to report as follows :—

That we cheerfully recognize the goodness of the G. A. of the U. in permitting this Grand Chapter to assemble at its first annual convocation, under such favorable and auspicious circumstances.

That it is the duty of this Grand Chapter to mark in some way its deep sense of the obligations we are under to the parent Grand Chapter of Canada, for the many kind and fraternal considerations extended to us in the peculiar circumstances in which we were placed; and it is recommended that a cordial vote of thanks from this Grand Chapter be communicated to the Grand Principals, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Your Committee are much gratified to learn that such a fraternal reception has been so uniformly extended to the address of this Grand Chapter announcing its organization; and it is with especial satisfaction that we have to acknowledge the fraternal recognition of the Grand Chapters of Canada, Georgia, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Wisconsin, and last, but not least, our staunch and trusty friends and Companions from the Green Mountain State, Vermont; and your committee would most cordially endorse the recommendations of the M. E. Grand Z. that duly accredited Grand Representatives be appointed near these several Grand Chapters.

Your committee cheerfully recognize the successful establishment of this Grand Chapter as marking a new era in the history of Capitular Masonry in this Province, and sincerely express the hope that the results anticipated to flow therefrom by the M. E. Grand Z. may be more than realized.

It is with peculiar satisfaction that your committee would accept the suggestion so gracefully made by the M. E. Grand Z., that an humble and loyal address be presented to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, expressive of our sincere attachment to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and of our affection and loyal respect to the parent Grand Masonic Bodies over which H. R. H. so worthily presides.

Your committee notice with deep regret that we should, so soon after our formation, have to mourn the loss of one so highly esteemed and respected as our late R. E. Comp. James Gibson, Grand Principal Sojourner, and do most heartily recommend the setting apart of a memorial page in our proceedings.

With regard to the adoption of a Constitution and Ritual for this Grand Chapter, your committee recognize the supreme importance of securing, without delay, such aids to the good government of Grand Chapter, as these must necessarily provide, and do therefore recommend that a committee be named by the M. E. Grand Z., to act in conjunction with the Grand Scribe E., in the preparation of the same, assured that under such favorable conditions there is a long era of prosperity before the M. E. Grand Chapter of the Province of Quebec.

The whole respectfully submitted.

ALEX. MURRAY,  
Chairman of Committee.

It was moved by E. Comp. Murray, seconded by R. E. Comp. Woodford, that the report of the committee on the address of the M. E. Grand Z., as just read, be received and adopted.

The Committee appointed to audit and consider the statements and reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Scribe E. reported as follows :—

## REPORT.

The Committee appointed to audit the reports of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer beg leave to report that they have examined the books and vouchers and find the same correct, and are also much pleased to report that full returns and dues have been received from every Chapter under the jurisdiction.

H. M. ALEXANDER,  
Chairman of Committee.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Stearns, seconded by R. E. Companion McLean, that the Report of the Committee on Audit and Finance, just read, be received and adopted.

The Committee appointed to consider the Grand District Superintendents' Report, reported as follows :—

## REPORT.

Your Committee to whom was referred the Reports of the Grand District Superintendents, beg leave most respectfully to submit the following :—

That they have examined and considered the reports received from the Grand District Superintendents of Montreal and Eastern Townships Districts, and find the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in said Districts to be satisfactory, and that the several Chapters are working well and harmoniously, with the exception of Dorchester Chapter in the Eastern Townships District, now dormant; as the Grand District Superintendent of that District reports Blue Lodges in same place in good working order, we recommend that the necessity of moving in this matter be impressed on the Grand Superintendent of said District. The same Grand District Superintendent refers to the American work being practised by Golden Rule Chapter in Sherbrooke, and your Committee would recommend that said Chapter be requested to conform to the Ritual heretofore adopted by the Grand Chapter having jurisdiction in this Province. As, however, the M. E. Grand Z. in his address refers to the advisability of appointing a Ritual Committee, this matter of Golden Rule Chapter might reasonably be allowed to stand over pending action of this Grand Chapter, which would make it of necessity imperative on all subordinate Chapters under its jurisdiction to conform to.

It is a matter of congratulation to your Committee that no Masonic complaints have been received from any of the Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter; this of itself is convincing evidence of a truly Masonic spirit of brotherly love and harmony prevailing amongst the Companions, and which we trust may long continue.

Your Committee regret to note in the reports submitted to them, the record of the death of R. E. Comp. James Gibson, the first Grand Principal Sojourner of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, and of Comp. Galloway L. Kemp, third Principal J. elect of Prevost Chapter; both of whom were zealous and active Companions, and whose departure is much regretted.

No report has been received by us for consideration from Quebec District.

The whole respectfully submitted.

W. M. LEMESURIER,  
Chairman of Committee.

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It was moved by R. E. Comp. Woodford, seconded by E. Comp. Willis, that the Report of the Committee on Grand District Superintendents Reports, just read, be received and adopted.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Edgar, seconded by V. E. Comp. Stevens Baker, that all Committees necessary for the transaction of the business of the Grand Chapter be appointed by the M. E. G. Z.

R. E. Comp. I. H. Stearns presented his Credentials as Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Georgia; he was received and cordially greeted as such by the Grand Chapter of Quebec, and the usual honors accorded him.

R. E. Comp. Stearns replied in suitable terms.

The M. E. G. Z. explained the unfortunate and unavoidable delays that had hitherto prevented the adhesion of Stadacona Chapter, Quebec, and expressed a hope that before long the Grand Chapter would be called upon to welcome this old and highly esteemed Chapter as forming one of its most efficient subordinate Chapters.

The Grand Scribe E. placed before the Grand Chapter the names of the following Companions who have been proposed by their respective Grand Chapters as Grand Representatives of this Grand Chapter near their several Grand Bodies.

For Canada.....	R. E. Comp. Daniel Spry.
“ Georgia.....	“ “ J. Emmett Blackshear.
“ Massachusetts.....	“ “ Baalis Sanford, jr.
“ Connecticut.....	“ “ Hiram B. Scott.
“ Wisconsin.....	“ “ Thomas B. Tyler.
“ New Jersey.....	“ “ Geo. B. Edwards.
“ Vermont.....	“ “ Col. Wm. Brinsmaid.

The M. E. Grand Z. was pleased to confirm the appointment of these Companions as our Grand Representatives, and the Grand Scribe E. was instructed to forward the necessary credentials at his earliest convenience.

The Election of Officers was then proceeded with, the Grand Scribes acting as scrutineers of the ballot. The following Companions were declared duly elected :

M. E. Comp. John Hamilton Graham.....	Grand Z.
R. E. Comp. Isaac Henry Stearns.....	“ H.
“ “ Frank Edgar.....	“ J.
“ “ James T. McMinn.....	“ Scribe E.
“ “ John McLean.....	“ “ N.
“ “ Albert Daniel Nelson.....	“ Prin. Sojourner.
“ “ William Nivin.....	“ Treasurer.
“ “ James Addie.....	“ Registrar.
“ “ John Porteous.....	“ Janitor.

The following Companions were nominated by the Representatives from the respective Districts, and approved by the M. E. Grand Z. as

- GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.
- R. E. Comp. Wm. M. Lemesurier..... Montreal District.
  - R. E. Comp. H. J. Pratten..... Quebec District.
  - R. E. Comp. Stevens Baker..... Eastern Townships District.

The following named Companions were elected members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year :

- R. E. Comp. Geo. H. Borlase..... Montreal.
- R. E. Comp. H. W. Wood..... Knowlton.
- R. E. Comp. James Addie..... Sherbrooke.
- R. E. Comp. Wm. Nivin..... Montreal.
- R. E. Comp. Chas. W. Woodford..... Moptreal.

At a subsequent date the M. E. Grand Z. was pleased to notify the Grand Scribe E. of the following appointments to office for the year ensuing, viz :

- F. T. Thomas, Quebec..... Grand 1st Assistant Sojourner.
- Angus Grant, Montreal..... " 2nd " "
- J. J. Barnard, "..... " Sword Bearer.
- S. Kennedy, Quebec..... " Standard-Bearer.
- Wm. Young, Montreal..... " Director of Ceremonies.
- M. McCarthy, Sherbrooke..... " Organist.
- Chas. R. Willis, Montreal..... " Pursuivant.
- A. G. Adams..... " Steward.
- G. H. Kemp, Cowansville..... " " "
- Thomas Adcock, Montreal..... " " "
- P. L. Cowan, Dunham..... " " "

R. E. Comp. Milton then proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly elected officers, who were proclaimed and saluted with the customary honors.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. McLean, seconded by R. E. Comp. Woodford, and

*Resolved*,—That the cordial thanks of this Grand Chapter be tendered to the Brethren of Royal Albert Lodge, No. 25, for their kindness in granting the use of their rooms, and also for their excellent arrangements for the comfort and convenience of this Grand Chapter at this their first annual convocation.

No further business offering, the minutes were read and approved, and the Grand Chapter of Quebec was closed in AMPLE FORM.

- J. H. GRAHAM,
- Grand 1st Principal Z.
- J. T. McMINN,
- Grand Scribe E.



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**GRAND CHAPTERS, ADDRESS OF GRAND SECRETARIES, AND STATISTICS.**

GRAND CHAPTERS.	GRAND SECRETARY.	RESIDENCE.	No. of Chapters.	No. of Members.
Alabama	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery	47	1345
Arkansas	L. E. Barber	Little Rock	66	839
California	Charles L. Wiggin	San Francisco	47	2781
Canada	Daniel Spry	Toronto	69	3285
Colorado	Ed. C. Parmelee	Georgetown	7	347
Connecticut	Jos. K. Wheeler	Hartford	38	3686
Delaware	J. P. Allmund	Wilmington	6	312
District of Columbia	Chas. W. Hancock	Washington	8	1078
Florida	Dewitt C. Dawkins	Jacksonville	14	389
Georgia	J. Emmett Blackshear	Macon	57	2118
Illinois	James H. Miles	Chicago	160	10828
Indiana	John M. Bramwell	Indianapolis	93	4918
Iowa	Wm. B. Langridge	Muscatine	82	4134
Kansas	E. J. Carr	Leavenworth	34	1153
Kentucky	Jos. H. Branham	Louisville	106	3794
Louisiana	J. C. Batchelor	New Orleans	29	1428
Maine	Ira Berry	Portland	42	4033
Maryland	Wm. A. Wentz	Baltimore	14	1330
Massachusetts	Z. H. Thomas, jr.	Boston	68	9270
Michigan	Wm. P. Innes	Grand Rapids	101	7310
Minnesota	A. T. C. Pierson	St. Paul	31	1396
Mississippi	J. L. Power	Jackson	81	2327
Missouri	John W. Luke	St. Louis	88	3787
Nebraska	Wm. R. Bowen	Omaha	13	667
New Hampshire	George P. Cleaves	Concord	19	2115
New Jersey	Thomas J. Corson	Trenton	33	2718
New York	Chris. G. Fox	Buffalo	191	18539
North Carolina	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh	21	842
Nova Scotia	James Gossip	Halifax	9	364
Ohio	James Nesbet	Troy	136	8579
Oregon	Rockey P. Earhart	Portland	11	391
Pennsylvania	John Thomson	Philadelphia	96	9830
Quebec	James T. McMinn	Montreal	9	439
Rhode Island	Wm. R. Greene	Providence	10	1617
South Carolina	J. E. Burke	Charleston	29	948
Tennessee	John Frizzell	Nashville	95	3579
Texas	Robert Brewster	Houston	135	3998
Vermont	W. H. S. Whitcomb	Burlington	23	1868
Virginia	Wm. R. Isaacs	Richmond	42	1624
West Virginia	Odell S. Long	Wheeling	17	509
Wisconsin	John W. Woodhull	Milwaukee	50	2891
			<b>2,229</b>	<b>132,406</b>

## TABULAR STATEMENT

Extracted from Returns for Six Months ending 30th June, 1877.

No.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	No of Registrations	No. of Joinings.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	No. of Members.
1	Golden Rule.....	Sherbrooke.....	12	2	33			80
2	Stadacona.....	Quebec.....						55
3	Prevost.....	Dunham.....	1				1	49
4	Dorchester.....	Waterloo.....						
5	Carnarvon.....	Montreal.....	3	3	5			41
6	Mount Horeb.....	Montreal.....	3	2	2		1	68
7	Montreal.....	Montreal.....	4	7	7	2		36
8	Royal Albert.....	Montreal.....	5					72
9	St. Charles.....	Point St. Charles.....	2		6	4	1	38
			30	7	53	6	3	439

\* No Returns.

## GRAND REPRESENTATIVES OF SISTER GRAND CHAPTERS.

<i>To Grand Chapter of Quebec.</i>	<i>Grand Chapters.</i>	<i>From Grand Chapter of Quebec</i>
Thomas Milton, Montreal.	Canada.	Daniel Spry, Toronto.
Alexander Murray, "	Colorado.	Joseph Anderson, Golden.
Eugene M. Copeland, Berthier	Connecticut.	Hiram K. Scott, Ridgefield.
Isaac H. Stearns, Montreal.	Georgia.	J. Emmett Blackshear, Macon
Albert D. Nelson,	Illinois.	Arthur R. H. Atkins, Chicago
James Addie, Sherbrooke.	Kansas.	John D. Pryor, Winfield.
James Dunbar, Quebec.	Maine.	
H. J. Pratten,	Maryland.	Chas. F. Achey, Baltimore.
George H. Boriase, Montreal.	Massachusetts.	Baalis Sanford, jr., Brockton.
Wm. M. Lemesurier, "	Missouri.	John W. Luke, St. Louis.
James T. McMinn, "	New Jersey.	G. B. Edwards, Jersey Heights
George O. Tyler.	Vermont.	Wm. Brinsmaid, Burlington.
Stevens Baker, Dunham.	West Virginia.	Hugh Sterling, Wheeling.
H. W. Wood, Knowlton.	Wisconsin.	Thomas B. Tyler, Sparta.

e, 1877.

Deaths.	No. of Members.
	80
I	55
	49
	41
I	68
	36
	72
I	38
3	439

IN MEMORIAM.

R. E. COMPANION

James Gibson,

Past Z. St. Charles Chapter,

AND

First Principal Sojourner of the Grand

Chapter of Quebec.

DIED

21st June, 1877.

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# APPENDIX.

## REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE FOR 1877.

*To the M. E. Grand Z. and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch  
Masons of Quebec.*

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg most respectfully to submit their report on the proceedings of the following Grand Chapters :

Alabama.....	December, 1876	Mississippi.....	February, 1877
Arkansas.....	October, 1876	New Jersey.....	September, 1876
Canada.....	August, 1877	Tennessee.....	November, 1876
Colorado.....	September, 1876	Vermont.....	September, 1876
Connecticut.....	May, 1877	West Virginia.....	November, 1876
District of Columbia.....	December, 1876	Wisconsin.....	February, 1877
Georgia.....	April, 1877	Maryland.....	November, 1876
Massachusetts.....	December, 1876		

We approach the duty imposed on us by the generous kindness and confidence of our M. E. Grand Z. with much fear and trembling. We trust that our youth and inexperience will plead, trumpet-tongued, against any very severe criticism, and that all crudeness observable in the arrangement and getting up of the different reports will be excused on these grounds. We have only to express the hope that the Companions of our jurisdiction may experience as much pleasure from the results of our labor, as we have ourselves found in the work, and that they may thereby be induced to search for further light regarding the important questions so ably discussed by the master minds of the order in the various proceedings of the Grand Bodies under review.

### ALABAMA.

The fiftieth Annual Convocation was held in Montgomery on Tuesday, 5th December, 1876, M. E. Comp. James E. Cobb, Grand High Priest, presiding. Thirty-two Chapters were represented.

The G. H. P. regrets that from such information as he can gather, he cannot report so favorably of the condition of the order as could be wished. He exhorts the Companions to a more punctual attendance upon the convocations of their Chapters, and most beautifully says :—

“ To become Masons true and tried, and to continue in the good way, you must needs frequently come within the glow of your altar fires and receive their warmth.”

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He reports the following decision :—

"Any member of a Chapter has the right to interpose objection, *without stating his reasons*, to the reception of a candidate after his election, and when such objection is interposed the candidate cannot receive the degrees until it is withdrawn : *but if the objecting member is present at the balloting*, and after favorable result announced, states his objection in open Chapter, and gives his reason for objecting, it is the province of the Chapter to determine upon the sufficiency of the reasons given, and if they appear to be frivolous, to disregard the objection and confer the degrees."

Will the Alabama Companions please give us more light on this peculiar decision ; the italics are our own ; we decidedly object to the words "without stating his reasons," and fail completely to fathom the mystery of the second phrase we italicise.

The G. H. P. says truly, and this time no fog obscures our vision—  
"The dispensing power should be exercised with great caution."

It seems worth while being a G. H. P. in Alabama. P. G. H. P., Myles J. Greene was presented with a silver set.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence by Comp. Pillans is a carefully compiled and interesting review of the proceedings of 34 Grand Chapters, but our space and the fearful threatenings of our Grand Treasurer as to printers bills make us a little nervous in spreading out our remarks.

Companion Pillans, in accordance with our Canadian ruling, considers exclusion for non-payment of dues in a Blue Lodge not sufficient for exclusion from a Chapter, but that actual suspension from the Lodge for other causes would materially affect his position in the Chapter.

As to the proper quorum necessary to open and work a Chapter there seems great diversity of opinion in the several jurisdictions ; the general idea seems to favor nine regular Companions of the Chapter in good standing. We do not profess to know much about the powers and functions of the General Grand Chapter, but could not this supreme and mysterious authority give forth an oracular and authoritative response in reply to so many anxious enquiries. Comp. Pillans under Kansas agrees with that Grand Chapter that "there must be present nine regular R. A. Masons," and so also do we ; but the question arises, must they all be members of that Chapter ? and then the various authorities go it.

We hope to meet Alabama soon again, and that in our next report, if we should survive the composition of the present one, to have the pleasure of recording the recognition of our Grand Chapter by that of Alabama.

Subordinate Chapters, 44 ; membership, 1120.

M. E. Comp. James E. Cobb, Tuskegee, re-elected Grand High Priest ; R. E. Comp. Daniel Sayre, Montgomery, Grand Secretary ; Comp. Palmer J. Pillans, Mobile, Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

## ARKANSAS.

Clothed in the true Chapter scarlet, emblem of fervency and zeal, come to us the proceedings of the twenty-seventh Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, convened in the city of Little Rock, on the 5th October, 1876, M. E. Comp<sup>s</sup> E. R. Duval, Grand High Priest, presiding.

We have perused with much interest the beautiful address of the G. H. P., but regret that we are unwillingly compelled to forego the pleasure of laying it before our Companions.

He reports the destruction by fire of the manuscript of the proceedings of the Annual Convocation of 1875, and that Comp. Barber, the Grand Secretary, made them up from memory, leaving nothing material unnoticed. Let this be proclaimed aloud throughout all the jurisdictions, and let them try to produce a Grand Secretary equal to the task.

The M. E. G. H. P. quotes a decision he made as follows:

"Decided that a dispensation was unnecessary to instal a Companion who had been elected the H. P. of his Chapter from the floor."

We dont appear to have the force of mind properly to grasp the import of this decision, as with us such an election is impossible, but will leave it to our Companions for their careful consideration.

The address concludes with some just and pertinent remarks in reference to the want of interest taken in Masonic literature by the great body of the fraternity, and thus the G. H. P. endeavors to recommend a remedy:

"Let the H. P. lecture at every communication, enlighten, interest, and feed the minds of those over whom they preside, give them the elements of instruction, and assist them to assimilate it, in order that there may be growth in strength, growth in beauty, and growth in wisdom. Encourage by example the reading of masonic literature, subscribe for and cause to be read masonic periodicals; plenty of them there are, and cheap enough to be accessible to the poorest."

Now, dear and respected G. H. P. of Arkansas, as example is in all cases better than precept, when you are so strongly impressed with the value of masonic literature and its influence for good on the Companions, why dont you insist on some of your experienced Companions (for doubtless you have many of them in your jurisdiction) producing a well digested Report on Foreign Correspondence. We might fill our pages to overflowing with the valuable recommendations given to this department of masonic labor by the best minds we boast of as belonging to the Royal craft. Please think of this in future, and dont deny the Companions of your jurisdiction the best possible masonic literature you can lay before them. From the immortal apology once given by Comp. Van Hoose, instead of a report, we know what you can do if you try. We are glad to notice a Committee on this subject has been appointed.

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We hope the claims of our Grand Chapter for recognition will not be overlooked at the next Annual Convocation.

Subordinate Chapters making returns, 26 ; membership therein, 839

M. E. Comp. E. R. Duval, Grand High Priest ; Comp. L. E. Barber, Grand Secretary ; Comp. J. R. Eakin, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

#### CANADA.

It is with feelings of peculiar interest and pleasure, that we now open the Proceedings of the Twentieth Annual Convocation of our dearly beloved and highly respected Mother Grand Chapter, the Grand Chapter of Canada. This Convocation was held in the city of London in the province of Ontario, on Wednesday the 8th day of August 1877, M. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, Grand Z. presiding. This volume also contains the proceedings of an Emergency Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada held in the city of Toronto, province of Ontario, on the 2nd day of February, 1877.

We are sure we confer a favor on our Quebec Companions by quoting from the proceedings of the Emergency Convocation in reference to the special object in calling the same.

"The M. E. Grand Z., L. H. Henderson, stated that he had called this Emergency Convocation at the request of a number of Companions who desired that some immediate proceeding should be taken, in consequence of the Quebec Chapters having met in convention on the 12th of December, 1876, and organized a Grand Chapter for that Province. He would direct the Grand Scribe E. to read all the correspondence and documents which have been received in connection with this important question, and he felt assured that Grand Chapter would deal with this matter in a manner that would reflect honor and credit upon the Royal craft in the Dominion of Canada."

"The Grand Scribe E. then read—

"1st. The requisition requesting the Grand Z. to call this Emergency Convocation."

"2nd. The circular calling the Emergency."

"3rd. The circular issued by the Companions in Quebec, calling the convention for the organization of a Grand Chapter for that Province."

"4th. The official announcement of the formation of said Grand Chapter."

"5th. A certified copy of the proceedings of the convention over which R. E. Comp. Thomas Milton presided."

"6th. Telegrams from R. E. Comp. I. H. Stearns of Montreal, certifying that all the Chapters meeting in the Province of Quebec, including St. Paul's Chapter on the registry of the Grand Chapter of England, had been invited to unite in the movement for the formation of the Grand Chapter."

"7th. A return showing number, name, place of meeting, number of members, and amount paid to Grand Chapter by Chapters holding warrants in Quebec from the date of their formation."

"After which it was moved by M. E. Comp. James Seymour, seconded by R. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet—

"That all the papers relating to the formation of the Grand Chapter of Quebec be referred to the Executive Committee for consideration, with instructions to report as speedily as possible during the present session."

"The Grand Chapter was called off until 5 o'clock p.m."

"The Grand Chapter resumed labor at 5 o'clock p.m."

"Officers as at the afternoon session."

R. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, on behalf of the Executive Committee, reported the following resolutions, and moved their adoption."

"That whereas at a convention of the duly accredited representatives of a majority of the Royal Arch Chapters meeting in the Province of Quebec, to which all the Chapters in the said Province were invited, resolutions declaring the advisability of at once forming a Grand Chapter for that Province, were unanimously adopted and acted upon, the election and installation of Grand Officers proceeded with, and the formal proclamation of the Grand Chapter for the Province of Quebec was duly made;

"And whereas the said Grand Chapter has officially communicated the above facts to this Grand Chapter, at the same time preferring a request for recognition;

"And whereas the proceedings at the said convention appear to have been just, regular, and in accordance with ancient usage and established customs in connection with the formation of Grand Bodies, be it therefore resolved

"That the Grand Chapter of Canada hereby cordially and fraternally extend recognition to the Grand Chapter of Quebec, and welcomes her as a sister among the Grand Chapters of the world."

"After considerable discussion, in which M. E. Comp. Seymour and R. E. Comps. W. H. Weller, Menet, D. McLellan, T. Sargant, J. G. Burns, and others took part, the resolutions submitted by the Committee were unanimously adopted."

Thus with all the established constitutional formalities was an official recognition cordially and fraternally extended to our infant Grand Chapter by the parent Grand Body, and we would be wanting in proper respect to the Grand Chapter of Canada did we fail to record here our high appreciation both of our recognition and also of the manner in which it was so heartily accorded.

The M. E. Grand Z. address is able and interesting; he calls the attention of the Companions to a retrospective view of Masonry for the past twenty years, and the progress it has made since three Chapters assembled together in January, 1857, and formed the Grand Chapter of Canada. He expresses his gratitude to the Great Disposer of events that he has not to report the death in his jurisdiction of any of the prominent leaders during the past year. He pays merited respect to the memory of the late Companion Geo. Frank Gouley, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, and Grand Representative of Canada near his Grand Body. His untimely fate has been deplored by thousands of Masons on this continent, and wherever the news spreads grief will depress all true Masonic hearts, for his name

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was a household word in the Masonic world. Canada pays to him the graceful tribute of a memorial page.

We are glad that the M. E. G. Z. is able to report that all difficulties with the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, anent the Grand representativship, are now amicably arranged.

We note with pleasure the remarks of the Grand Superintendent of Huron as to the necessity of taking some steps to place the craft in possession of the authorized work, and most heartily concur in the following remarks: "Not only is there a great verbal diversity in the work throughout the jurisdiction, but the mystical language itself is in many cases veiled in doubt and confusion.

From the absence of decisions of any question by the M. E. G. Z. we assume that harmony prevails in this jurisdiction. We note in the report of the Toronto Grand District Superintendent that he ruled that the suspension of a Companion by a Craft Lodge for non-payment of dues did not in any way affect his rights and privileges as a Royal Arch Mason. We are not clear on this question, if you use the word suspension. We regret we have not the space or time at command at present to discuss it, but as an instance of how some other able minds look upon it we quote from the proceedings of New Jersey for 1875, where the inimitable Corson, after recording a similar decision from a sister Chapter, carried in the form of a resolution, says:

"Well they may resolvoot till the cows come home, but it wont convince the undersigned that he has a right to sit in a Masonic body with a *suspended* Mason, let the cause of suspension be what it may."

We are somewhat of the same opinion ourselves, and recommend this view of the question to our Canada Companions, and especially to the Toronto Grand District Superintendent.

We are glad to report the exchange of Grand Representatives between our two Grand Bodies; R. E. Comp. Daniel Spry has honored us by accepting this position near his own Grand Chapter, and in the proceedings under review we read with pleasure that our worthy Grand Representative presented his credentials in this capacity, which the M. E. G. Z. was pleased to receive, and the usual Masonic salutations were extended to him. Our M. E. G. Z. has been pleased to nominate R. E. Comp. Thomas Milton as the Grand Representative of Canada near this Grand Chapter.

Sorry are we that we must deny ourselves the pleasure of referring to Comp. Robertson's masterly Report on Foreign Correspondence, but the inexorable fates forbid. We however can continue to enjoy its perusal, and we only wish it could be placed in the hands of every

Companion of both our jurisdictions. We hope to have more space at our disposal next time.

Subordinate Chapters, 70; membership, 3115

M. E. Fred J. Menet, Toronto, elected M. E. G. Z.

R. E. Daniel Spry, " " G. S. E.

R. E. Henry Robertson, Collingwood, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

#### COLORADO.

The second annual convocation of this young and vigorous Grand Chapter was held at Denver, on Thursday, 21st September, 1876, M. E. Comp. Wm. N. Byers, G. H. P., presiding. We have to acknowledge with pleasure the receipt of the proceedings of that Convocation, and also the proceedings of the convention to organize this Grand Chapter, held in May, 1875, and the proceedings of their first annual convocation in Sept. 1875. We are thus enabled to be present at the birth of this healthy infant, and can watch its growth and progress. We have strong feelings of sympathy with this Grand Chapter, as its condition so closely resembles our own.

We have most pleasing and convincing evidence of the assembling of the third annual convocation of this Grand Chapter in September last, in the form of a communication from R. E. Comp. E. C. Parmelee, Grand Secretary, transmitting to us a copy of the following resolution unanimously adopted thereat:

*Resolved*,—That the Grand Chapter of Colorado learns with pleasure of the organization of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Quebec, and cordially extends to her the right hand of fellowship, and heartily welcomes her to a place among our sister Grand Chapters, with the fervent wish that her career may be long and useful."

Correspondence is now taking place in reference to an exchange of Grand Representatives.

The M. E. G. H. Priest's address congratulates the Companions on the progress of the Grand Chapter; he has not been called upon for any decisions, and had only one question submitted to him by a subordinate Chapter. This was a request for his opinion if a Master Mason who, since he was raised to that degree, had had the misfortune to lose his right arm in battle, fighting for the liberties of his country, was disqualified from receiving the R. A. The M. E. G. H. P. referred the matter to Grand Chapter; and after due consideration we find the following resolution unanimously adopted by the Grand Chapter:—

*Resolved*,—That it is the sense of the Grand Chapter that it is not lawful to confer the Chapter Degrees upon a one-armed Mason."

We cannot see any other conclusion to which they could have come. We are glad to see Colorado alive to the necessity of a uniform work for their jurisdiction, and note with pleasure that a committee has been appointed to review the work of the several subordinate Chapters, to agree on some uniform system, and exemplify the same at next annual convocation.

Comp. Parmelee in introducing a very able report on the proceedings of 32 Grand Chapters, is very modest and says he has "in our poor way" reviewed them. We have derived a great deal of pleasure and instruction from this "poor" review, and only wish we had the time and space to take a look in company with such an experienced guide at the various Grand Chapters interviewed by him.

In many of the jurisdictions we have had the opportunity of noticing a considerable amount of discussion in reference to the privileges of a Companion who receives the P. M. degree in a R. A. Chapter, as to whether he has any rights, official or otherwise, in a Symbolic Lodge. We are glad to say we experience no trouble: in our Canadian jurisdictions the relative rights and privileges of "actual" and "virtual" P. M.'s are clearly laid down and thoroughly understood.

Subordinate Chapters, 7; membership, 347.

M. E. Comp. Irving W. Stanton, Pueblo, Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Ed. C. Parmelee, Georgetown, Grand Secretary.

M. E. Comp. Wm. N. Byers, Denver, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

#### CONNECTICUT.

The seventy-ninth annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in New Haven on 8th May, 1877, M. E. Comp. Henry W. Coye, Grand High Priest, presiding.

The M. E. G. H. P. appropriately opens his address by asking the Companions, "as we clasp each others hands and gather round the altar reverently to bow before Him from whom all blessings come, and offer up our sincere and heartfelt thanks for the merciful kindness that has spared our lives another year and brought us with unbroken ranks to another glad re-union."

He refers in touching and affecting terms to the heavy loss sustained not only by the Grand Chapter of Missouri, but by the entire Masonic world, in the sudden and terrible death of R. E. Comp. Geo. Frank Gouley, who perished in the flames at the burning of the Southern Hotel, St. Louis, on the 10th April, 1877. He was also Grand Representative of Connecticut near his own Grand Chapter, and a beau-

tiful memorial page to his memory is placed in the proceedings under notice. These lines on this page are worthy of record :

" Among the dead our Brother sleeps,  
 " His life was rounded true and well,  
 " And love in bitter sorrow weeps  
 " Above his dark and silent cell."

The M. E. G. H. P. reports a decision to the following effect, which the committee on jurisprudence reported to the Grand Chapter, and the same was confirmed :

" In a subordinate Chapter a candidate, on a clear ballot, was declared elected and entitled to receive the Capitular degrees. At a special convocation called to confer on him the M. M. degree, a Companion interposed an objection, and called for a ballot. Referred to the G. H. P. he decided in favor of the objecting Companion's right to call for a fresh ballot, and also, that by the regulations of the Grand Chapter a separate and distinct ballot must be taken for each and every degree should an objecting Companion so require."

As there is no mention made of the requirement of the reasons or grounds for such objections, to be given for the satisfaction and approval of the assembled Companions, we presume a simple objection is all that is necessary.

If such is the case, we cannot but consider such a procedure both unjust and unmasonic. In our jurisdiction, far up north among the Canadian frosts and snows, there still linger some curious constitutional ideas on masonic subjects, which the march of intellect in more favored regions seems to have almost destroyed. Among those fossils is the strange one of considering that we are entitled sacredly to keep all promises made, to whomsoever given. With us, after all constitutional forms are complied with, by a clear ballot the candidate is declared entitled to have conferred on him the several degrees of M.M., P.M., M.E.M. and R.A. in regular sequence; nor can his advancement at any future stage be interfered with or retarded by the simple objection of a Companion, unless such objection be accompanied by reasons placed openly before the Chapter, of which the assembled Companions are the sole judges.

The following resolution offered by Comp. Hutchinson, for consideration at next annual convocation, will we trust put the rulings of Connecticut in constitutional order :

"*Resolved*,—That in the opinion of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter, no candidate for exaltation to the Capitular degrees of Masonry should be subjected to a second ballot, after a ballot has been once declared clear and the candidate declared elected, and so recorded in the records of any subordinate Chapter, unless the Companion who may object to the advancement of any candidate to any of the degrees of Capitular Masonry shall do so on the ground of newly discovered evi-

dence against the masonic character of the candidate since the ballot which elected him was taken."

The receipt of the circular announcing the formation of our Grand Chapter is kindly acknowledged in the G. H. P.'s address, and fraternal recognition and cordial welcome to Quebec heartily recommended. At a subsequent state of the proceedings we find the following resolution adopted by the Grand Chapter :

"*Resolved*,—That this Grand Chapter extends the right hand of fellowship to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Quebec, and welcomes it into the family of Grand Royal Arch Chapters."

This was soon followed by an interchange of Grand Representatives ; Comp. Hiram K. Scott honoring us by accepting the position of our Grand Representative near his own Grand Body, and credentials have been duly received and forwarded to our esteemed R. E. Comp. Eugene M. Copeland as Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut near that of Quebec.

We regret to find no Report on Correspondence contained in these proceedings, but they seem to be setting their house in order for next year, as among the newly appointed officers we find Comp. John H. Barlow of Birmingham appointed Committee on Masonic Correspondence. We hope to hear from him next year.

Subordinate Chapters, 35 ; Membership, 3837.

M. E. Comp. H. W. Coye, Hartford, Grand High Priest. Comp. J. K. Wheeler, Hartford, Grand Secretary ; Comp. John H. Barlow, Birmingham, Committee on Masonic Correspondence.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The tenth annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in Washington on 13th December, 1876, M. E. Comp. Geo. B. Clark, Grand High Priest, presiding.

The volume before us contains also the proceedings of a semi-annual convocation held on 1st June, 1876, and of a special convocation held on Sunday, 22nd October, 1877 ; the former of these was occupied solely with local business, and the latter was convened to attend the funeral of their beloved Past Grand High Priest, J. E. F. Holmead.

In his address at the annual convocation, the M. E. G. H. P. referred in fitting terms to the loss sustained by them in the death of Comp. Holmead, who was their first Grand High Priest, and a short sketch of his life and services to Masonry was given in the address. The M. E. G. H. P. suggests that the Grand Chapter be convened some evening as a Chapter of sorrow, to honor the memory of their

departed Grand H. P. From the remarks of the Grand High Priest we find that several of the Chapters in his jurisdiction have on different occasions held Chapters of Sorrow, and he strongly recommends the practice to all jurisdictions. We highly approve of the same.

We learn also from the address that a great deal of attention is paid to the exemplification of the work in the several subordinate Chapters, which seems to be productive of the best results. The Grand Lecturer, Comp. John Lockie's, report is highly satisfactory.

A communication was received from the Grand Recorder of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Mississippi and reported on by a Committee. We regret that our space will not allow us to enter fully into this question, but the matter at issue is not one materially affecting us in Quebec at present, and we can only afford to quote one of the resolutions offered by the committee, as being, in our opinion, of more than local interest; it runs thus:

*Resolved*.—That it is the opinion of this Grand Chapter that the Past Master's degree should be dropped from the list of Capital degrees as unnecessary in the Chapter."

This resolution was adopted by the Grand Chapter, and we commend the consideration of this important question to the careful consideration of our Grand Chapter.

There is also some correspondence about the Grand Representative difficulty with Canada, but as this matter is now amicably arranged we are released from the necessity of referring to it.

We notice an amendment offered which was laid over until next semi-annual convocation, to the effect that all Grand Representatives received or appointed must have attained the rank of High Priest, or be a member of his respective Grand Chapter. Nothing like maintaining the dignity of this high office.

Comp. Edwin B. MacGratty, in seventy pages, presents us with an admirable review of 36 Grand Chapters; our regret is that we are compelled almost to pass it over without notice, for we should have liked to place before our Companions the opinions of such an able reviewer on many interesting and disputed points. Were we once to commence we would not know where to stop. We notice also that Comp. McGratty retires from the ranks of the Reporters, a loss which will be felt among the noble army. We hope, if it should fall to our lot, we will at a future time be able to do more justice to the District of Columbia.

Subordinate Chapters, 8; Membership, 1078.

M. E. Comp. Isaac L. Johnson, Washington, Grand High Priest; R. E. Comp. Chas. W. Hancock, Washington, Grand Secretary; M. E. Comp. N. D. Larner, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

## GEORGIA.

The fifty-fifth annual convocation was held in the city of Macon, the 25th April, 1877, M. E. Comp. Luther J. Glenn, Grand High Priest, presiding.

His address is eminently beautiful and instructive, and was highly appreciated by the Grand Chapter, but we regret that we are compelled to forego the pleasure of laying it before the Quebec Companions.

We find him decide as follows :—

“ A Companion suspended for non-payment of dues is not liable for them during the time of his suspension.”

“ A Companion suspended for non-payment of Lodge dues cannot sit in a Chapter.”

The above decisions are both contrary to the rulings in our jurisdiction. While laying no responsibility on the Grand Chapter of Quebec for the opinions here expressed, we must say for ourselves that we are disposed to agree with the latter decision. This knotty question has always presented itself to our minds thus : the constitutional foundation on which the exaltation of a Master Mason is erected, is with us “ his good standing” as such ; if, by the action of his Lodge, the foundation be impaired or destroyed, the entire structure seems to us to become weakened and in danger of destruction. We dare not knowingly exalt a suspended Mason, why then continue to employ imperfect material in the building of the temple.

The M. E. G. H. P. also decides, and in this decision we most cordially agree, that all By-laws in subordinate Chapter of this nature, “ that no member in arrears of dues for twelve months shall be allowed the privilege of voting,” are illegal and unconstitutional. If Georgia will excuse us we should like to refer to a case occurring in another jurisdiction, which bears strongly upon this point. It occurs in the proceedings of Wisconsin for 1876, and for a clear and distinct statement of it we are indebted to the proceedings of Colorado ; our acknowledgments are tendered accordingly. A protest was entered against the installation of a Secretary elect, on the strength of a section of one of the Chapter By-laws reading thus : “ No member shall be eligible for office who is in arrears for dues exceeding one year.” The election was suspended ; the question was referred to the G.H.P. whose decision was in favor of enforcing the By-law on the grounds that the Companion was fully aware of its provisions and should have complied with them. The Committee of Jurisprudence reported on this decision, and thus, we are glad to say, succeeded in bringing light

out of darkness, by presenting the following resolution, which the Grand Chapter adopted, and which has our entire approval :

"*Resolved*,—That all By-laws adopted by any Chapter in this jurisdiction, disfranchising any member thereof, without due notice and trial, are hereby declared by this Grand Chapter to be unmasonic and of no force."

This we commend to the consideration and adoption of all Masonic Bodies as in our opinion strictly sound and constitutional. We trust the importance of the matter will sufficiently excuse us intruding this Wisconsin case under the head of Georgia.

We are glad to find we are not alone in our admiration of the inimitable Corson of New Jersey. In Companion Lawrence's report on Foreign Correspondence, a master-piece in its way, but which for strong reasons we must refrain from noticing at length, he thus heralds our favorite :

"And lo! here comes, laden with good things, full of masonry, wealthy in sentiment, abounding in wit and humor, the laureate,

"Dear to the Craft for evermore,

"Corson who hugs the Jersey shore,

"*Facile princeps* at our Feast,

"Rise all to greet the welcome guest."

And thus Comp. Lawrence concludes his admirable report :

"And now praying and trusting we may all meet in our Father's House, at the Great Harvest Feast of all nations and kindreds and tongues, each bringing a full and acceptable report ; and invoking the light of His countenance and His blessing and peace while on our weary way there, we bid you once more, Companions, a fraternal adieu."

We have pleasure in reporting that fraternal recognition has been accorded our Grand Chapter by that of Georgia, and that R. E. Comp. J. Emmet Blackshear, now represents the Grand Chapter of Quebec near his own Grand Body, and R. E. Comp. I. H. Stearns, our worthy and esteemed Second Grand Principal H. has received his credentials as Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Georgia near the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

Subordinate Chapters, 44 ; Membership, 1724.

M. E. Comp. Luther J. Glenn, Atlanta, re-elected Grand H. P. ; R. E. Comp. J. Emmet Blackshear, Macon, re-elected Grand Secretary ; M. E. Comp. Samuel Lawrence, Chairman of Foreign Correspondence.

## MASSACHUSETTS.

The handsome volume now before us contains the proceedings of this Grand Chapter from March, 1876, to December, 1876, including in its ample space the records of its convocations during that period, three quarterly, two special, and one annual, M. E. Comp. Alfred T. Chapman, Grand High Priest, presiding at all the convocations. The entire volume abounds in evidences of a most thorough organization, and a fervency and zeal in promulgating the true and genuine tenets and principles of the Order, which should be both example and encouragement to less favored jurisdictions.

The special convocation on the 27th September, 1876, was held for the purpose of constituting and consecrating Unity Chapter in the town of Chicopee Falls, and for installing the officers. M. E. Comp. Chapman's "Dedication address" at the close of the installation is an invaluable contribution to masonic literature, but its length unfortunately prevents us from laying it in full before our Companions; to show however the tone of the address, we claim attention to the following beautiful passage:—

"Living through ages of uncertainty, with its existence depending upon the good character of its adherents, and its legends upon tradition for preservation and transmission, it has outlived dynasties, endured persecution, outgrown envy, and now independent of the malice of the wicked and the weak, it is beyond dispute the oldest and the best of all the moral forces of human organization."

"It invades not the spiritual domain of religion, and imposes no dogmas of creed upon its members; but with the Bible open upon its altar, and a belief in God as the sole requirement for the erection of its spiritual edifice, it teaches that our moral and spiritual characters should be most like God, and enforces its lessons by the use of appropriate symbols."

The morning session of the annual convocation in December was set apart for the exemplification of the work and lectures of the several degrees in R. A. Masonry; and at the close of the exemplification, during which close attention was paid to the work and lectures, the M. E. G. H. P. expressed his gratification at the interest manifested by so large and attentive an assembly. May we soon have such a record in the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

We are always naturally delighted when we find ideas and opinions, which we have been trying to work out and determine for ourselves, clearly and definitely expressed, and eloquently argued and maintained by some master mind. This gratification we have just experienced in reference to the question of the right of objections to an elected candidate. In Comp. Dadmun's able and elaborate report on Foreign Correspondence, in the proceedings under notice, and which we regret

we must part with almost without notice, for, as Corson somewhere remarks, necessity, like many a lawyer, "knows no law," we find him speaking thus of Comp. Henry Robertson of Canada :

"He quotes us on the objection question, and fully endorses our views; he is one of the 'three worthies.' The number will have to be increased, for worthies are rapidly multiplying."

When Comp. Dadmun issues a revised list of worthies, we trust he will include Quebec.

Comp. Robertson's quotation from Dadmun is found in the report on Georgia Correspondence in the Canada proceedings for 1875, and is so clear and forcible a statement of this disputed matter, that we feel we are conferring an obligation on the Companions by inserting it. It reads thus :—

"In this jurisdiction, when the ballot is taken, it is for *all* the degrees, so that if the ballot is clear the candidate is entitled to all. Now, we will suppose, after a candidate has been elected to receive the degrees, a Companion objects to his advancement, can he claim a new ballot? Not by any law in masonry, *unless* the objection be well founded. Can he claim that his objection is a negative ballot? Certainly not, because the ballot has been taken as the law directs, and it was unanimously favorable. In what light then must we view it? We answer simply as an objection. Have I not a right then, as a Royal Arch Mason, to ask my objecting Companion why he brings this objection at this last stage of the proceedings? When the candidate applied for the degrees, due notice was sent to all the members; the constitutional time elapsed before the ballot was taken; and it may be that the candidate has been received and acknowledged a M. E. M. We repeat, have we not a right to ask why he objects? We think we have."

We cordially agree with the remarks of Comp. Robertson on this argument of Comp. Dadmun :—

"We think Comp. Dadmun has completely established his position and thoroughly scattered the sophistry which would allow a simple objection to stay the advancement of a candidate without good cause being shown."

The only other portion of the Correspondence of Massachusetts we can find room for, is an interesting communication received from R. E. Comp. Z. H. Thomas, Grand Secretary of that Grand Chapter, under date of the 22nd June last, addressed to our Grand Scribe E., reading thus :—

"At a regular convocation of our Grand Royal Arch Chapter, held on the 12th inst., the following resolution was unanimously passed :

"Resolved that the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts hereby gives official recognition to the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, and cordially welcomes that body to the sisterhood of Grand Chapters."

This was followed by an interchange of Grand Representatives, R. E. Comp. Baalis Sanford, jr., representing the Grand Chapter of

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Quebec near his own Grand Body ; and R. E. Comp. Geo. H. Borlase, P. G. H., representing the interests of Massachusetts near this Grand Chapter.

Subordinate Chapters, 68 ; Membership, 9270.

M. E. Comp. Smith B. Harrington, Medford, Grand High Priest ;

R. E. Comp. Zeph. H. Thomas, jr., Boston, Grand Secretary ;

M. E. Comp. Dadmun, Winthrop, Chairman Committee Foreign Correspondence.

#### MISSISSIPPI.

The twenty-ninth Convocation was held in Vicksburg, on the 5th February, 1877, M. E. Comp. Harvey W. Walter, Grand High Priest, presiding.

A Grand Chapter is indeed to be congratulated when its M. E. Grand H. P. can thus address it.

"Our order has grown, if not in members, in temperance and virtue ; the spirituale of our ritual has been more highly appreciated ; bickerings are unknown, and finally, no Memorial Tablet will claim a place in this year's published proceedings. Not a complaint has been made to me, not a charge preferred, and not a legal question propounded during the past year."

Happy, happy Mississippi.

He congratulates the Grand Chapter on the prospect of the surrender to that body of the Degrees of the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Mississippi, and pictures in glowing terms the results which he hopes will flow from this surrender. Amen, so mote it be, we say ; but our experience is not sufficient to decide as to the correctness of his theory. Like the rulers in many other jurisdictions he would like the P. M. degree excised from Capitular Masonry, and says, "In no portion of the Masonic world is this degree recognized as part of Capitular Masonry, save in the United States," thus sublimely ignoring the jurisdictions of the Grand Chapters of Canada and Quebec, where a similar regulation has always prevailed.

The financial condition of this Grand Chapter is rather unsatisfactory, but when we find the Grand Secretary leading the way in retrenchment by himself proposing an amendment to reduce his own salary two hundred dollars per annum, we see no grounds for despairing. Will Comp. Clifton enlighten us as to the benefit of printing the names of the members of the Subordinate Chapters in full ; 23 pages are thus occupied ; this does not look like retrenchment ; and remember what poor lamented Gouley says in his last condensed report, that such a practice is "simply wasting money by printing a

directory for travelling imposters," an opinion in which we cordially agree.

Comp. Clifton presents a report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of 35 Grand Chapters, in which are presented to his Companions the most interesting points arising among the Craft in the several jurisdictions. We cannot attempt to do anything like justice to this report in the space at our disposal, but will just glance over it and note anything of more than local interest.

He quotes a regulation from California to the effect that the limit of physical qualifications required of a candidate for R. A. Masonry, shall be simply that he be enabled to conform strictly to all which the ritual in those degrees makes necessary, and in comment thereon says, "Our rule is much more liberal." Does Comp. Clifton mean by this that Mississippi would confer capitular degrees on a candidate who could not conform to the requirements of the ritual; if he does his rule is *too* liberal for our taste.

Canada, in the District of Columbia embroglio, has employed the pen of many ready writers. We are grateful every thing is again "quiet on the Potomac."

Under Iowa he reports a decision of the G. H. P. of that Grand Chapter:—

"To the question, 'Can an Officer of a Chapter resign?' I answered, 'In my opinion, yes.' Decision approved by Grand Chapter. Comp. Clifton says:—

"The committee on jurisprudence did not endorse this decision, and so reported, but after the decision of the G. H. P. was sustained, withdrew the report. We think the committee had the best of it and should have stood their ground, trusting to future generations to decide the right; but, in the words of Comp. Corson, they seem to have had 'gelatinous spines,' instead of *back bone*."

We feel sound on this question and would "back" the committee as long as we had a "bone" left.

From his notice of Kentucky, we crave the liberty of quoting a few remarks of Comp. Henderson of that Grand Chapter on the question of public displays of Masonry, they are well worthy our serious consideration:—

"Masons should never turn out in procession except upon strictly Masonic occasions. We should keep out of the eye of the public as much as possible. The veil which shut in the High Priest from the common gaze when he went into the Holy of Holies served to inspire awe and reverence in the minds of the people. By pursuing our work in secret, we will add dignity and impressiveness to our institution."

Under Massachusetts Comp. Clifton goes lively for that Grand Chapter on the question of High Priesthood, but as this mysterious subject is beyond the reach of our highest thoughts we stand aloof in

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silent reverence waiting for an answer. In rather an irreverent manner, on such a solemn subject, he closes his paragraph with the modest request, "don't all speak at once." He also tries to poke a little fun at Massachusetts about the many different styles of convocations they indulge in, and says, "They have so many in Massachusetts that we don't see how any man of ordinary mind can keep up with them." Comp. Clifton forgets the Companions of Massachusetts are not men of *ordinary* minds; why, Comps. Dadmun, Chapman and Thomas could run a weekly convocation if they were so minded, and run it well too.

We must now stop, and we do so, referring with pleasure to a fraternal communication received from R. F. Comp. J. L. Power, Grand Secretary of Mississippi Grand Chapter, expressing his opinion that cordial recognition will be accorded our infant Grand Body by his Grand Chapter at the ensuing convocation in February next, and wishing our Grand Chapter great success and prosperity.

Subordinate Chapters, 74; Membership, 2130.

M. E. Comp. Harvey W. Walter, Holly Springs, Grand High Priest; R. E. Comp. J. L. Power, Jackson, Grand Secretary; M. E. Comp. Oliver Clifton, Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

#### NEW JERSEY.

It is with no ordinary pleasure we open the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, recording the transactions at the twentieth annual convocation held in the City of Trenton on the 13th Sept. 1876, M. E. Comp. Frederick G. Wiese, G. H. P., presiding.

These proceedings, accompanied by a kind and fraternal communication from the esteemed G. Secy, Thos. J. Corson, the mention of whose name is now sufficient amongst all experienced Royal Arch Masons to excite the liveliest feelings of delight, was the earliest response to our M. E. G. Z.'s circular to the G. Chapters of the world, and is estimated by us accordingly.

As we cannot afford the time or space we would desire, we will be able to do but scant justice to this most elaborate report, but think we can best serve the interest of our Companions in this jurisdiction by confining ourselves chiefly to what we may entitle "Corson's beauties," selected from the inexhaustible supply afforded us in this report.

Before doing so, however, let us congratulate the G. Chapter of New Jersey that on its twentieth birthday its G. H. P. can thus address his Companions:—

"We meet then to-day as Companions indeed. There are no unhealed griev-

ances ; there are no angry disputations ; there are no bickering jealousies among the Royal Craft whose consideration may mar the pleasure of our present meeting."

The reports of the Deputy Grand H. P., Grand King, and Grand Scribe, are brimful of the results of active and energetic labor among the subordinate Chapters, and such careful visitation and attention must be attended with the best results.

We will now see what we can find of interest in Corson's report on 35 Grand Chapters. We intend, as far as possible, to confine ourselves to the original remarks of this great reporter, as we have not space for many quotations. Under Alabama he thus remarks on a session held at 8.30 o'clock on a December morning :—

"Ugh, it makes us shiver to think of it. The early bird would'nt catch us at that hour, if we were a worm, because we would'nt be out at that time.

Early to bed and early to rise  
May be quite right but not at all nice."

We are sorry we cannot afford to copy the capital story given under Arkansas, but we must really pass it though, unwillingly.

In the notice of California he says, "We fully agree with Comp. Wiggins that no Chapter of Royal Arch Masons can be legally opened for the transaction of business unless nine of its members are present," and adds, "In fact it is a mystery to us that any sensible man can hold a different view ; and yet there are sensible men who do."

Listen how "the old man eloquent" thus introduces young Colorado to the gaze of her admiring sisters :—

"Clothed in a dress whose tint is as delicate as the blush of virgin modesty which mantles the cheek of the timid maiden upon her first entrance into society, as she finds her beauty attracting the admiring gaze of all, our new sister, Colorado, joins the family circle, filling our hearts with pleasure at her presence. Welcome Colorado with the fragrance of prairie flowers still upon thy garments, for, like Hertford, thou art

Fitted or to shine in courts  
With unaffected grace, or walk the plain  
With innocence and meditation joined  
In soft assemblage."

"At first we were 'bothered entirely' to tell the color of this beautiful pamphlet, but our analytical mind at last solved the problem. It is a delicate *doe color*."

"And how appropriate, for is not *Color-a-doe* simply an euphonious abbreviation of *color of a doe*?"

Corson adds to this characteristically :

"The audience will bear in mind that no bouquets will be received, and *encores* are strictly prohibited."

Nothing of a humorous nature escapes him : under Delaware we read :

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"A special convocation was held in February, for the sole purpose of installing the Grand Treasurer elect, Companion James Ponder. We pondered on this subject a long while, wondering why the Grand Chapter should be convened for such an object, but at last concluded that the descendants of the blue hen's chickens thought it too ponderous a matter to be performed in a subordinate Chapter."

Under Mississippi, speaking of some confusion of facts and statements about New Jersey, into which Comp. Walter had inadvertently lapsed, Comp. Corson says :—

"Companion Walter seems to have got matters as much mixed as did the little girl who combined her nursery lore with her Sunday school instruction, when she made the rather alarming statement that 'The Lord is my Shepherd and He's lost His sheep and don't know where to find them.'"

We must really stop now, not for want of material, but for want of means to get all Corson's fun printed; but as we have looked at him hitherto only from a humorous point of view, we cannot refrain from placing before our Companions a beautiful illustration of his manner when he strikes a higher and holier chord. Under Kansas we read :

"In the opening part of his address the Grand High Priest, Companion John M. Price, refers in words of deep pathos, which appeal with irresistible power to the heart of every parent who has suffered similar sorrow, to the death of his 'only son.' For such a loss no human words can provide a balm; comfort must come from a divine source. As I sit in my lonely office, in the still hours of the night at my masonic work, and think of the dear ones who have departed hence, my heart sympathizes with Companion Price and partakes of his sorrow. But should we not rather rejoice than mourn when we reflect that our little ones are safe in that kingdom which we all hope to inherit? He who blessed little children while on earth loves them no less in their heavenly home."

"And they came to Him, Mothers of Judah,  
Dark-eyed, and in splendor of hair  
Flowing down over shoulders of beauty,  
And bosoms half hidden, half bare.

And they brought him their babes and besought him,  
Half kneeling with suppliant air,  
To bless the brown cherubs they brought him,  
With holy hands laid on their hair.  
Then reaching his hands he said lowly  
Of such is my kingdom, and then  
Took the brown babes in the holy  
White hands of the Saviour of men.  
Held them close to his heart and caressed them,  
Put his face down to theirs as in prayer  
Put their hands to his neck and so blessed them  
With baby hands hid in his hair.

Before bidding farewell, for the present, to New Jersey, we feel compelled here to record the thorough sympathy and support we

most frankly and heartily tender to Comp. Corson for the noble, manly, and truly masonic stand he has invariably made in favor of the rights of duly elected candidates, against all comers, even though many of them be "of high degree." The following remarks of Comp. Corson, on this important subject, taken from the Correspondence Report of New Jersey, in the proceedings of our mother Grand Chapter of Canada for the year 1875, show that his opinions, still so ably and so convincingly maintained in the proceedings under review, are not the creatures of a day. Speaking of our esteemed Comp. Henry Robertson's remarks on the right of objection, Corson says :

"He manfully battles for the right in the matter of simple objection having power to stay the progress of the candidate. He still agrees with us that it is not just to affix the stigma of crime upon any man, until he shall have been proved a criminal. He still dares to maintain the doctrine which we hold, and which has been so loudly ridiculed, that the promise of a masonic body should be held sacred even when made to a profane. In fact he is so far at variance with common sense as to stand side by side with us in the belief that elected candidates have rights which a Lodge or Chapter ought to respect, and which the masonic body has no right to disregard."

Well done, good and faithful servant ; place Canada on one side, and Quebec on the other, and even as Aaron and Hur supported the arms of Moses, so will we support yours, until you have completed the overthrow of the Amalekites.

We are glad to be able to announce that fraternal recognition has been cordially extended to our Grand Chapter by that of New Jersey, and that we have been highly honored by M. E. Comp. George B. Edwards accepting the position of our Grand Representative near his own Grand Body, while an additional mark of confidence in the compiler of this report has been manifested by our M. E. Grand Z. in his nomination of the writer as Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey near that of Quebec.

We have, in spite of all our endeavors, devoted more space than we intended to the review of this Grand Chapter, and yet how insignificant is our performance as compared with the intrinsic value of the material at our disposal ; but remember also we are the ambassador of New Jersey, and we were naturally desirous of showing our Companions we represented "no mean city."

Subordinate Chapters, 35 ; Membership, 2718.

M. E. Comp. Edward Goeller, Newark, Grand High Priest ; R. E. Comp. Thos. J. Corson, Trenton, Grand Secretary and Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

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## TENNESSEE.

The forty-eighth annual convocation was held in Nashville, 16th November, 1876, M. E. Comp. A. S. Currey, Grand High Priest, presiding.

The G. H. P. thus addresses his Companions :—

“Another year is numbered with the past, and amid its excitements and depressions, we have cause for congratulation that within the sacred retreat of our tabernacle peace and harmony prevail, and no element of discord has penetrated our portals. The Lord has indeed been good to us, and His mercy endureth for ever. We should feel profoundly grateful for all His blessings, submit with cheerfulness to the chastening rod of every adversity, and let the incense of praise go up both day and night from our sacred altars, that His afflictions are numbered with the past, and that from the fruitful soil, and through persevering industry, under His beneficent smiles, a more propitious future awaits us.”

A resolution was offered and adopted, to the effect “that the degree of R. A. shall not be conferred on any brother until he shall have selected and recorded his mark.” A very proper resolution, and we hope to see it adopted in our jurisdiction at an early day.

The committee on Masonic Jurisprudence submitted the following resolution :—

“That for all purposes, except simply opening and closing a Chapter and conferring the degrees, nine members of the Chapter about to be opened are necessary to constitute a legal quorum.”

This resolution was not concurred in, and a Companion succeeded in having the following resolution adopted :—

“That the Representatives from this Grand Chapter to the General Grand Chapter be instructed to propound to that body the following interrogatory :

“What is the legal quorum for the transaction of business in a subordinate Chapter of Royal Arch Masons?”

We await with hushed reverence the oracular response, and if the General Grand Chapter can't settle the question, what's to be done?

The committee of Masonic Jurisprudence submitted a report which was adopted by Grand Chapter. It was on the enquiry, “Can a Chapter grant a demit on the condition that the Companion shall pay his dues before the demit is issued?” The committee reported, “that the application for demit can only be entertained when the Secretary shall have announced that the Companion's dues are paid.” Sound and satisfactory decision.

The foregoing decisions and questions indicate a clear and intelligent appreciation of practical business, and we have to thank Tennessee for the opportunity of laying them thus distinctly before our Companions.

Alas ! alas ! no report on Foreign Correspondence, and, so far as we can discover, no mention of such an important matter, and no arrangements made for it in future. But at the age of forty-eight it would ill become Tennessee to be dictated to by an infant like Quebec.

Subordinate Chapters, 94 ; Membership, 3579.

M. E. Comp. H. M. Aiken, Knoxville, Grand High Priest ; M. E. Comp. John Frizzell, Nashville, Grand Secretary.

### VERMONT.

The Sixtieth annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in Burlington on the 27th day of September, 1876, M. E. Comp. Edward S. Dana, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Our Companions will, we trust, thank us for the following, taken from the Grand High Priest's address. Truly may we say of this Grand Body as was said of the servant of God in the olden time, that age hath not dimmed its eye, nor is its natural force abated. Listen while we quote as follows :—

"The autumn of the year has come. The 'sear and yellow leaf' mellowed and brightened with innumerable and variegated hues, is wafted tremulously amidst the bitter moaning of the branches to the earth, and the brown fields, lit up betimes in the golden sunbeams, betoken the near approach of winter when all nature shall be enshrouded, and all its bounteous gifts be apparently hidden from mortal sight. The ripe fruits, filling the air with a grateful fragrance, are gathered with careful touch ere they perish, and the rare flowers, which have been so full of enchantment, pale before the blighting breath of the declining year."

Thus, in high and lofty strains, does he continue :—

"As we retire from the outer world and its transitory scenes, and gather within this sacred temple dedicated with solemn and impressive rites to the great Jehovah, we are lifted from the contemplation of the many and varied blessings, the gift of his bounteous hand, which he bestowed upon us in this earthly pilgrimage, but which shall soon wither like the grass that is cast into the oven, and remember that we have many and precious evidences of an immortality which reaches beyond the veil. Reaching out and taking hold on these with a sublime faith and a deep humility, we can address ourselves to our labors with a conscious and well grounded belief that our work is not only for the present, but for that bright future which is assured to us when the present shall be dissolved. Then shall our awakened senses view with pure delight those royal palaces, within whose inner courts, inlaid with amber and gold, shall be inscribed in loving characters, 'Holiness to the Lord.'"

The M. E. Grand High Priest reports a decision he had given in the following circumstances ; the decision was confirmed by the Grand Chapter :—

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"A brother having been elected to receive the degrees in one of the Chapters, a member objected to his advancement, after the ballot had been cast and before the next meeting of the Chapter. I decided that this objection would have the same effect as a black ball, and that the candidate could renew his petition after the required time had elapsed."

We do not consider this ruling sound either in regard to masonic or common justice, but as we have already fully expressed our views on this point under our notice of Connecticut, we defer further discussion.

We have but limited opportunities of reviewing the very masterly report on Foreign Correspondence, and can but glance at one question. We find, amongst many of the Grand Chapters whose proceedings have come under our eye, opinions expressed in favor of permitting "visitors" to ballot for candidates, vote on questions raised, and otherwise take part, with the actual members thereof, in the business and work of any Chapter they may happen to visit. In Canadian jurisdictions such a practice, so far as we are aware, is entirely and utterly unknown, and we hope it may long remain so. In Companion Poland's review of North Carolina we find quoted, what the Companion justly says is the unanswerable criticism of the committee. The North Carolina reporter takes Companion Carr of Kansas to task for favoring the Texas rule of allowing *visiting* members to vote on petitions for degrees, and thus addresses him:—

"We will divide on that, Companion. If we visit your family, although intimately connected, an old friend, member of the same church, and all that, will you allow us to say how your family should be governed, who should be in your household, &c. &c. Methinks were such liberties taken, Companion Carr would show us the door, and rightly too. Let every household masonic as well manage its own affairs, and then no one can complain."

Amen, so mote it be, most heartily we respond.

A very pleasing incident in connection with our relations with the Grand Chapter of Vermont occurred at our last convocation, a visit of a delegation from the Grand Chapter of Vermont, which has been fully recorded in our present proceedings, to which we refer. Companion George O. Tyler now represents the Grand Chapter of Vermont near that of Quebec, and Companion William Brinsmaid holds the position near his own Grand Body of our Grand Representative.

The force of circumstances compels us now to bid farewell to the Companions of Vermont, hoping to meet them soon again in the proceedings of their last annual convocation.

Subordinate Chapters, 25; Membership, 1868.

M. E. Comp. Edward S. Dana, Cornwall, Grand High Priest; R. E. Comp. W. H. S. Whitcomb, Burlington, Grand Secretary; Comp. J. M. Poland, Montpelier, Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

## WEST VIRGINIA.

We welcome with much pleasure the two exquisitely neat and beautiful pamphlets kindly forwarded to us from R. E. Comp. O. S. Lang the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter; the one containing "Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of West Virginia," and the other "Proceedings of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of West Virginia, at the Grand Annual Convocation held in Wheeling, November 16th, 1876," being the sixth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter.

We greatly commend the manner of getting up these two pamphlets; to the one, containing the constitution, &c., might justly be applied Corson's poetic outburst when young Colorado first startled his delighted vision; to the other we find ourselves unable to do justice, the analytical mind of the great Corson is alone sufficient to the task, and we have serious thoughts of sending this pamphlet down to Trenton for his private and confidential report, so that next year we may be in a position to render proper justice to such an elegant production. With their chaste and elaborate covers, the delicately tinted paper on which they are printed, and their rubricated pages, they recall to us the words of Romeo in his enraptured attempt to enlarge upon Juliet's perfections:—

"Beauty too rich for use, for earth too dear."

How gratifying is it to find the G. H. P. able to address his Companions thus:—

"I congratulate the Grand Chapter upon the universal harmony that has reigned throughout the state during the past year. Not a ripple upon the surface has been visible anywhere; not a question has been submitted for decision, or a case of appeal brought to my notice."

We notice a peculiar phrase employed when the work of a morning session is over; they say:—

"By order of the M. E. Grand High Priest the Grand Chapter was then dispensed with until 7½ o'clock p.m."

What had the poor Grand Chapter been guilty of to be thus unceremoniously treated. The next time it was dispensed with, we can fully sympathize with it. We read:—

"The Grand Chapter was then dispensed with for the space of thirty minutes, and all present partook of a supper. Ample justice having been done to the edibles, the Grand Chapter resumed labor."

How the Companions must have revenged themselves on the victuals in these precious thirty minutes.

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Appropriate resolutions were drafted and submitted in reference to the loss sustained by the fraternity in general by the death of R. E. Comp. John Dove, for many years Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Virginia, and a memorial page in the proceedings is devoted to his memory.

At the end of the proceedings we find, not as we expected, a report on Foreign Correspondence, but a copy of the Constitution. Seeing you have furnished us with such a beautiful pamphlet containing the constitution, &c., don't you think you are giving us just rather too many doses of constitution for our health. Try the next time to do better.

We hope that at the next annual convocation in the ensuing month of November the claim of our Grand Chapter for fraternal recognition will not be overlooked.

Subordinate Chapters, 17 ; membership, 509.

M. E. Comp. K. D. Walker, Fairmont, Grand High Priest ; R. E. Comp. O. S. Lang, Wheeling, Grand Secretary.

#### WISCONSIN.

The twenty-seventh annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in the city of Milwaukee on the 20th February, 1877, M. E. Comp. William J. Swain, Grand High Priest, presiding.

M. E. Comp. Swain delivers a very practical address full of the evidences of energetic work. The following decisions of the M. E. G. H. P., adopted by the Grand Chapter, appear of general interest :

"1st. A Companion excluded in his Lodge for the non-payment of dues is not thereby suspended in his Chapter."

"2nd. A Chapter has no right to take charge of the funeral of a Companion, as it has no burial service of its own, and cannot as a Chapter use that of either Lodge or Commandery."

What will Companions Chapman and Dadmun of Massachusetts say to this ?

M. E. Comp. Swain suggests that, as one method of awakening the interest of the Companions, and of diffusing masonic light and information, the proceedings, including the reports on foreign correspondence, &c., should be read aloud in the convocations of the subordinate Chapters. We must say there appears to us to be real practical truth and common sense in the remarks he makes on this point :

"Give all the Companions the benefit of these proceedings, and soon discussions will arise upon questions involved, which will lead to further search for light, and the introduction of candidates will be looked upon as an interruption."

In order that there may be no excuse offered as to ignorance of the adoption by the Grand Chapter of the M. E. G. H. Priest's suggestion, the resolution passed to carry it out is printed on the outside cover.

From the report of the Grand Lecturer his situation appears to be no sinecure, and we have to congratulate Wisconsin on having such efficient and hard working officers. After all his labors, he was called upon to occupy an evening session with the exemplification of the R. A. degree, an example, as we have before remarked, we commend to the careful attention of our Grand Chapter.

We find in these proceedings 45 pages devoted to the Returns of subordinate Chapters, while only 31 have been allowed Companion Cottrill. But some reporters would say, Oh, Cottrill's report is a "boiled down" one. For our part, if the present report is a sample of his "boiled down" reviews, we don't object to them so long as such an experienced cook presides at the boiling. We have derived much pleasure and instruction from a perusal of his graceful and elegant report, and our only regret is that we cannot accompany him to his kitchen and study the boiling process as it goes on. We have only room for his remarks on one subject, that of Lodge suspension for non-payment of dues, which come better up to our ideas than the rulings we are aware prevail in Canada. Speaking of the G. H. P. of Arkansas, he says:—

"He decided that Lodge suspension for non-payment of dues would not work suspension in the Chapter. The Grand Chapter sustained the decision, although a majority of the Committee reported to the contrary. We think the majority took the right view. We cannot in the Lodge hold intercourse with a suspended Mason; if we cannot in the Lodge we cannot elsewhere. If we cannot do it in the basement, we cannot in the parlor or chamber above."

Precisely our own view, though we might have subjected our brains to a good deal of "boiling down" before we could have expressed it so tersely and neatly.

We are forced to say farewell to Cottrill in the meantime, however unwillingly; and have only to add that intimate and fraternal relations have been established between our two Grand Chapters by the interchange of Grand Representatives. M. E. Comp. Thomas B. Tyler of Sparta has done our infant Grand Chapter the honor of accepting the appointment of our Grand Representative near his own Grand Body, and R. E. Comp. H. W. Wood of Knowlton has received his credentials as Grand Representative of Wisconsin near the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

Subordinate Chapters, 51; membership, 3067.

M. E. Comp. William C. Swain, Milwaukee, Grand High Priest; R. E. Comp. John W. Woodhull, Milwaukee, Grand Secretary; Ex. Comp. Jedd P. C. Cottrill, Milwaukee, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

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## MARYLAND.

Just as the printing of our report was about finished we were favored with a beautiful volume containing the proceedings of this Grand Chapter at its annual convocation held in Baltimore in November, 1876, M. E. Comp. Herman L. Emmons, jr., G. H. P., presiding. This must be accepted as our excuse for placing Maryland last on our list.

We can find no indication of the age of this Grand Chapter. Modesty we presume prevents our fair sister from favoring us with this information, and we believe it is not considered the correct thing to enquire a lady's age.

The G. H. P. thus beautifully opens his address :—

"The ceaseless flow of time's veins has brought us another year's journey nearer the shores of eternity, and as we reflect how graciously a kind providence has smiled upon, and made effective our efforts in the stern battle of life, let us, at the commencement of this our annual convocation, ascribe to Him that meed of praise which is His just due."

A good system of visitation has been adopted by the G. H. P. ; he reports that every Chapter in his jurisdiction, with two exceptions, has been officially visited by some Grand Officer, and that in making his personal visitations he has requested every permanent member of the Grand Chapter to accompany him. The result, as might be expected, has been very satisfactory, and has done much to promote friendly and harmonious feelings.

We are glad to see he is conservative in granting dispensations, and considers that those in power who permit themselves to be swayed by the dictates of friendship and good nature, and thus lose the ability to say no, may occasionally abuse the power.

As our space is limited, and this is our first attempt, we know the Companions of Maryland, and especially Comp. Schultz, will excuse us if we pass over without comment the conclusion of the G. H. P.'s address. No decisions are given except one as to the prerogative of a Scribe, equivalent to our third Principal J., to rule the Chapter, in the absence of his superior officers, with which we agree.

We now turn with pleasure to Comp. Schultz' report on Foreign Correspondence. We assure him we fully sympathize with him in the trepidation with which he approaches the performance of the task imposed upon him. The array of distinguished names of the veteran reporters which he prints in a row of capitals is sufficient to shake the strongest spirit ; but take courage, Companion, and state your

opinions with candor and with the support of a good conscience, and as your sweetest poet, Longfellow, some where sings :—

The cares that infest the day  
Shall fold up their tents like the Arabs  
And as silently steal away.

We would also tender to you good homely advice, "set a stout heart to a stey brae." If you do not understand the language stop the first Scotchman you happen to meet in the streets of Baltimore and he will translate it for you. As Scotchmen are dispersed over the face of the entire globe we presume you will have no difficulty in finding one in Baltimore.

We find many opinions expressed by Companion Schultz with which we can cordially concur, and presume that in regard to masonry we are probably like himself, somewhat "old foguish." We consider it essential to duly constitute a Lodge, as we have always been taught that the Charter should invariably be present. We also cling to the theory, and are still inclined to consider it an "ancient landmark," that no brother is eligible for the Master's chair unless he has duly served as a Warden, and we would be inclined to carry the idea into the Chapter. We also agree with him in his opinion that no installed officer of a Chapter can resign or demit during his term of office. Under California, after quoting from Comp. Wiggin in reference to the much disputed question of the effect of exclusion or suspension for non-payment of dues, we were delighted to read the following truly masonic words of Comp. Schultz :—

"It is a settled and well acknowledged principle, that no Mason can be deprived of any of the rights, privileges or benefits of masonry, without previously having had charges regularly preferred and proven against him."

Sound constitutional doctrine, we mentally exclaimed, and considered ourselves safe and secure in such intelligent companionship. We found those remarks on page 74. We quietly continued our perusal of his very excellent report, and were soon absorbed in his friendly review of our mother Grand Chapter, Canada. We are suddenly startled into renewed interest by the following remarks found on page 80; commenting on our esteemed Comp. Henry Robertson's sound and constitutional views on the objection question, Comp. Schultz says, and, according to our limited comprehension, knocks his "settled and acknowledged principle," so lately advocated by him, into "a cocked hat," by these words :—

"He (Comp. Robertson) does not favor objections after ballot, unless good reasons be shown. We believe that a member of a Lodge or Chapter has the undoubted right to keep out any one, although elected to receive the degrees,

and for any cause whatever; and no one has a right to question his motives. It is a matter for him and his conscience alone."

Will Comp. Schultz please rise and explain the apparent contradiction in these two statements placed almost side by side in his report. Our opinions on this point are very strong and decided, and no arguments we have yet seen brought against it have succeeded in changing our views. On this subject we have much pleasure in referring to the proceedings of Massachusetts, Canada and New Jersey, and especially to page 134 of the Companion's own report now under review, where he extracts from Comp. Corson a paragraph which sets the whole matter in its true, proper and constitutional light.

We must now stop, or we are afraid we wont get this notice included in our present proceedings. We only add we dont approve of visitors voting or partaking in the business of any Chapter or Masonic Body they may visit.

Hoping to have the pleasure of meeting Comp. Schultz yet again on the reporter's platform, to agree or dissent from him as the case may be, we fraternally bid him in the meantime adieu.

Subordinate Chapters, 13; members, 1304.

M. E. Comp. Charles F. Achey, Baltimore, Grand High Priest;  
R. E. William A. Wentz, Baltimore, Grand Secretary; R. E. Edward J. Schultz, Baltimore, Chairman of Correspondence.

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Thus have we finished our labor of love in the meantime, and now leave it with all its imperfections on its head in the hands of our Companions and to the tender mercies of the great family of reporters, begging the latter in their comments thereon to bear in mind the import of the crimson rays of our adornment and temper justice with mercy.

J. T. McMINN,

*Committee on Foreign Correspondence.*

## OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF QUEBEC 1877-78

M. E. Comp.	John Hamilton Graham	Richmond	Grand Z.
R. " "	Isaac H. Stearns	Montreal	H.
" " "	Frank Edgar	"	J.
" " "	James T. McMinn	"	Scribe E.
" " "	John McLean	"	" N.
" " "	Albert D. Nelson	"	Principal Sojourner
" " "	Wm. Nivin	"	Treasurer
" " "	James Addie	Sherbrooke	Registrar
V. " "	F. T. Thomas	Quebec	1st Assistant Sojourner
" " "	Angus Grant	Montreal	2nd " "
" " "	Jos. J. Barnard	"	Sword Bearer
" " "	S. Kennedy	Quebec	Standard
" " "	Wm. Young	Montreal	Director of Ceremonies
" " "	M. McCarthy	Sherbrooke	Organist
" " "	Charles R. Willis	Montreal	Encumbrance
" " "	A. G. Adams	"	Steward
" " "	Thomas Adcock	"	"
" " "	G. H. Kemp	Cowansville	"
" " "	R. L. Cowan	Dunham	"
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" " "	Wm. M. Lemesurier	"	D. S.
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" " "	Stevens Baker	Dunham	" "
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" " "	Wm. Nivin	Montreal	Treasurer
" " "	Chas. W. Woodford	"	Past Registrar

### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

R. E. Comp. James T. McMinn. Address, Box 844 P. O., Montreal.