PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

Royal Arch Masons,

OF

NOVA SCOTIA.

1871-72.

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HALIFAX, N. S.
PRINTED BY JAMES BOWES & SONS, BEDFORD ROW.
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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter

OF NOVA SCOTIA.

SPECIAL CONVOCATION.

A Special Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia was held at Truro, N. S., June 21st, A. I. 2401 for the purpose of constituting Keith Chapter, No. 4, under the Registry of this Grand Chapter.

PRESENT—M. E. Comp. S. R. Sircom, *G. H. P.*
E. " J. C. Brown, *G. K.*
E. " R. T. Roome, *Acting G. S.*
R. E. " Jas. Gossip, *Grand Secretary.*

COMPANIONS—Alexr. McKay, L. H. Verge, W. T. Wilkins, L. W. Miller, T. V. Cooke, Jno. M. Taylor.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form in a room in the Prince of Wales Hotel.

The M. E. G. H. P. stated that this special Convocation had been called for the purpose of Constituting Keith Chapter, No. 4, and to deliver the Charter which had been granted at last Annual Convocation.

It being announced that the new Chapter was in readiness to receive the M. E. Grand Chapter, the Grand Chapter Officers were escorted to the Chapter Room, when Keith Chapter, No. 4, was duly constituted by the M. E. G. H. P. The ceremony was performed publicly.

The Grand Chapter Officers then retired and Grand Chapter was closed in Ample Form.

JAMES GOSSIP,
Grand Secretary, G. C. N. S.

Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter

OF NOVA SCOTIA.

THIRD ANNUAL CONVOCATION.

HALIFAX, June 4, A. I. 2402.

The Third Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Nova Scotia was held at Masonic Hall this day, commencing at 3 o'clock, p. m.

PRESENT—M. E. Comp. S. R. Sircom, *G. H. P.*
E. " W. A. Hesson, *G. Scribe.*
R. E. " James Gossip, *Grand Sec'y.*
" " " T. A. Cossman, *G. C. H.*
V. E. " John Scholfield, *G. 3rd Veil.*
" " " James Martin, *G. 1st Veil.*
" " " W. F. Chase, *G. Standard B.*
" " " A. E. Wilson, *G. Organist.*
Comp. J. M. Taylor, *Grand Janitor.*

Royal Union Chapter, No. 1.

Comps. R. T. Roome, P. H. P.; B. Curren, P. H. P.; Geo. T. Smithers, H. P.

St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 2.

Comps. David Pottinger, P. H. P.; J. K. Munnis, H. P.

Hiram Chapter, No. 3, Windsor.

Comps. F. W. Dakin, H. P.; James Poyntz, Scribe.

Keith Chapter, No. 4, Truro.

Comps. W. T Wilkins, H. P.; J. W. Miller, K.; Thos. V. Cooke, Scribe.

The Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia was opened in ample form.

On Motion all R. A. Masons in good standing were admitted to this Convocation, as visitors

The R. E. Grand Secretary stated that ali the Chapters in the jurisdiction were represented, and presented the names of the following Companions as entitled to sit and vote at this Convocation of Grand Chapter:

Royal Union, No. 1.

M. E. Companions George T. Smithers, H. P.; E. Comp. James Gossip, K.; E. Comp. James Martin, Scribe.

PAST HIGH PRIESTS.

John D. Nash, William Twining, William S. Symonds, R. T. Roome, Benjamin Curren, W. A. Hesson.

St. Andrew's, No. 2.

M. E. Comp. J. K. Munnis, H. P.; E. Comp. Wm. Williams, K.; E. Comp. W. F. Chase, Scribe.

PAST HIGH PRIESTS.

Wm. Taylor, Chas. J. McDonald, S. R. Sircom, David Pottinger.

Hiram, No. 3.

M. E. Comp. Fraser W. Dakin, H. P.; E. Comp. Allan Haley, K.; E. Comp. James Poyntz, Scribe.

Keith Chapter, No. 4.

M. E. Comp. William Thos. Wilkins, H. P.; E. Comp, Julius W. Miller, K.; E. Comp. Thomas Vincent Cooke, Scribe.

PAST HIGH PRIESTS.

George Fraser, Levi H. Verge.

Office-Bearers:

M. E. Comp. S. R. Sircom, *G. H. P.*
E. " W. A. Hesson, *G. S.*
R. E. " William Twining, *G. Treasurer.*
" James Gossip, *Grand Secretary.*
" T. A. Cossman, *G. C. H.*
" Thos. W. Harris, *G. P. S.*
" Douglas McLeod, *G. R. A. C.*
V. E. " John Scholfield, *G. 3rd Veil.*
" J. B. Black, *G. 2nd Veil.*
" James Martin, *G. 1st Veil.*
" W. F. Chase, *G. Sword Bearer.*
" James Tooth, *G. Standard Bearer.*
" R. M. Sterling. } *Stewards.*
" Alfred G. Walker. }
" A. E. Wilson, *G. Organist.*
" C. B. Pitblado. } *Grand Chaplains.*
" W. T. Wilkins. }

The Regulations for the Government of Grand Chapter during the time of business were then read.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the reading of the Minutes of last Annual Convocation be dispensed with owing to the same having been already published in the proceedings and distributed to the several Chapters.

The Grand Secretary read the Minutes of a Special Convocation of Grand Chapter, held at Truro on the 21st June, 1871 which was approved, (see first page of these proceedings.)

The M. E. Grand High Priest then delivered the following Address:

ADDRESS:

COMPANIONS,—

You have been called together this year, at an earlier hour than usual, in order to afford you more time to consider the business which will be brought before you, at this our third Annual Convocation, and also to enable the Grand Council of High Priests to confer the Order upon all those present entitled to receive the same.

I rejoice to be with you on this occasion, and heartily extend to you my sincere congratulations on the harmony existing amongst our several Chapters, the unprecedented interest manifested by the members, and the steady and increased prosperity of the Royal Craft throughout the Province.

It is highly gratifying to be able to inform you that our relations with foreign Grand Chapters are of the most satisfactory and friendly character. The Grand Secretary has received thirty-three reports of Proceedings from the Supreme Bodies on this Continent all of which will be reviewed, and duly placed before you.

The very favorable notice this Grand Chapter has received is highly encouraging, and will I am sure stimulate you to put forth every laudable exertion towards the continued advancement of Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction.

The hand of death has taken a very prominent Companion from amongst us, since we last met together, our late trusty and well-beloved Companion, Joseph Conway Brown, Grand King, has gone to "that undiscovered country, from whose bourne no traveler returns." Last year it became my pleasing duty to instal him into the second highest office within your power to bestow; he however, only lived to enjoy the distinction forty-nine days and up to almost the last moment of his life he was actively engaged in the interests of Masonry.

To his endeavors the organization of the Grand Chapter, and its present prosperity is largely indebted. From my intimate acquaintance with him since his arrival amongst us, I became well conversant with his many good and excellent qualities. As an accomplished mason he had no superiors, and his zeal for the Institution was unbounded. He leaves behind him a masonic record that will exist when no trace of his mortal form shall be visible, and the result of his exertions towards the advancement of Royal Arch Masonry in particular, must have a marked and lasting endurance.

His death took place at the Acadian Iron Works, Londonderry, on the 25th of July last, intimation of which was forwarded by telegraph to this city; upon receipt of which R. E. Comps. James Gossip and George T. Smithers at once proceeded to the place of

his demise, and took measures to convey his remains to Halifax. On arriving at Truro they were met by the fraternity of that town, who escorted the body to the railway depot, whence it was conveyed to this city, and placed in the Masonic Hall, where it was visited by a large number of the Craft and personal friends. His funeral was attended by some five hundred members, one of the largest Masonic processions of the kind that ever took place in Nova Scotia; a graceful tribute to the memory of one so highly esteemed.

His body was afterwards forwarded to England, and finally placed in the retired and picturesque church-yard of Malpas, near Newport, Monmouthshire, Wales, his birth place. I had the gloomy satisfaction, in company with his father and sister, of seeing the spot that marked his last earthly abode; the former informed me that within that vault rested the remains of six sons.

Last year I directed your attention to "St. John's" Chapter, No. 130, Registry of Scotland, located in Pictou, and the "Union" Chapter, under same Registry, located in Yarmouth, who had not, up to that time, given their allegiance to this Grand Chapter. The matter you will remember was referred to the Committee of "General Purposes," who were directed to correspond with said Chapters, with a view to a complete union of Royal Arch Masonry in Nova Scotia.

I deeply regret to inform you that "St. John's" Chapter, has not even paid that common courtesy to us, of acknowledging the receipt of the communication addressed to them by the Grand Secretary, and we have only received through the High Priest of "Union" and that unofficially, advice that our letter had reached its destination.

I shall avoid making any remarks which may even appear to have a tendency to influence you in this very important matter, feeling satisfied you will deal with each case, as will best effect the object we have in view, strictly upholding and maintaining the honor and dignity of the body you represent.

The report of the Committee together with the correspondence referred to, will be at once submitted for your consideration.

I shall now proceed to lay before you my official acts for the past year.

On the 21st June last, in company with the Grand Secretary, and Companions R. T. Roome, P. H. P.; and John M. Taylor, Grand Janitor, I visited Truro, and in the afternoon of that day, with the assistance of the late R. E., J. Conway Brown, G. King, who arrived from Londonderry, constituted "Keith" Chapter, No. 4, and installed the officers in public. This being the first public ceremony performed of the kind, much interest was manifested by those present, especially the ladies, and I feel satisfied

the uninitiated were very favourably impressed with the character of our institution. On the 25th of March last, I granted a dispensation to "Keith" Chapter, No. 4, to exalt to the august degree of the Holy Royal Arch, Bro. Isaac Inman within the time specified by the Constitution, he being about to leave the Province.

April 12th I issued a dispensation to establish a new Chapter at Annapolis, to be called the "Eureka" Chapter, No. ——, upon the application of Companions Robert Wylie, Fred. Leavitt, Geo. Thomas Bingay, Peleg W. Smith, Geo. R. Sangster, Alfred Fred. Adams, Thomas W. Harris, Rev. H. Pryor Almon, and the Rev. Henry D. DeBlois. Comp. Robert Wylie, I appointed High Priest; Comp. Frederick Leavitt, King; and Comp. George Thos. Bingay, Scribe.

The necessary fees have been handed to the Grand Secretary, and I fully recommend a Charter to be granted the petitioners, as "Eureka" Chapter, No. 5.

On the 10th of April, I received an application from "Royal Union" Chapter, No. 1, to sanction the election of officers and grant a dispensation to instal at a different time than that set down in the constitution.

At a Convocation of the Grand Chapter held on the 11th of April, 1871, the Constitution was amended; section No. 4, now provides for the "election and installation of officers of a Chapter duly constituted to take place in the month of May." It appeared the Chapter had lost sight of the said amendment, and elected their officers in accordance with its By-laws, and the previous provision of the Constitution, the officers only being elected for the period specified in its By-laws, and prior to the amendment aforesaid, I granted the necessary dispensation.

During the year I made the following visitations:—

On the 23rd of November last, I visited "Hiram" Chapter, No. 3, Windsor, in company with the Grand Secretary and R. E., George T. Smithers, P. G. C. H. The proceedings of this Chapter are exceedingly well kept, and its general business is conducted in a highly satisfactory manner.

The hall in which their meetings are held, is in every respect adapted for Chapter purposes, and the furniture and paraphernalia are complete, excepting only the robes for the Council officers. This Chapter was constituted at Goldenville, under a Charter from the Grand Chapter of Canada, and with the "Royal Union" and "St. Andrew's" formed the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia. It also formed the nucleus of "Keith" Chapter, No. 4, at Truro, and through the instrumentality of its zealous members, the "Eureka" comes forward and asks you for a Charter. Number of members 39 and funds sufficient for all contingencies.

On the 22nd day of February, I visited "Keith" Chapter, No. 4, at Truro in company with the Grand Secretary and V. Ex. Comps. Jas. Martin, and W. F. Chase. About twenty Companions were present, including the High Priest and several members of "Hiram" No. 3. The minutes I found well kept, and its transactions quite constitutional. This Chapter holds its meetings in the new hall, recently erected by the Craft Masons, and which was at that time just completed. The hall is well adapted for the purposes of both Craft and Royal Arch Masons, having the necessary compartments, together with a very good room for a library. The fitting up of this hall is really beautiful, surpassing anything of the kind I believe in the Province; the cost of which amounted to about $1200. The Royal Arch degree was conferred by R. E., Fraser W. Dakin, H. P., No. 3, in good style, shewing that he is fully competent to discharge the important duties of his office.

In the evening a sumptuous supper was provided at the "Prince of Wales" Hotel, and at which about thirty did ample justice. The usual loyal and masonic toasts were given, interspersed with songs, which was kept up to a late hour, and so concluded a most agreeable and fraternal visit. Number of members 21, financial condition satisfactory.

On the 11th of April, I visited "Royal Union" Chapter, No. 1, Halifax, in company with the Grand Secretary and several Grand Chapter officers; a large number of Companions were present. This Chapter is in a highly prosperous and flourishing condition; the number of its active members between 55 and 60, and its funds exceed over $1100. The minutes are well kept, and its general business appears to be very creditably performed, and a very laudable zeal is manifested by its members to maintain the high position this Chapter has hitherto held. It has preserved a complete list of its office-bearers since the year 1797.

During the evening our highly respected M. E. Comp., the Hon. Alex. Keith, P. G. H. P., entered, and was duly conducted to the East. In the course of some complimentary remarks he was pleased to make, he stated that he had been an active and subscribing member of "Royal Union" Chapter for 55 years, which exceeded the age of any Companion then present. He is without doubt the oldest Royal Arch Mason in Nova Scotia. The officers for the ensuing year I installed by special invitation. The business having been concluded the High Priest, R. E. Comp. George T. Smithers, P. G. C. H. closed the Chapter in due form, after which the members and visitors, partook of a very excellent supper prepared by Bro. Davey in his usual good style The evening was far advanced when the company separated, after enjoying a most friendly and social intercourse.

On the 21st of May, in company with the Grand Secretary and

a fair representation of Grand officers, I visited "St. Andrew's" Chapter No. 2. This Chapter has wonderfully progressed since the formation of our Supreme Body, both as regards the increased interest exhibited by its members and the large addition to its numbers. Its business affairs have been well conducted, minutes excellently kept, and its financial condition most satisfactory, having over $800 to its credit, nearly the whole of which is invested at good interest. I installed the officers by special solicitation. Number of active members about 52.

I have much pleasure in tendering my grateful thanks for the fraternal kindness and consideration I have on every occasion met with during the said visitations.

The By-laws of "Keith" Chapter, No. 4, I approved of on the 28th day of October last.

The Representative system being now generally adopted, and believing the principle productive of much good, I beg to present for your approval, in accordance with the Constitution, the following appointments, viz:

Near the Grand Chapter of England, Comp. Morton Edwards, London, G. B.

Near the Grand Chapter of State of Massachusetts, R. E., Jno. W. Dadmun, P. D. G. H. P., residing at Winthrop, Mass.

Near the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, R. E., Jackson H. Chase, Grand Lecturer, residing at 92 State St., Albany, N. Y.

Near the Grand Chapter of the State of Missouri, R. E., Geo. Frank Gouley, Grand Secretary, residing at St. Louis.

Near the Grand Chapter of the State of Maine, M. E., Josiah H. Drummond, P. G. H. P., Portland.

Near the Grand Chapter of the State of New Jersey, M. E. John Sheville, P. G. H. P., Jersey city.

Near the Grand Chapter of the State of Pennsylvania, M. E., Michael Nisbet, P. G. H. P., Philadelphia.

Near the Grand Chapter of Canada, M. E., T. Douglas Harington, G. Z., Ottawa, Ontario.

Near the Grand Chapter of the State of California, M. E., Charles Marsh, P. G. H. P. Nevada.

Near the Grand Chapter of the State of District of Columbia, R. E., N. D. Larner, P. G. Secretary, Washington city.

Near the Grand Chapter of the State of Illinois, R. E., James H. Miles, Grand Secretary, residing at 49 South May Street, Chicago.

Near the Grand Chapter of the State of Iowa, M. E., T. S. Parvin, P. G. H. P., Iowa City.

Near the Grand Chapter of the State of Ohio, R. E. James Nisbett, residing at Troy.

I will also ask you to constitute Comp. Morton Edwards of London, G. B., a member of this Grand Chapter, with the rank of Past Grand Scribe, corresponding to Past Grand J. in the Grand Chapter of England.

A formal application will be brought before you, from V. W. Bro. Frederick Binckes, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the Colonies, and Dependencies of the British Crown. This Body was established in 1856, and at the present time is undoubtedly the third largest Masonic organization in England, having on its roll no less than 140 Lodges. The following distinguished brethren have filled the important position of Grand Master: Right Hon. Lord Leigh, Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Viscount Holmesdale, M. P., W. W. B. Beach, Esq., M. P., and the Revd. Geo. R. Portal, M. A. It has up to the present time received recognition from the Grand Chapters of Ireland, Iowa, Pennsylvania and Canada, and now this Grand Chapter is asked to acknowledge them formally as the supreme authority over the Mark degree in the said jurisdiction.

By their proceedings for 1872 it appears that a Charter was granted on the 4th of May, 1871, to open a Mark Lodge in Montreal, Province of Quebec, to be designated, "St Paul's" No. 131.

The Grand Chapter of Canada, it would therefore appear, does not claim exclusive control over all capitular degrees, throughout her jurisdiction.

This Grand Chapter, however, claims the "sole government and superintendence of the several Royal Arch Chapters, and Lodges of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, &c., &c.," as set forth in the books of Constitution; should therefore our recognition be the first step towards the establishment of Mark Lodges, in this jurisdiction, by the said Grand Lodge of Mark Masons, it would place this body in a false position. I am not, however, by any means certain, further than their title, that they claim this province as coming under their authority over the Mark degree; any attempt by any supreme authority to infringe our jurisdictional bounds would of course be at once resisted.

This point I consider would be necessary to place before them, and in event of their disclaiming all rights over the Mark degree in this Province, would recommend a full and cordial recognition to be extended them. All papers relating to this matter will be placed before you.

I desire particularly to call your attention to the trifling and levity frequently practiced in conferring the degrees authorized by our constitution, especially in the Past Master and Royal Arch. I do not hesitate to affirm that it is contrary in every respect to the sacred teachings of our Institution, calculated unmistakeably

to destroy that solemnity which is necessary to make a deep and lasting impression upon the mind of every candidate.

I would therefore strongly urge upon all High Priests, the desirability of bringing this subject before their several Chapters, insisting upon every officer performing his part with becoming decorum, and forbidding any member interfering with any portion of their duties.

I intend giving notice of an amendment to the Constitution touching this matter.

I shall also place before you several other notices of amendment, which I believe will be (if adopted) for the best interest of the Royal Craft. Our system of electing all the officers of Grand and Subordinate Chapters, is almost exceptional, and must to a greater or lesser extent detract from the importance of the principal officer, if not (as so many consider) actually depriving him of some of his prerogatives.

It not unfrequently happens that a member is elected to an office which he is quite unqualified to fill, whereas, if the High Priest had the appointment he would only select those who had exhibited proficiency in the science of our art, and thereby avoid that discord and confusion which is almost sure to result from the election of incompetent officers.

It would also add to the dignity of our Chapters, and stimulate its members to make themselves qualified for a seat in the Grand Council.

In order that these amendments may be considered before our next annual Convocation, I would suggest for your favorable consideration, that a Special Convocation be held on St. John's Day, Dec. 27th, for the purpose of acting upon the same.

The important duties appertaining to the high position you have honored me with, I have discharged to the best of my humble ability, to the officers and members I return my sincere thanks for their cordial co-operation and I take great pleasure in acknowledging the uniform kindness which I have received from all quarters and upon every occasion.

To the Grand Secretary I tender my sincere thanks, he has at all times rendered me most valuable assistance in the performance of my various duties, he is deserving of special consideration for his untiring exertions during the past year, so materially increased by his appointment as chairman of "Foreign Correspondence" in place of our late lamented Companion, J. Conway Brown.

You will now, Companions, be called upon to consider the business of this Convocation, and may the G. A. O. T. U. direct your deliberations to the advancement, happiness and prosperity of the Royal Craft.

STEPHEN R. SIRCOM,
Grand High Priest.

On motion, the address of the M. E. G. H. P. was referred to the following Committee to report at this session, viz:

M. E. Comp. G. T. Smithers, *H. P., Royal Union, No.* 1.
" F. W. Dakin, *H. P., Hiram, No.* 3.
" W. T. Wilkins, *H. P., Keith, No.* 4.

The M. E. G. H. P. submitted the following Notice of Motion to amend the Constitution:

To amend Sec. 1, of the Grand Chapter, as follows:—

Read after "Grand Secretary," on the 5th line. "Two Grand Chaplains, Grand Captain of the Host, Grand Principal Sojourner, Grand Royal Arch Captain, three Grand Masters of the Veils, Grand Marshal, two Grand Stewards, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Organist, Grand Pursuivant; and likewise of all the High Priests, Kings and Scribes of every subordinate Chapter duly installed, and in their absence proxies duly certified as hereinafter provided, and all Past High Priests, being subscribing members to some regular Chapter.

To amend Sec. 2, same Chapter, as follows:

Read after Past Grand Secretary, on 12th line, "Grand Chaplains, Grand Captain of the Host, Grand Principal Sojourner, Grand Royal Arch Captain, three Grand Masters of the Veils, Grand Marshal, Grand Stewards, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Organist, Grand Pursuivant, Grand Tyler;" and omit after "Warrants," in 32nd line, remainder of section.

To amend Sec. 3, same Chapter, by inserting after the word "installed" in the 5th line, the following: "But they shall be eligible for re-election.

Also by expunging, after the word "installed," in the 7th line, "and," and by inserting after the word "invested" in the 8th line, the word "proclaimed."

To amend Sec. 4, same Chapter, so as to read as follows: "The following officers shall be nominated in writing, and

elected by written ballot, and shall require a majority of all the votes present. —

The	Most	Excellent	Grand High Priest.
"	Right	"	Grand King.
"	"	"	Grand Scribe.
"	"	"	Grand Treasurer.
"	"	"	Grand Secretary.

"After all the nominations have been made, the Grand Secretary shall read the names of the Candidates nominated, and the ballot shall be restricted to those names. Should the first ballot not show a clear majority, the subsequent one shall be taken only for those having the two highest number of votes. Should only one nomination take place the ballot is unnecessary."

"The remainder of the officers shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest, viz :—

The Right	Excellent	Grand Chaplains.
"	"	Grand Captain of the Host.
"	"	Grand Principal Sojourner.
"	"	Grand Royal Arch Captain.
Very	Excellent	Grand Masters of the Veils.
"	"	Grand Marshal.
"	"	Grand Stewards.
"	"	Grand Standard Bearer.
"	"	Grand Organist.
"	"	Grand Pursuivant.
	Companion	Grand Tyler.

To amend Sec. 5, same Chapter, by omitting the first two lines.

To amend said Chapter, by adding the following new Sections, after "Section 17."

"Sec. 18.—The Most Excellent Grand High Priest may summon any Chapter or Companion to attend him and to produce the Warrant, Books, Papers, Accounts and property

of the Chapter. If the summons be not complied with, or a sufficient reason given for non-compliance, such summons shall be repeated as a peremptory summons, and if such last summons be not attended to, the offending Chapter or Companion may be suspended, and the proceedings notified to the Grand Chapter."

"Sec. 19.—No business of any kind shall be transacted in the Grand Chapter unless at least three subordinate Chapters are represented by proxies or otherwise."

"Sec. 20.—Every subordinate Chapter shall be visited at least once in every year by the Grand High Priest, or by one or more members of the Grand Chapter duly authorized, who shall examine the Minutes and enquire as to the state of the funds in hand, the work done, and the general condition of the Chapter, and may require an exemplification of any of the Capitular degrees, and report thereon to the Grand Chapter in writing at its next Annual Convocation. The officers of each Chapter visited shall, on pain of suspension, give full information on all subjects with reference to the Chapter."

"Sec. 21.—The Grand Chapter shall keep a book in which the members attending at each Convocation shall sign their names before entering the Grand Chapter; and a similar book, or a portion of the same book, for visitors, who are in like manner to enter their names, Masonic rank, and the name of the Chapter from which they hail."

To amend Chapter on "Regulations," by adding a new Section after, "Section 5":—

"Sec. 6.—Notices of Motion must be given personally and in writing, and not by Companions present on behalf of absent members."

"Sec. 6" read "Sec. 7," and "Sec. 7" read "Sec. 8."

To amend Chapter "Of Grand Officers," by adding the following new sections after the section referring to the duties of Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, viz:—

GRAND CHAPLAIN.

"Sec. 6.—It is the duty of the Grand Chaplains to attend the Grand Chapter at all its Grand Convocations, there to offer up to the Great Architect of the Universe the prayers of the Companions, to invoke His blessing on their labors, and to assist in the necessary rites and ceremonies on all Masonic occasions."

"Sec. 7.—The Grand Captain of the Host,
" " Principal Sojourner,
" " Royal Arch Captain,
" " Masters of the Veils,
" " Stewards,
" " Standard Bearer
" " Organist,

shall perform the respective duties required of them by the regulations and customs of the Order."

GRAND MARSHAL.

"Sec. 8.—The duty of the Grand Marshal is to form and regulate all processions of the Grand Chapter, make all necessary proclamations, and to see that the proper ceremonies be duly observed."

GRAND PURSUIVANT.

"Sec. 9.—The Grand Pursuivant is to see that no one be admitted without his proper clothing, and is in all respects entitled to admission; he is also to execute the orders of the Grand High Priest in the business of the Grand Chapter."

GRAND TYLER.

"Sec. 10.—The Grand Tyler shall attend every Convocation of the Grand Chapter, keep the regalia and furniture in good condition and attend to the arrangement thereof. He shall deliver the notices for all Convocations of the Grand Chapter."

To amend Chapter "Of Subordinate Chapters" by adding a new Section, after "Sec. 3."

"Sec. 4.—The elective officers of a Subordinate Chapter shall be a High Priest, a King, a Scribe, Treasurer, and a Secretary; and the officers appointed by the High Priest shall be a Captain of the Host, a Principal Sojourner, a Royal Arch Captain, three Grand Masters of the Veils and a Tyler."

"The Sections of same Chapter, following, to be numbered accordingly."

To amend Chapter "Of Fees," by adding the following:—

ANNUAL DUES, ON MEMBERS.

"For each member of a Chapter 25 cents."

To amend Chapter "Jewels," so as to read after the Grand Scribe's insignia, the following:—

Grand Treasurer.....*Crossed Keys.*
" Secretary.....*Crossed Pens.*
" Chaplains.....*The Bible.*
" Captain of the Host..*Soldier with drawn Sword*
" Principal Sojourner..*Pilgrim with Staff.*
" Royal Arch Captain..*Cross-hilted, Swords crossed.*
" Masters of the Veils..*Cross-hilted Sword.*
" Marshal.....*Crossed Batons.*
" Stewards.....*Triangle.*
" Standard Bearer.....*Standard with a triple tau in centre.*
" Organist.....*Harp.*
" Pursuivant.....*Sabre crossed with Trumpet.*
" Tyler.....*Crossed Sabres.*

"Each of the above named insignia shall be attached to an Equilateral Triangle (Except that for the Grand Stewards) placed on a circle."

SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

"High Priest, King, and Scribe.—Same emblems as the Grand Chapter, within a triangle. Other officers the same, but without the circle."

To amend Chapter "of Subordinate Chapters" by adding to Sec. 2, after "Scribe" in the last line: "No Chapter in this jurisdiction shall for the future be named after any living person."

To amend Chapter "Committee of General Purposes," by substituting for "five" in the first line of the second clause, "three."

To amend Chapter "Government of Subordinate Chapters," by adding the following Sections after "Section 3."

"Sec. 4.—The degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason can not be conferred in any Chapter without the full appropriate ceremonies in each degree; nothing can be abbreviated in any case, nor must anything be added to, for mere effect or otherwise.

"Sec. 5.—It is the special duty of every High Priest to see that all the ceremonies in his Chapter are performed with due order and solemnity, avoiding all trifling and levity, and should this be indulged in by any Companion, to call the offender strictly to an account."

The Minutes of the Committee of General Purposes for the past year were then read, and on motion were ordered to be received. (*See Minutes of Com. of General Purposes.*)

A discussion ensued in reference to the recognition of the Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales as referred to in Minutes of Committee of General Purposes, and the action of the Committee in *reconsidering* a resolution previously passed by them recommending the recognition of said Grand Mark Lodge was fully endorsed.

The Minutes of Committee of General Purposes were then unanimously adopted.

On motion it was unanimously

Resolved, That the recommendation of the Committee of General Purposes, to grant a Charter to "Eureka" Chapter, as No. 5, be endorsed by this Grand Chapter.

M. E. Companion W. T. Wilkins moved the following resolution :—

That whereas in accordance with Section 17 of the Constitution, page 11, where it is stated "that Companions of eminence and ability, who have rendered service to the craft may, by a vote of the Grand Chapter, be constituted members of the Grand Chapter, with such rank and distinction as may be thought proper."

Resolved, That Companion James Poyntz, Scribe of Hiram Chapter, No. 3, Windsor, Nova Scotia, be constituted a Life member of this Grand Chapter with the rank of Past Grand Scribe—which being seconded by Companion B. Curren, was passed unanimously, and with enthusiasm.

Proclamation was then duly made of the event.

R. E., Companion Poyntz replied in a very feeling manner to the honor which had been so unexpectedly conferred on him.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, resulting as follows :—

M. E. Comp. S. R. Sircom, re-elected. *G. H. P.*
R. E. " W. A. Hesson..... *G. K.*
" " F. W. Dakin..... *G. S.*
" " Wm. Twining..... *Grand Treasurer*
" " James Gossip..... *Grand Secretary.*
" " Rev. W. T. Wilkins.... *Grand Chaplain.*
" " T. V. Cooke..... *G. C. H.*
" " J. McLearn..... *G. P. S.*
" " J. W. Miller..... *G. R. A. C.*
V. E. " James Martin..... *G. 3rd Veil.*
" W. F. Chase..... *G. 2nd Veil*
" W. W. Rickards..... *G. 1st Veil*
" J. W. Ruhland..... *G. Sword Bearer.*
" John J. Armstrong..... *G. Standard B.*
" A. E. Wilson..... *G. Organist.*
" John Yuill..... } *Grand Stewards.*
" L. E. Tremain..... }
Comp. Jno. M. Taylor..... *Grand Janitor.*

COMMITTEE OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

R. E. Comp. Grand King; Grand Scribe; B. Curren, Wm.

Taylor, J. K. Munnis, Jas. Martin, D. Pottinger, Geo. T. Smithers, and the Grand Secretary.

An account of the Grand Janitor for services rendered was passed and ordered to be paid.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment to meet again at 9 o'clock, p. m.

MASONIC HALL, Halifax, N. S.,
9 p. m. June 4, A. I., 2402.

Grand Chapter resumed labor.

PRESENT.—M. E. Comp. S. R. Sircom, G. H. P.
R. E. " W. A. Hesson, G. K.
" " James Gossip, G. Sec'y.

Companions, B. Curren, F. W. Dakin, James Martin, D. Pottinger, J. K. Munnis, George T. Smithers, A. E. Wilson, W. F. Chase, J. McLearn, J. W. Ruhland, W. T. Wilkins, J. W. Miller, T. V. Cooke, T. Short, J. Armstrong. James Fortune, R. T. Roome,

And a number of visitors.

The Committee to whom had been referred the address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest presented their report which was unanimously received and adopted, and is as follows:—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF NOVA SCOTIA,
June 4th, 1872.

To the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Nova Scotia, in Annual Convocation assembled.

Your Committee to whom was referred the Annual Address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, beg to submit:

"That the assurance given by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, of the satisfactory condition of Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction, should be a source of congratulation to every one who has the interest and welfare of the Royal Craft at heart. The universal recognition which has been so cordially extended to our Grand Chapter by the supreme Governing bodies of Royal Arch Masonry on this Continent, and the interest exhibited by our Mother Grand Chapter of England, by her early recognition of our jurisdictional rights, enable us to regard with less concern the action of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland—who alone refuse us recognition—and who alone infringe our jurisdiction—and lead us to congratulate ourselves upon the fraternal communion we enjoy with our sister Grand Chapters of the world.

Your Committee fully endorse the expression of regret at the great loss this Grand Chapter has sustained by the untimely death of our late beloved Companion J. Conway Brown, and heartly coincide in the spirit of the Resolution submitted by the Committee of General Purposes, and recommend that a memorial page be set apart in the Grand Chapter proceedings, as a token of the respect in which our late Grand King was held by his Companions.

The question submitted referring to the two Chapters working under Foreign Authority within our jurisdiction, is one which affects not only ourselves, but the principle of jurisdictional rights maintained by every Grand Chapter which has extended its recognition to us. Having exhansted every legitimate means of effecting an amicable arrangement with these Chapters, nothing remains to be done but to demand from the Grand Chapter of Scotland the immediate withdrawal of the Charters of the Chapters working under their authority in Nova Scotia.

Your Committee have heard with much pleasure that a Chapter has been established at Annapolis with such favorable prospects of success.

As to the question of Foreign Representatives your Committee concur in the appointments made at and near this, and other Grand Chapters, and recommend that the appointment of R. W. Brother Morton Edwards as representative near the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England, with the rank of Past Grand Scribe of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, be confirmed.

Your Committee concur in the recommendation of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, that recognition of the Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales be deferred until their claim to jurisdiction over the Mark Degree in the colonies, be more clearly defined.

The recommendation of the M. E. Grand High Priest as to the solemnity to be observed in the conferring of the degrees of Capitular Masonry, your Committee think cannot be too strongly urged.

With reference to the Special Convocation on St. John the Evangelist's Day, 27th Dec. next, your Committee are of opinion that the interests of the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction will be subserved thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. T. SMITHERS,
H. P., No. 1.

FRASER WYLIE DAKIN,
H. P., No. 3.

WM. THOS. WILKINS,
H. P., No. 4.

On motion

The sum of forty dollars was voted to the Grand Secretary.

On motion it was

Resolved, That the proceedings of the Order of High Priesthood be published with the proceedings of Grand Chapter.

The Installation of the officers elect was then proceeded with, when the following Companions were duly inducted into their respective stations:

M. E.	Comp.	S. R. Sircom.....	*G. H. P.*
R. E.	"	W. A. Hesson....	*G. K.*
"	"	F. W. Dakin.....	*G. S.*
"	"	James Gossip.....	*G. Secretary.*
"	"	Rev. W. T. Wilkins.	*G. Chaplain.*
"	"	T. V. Cooke.....	*G. C. H.*
"	"	J. McLearn.....	*G. P. S.*
"	"	J. W. Miller.....	*G. R. A. C.*
V. E.	"	James Martin.....	*G. 3rd Veil.*
	"	W. F. Chase.....	*G. 2nd Veil*
	"	J. W. Ruhland....	*G. Sword Bearer.*
	"	J. J. Armstrong...	*G. Standard Bearer.*
	"	A. E. Wilson.....	*G. Organist.*
	"	Jno. Yuill.....	*G. Stewards.*
	"	L. E. Tremain..	*G. Stewards.*
	Comp.	Jno. M. Taylor....	*Grand Janitor.*

R. E. Companion Wm. Twining, Grand Treasurer; and V. E. Companion W. W. Rickards, Grand 1st Veil, were not present for installation.

No further business offering, the M. E. Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia was closed in Ample form.

JAMES GOSSIP,
Grand Secretary.

nd Treasurer; and
rand 1st Veil, were

Grand Chapter of

JAMES GOSSIP,
Grand Secretary.

MINUTES

OF THE

COMMITTEE OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

MASONIC HALL,
Halifax, N. S., Oct. 14, A. I. 2401.

Committee of General Purposes met this evening.

PRESENT—Companions W. A. Hesson,
" George T. Smithers,
" W. F. Chase,
" T. A. Cossman,
" James Gossip, Grand Secretary.

Companion Hesson was unanimously chosen Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

The Grand Secretary brought before the Committee the various subjects which had been referred to them from Grand Chapter at its last Annual Convocation, viz.,

1. In reference to St. John's Chapter, Pictou; and Union Chapter, Yarmouth, now under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Scotland.

2. Referring to the use of Substitutes in conferring the Royal Arch Degree.

3. Report on Foreign Correspondence.

On motion it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary open a correspondence with St. John's Chapter, Pictou; and Union Chapter, Yarmouth, with the view of uniting R. A. Masonry in this Province.

In reference to the use of Substitutes in conferring the Royal Arch degree it was

Resolved, That the Committee think the use of Substitutes in conferring the Royal Arch Degree not contrary to any Masonic law or usage. They recommend that the question be left to the discretion of the Council of the individual Chapters.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence having been examined it was

Resolved, That the same be printed with the Proceedings of Grand Chapter for 1871.

The Grand Secretary was authorized to again correspond with the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland with a view of obtaining their recognition of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia.

Companion Grand Secretary was chosen Chairman of Foreign Correspondence in place of our lately deceased Companion J. Conway Brown.

Companion Smithers moved the following resolution in reference to the decease of our late R. Grand King, J. Conway Brown, to be submitted in due course to the Grand Chapter for approval.

Resolved, That this M. E. Grand Chapter deplores the loss they have sustained by the death of their beloved and esteemed Companion Joseph Conway Brown, Past High Priest of Hiram Chapter, No. 3, and Grand King of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia.

Instrumental in its formation, and bringing to bear upon its organization the earnest skill and ability and talented experience so eminently characteristic of his Masonic career, this going out from amongst us in submission to the will of the Omnipotent, has caused a void in our ranks difficult to be filled, as he was one who could indeed "appropriate to himself the proud title of a workman that needeth not to be ashamed," and to whom it was a pleasure to dispense light and knowledge to uninformed brethren.

Stricken down in the prime of life, far from home and kindred, his memory will be placed in perpetual record with us as a bright and intelligent Craftsman to whom the sublime and Royal Art was an open book of knowledge to be studied for the benefit of his Companions.

Completing his journey after a short sojourn in this world of rough and rugged paths, let us cherish the hope that having passed the veils and entered by aid of the signet of eternal truth the inner Sanctuary, the Holy of Holies, he may attain to the enjoyment of life eternal in the Heavens.—Amen.

The Committee recommended that in connection with the foregoing a memorial page be inserted in the next Annual Proceedings of the Grand Chapter.

There being no further business ready the Committee adjourned.

JAMES GOSSIP,
Secretary to Committee.

MASONIC HALL,
Halifax, May 8, A. I. 2102.

Committee of General Purposes met this evening pursuant to notice.

PRESENT—Comp. W. A. Hesson, *Chairman.*
" B. Curren,
" T. A. Cossman,
" W. F. Chase,
" James Martin,
" G. T. Smithers,
" James Gossip.
M. E. G. H. P. S R. Sircom.

The M. E. G. H. P. stated that owing to the death of the R. E. Grand King, Companion Joseph Conway Brown, one of the members of this Committee, he had appointed Comp. James Martin in his place.

The Minutes of last meeting of the Committee were read and confirmed.

The following letter from Companion F. Binckes, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, asking the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia to recognise the said Grand Mark Lodge, was read:—

Office of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters.
2, Red Lion Square, High Holborne,
London, W. C., 20th January, 1872.

TO THE M. E. GRAND HIGH PRIEST, SUP. G. CHAPTER, HALIFAX, N. S.

M. E. Sir and Companion:

I am directed by the M. W. G. Mark Master Mason to address you on the important subject of recognition by your Supreme Grand Chapter of this Grand Lodge, as the legitimate head of the Mark Degree in this country. Isolated as the Degree is, owing to its having been persistently ignored by the Grand Craft Lodge, and Supreme Royal Arch Chapter of England, this Grand Lodge has labored most successfully to restore it in the estimation of the great Masonic Body, as is proved by its having under its jurisdiction at the present time 143 Lodges with over 5000 members. New Lodges are constantly being added to the Roll, and our position has recently been further strengthened by the treaties of alliance into which we have entered with the Supreme Grand Council 33°—the Grand Conclave of Knights Templar—and the Imperial Council of the Red Cross of Rome, all in this country—and still more recently by the recognition formally accorded by the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapters of Iowa and Pennsylvania, U. S. A.—with whom we are entering into arrangements for the interchange of representatives—while recognition by other Supreme Bodies is confidently expected at an early date. By Book Post I send you copy of our last Report with proceedings at a conference on the Mark Degree which will, I hope, repay perusal. At page 41 you will find a letter from the G. S. E. of the Supreme G. R. A. Chapter of Canada, testifying to their friendly feeling towards this Grand Lodge which we have every reason to believe will result in formal recognition. Our Certificates are also recognised by the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland. I would fain hope that a full and fair consideration of our position will induce your executive to regard our proposals favorably, and to give us all the encouragement in your power, in our efforts to maintain the Mark Degree as an essential part of Freemasonry.

I have the honor to be,
M. E. Sir and Companion,
Yours obediently and fraternally,
F. BINCKES, *Grand Secretary.*

On motion it was unanimously

Resolved, That the Committee of General Purposes having heard the correspondence read from R. W. Bro. F. Binckes, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales,

direct the said correspondence to be submitted for the consideration of the Grand Chapter with a recommendation that the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia accord to the Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales their most cordial acknowledgment and recognition.

The Grand Secretary stated that in accordance with instructions received at last meeting of this Committee he had communicated with Union Chapter Yarmouth, and St. John's Chapter, Pictou, both under the Registry of Scotland. To the former an unofficial acknowledgment of the receipt of the letter was made by the Principal Z., but to the latter not even the courtesy of a reply. Also that he had written again to the Grand Chapter of Scotland asking fraternal recognition but as usual no reply had been received.

The Grand Secretary stated that since the last meeting of the Committee of General Purposes application had been made by a constitutional number of Companions at Annapolis to hold a Chapter at that place, and that the M. E. Grand High Priest had granted his Dispensation for that purpose.

No further business presenting itself the committee adjourned.

JAMES GOSSIP,
Sec. Com. Gen. Purposes.

MASONIC HALL
Halifax, June 3, A. I. 2402.

Committee of General Purposes met this evening pursuant to notice.

PRESENT—Comp. W. A. Hesson, *Chairman.*
" G. T. Smithers,
" James Martin,
" W. F. Chase,
" James Gossip, *G. Secretary.*

M. E. G. H. P., S. R. Sircom.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

The Reports and Accounts of the R. E. Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were presented and read, and found to be satisfactory in every particular, when on motion it was unanimously

Resolved, That the same be approved of and recommended to the Grand Chapter for adoption.

The Reports are as follows:

REPORT OF GRAND SECRETARY.

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia.

The Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia submits the following:

Correct and highly satisfactory returns have been received from all the Chapters under this jurisdiction, exhibiting a healthy and prosperous state of affairs, with every appearance of a successful future.

There have been during the past year 32 Exaltations, 8 Affiliations, 7 Dimits, 2 Rejections, 4 Deaths, as will more fully appear in the tabular statement

One Dispensation has been granted to a number of Companions at Annapolis to hold a new Chapter at that place under the name of "Eureka."

The number of actual Subscribing members in each Chapter as per returns furnished is,

Royal Union,	No. 1	60
St. Andrew's	" 2	52
Hiram,	" 3	39
Keith	" 4	21
		172
No. of Comps. members of "EUREKA" Chap., U.D.		17
	Making a total of...	189

The following is a statement of Cash received by me during the year:

1871.						
Oct.	19.	Fees from	Keith Chapter, No. 4, for Registry and Diploma.			$12.50
Nov.	3.	" "	Royal Union, No. 1,	do	do	5.00
	9.	" "	St Andrew's, No 2,	do	do	2.50
Dec.	8.	" "	Hiram, No. 3,	do	do	7.50
1872.						
Feb.	13.	" "	Royal Union, No. 1,	do	do	5.00
March	16.	" "	St. Andrew's, No. 2,	do	do	2.50
April	16.	" "	Keith	do	do	12.50
	"	" "	do Dispensation,	do	do	1.00
	11.	" "	Dispensation to form " Eureka " Chapter at Annapolis.....			30.00
May	20.	" "	Royal Union Chapter, No. 1, for Registry and Diploma			7.50
	"	" "	St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 3, for Registry and Diploma			23.00
	25	" "	Hiram Chapter, No. 3, for Registry and Diploma.....			8.00
	30.	" "	Royal Union Chapter No. 1, for Registry and Diploma.....			7.50
	"	" "	Eureka Chapter, U. D. for Warrant of Constitution.....			10.00
			Eureka for Dispensation.....			1.00
					Total...	$135.50

All of which has been paid over to the R. E. Grand Treasurer and receipts received therefor.

During the year I have received through R. E. Comp. George Frank Gouley, Grand Secretary of the M. E. G. C. of Missouri, a bound copy of the Proceedings of the M. E. Grand Chapter of that State from the date of its organization to the Proceedings of 1869 inclusive. Also from M. E. Companion T. S. Parvin, P. G. H. P. of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, handsomely bound copies of the Proceedings, and also of the Constitutions of the Grand Chapter of Iowa. Also from the Grand Secretary of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania a bound copy of their Constitution.

I promptly acknowledged the receipt of these several presents, and tendered the hearty thanks of the Grand Chapter of Nova for the same.

On examining the various Proceedings of the Grand Chapters of the United States, in my capacity of Foreign Correspondence Committee, I have noticed that some of these bodies are in a very miserable financial condition owing to a careless want of judgment in arranging their expenditure to correspond with the amount of their income. To avoid any such mishap to us, I think

it would not be amiss if at each Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, an estimate of the probable expenditure for the current year, and also a statement of the various sources from whence an income is to be derived to meet the wants of Grand Chapter, should be laid before us.

Our Grand Chapter has been able successfully, heretofore, to meet all its liabilities and have a surplus at the end of each year without having to levy any tax on subordinate Chapters beyond the fee for Registry and Diploma, for which an equivalent is given, but it will be necessary ere long to call for a small tax in the shape of dues to Grand Chapter.

It will be seen immediately, on considering the subject, that as it is now, if there were no Exaltations or Affiliations during the year, there would be no revenue to Grand Chapter; but this is hardly possible, although the number of Exaltations in some years might be far less than in others, which consequently must decrease the means at the disposal of Grand Chapter to meet its liabilities. A small amount of dues payable annually to Grand Chapter by each subordinate, for each of its *actual subscribing members* would, together with the Constitutional fee for Registry and Diploma, put the Grand Chapter in an easy financial position.

I herewith submit an estimate of the probable expenditure for the coming year:

Printing, Advertising, &c	$75.00
Stationery	10.00
Interest on monies borrowed	12.00
Allowance for Grand Secretary, postage, &c	50.00
Janitor	10.00
Extras	5.00
	$162.00

To meet which there is,

Balance in Treasurer's hands this date	$137.90
Probable receipts for Registry and Diploma	100.00
Annual dues from Subordinate Chapters	41.00
	$282.90

Which would leave to credit of Grand Chapter at end of year about $120.90

After the death of our Companion J. Conway Brown, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, I was selected by the Committee of General Purposes to succeed him in that capacity.

I beg to state that during the past year I have received copies of Proceedings from thirty-two Grand Chapters including those of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and the Grand Lodge of Mark Masons of England and Wales.

I have been unable to complete the review of this mass of Correspondence in time for the present Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter but will submit it when completed to the Committee of General Purposes for approval before publishing.

In connection with the decease of our late R. E. Grand King J. Conway Brown, I think it my duty to refer to the spontaneous brotherly feeling evinced by the fraternity at Truro on the occasion of the return of Companion Smithers and myself from Londonderry with his remains.

We were met about four miles from Truro by a large number of the brethren of Cobequid and Truro Lodges in waggons, who escorted the body to Truro, and deposited it in the Cobequid Lodge Room, to await the departure of the train for Halifax. In the meantime the brethren having been previously summoned, a lodge of sorrow was held and the solemn and impressive rites of our order on such occasions feelingly and pathetically conducted by our Companion and Brother, Rev. W. T. Wilkins, W. M. of Cobequid Lodge, and I must say that the deep melancholy which seemed to pervade the whole assembly only proved to us what we but knew before, the great esteem in which the deceased was held.

The solemn service being concluded a funeral procession was formed, and the Body conducted to the Railway Station for transmission to Halifax.

JAMES GOSSIP,
Grand Secretary.

REPORT OF GRAND TREASURER.

HALIFAX, N. S., June 1, 1872.

R. E. COMP. JAMES GOSSIP.
Grand Secretary G. R. A. C.,
Halifax, N. S.

I beg to report for the information of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Nova Scotia, that the balance on hand of the funds of said Grand Chapter at the last accounting (June 23, 1871) was

$146.46. That the monies since received amount to $135.50, and the expenditure, $144.06; the particulars whereof will fully appear in my account current herewith submitted. The balance now on hand to credit of Grand Royal Arch Chapter is $137.90.

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM TWINING,
Grand Treasurer.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT CURRENT.

1871. June 10.	To paid Grand Secretary per vote of Chapter	$40.00	
1872. May 17.	" Jas. Bowes & Sons' account	64.37	
	" Express	1.00	
	" Colonist	1.00	
	" Citizen	1.00	
	" George Bolton	2.50	
	" W. Gossip	7.19	
	" Grand Secretary	15.00	
	" Union Royal Arch Chapter, 1 year's interest	6.00	
	" St. Andrew's do do	6.00	
	To Balance		$144.06
			137.90
	Total		$281.96

1871. June 1.	By Balance		$146.46
1872. Jany. 12.	By Cash from Grand Secretary	$12.50	
March 2.	do do do do	7.50	
14.	do do do do	7.50	
April 13.	do do do do	7.50	
16.	do do do do	13.50	
20.	do do do do	30.00	
May 17	do do do do		
20.	do do do do	7.50	
27.	do do do do	23.00	
31.	do do do do	15.50	
	do do do do	11.00	
			135.50
			$281.96
1872. June 1.	By Balance		$137.90

E. & O. E.,

WILLIAM TWINING,
Grand Treasurer.

The M. E. Grand High Priest recommended the *reconsideration* of a resolution passed at last meeting of this Committee in reference to the recognition of the Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales until a point referring to jurisdictional rights over the Mark Degree in the colonies was defined.

In consequence of reasons assigned by the M. E. Grand High Priest the resolution was rescinded by a unanimous vote.

The Grand Secretary laid before the committee the Minutes of Eureka Chapter U. D. at Annapolis, in connection with its formation, and also stated that the necessary fees for Charter for said Chapter had been received, when on motion it was

Resolved, That this Committee having examined all the documents and papers referring to the formation of Eureka Chapter, located at Annapolis, N. S., and finding everything in order and in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, do recommend that a Charter be granted to said Chapter under the title of "Eureka" No. 5.

The Committee then adjourned.

JAMES GOSSIP,
Sec. Com. General Purposes.

APPENDIX.

Report on Foreign Correspondence.

To the M. E. the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Nova Scotia:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to state that during the year they have received the Proceedings of the following Grand Chapters all of which they have endeavoured to review, necessarily in a very brief manner:

Alabama	1871	Missouri	1871
California	1871	Mississippi	1872
Canada	1871	Nebraska	1871
Connecticut	1872	New Jersey	1871
Delaware	1871	New York	1872
District of Columbia	1871	North Carolina	1871
Florida	1871	Ohio	1871
Illinois	1871	Oregon	1871
Indiana	1871	Pennsylvania	1871
Iowa	1871	Tennessee	1871
Kansas	1871	Texas	1871
Kentucky	1871	Vermont	1871
Louisiana	1872	Virginia	1872
Maine	1871	Wisconsin	1872
Maryland	1871	General Grand Chapter of the United States	1871
Massachusetts	1871	Grand Lodge of Mark Masons of England.	
Do.	1872		
Michigan	1872		

ALABAMA, 1871.

This Grand Chapter held its Forty-fifth Annual Convocation in the city of Montgomery on the 5th December, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Companion Henry Clay Armstrong, G. H. P. Presiding.

Fifty-one Chapters represented—96 in the jurisdiction.

We quote the following from the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, which will apply with as equal force to other localities as to Alabama:

If it be indeed true that we have fallen upon evil times; that men generally are less mindful of their obligations than formerly; that confidence is being destroyed, and the bonds of society relaxed—be ours the mission to so cleave to the tenets of our order, and so illustrate them in our daily walk and conversation, as to severally furnish, in the sphere of our influence, an effectual antidote to this degeneracy. Thus may we exemplify the teachings of masonry, and thus contribute, in our day and generation to the strength and beauty and usefulness of the institution.

We sympathize with our Companions of Alabama in the loss they have sustained by the death of Past Grand High Priest Wm. P. Chilton, who appears to have been a shining light amongst them.

Royal Arch Masonry is represented as being in a satisfactory and healthy condition in this jurisdiction, not on account of a large accession of members, but apparently from a moral sense of duty to the institution which pervades generally the body.

The G. H. P. gives the following decisions:—

In a case presented, I held that a companion who claimed to have been a member of a chapter in this jurisdiction which had forfeited its charter, and who further claimed that a dimit had been voted him before such forfeiture, but, for some cause, never issued, might upon proof made of these facts affiliate with another chapter, although his name does not appear upon the returns of the former chapter on file with the Grand Secretary; and that the certificates of the last H. P., Sec. and R. A. C. of the discontinued chapter might be evidence sufficient.

In response to questions propounded to me by a companion, *held*, that although a ballot on petition for the chapter degrees has been had without objections, and the chapter closed, a further ballot may be required at any time by a member.

On the second application for the chapter degrees by a rejected applicant, it is not required that every companion present at the first balloting should be present at the second; nor is it incumbent on the H. P. to give special notice of such second application.

The petition being presented at a regular convocation and read, is notice that a second ballot will be taken, and the absence of a member when the time for the second balloting arrives, who was present at the first, is not sufficient cause for postponement. Yet, if a member notifies the H. P. that he desires to be present at such balloting, but that he cannot be present at the convocation at which it would occur in order, it would be the duty of the H. P. to respect such notice, and by postponing, afford the companion an opportunity to exercise his right to "black ball" the applicant, if he desires so to do.

An elaborate report on Foreign Correspondence of an interesting character is presented by the Committee, but the limited space allowed us prohibits an extended notice of the able document.

We regret to notice the forfeiture of the Charters of no less than thirty-three Chapters for delinquency.

Number of actual members in the Jurisdiction as per returns, 1909.

H. Clay Armstrong, Notasulga, re-elected G. H. P.; Daniel Sayre, Montgomery, re-elected Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA, 1871.

Seventeenth Annual Convocation held in the city of San Francisco, April 11, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Companion George T. Grimes, G. H. P., presiding.

Twenty-nine Chapters represented—forty on the roll.

The Grand High Priest, in his address, refers to the arrest of the Dispensation of a new Chapter, for irregularities in working, and for a violation of the laws of Grand Chapter, in unconstitutionally adopting resolutions and working under them before being submitted to the G. H. P. for approval. The Grand Lecturer was also suspended for countenancing the irregularities, he having been present; and in fact the acts were performed under his direction and guidance.

Subsequently the Grand High Priest having become satisfied that the sins committed "were the result of injudicious advice and instruction," and that the members of the Chapter were anxious to continue their work, and comply with the laws and usages of the Order, the Dispensation was re-issued, and the Chapter has since worked harmoniously and prosperously.

The following resolution was recommended by the Committee on Jurisprudence, for adoption:

Resolved, That the provisions of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of California shall be, in all essential respects, where there is no conflict between it and the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, the rules and regulations by which the action of the subordinate Chapters of this jurisdiction shall be governed.

The G. H. P. pays a just tribute to departed merit by a brotherly eulogy of two deceased Companions, French and Jackson, both of whom appear to have been prominent Companions in the Craft, and whose loss evidently was severely felt.

The G. H. P. approves of the appointment of representatives near other Grand Chapters.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Comp. L. C. Owen. Our proceedings for 1869-70 are noticed in a kind manner, but we beg to correct a slight mistake as to titles. It is stated "that in the absence of the Grand High Priest, R. E. Companion S. R. Sircom, *Deputy* Grand High Priest presided." There is no such officer in our jurisdiction as *Deputy* Grand High Priest, we have not yet seen the necessity for such an appointment.

Referring to the proceedings of Canada wherein the Grand Z. recommends to the Grand Chapter the consideration of the propriety of working the degrees of Royal and Select Masters as practised in the United States, considering them proper appendages of Royal Arch Masonry, (interesting if not absolutely necessary,) and suggesting that the Grand Chapter of Canada should immediately assume the government thereof and grant warrants, &c. Companion Owen says:

We are surprised that Comp. Harington should have made such a suggestion, for he must know that Grand Chapters have no more right to establish Councils than they have to establish Commanderies. As a Grand Chapter it knows nothing of the degrees of Royal and Select Masters, and the assumption of such a right would be denounced by every Grand Council in the United States, and the Councils thus established, and all those connected with them, would be universally proscribed.

Number of members in this jurisdiction, 1769.

M. E. Companion Jas. Lawrence English, Sacramento, elected G. H. P., R. E. Charles Louis Wiggins, San Francisco, Grand Secretary.

CANADA, 1871.

Fourteenth Annual Convocation held in the city of Hamilton on the 9th August, A. I. 2401.

Thirty-nine Chapters represented—forty-four on the roll.

M. E. Comp. T. Douglas Harington, Grand Z, presiding; R. E Comp, Thos. Bird Harris, Grand Scribe E.

In his address, the Grand Z. congratulates the body generally on the satisfactory and harmonious state of Royal Arch Masonry in the jurisdiction. Referring to the unfortunate difficulty in Craft Masonry in the Province of Quebec, he thus speaks in connection with its effect on Royal Arch Masonry.

I think of but one other subject which I conceive it to be my duty to allude to. Last year I had to do so. I mean the unfortunate difficulty connected with Craft Masonry in the Province of Quebec, and which, it is greatly to be lamented, has not yet been satisfactorily terminated, as all true Masons must wish and pray for. Of course you all know to what my present allusion points, and this continued discord and state of misunderstanding is exercising a baneful influence on our Order. Royal Arch Masonry is indirectly affected by it, and it is well calculated to do, and is doing, injury in many ways. That the Grand Lodge of Quebec is an accomplished fact, it would be absurd to ignore. It has been unconditionally recognised by some twenty-three Grand Lodges already, and that other Grand Bodies will pursue a like course, I entertain no doubt. This is not a question for Grand Chapters to discuss, but it is my duty to inform you that I received a very courteous and fraternal communication in my capacity of your Grand First Principal, from the M. W. Grand Master of Quebec, who is likewise a member of high standing of this Grand Chapter, notifying officially the existence of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and seeking for amicable and free intercourse, to which I replied in a similar spirit; and these letters are, of course, ready to be laid before you. I am quite without information from the Grand Lodge of Canada I had given to me, from more than one quarter, clear testimony that bitter feelings were beginning to be engendered among our Royal Arch Masons, at Montreal especially, and that, greatly to their discredit, they were threatening to use, if not actually doing so, the ballot-box as an instrument of strife! This I was resolved to render nugatory if possible, so far as Capitular Masonry was concerned, and it was partly in consequence of this that I granted Dispensations for the two new Chapters in that city, the respective petitions coming to me

from Companions on the one part favorable, and the other hostile to the Grand Lodge of Quebec. I believe I did right, and that I am justified by the result.

That as the principle of having a Grand Lodge for each Province of the Dominion has, we all know, been in a measure acknowledged and assented to, it really becomes simply a question of time as to the formation of separate Grand Chapters.

Dispensations were issued for three new Chapters.

The decease of our late Companion J. Conway Brown, Grand King of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, and a Past Grand Superintendant of the Grand Chapter of Canada, is briefly noticed.

The following strange notice of motion was given by R. E. Companion R. Ramsay, which, we think, will hardly find favor with the Body:

R. E. Comp. R. Ramsay gave notice that at the next Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter he will move "that the Constitution be so amended as to include all the Degrees of the A. and A. Rite, Royal Order of Scotland, Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, Royal Ark Mariner, and also the Degrees of Cryptic Masonry, as being recognized by this Grand Chapter

The Executive Committee on the "Condition of Masonry" in the jurisdiction, reported that they had noticed in one of their Districts, what seemed to them to be a violation of law and usage, where a Second Principal had been installed by *proxy;* they wished it to be distinctly understood "that an installation of a Principal by proxy is altogether unallowable."

We quite concur in the idea.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by the Chairman, R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, in which the Proceedings containing the Minutes of our organization and First Annual Convocation are noticed and quoted from.

Number of Members on the roll of Chapters, 1814; Receipts for the year $1,566.87.

M. E. Comp T. D. Harington, re-elected Grand Z; R. E. Comp. T. Bird Harris, re-elected Grand Scribe E.

CONNECTICUT, 1871-2.

Semi-Annual Convocation held in the city of New Britain, November 1, A. I. 2401.

In the Minutes of this Convocation we notice that after Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment, "Geddings Chapter" was opened and the degree of M. M. conferred upon a candidate in due form. At the afternoon session the degrees of Past Master and Most Excellent Master were conferred. At an evening session the Royal Arch Degree was conferred upon three candidates.

Why minutes properly belonging to a private Chapter should be incorporated with those of Grand Chapter we cannot conceive?

The SEVENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Connecticut was held in the city of Hartford, May 7th, A. I. 2402.

M. E. Comp. Charles W. Stearns, G. H. P. presiding. Thirty chartered Chapters and one U. D., being all in the Jurisdiction as far as we can discover, were represented.

In the report on Foreign Correspondence our Proceedings for 1871 is reviewed and quoted from. A hope is expressed that the two Chapters in the Province, not in connection with the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, "would have ere this voluntarily given in their *bounders allegiance.*"

A short eulogy is passed on our late Companion J. Conway Brown.

In the review of the Proceedings of "Ohio," in answer to a resolution passed by that body—

"That, in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, a Master Mason, who has become maimed in person, is not thereby prevented from receiving the degrees conferred in a Royal Arch Chapter."

He says:

"We are glad to know this, for if we ever visit Ohio again and a Royal Arch Mason without arms shall offer his foot in welcome, we can reciprocate the warm pressure, and safely infer that he has been duly exalted by a Chapter, which is its own and sole judge of the necessary physical qualification of its candidates. Again, how deeply we all must sympathize with *leg-less, weary sojourners.* Do they *wade* streams or pass bridges in Ohio? The idea of the lame, the halt and the blind re-building the House of the Lord! It might be consistent, for they ought to be willing to work without the hope of fee or reward. Please reconsider. The subject grows, but lost legs, hands, arms and feet will not.

Total membership 4019. M. E. Comp. Wm. Wallace Lee, Grand H. Priest. R. E. Comp. Jos. K. Wheeler, Hartford, Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE, 1871.

Third Annual Convocation held at Dover, January 18, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Comp. Daniel C. Godwin, G. H. P., presiding.

All the Chapters in the jurisdiction, four in number, represented.

The Grand High Priest, in his address, congratulates the body on its prosperity, and states that although not as large an exhibit of work is manifest as might be desired, still such as had been done was *good work, true work,* and *square work.*

He suggests immediate, definite action on the Representative question, and urges them to hold on to the practice of using substitutes,, "a practice well nigh as old as Royal Arch Masonry itself," "without which practice he conceives the Rural Districts, at least, would often time be placed in a sad dilemma."

The appointment of Representatives was left to the discretion of the G. H. P.

The Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence reports the reception of the proceedings of twenty-five Grand Chapters, ours for 1869 included, but regrets that want of time has prevented him from reviewing the mass of Correspondence received.

Total membership in the jurisdiction, 187.

M. E. Comp. Allen V. Lesley, Newcastle, elected G. H. P.; R. E. Wm. F. Godwin, Milford, Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,—1871.

The Pamphlet before us contains the Proceedings of a Special Convocation held at Washington, January 30, A. I. 2401; Semi-Annual Convocation held at same place, May 9, A. I. 2401. At the latter Convocation the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That every Chapter in this jurisdiction is prohibited from publishing in any public newspaper the work to be done at any stated or special Convocation, and any Companion who shall cause the publication of the same shall be subjected to Masonic discipline.

Fifth Annual Convocation held at Washington, Nov. 14, A. I. 2401.

M. E., J. Lockie, G. H. P. presiding.

Seven Chapters represented—eight on the roll.

In the address of the Grand High Priest we find the following:

During the year I have exercised but seldom the peculiar prerogatives vested in a Grand High Priest. I have, however, occasionally granted a dispensation to pass the ballot on the *same night* that a petition has been received, after being fully satisfied that no injustice would be done thereby.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence, being a review of the proceedings of 37 Grand Chapters, is by Comp. J. E. Mason. Our proceedings for 1870–71 do not appear to have been received up to the time of the publication of their report, although promptly forwarded.

Comp. Mason appears to have great antipathy to the use of substitutes. We cannot see what occasion there is at this date to disallow the practice, or why any deviation or alterations from old established customs should now be allowed. The practice is as old as Royal Arch Masonry itself on this continent.

In Union Chapter, No. 1, in this city, the use of substitutes has been practised since its formation, over eighty years.

The Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, however, we are glad to find, have modified somewhat their views on the subject, and have left the matter to the option of the M. E. High Priest,

Comp. Mason publishes at considerable length, a correspondence with Comp. Hughan, of England, on Capitular Masonry generally, giving the

Craft a very comprehensive idea of the subject. It would please us to transfer it to our pages, but we are compelled to forego the pleasure, owing to the very limited space at our disposal.

Comp. Mason pitches into Comp. Drummond, of Maine, in reference to changing his base on the question of substitutes, he having been one of the strongest advocates against the practice for years.

Number of members, 910.

M. E, Comp. Jos. Daniels elected G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. C. W. Hancock elected Grand Secretary.

FLORIDA.

Twenty-fourth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Tallahassee, on January 10, A. I, 2401.

M. E. Comp. DeWitt C. Dawkins, G. H. P., presiding.

By the statistics it appears that out of twenty-one Chapters only eight had sent in returns--this does not look well.

Two dispensations had been granted to form new Chapters. This looks better

This Grand Chapter, we regret to notice, has met with a serious loss during the year by the death of their esteemed Grand Secretary, Edward Bradford, Jr.

A very interesting part of the preceedings of this Grand Chapter is the report on Foreign Correspondence, the author of which, we would infer, is the Chairman, Comp. Thomas A. Carruth, who, labouring under the very great disadvantage of having had a large portion of the manuscript prepared for the report destroyed by fire, still puts before us an excellent *resume* of the various ceedings received by him. Ours *not* amongst the number.

We must express our dissatisfaction, that although we have taken the trouble to furnish the Grand Chapter of Florida for the past two years with our proceedings they do not yet appear to be awake to the fact that such a body as the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia exists. Please Comp. Carruth stir up the Grand Secretary, and make him unearth our proceedings, which have been regularly sent to him. Young and small as we are we would at least like our *existence* to be acknowledged,

Number of Chapters, 21; Membership, 374.

M. E. Companion DeWitt C. Dawkins, Jacksonville, re-elected G. H. P.; R. E. Companion W. M. [illegible]ntosh, Tallahasse, re-elected Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS,—1871.

Twenty-second Annual Convocation held in the city of Chicago, October 6th, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Comp. Aug. A. Murray, G. H. P. presiding. 125 Chapters represented. 147 on the roll.

An elaborate address was delivered by the G. H. Priest principally on official acts performed during the year. He thinks the use of substitutes is a direct violation of the Ritual. The committee on the address concurred in the view.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Comp. Jas. H. Miles, Grand Secretary. It is a compilation of useful instructive matter, carefully selected from the proceedings of thirty-six Grand Chapters,—ours not amongst them. We do not understand Comp. Miles' allusion in his concluding remarks in reference to *Nova Scotia, &c. not responding to their call.* If he means that our Proceedings have not been received, we would say that copies of the same have been punctually forwarded to the Grand Chapter of Illinois through Grand Secretary Miles. In our Proceedings for last year we find "Illinois" for 1870-71, noticed and quoted from at length.

The following are some of the resolutions in force in the Grand Chapter of Illinois :--

Resolved, That by ancient regulations, Chapters, until regularly constituted, have no right to be represented.

Resolved, That the several Chapters in this State are prohibited from conferring any degrees upon non-affiliated Master Masons.

Resolved, That any Companion shall have the right, at any time, to object to the advancement of a candidate in his Chapter, and that it shall be unlawful to advance such candidate until the objection is removed.

Resolved, That the conferring of the Royal Arch Degree on less than three actual candidates at a time, is hereby expressly forbidden by this Grand Chapter; and if any Chapter violates this resolution it shall be the duty of the Grand High Priest at once to arrest its charter.

Resolved, That each Subordinate Chapter, within the Jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, shall purge itself of intemperance and profanity; and that it be the duty of this Grand Chapter to arrest the charter of any Chapter failing to comply with this resolution.

Resolved, That candidates for promotion be required to pass a thorough examination on the preceding degree, in open Lodge or Chapter, before being advanced.

No. of members in the Jurisdiction 9000.

M. E. Comp. James A. Hawley, Dixon, elected Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. James H. Miles, Chicago, elected Grand Secretary.

INDIANA, 1871.

Twenty-sixth Annual Convocation held in the city of Logansport, on 18th October, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Comp. Rees J. Chesnutwood, G. H. P. presiding.

In the course of his address, the G. H. P. refers to the state of calmness pervading the Masonic atmosphere, but appears to be apprehensive of a storm of some kind. Hear him :

Companions, we are living in a time when it may be well to sound a note of alarm. The calm which we are now experiencing may be but the precursor to the storm, for it is a well known fact that there are at present in our land, men, occupying positions of social and moral importance, who are trying to sap the foundations of our great moral edifice. From this, I apprehend, we have but little to fear. Our only cause for alarm is within ourselves. A growing desire is manifest in our Chapters to increase their number, without, (I fear, in some instances,) a proper regard to the quality of the material used. Permit me, then, to urge upon all subordinates the importance of guarding well the portals of the sanctuary, and suffer none to enter but the worthy. Our strength does not consist in the quantity, but the quality of the material.

We trust no such apprehension will be realised. Our idea is that the institution at the present day should be so powerful, morally and otherwise, that it could offer very determined resistance to any attacks from enemies without, and surely it is in the power of the body to put a sudden stop to any conspiracies (if such can exist) *within* its pale.

The following report of Committee on Grievances was recommended to Grand Chapter for approval:

The Committee on Grievances report that the only case which has been submitted for consideration, is a certified copy of the proceedings of Milan Chapter, No. 32, on the 14th of July, 1871, in the case of complaint against Comp. L. F. Tanner, for selling intoxicating liquors, in which action of the Chapter the said Tanner was expelled from all the privileges of Royal Arch Masonry.

Our Proceedings for the past two years have been punctually forwarded to the Grand Chapter of Indiana, but no mention is made of their reception. We presume the neglect will be remedied in the next Annual Proceedings.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence make no extended report; but merely state "that nothing has been presented or referred to them requiring their action; but they recommend a proper distribution of their Proceedings to all the Grand Bodies with whom they are in correspondence, and the preservation of the Proceedings of Sister Grand Bodies.

There are in this Jurisdiction eighty chartered Chapters and five under dispensation.

There were forty-seven deaths in the Jurisdiction for the year.

Total number of members 3757.

M. E. Comp. R. J. Chesnutwood, re-elected Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. James M. Bramwell, re-elected Grand Secretary

IOWA, 1871.

Seventeenth Annual Convocation held at Council Bluff, October 18th, A. I. 2401. Comp. D. Baugh, Deputy Grand High Priest presiding, in the absence of the Grand High Priest.

Forty-four chartered Chapters and five U. D. represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest, Judge Z. C. Luse, which was read by

the Grand Secretary, recapitulates a very large amount of duty performed notwithstanding that he had been confined to his room for months with a broken limb caused by being gored by a bull, narrowly escaping with his life.

It appears that the Grand Chapter of Iowa is forbidden by resolution on their books to use substitutes in conferring the R. A. Degree; but the G. H. P. recommends that as the use of substitutes has been proved to have been allowed for over one hundred years, the question be reviewed, and if possible the resolution disallowing their use be repealed.

The question was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, the majority of whom coincided in the views of the G. H. P., and reported to Grand Chapter to that effect.

A minority report was presented against the decision of the majority, and on the question being put to Grand Chapter, it was decided by a large vote that the use of substitutes should not be allowed.

We think our Companions of Iowa are straining matters. It is evident that the use of substitutes will shortly be universal.

In Royal Union Chapter in this city the custom has prevailed since its formation, which is now over eighty years.

The Representative system is adopted by the Grand Chapter of Iowa.

A resolution by Comp. U. D. Taylor, recognizing the Grand Mark Lodge of England, and the admission of English Mark Master Masons into Chapters in the Jurisdiction when open on the M. M. Degree, was adopted. Also a resolution authorizing an interchange of representatives with the said Grand Mark Lodge.

In answer to an enquiry what position a member of a Chapter would be placed in, who became non-affiliated from his Blue Lodge: the Grand High Priest decided "that his position in the Chapter was not affected by affiliation or non-affiliation in the Blue Lodge."

A voluminous report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by the author, Comp. U. D Taylor.

Our Grand Chapter is kindly noticed. Referring to the selfishness of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, in refusing to recognize our Supreme Grand Body he says:—

The emergency meeting in December was to consider the action of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland in refusing to acknowledge the legality of the new Grand Chapter, and accusing its officers of want of veracity in stating that it was formed by the unanimous action of the Chapters represented in the Convention. The action of the Grand Chapter of Scotland was read, and resolutions adopted denying the propriety of the action of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, in accusing the officers of the Grand Chapter of making false statements, and re-affirming the truth of its original assertion. The truth appears to be that while all the Chapters in the Province were perhaps not desirous of forming a Grand Chapter, all which took part in the Convention were. But if the Grand Chapter of Scotland had not had this excuse for failing to recognize the new Grand Chapter, she would probably have sought some other, as it appears impossible for the Grand Bodies of the mother countries to gracefully resign the authority they have not the power to retain. The result will be that the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, being recognized by all the

American Grand Chapters, and having no need for that of the Supreme Grand Chapter, will grow in strength and increase the number of her subordinates, while the Scottish Chapters, by their folly and stubbornness, isolated from the craft in the Province, and for that matter, in the Union, too, will gradually fade out, or else join the live, growing body, and so the revolution be ended by a natural process. Indeed this appears to have already nearly come to pass, as of the five Chapters existing in the Province, three joined in forming the new Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter of Scotland have not yet recognized us, nor even had the gentlemanly courtesy to notice any of the friendly letters sent to them from the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia. *So mote it be.*

We beg in this place to express our acknowledgments to Past High Priest T. S. Parvin, for many literary favors.

There are in the Jurisdiction of Iowa sixty chartered Chapters, and five U. D., with a total membership of 2772.

M. E. Comp. E. A. Guilbert, elected Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. W. B. Langridge, re-elected Grand Secretary.

KANSAS,—1871.

The Seventh Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in the city of Topeka, Oct. 17, A. I. 2401.

Number of Chapters represented, fourteen; number in the jurisdiction, twenty.

In the absence of the M. E. G. H. P., owing to important business engagements, the Convocation was presided over by the R. E. Deputy, Companion E. D. Hillyer.

The address of the G. H. P. was read by the Deputy. It is an interesting document, full of historical instruction to Royal Arch Masons, and gives a most elaborate statement of official acts personally performed, showing an amount of zeal and energy in the cause highly commendable.

In course of the address reference is made to the action of the Freemasons of Paris in the late contest with the Germans, "marching fully organized to the fortifications and from the ramparts bearing flags of mediation between two contending factions, risking their own lives that they might cause to cease a war, which had for its object nothing which could commend it to any civilized nation." Reference is also made to the negotiations carried on by the late Joint High Commission, the foremost in which happened to be the M. E. the Grand Master Mason of England, in these words.

We have seen two powerful nations, bound by fraternal ties, by religion, by education, and all those things which tend to higher civilization, ready to draw the sword to arbitrate certain differences arising out of a disregard of each other's rights, reconciled by the mediation of a few men, under the leadership of one who bore the highest honors which could be bestowed upon him by Masons; thus have we ever found the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons

engaged in some great labor of reconciliation, not for the purpose of self aggrandizement, but that peace upon earth and good will toward all men may prevail.

The Committee on Jurisprudence submitted the following which was adopted and incorporated in their standing regulations :

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the M. E. Grand High Priest's Address relating to membership in Chapters, would respectfully report, that when a brother P. M. or M. E. M. has resided under the jurisdiction of a Chapter of this Grand Jurisdiction a proper length of time, and presents a petition for either or both of the remaining degrees, with a written consent from the Chapter having original jurisdiction to confer the degrees, and is duly elected to receive them, that the Chapter under this Grand Jurisdiction gains absolute jurisdiction; and upon being duly exalted, and upon complying with the By-Laws, gains membership in said Chapter.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was submitted by the R. E. Grand Secretary, E. T. Carr, and contains just such comments and selections as are useful and instructive.

The receipt of our pamphlet containing the proceedings at the organization of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, and also of the First Annual Convocation is acknowledged, and our Supreme Body recommended to a hearty welcome into the sisterhood of Grand Chapters—for which our thanks are tendered.

There appears throughout this jurisdiction, as presented in their proceedings of 1871, a spirit of Masonic honesty which must tell well in the future.

Number of members in the jurisdiction, 650.

M. E. Companion E. D. Hillyer, elected G. H. P.; R. E. Companion E T. Carr, elected Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY, 1871.

This venerable Grand Chapter held its fifty-sixth Annual Convocation in the city of Louisville on the 16th October, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Companion Henry Bostwick, G. H. P. presiding.

The R. E. Grand Secretary who appears to have faithfully served the Grand Chapter for over *fifty years*, was not present on account of severe illness.

The address of the Grand High Priest contains a statement of a considerable amount of official duties performed during the year. Amongst other philanthropic subjects he alludes specially to the finishing of the Orphans wing of the "Masonic Wid ws' and Orphans' Home and Infirmary," and states that "it is desired earnestly by the Directors that the various Chapters as well as Lodges will ascertain and report the number of Masonic Orphans in their various jurisdictions who may be entitled to its privileges, *that they may at once be welcomed to the comfortable and beautiful home provided for them by the philanthropy of the Craft.*"

Would that we in Nova Scotia could point to some such monument of our own creating.

Total resources of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky as shown by report of Grand Treasurer, amount to the respectable sum of $11,663.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented their usual report, which contains many useful quotations from the various Proceedings received. In noticing the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of California wherein it is announced by the G. H. P. of that State that he had suspended from office the Grand Lecturer for propagating irregularities: Kentucky says:—

We have noticed that nearly every professional lecturer upon Masonry introduces into the work some legendary, dramatic, or rhetorical conceit of his own. The temptation is to appear to know something that the Craft in general do not know—to make a sensation by the introduction of something considered very beautiful or startling. We, therefore, have been opposed to the system of Grand Lectureship, believing as we do that it is the fruitful cause of interpolations, and that it introduces more errors, in the shape of modernisms, into the work, than it eradicates.

A resolution was passed to the effect that the proposed High Priest of a Chapter shall be examined and certificate given by his examiners that he is capable of performing the work of the Chapter.

M. E. Comp. J. P. Rascoe, elected G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. Philip Swigert, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Since writing the foregoing the melancholy intelligence has been officially conveyed to us that the R. E. the Grand Secretary of Kentucky has departed this life.—*Requiescat in pace.*

LOUISIANA, 1872.

Twenty-fifth Annual Convocation was held at New Orleans on the 13th day of February, A. I. 2402

M. E. Comp. Michael Eloi Girard, G. H. P. presiding.

Sixteen Chartered Chapters and three Under Dispensation represented.

In this jurisdiction Chapters Under Dispensation are allowed representation in the Grand Chapter.

The G. H. P. in his address comments freely on the subject of dimission, and the non-affiliation consequent therefrom. As the question is one of interest we quote some of his remarks on the subject:—

There is a portion of our Constitutional rules which, in my opinion, should be prepared with care, and I would call your attention to it specially: First, the subject of dimission and non-affiliation consequent therefrom. It certainly is the spirit of our laws that there should be no drones in our midst, and still I fear the different bodies are too willing to allow companions to discontinue their membership. Often the applicant for a demit does not intend to affiliate with any other Chapter, and he only applies for a demit to withdraw, as he thinks, perhaps, not dishonorably, from the Order. That is eminently wrong. It is not in accordance with the spirit of the ancient charge. "Every brother ought to belong to one lodge and be subject to its By-Laws and General Regulations," (and I think every companion ought to belong to one chapter, and

be subject to its By-Laws and General Regulations.) Sometimes, too, after having been demitted, his application for affiliation is refused, and thus he may be unwittingly made to remain a non-affiliate.

The financial condition of this Grand Chapter is good. We notice the following amongst their edicts:—

Resolved, That the subordinate chapters be authorized to strike from their rolls, the names of members delinquent for dues for more than one year, after notice to such delinquents.

We should like this decision to become universal. Touching this subject the G. H. P., in his address, says:—

It may and does afford the chapter some relief, as it has no contribution to make to the Grand Chapter for the delinquent member; but it also has the bad effect of increasing the number of loungers, without any adequate good result. The member stricken from the roll remains in good standing, since he is not suspended; he may not even have been reprimanded, and is, therefore, still entitled to all the rights of a Royal Arch Mason without having to bear any of the burdens.

In the Report on Foreign Correspondence, which is unusually interesting, our Proceedings for 1871 is noticed in a kindly manner, and the labors of our late Companion J. Conway Brown, in producing the rare old documents referred to in our last year's report is fittingly acknowledged, but the wish expressed to hear further from him again in this world will never be realized.

Number of members in the jurisdiction, 1576.

M. E. Comp. M. E. Girard, re-elected G. H. P; R. E. Comp Jas. J. Batchelor, New Orleans, Grand Secretary.

MAINE, 1871.

Annual Convocation held in Portland, May 2nd, A. I. 2401. M. E. Comp. Stephen J Young, G H. P. presiding.

Thirty-three Chapters represented, being all in the jurisdiction.

The address of the G. H. P. is the usual recapitulation of duty performed. It presents nothing of particular interest to us, but shows a strict attention to the requirements of the jurisdiction.

Comp. J. H. Drummond submits a long report from the Special Committee to which was referred that part of the G. H. Priest's address of last year in relation to the use of substitutes. He goes into the question minutely, distinctly showing that the practice is one long in use, and quotes many old Grand Chapters as having used substitutes since their organization. In conclusion the following resolution is recommended for adoption:—

Resolved, That the M. E. General Grand Chapter be requested to change the ritual, and installation charges to a High Priest, so that their language shall no longer conflict with the almost universal practice of using "substitutes" or "proxies" in conferring the Royal Arch Degree.

The report was accepted and the resolution adopted.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is again presented by Companion Drummond, and it is useless for us to eulogize the production, so well acquainted must all the Foreign Correspondence reporters be, with the excellence of whatever emanates from the pen of our Masonic Gamaliel, as he has been termed.

Our Proceedings for 1870 are noticed and quotations made therefrom.

In answer to a suggestion contained in one of our reports that Companion Drummond should give a history of "Scotch Royal Arch Masonry," he says:—

We can only say that, when we can obtain the means, we shall certainly do so, as much from a desire to know what it is as to give the information to others. At present we have but one book that gives any information, and we have been unable to obtain any of the Proceedings of that Grand Chapter.

Referring to Companion Gouley's remarks on the Past Master's Degree, and to a resolution of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, instructing their representatives at the Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, to vote for a proposed amendment, "whereby the Past Master's Degree will be eliminated from the Chapter work," Comp. Drummond says:—

We admit that it was an error to embody this degree in the Chapter system; but it *was* embodied when our system was arranged. It has remained there over seventy years. To remove it would be an innovation in Royal Arch Masonry, that no man or body of men, as it seems to us, has the right to make.

The best solution of the difficulty is that adopted in Maine. Actual and virtual Past Masters do not recognize each other. The degrees are different, and neither interferes with the other

Number of Chapters, 33—and 2 Under Dispensation; number of members, 3069.

M. E. Comp. Stephen J. Young, Brunswick, G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. Ira Berry, Portland, Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND, 1871.

A Special Convocation was held in the city of Baltimore, May 9, A. I. 2401. Annual Convocation held at the same place, November 13, A. I. 2401.

On both these occasions the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Charles H. Ohr presided.

The Special was principally for the purpose of making necessary preparations for the reception of the General Grand Chapter whose Convocation was to be held in the city in September of that year.

At the Annual Convocation there were seven chapters represented, eleven on the roll, including two Under Dispensation.

The address of the G. H. P. is more particularly intended for home use.

Comp. H. L. Emmons for the Committee on Foreign Correspondence presents a nicely compiled report, being a review of thirty-six Grand Chapters. We do not find ours for 1871 amongst the number.

Number of members, 1100.

M. E. Comp. Geo. L. McCahan, elected G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. Wm. A. Wentz, Baltimore, Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS, 1871.

Proceedings from January 24, A. I. 2401, to December 27, A. I. 2401, which includes nine Special, three Quarterly, and the Annual Convocation, which latter was held in Boston on the 12th December, A. I. 2401—and a Special held on 27th of same month for installation of officers.

M. E. Companion Henry Chickering, G. H. P. presiding, who appears to have been at his post on all these occasions.

The Special Convocations were principally devoted to consecrating new Chapters.

The address of the G. H. P. at the Annual Convocation is a voluminous document, the chief characteristics being the discussion of local topics, showing an attention to duty highly praiseworthy.

During the year nine new Chapters were chartered and consecrated.

Amongst the resolutions adopted is the following formal recognition of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, for which we tender our warmest thanks.

On motion of Rev. Comp. J. W. Dadmun, the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts hereby recognizes the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, and cordially welcomes her into the great family of Grand Royal Arch Chapters.

The Foreign Correspondence is presented by Comp. Dadmun, in which kindly notice is taken of ourselves as follows:—

Well done Nova Scotia! If the external appearance is ever indicative of the internal, our young sister of the Province is as fresh and beautiful as a "bride adorned for her husband." Everything in this pamphlet before us indicates health, peace, and prosperity. We only regret that these Proceedings have come to hand so late that we cannot do justice to them.

The address of Companion Sircom, is a well written document, and a noble defence of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia.

In his review of the Proceedings of the District of Columbia, referring to Companion Mason's remarks as to the similarity of ideas in the addresses of the several Grand High Priests, which addresses Companion Mason describes as in many cases "composed of whining cant and common place platitudes," (expressions which we think might as well have been omitted), is the following selection which appear to us to suit the case:—

Why Companion Mason, have you lived all this time and never learned that some men were never born to be leaders, but to follow in the footsteps of their "illustrious predecessors?" that, in fact, there are but very few men in any department of life who are original geniuses? Some doctors never knew anything except what they learn from standard me lical works, and some ministers borrow, at least the "Thread of their discourse," from Calvin, or Luther, or Wesley, or some other eminent divine. Most literary productions follow in the track of some popular work which has preceded them. There are not more than a dozen original novels in the world, and yet stories founded on these may be numbered by millions. Now, why attempt a war on Providence Why attempt to punish these followers of eminent leaders by calling their productions "whining cant," and "common-place platitudes?" It is perfectly discouraging and egregiously irreverent.

The Chapters under the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts are not numbered.

Number of members in the jurisdiction, 6853; number exalted during the year, 837: chartered Chapters, 47; Chapters Under Dispensation, 10.

M. E. Comp. Alfred F. Chapman, Boston, G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. Z. H. Thomas, Jr., Cambridgeport, Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN, 1872.

Twenty-third Annual Convocation was held at Detroit, January 3rd, 4th, and 5th, A. I. 2402. M. E. Comp. Hugh McCurdy, G. H. P. presiding.

Seventy-three Chartered Chapters, and 4 Under Dispensation, represented.

The G. H. P., in his excellent address, refers to a transaction, which, for meanness, excels anything that has ever come under our notice, namely: the abstraction, by some villains, of the Charter of the oldest Chapter in the jurisdiction. Considerable light however, is thrown upon the subject, and an inference may be drawn as to the perpetrators by the following extract from the address:--

Of this transaction enough is known that the robbery is another proof that the *rubbish* which has accumulated around our temple is being removed by the cleansing process and searching power of a strict morality.

Many questions on Masonic Jurisprudence had been put to the G. H. P. during the year to which he had given answers, but submitted the same to Grand Chapter for judgment. Amongst them are the following:—

I. *Question*—A candidate is elected to take the Chapter Degrees and is advanced to the honorary Degree of a Mark Master, and is prepared to receive the next Degree, when a Companion objects to his further advancement. What is to be done in such a case?

He answers that such objections shall operate as a rejection of the Candidate, and his money shall be refunded.

II. *Question*—Is it the duty of a Chapter to grant a demit to a Companion who does not state in his application for the demit, the reason why he wishes a demit.

Answer—No. Based upon previous decisions, in which, however, I do not personally concur, a Chapter cannot grant a demit only on *good cause shown.*

In connection with the last decision is it to be understood that a *Lodge* or Chapter can *compel* a Brother to remain a member against his will. If a member applying for a demit is free of all charges of misconduct, and has satisfied the pecuniary demands of Lodge or Chapter, is there any power that can *compel* him to remain?

By the report of the Grand Secretary it appears that heretofore there has been no register or copies kept of Charters issued. We find this same neglect existing in many other jurisdictions, but not in ours. *We* keep a book in which a copy of every Charter issued is entered, so that in case of loss by fire or otherwise a duplicate can be immediately had.

The store of information furnished by the report on Foreign Correspondence would amply pay perusal.

The Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia for 1871 is noticed at length. Reference is particularly made to the efforts of our late Companion J. C. Brown to bring to light old Masonic documents, in these words:—

Companion Brown has discovered and brought to light from their place of deposit, where they had lain buried for many years, many valuable secrets, which he now brings up for inspection.

The documents referred to were published in our Proceedings of last year.

The Representative system as generally adopted does not find favour with this Grand Chapter. On this subject we quote the following:—

If *any* Representative System among our state Grand Chapters *must* be indulged in, let it be a *real* one. Let the Grand Chapters severally, send out *one or more of their own members*, as an embassy to the other Grand Chapters. We would, in such case, entertain those sent us as we would entertain the son of an Emperor, and have a general good time.

The following resolution submitted by the Committee on Jurisprudence, was adopted:—

In relation to constitutional amendments, your committee agree with the Grand High Priest, that Masonic law establishes the fact that suspension or expulsion from the Blue Lodge has a like effect on the higher Degrees of Masonry, thereby recognizing and acknowledging the fact that Blue Lodge Masonry is the foundation of all the higher Degrees, and that the petition of a non-affiliated Mason cannot be received by a Chapter, and also that after a brother receives the Chapter Degrees he should belong to a Blue Lodge, and with this view we offer for the consideration of the Grand Chapter the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the petition of a non-affiliated Mason shall not be received by any Chapter working under this jururisdiction.

Resolved, That after a brother receives the Chapter Degrees he must be a member in good standing of a Blue Lodge, and that in case he takes a dimit from his Lodge, and voluntarily remains non-affiliated for the space of twelve months, he shall be suspended from all the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry.

The Representatives of Chapters Under Dispensation, in this jurisdiction, we find, are allowed to sit and vote in Grand Chapter. *We* do not consider a Chapter Under Dispensation regularly constituted, and therefore not entitled to representation.

Number of members in the Jurisdiction, 5927; No. of Chartered Chapters, 77; Chapters Under Dispensation, 6.

M. E. Comp. Leonard H. Randall, Grand Rapids, G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. J. Eastman Johnson, Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI, 1871.

This Grand Chapter completed its quarter of a century of usefulness at the Annual Convocation held at St. Louis, on 5th October, A. I. 2401. M. E. Comp. Joseph M. Fox, G. H. P., presiding.

Forty-seven Chapters represented—74 on the Roll.

The Grand High Priest in his address refers very feelingly to the death of Past Grand High Priest John F. Houston, who, at the last Annual Convocation closed his remarks to the Grand Chapter in the following language:—

I have submitted an imperfect and desultory account of my stewardship, the last, probably, that I shall ever be required to submit within an earthly Tabernacle, and I fraternally ask an interest in the prayers of all sincere Royal Arch Masons, that I may so live that when this earthly Tabernacle shall be dissolved, I may have a home not made with hands—eternal in the heavens.

He died two months afterward.

The Foreign Correspondence is by our Representative George Frank Gouley, R. E. Grand Secretary. The Proceedings of our organization and of the First Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, are very kindly noticed.

Committee on Chapters and Dispensations urge the following:—

We earnestly urge High Priests to give more attention to law and usage, and they will not find on their records such singular minutes as a petition for the degrees "indefinitely postponed," or action "deferred at the request of the petitioner."

Total membership, 3,406.

M. E Comp. J. M. Fox, St. Louis, G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. Geo. Frank Gouley, St. Louis, Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI, 1872.

Twenty-fourth Annual Convocation held in the city of Holly Springs, Jany. 18, 2402, M. E. Comp. Chas. T. Bond, G. H. P., presiding.

There were 59 Chapters represented. We cannot tell from the statistics how many Chapters there are in the jurisdiction, but presume between 70 and 80.

The Grand High Priest, in his address, congratulates the Companions on the prosperity surrounding the Body, which we presume to mean the moral prosperity, as we find that financially this Grand Chapter is not in a very satisfactory condition, owing, it appears to us, from a want of prudence in regulating their expenditure to suit their income We doubt not, however, and sincerely hope that these financial difficulties will soon be satisfactorily overcome, as they appear to be taking various means to make up their deficiencies which no doubt will eventually be accomplished.

The representative system finds favor with the Grand Chapter, as calculated to benefit the Craft.

A motion to make the fee payable to Grand Chapter for each exaltation five dollars instead of two, was negatived.

A report on Foreign Correspondence was presented, and after sundry motions, in reference thereto, the Grand Chapter deemed it inexpedient to publish it with the proceedings of this Convocation. This action we presume was consequent on their financial disability, and in accordance with the following suggestion contained in the Report of the Grand Secretary, which was adopted:—

That for a like reason of economy, the usual Report on Foreign Correspondence be not published with the proceedings until otherwise ordered by the Grand Chapter; but that in the meantime the Foreign Correspondence Committee will prepare the usual review, and submit the same annually to the Grand Chapter.

We trust to find at the end of another year a great improvement in the financial condition of the Grand Chapter of Mississippi, as every other department of its business appears to be carried on with marked ability.

A report in reference to the use of substitutes was presented by the Committee on Subordinate Chapters, recommending adhesion to a resolution of the Grand Chapter prohibiting the use of substitutes. A minority report was also presented, and the following resolution submitted which was subsequently passed:—

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter permits the use of substitutes in the Royal Arch Degree, but earnestly recommend that said permission be exercised only in cases of emergency, of which the presiding officer of each Chapter shall be the judge.

Total membership, 2663.

M. E. Comp. H. C. Robinson, Meridian, Miss., G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. J. L. Power, Jackson, Miss., Grand Secretary.

NEBRASKA, 1871.

Annual Convocation commenced at University Hall, in the city of Lincoln, Nebraska, June 20, A. I. 2401, and continued three days.

M. E. Comp. E. A. Allen, G. H. P. presiding.

All the Chapters in the jurisdiction, 6 in number, represented.

The Grand High Priest, in his address, expresses considerable anxiety for a uniformity of work.

The Representative system is fully adopted in this jurisdiction.

In the Report on Foreign Correspondence the Proceedings of our Grand Chapter, for 1870, is very briefly noticed.

Royal Arch Masonry in the jurisdiction is in a healthy and prosperous condition.

Total number of members, 359.

M. E. Comp. E. A. Allen, re-elected G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. R. W. Furnas, re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY, 1871.

Fifteenth Annual Convocation held in the city of Trenton, 13th September, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Comp. M. Higginbotham, G. H. P. presiding.

Twenty-one Chapters represented—Twenty-four on roll.

The Proceedings before us show a very careful attention to the routine duties of Grand Chapter, and are well worth perusal by those who take an interest in such matters.

The Grand High Priest, in his address, states that during the past three years the number of Royal Arch Masons in the jurisdiction had doubled. We hope this prosperity is of a substantial kind.

We decidedly concur in a decision of the Grand High Priest "that a Chapter cannot suspend the operation of a By-law."

The Grand Scribe, in an address delivered by him, mentions having visited a Chapter where the High Priest was in the habit of "calling off" from one night to another, and strongly, and we consider rightly, reprehended the practice.

The following resolution formally recognizing the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, was, on motion of Comp. T. J. Corson, unanimously adopted, for which we express our warmest thanks :—

Whereas, this Grand Chapter has heard with great pleasure of the formation of a Grand Chapter in the province of Nova Scotia, Canada.

Therefore, Resolved, That this Grand Chapter extends the most heartfelt welcome and recognition to this new Grand Chapter, assuring our Companions of that jurisdiction that geographical boundaries cannot confine Masonic love, but that we recognize true Companions wherever found.

A voluminous Report on Foreign Correspondence is presented by the Chairman of the Committee, Comp. Corson. His review of the various Proceedings received is interesting and instructive, containing a fund of wit and humor, where such is allowable, but carefulness and consideration in the discussion of questions affecting the interests of the fraternity.

We thank Comp. Corson for the extraordinary but, we believe, honest sentiments towards ourselves, as expressed in the following:—

Nova Cæsarea greets Nova Scotia, and with a warm heart gives her loving

welcome. Let the little sister have the cosiest place by the ingle, while we embrace her with pure and fervent love. Welcome, thrice welcome to our family of Grand Chapters—welcome to our hearts and to our home, for she brings sunshine and smiles to our midst, as she gaily trips along clothed in her little red skirt, lifted saucily up just far enough to give a tantalizingly insufficient glance at a neat foot and well-turned ankle; while the very type with which her card announces her name and presence beams with radient good humor. She is indeed a bonnie lassie, and the sonsie pet is oure pleasant to gaze upon.

Again he says:—

Subsequently the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland protested against the formation of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia; but, as we think, on insufficient grounds. A majority of Chapters in this District, Province or Dominion, as the case may be, agreed to form a Grand Chapter, as they had a right to do: and we do not think it wise or necessary to enter into any discussion of local difficulties. The Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia is as fully legal as any other Masonic organization in the world, and she will doubtless be acknowledged by all her sister Grand Chapters, as she unquestionably would have been by ours before this time if we had received official notice of her formation

The following resolution which we consider would modify to a considerable extent the present unmasonic system of suspension for non-payment of dues, was offered,—it lies over for one year:—

Resolved, That any member of any Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, who shall be in arrears for dues twelve months, and shall neglect to pay the same within one month after being notified by the Secretary, may be stricken from the rolls by a two-thirds vote of the Chapter; and a member thus stricken from the rolls may, after having paid his dues, be restored to full membership by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

A Committee was appointed to prepare a history of Royal Arch Masonry in the state of New Jersey.

Royal Arch Masonry in Nova Scotia has a history and we doubt not from its being nearly a century old, an interesting one. We hope to be enabled at an early day to give the Craft some information on this subject.

Reviewing the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Maine, and referring to Comp. Drummond's change of ideas on the substitute question, and the suspension by that Body for another year, of the resolution formerly in force prohibiting the use of substitutes, he jokingly but pointedly says:—

Well done for Maine—let the resolution "suspend" until it is "dead—dead—dead"—for if this is not done many of the Chapters will suffer from suspended animation.

Again referring to the adoption by "Maine" of resolutions to the effect "that in the absence of the H. P., K., & S. the next officer in rank shall preside unless he request a Past High Priest to officiate for him"—and also "that in the absence of the H. P., K., & S. from a Chapter no degrees shall be conferred unless a P. H. P. is present to preside, is the following which contains good argument in it:—

Surely if "the next officer in rank" is competent to preside at all, he ought to be able to do so during the conferring of degrees, which is a much less important matter than many other items of business which may be transacted. But we hold to the principle that the High Priest, King and Scribe are the only persons who have the authority to preside. One of these may allow a Companion to preside and conduct the business of the Chapter *while he is present*—but when all three are absent, the Chapter cannot legally be opened or its business legally transacted.

Number of members, 2233.

M. E. Comp. Revd. W. H. Jefferys, Camden, G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. John Woolverton, Trenton, Grand Secretary; R. E. Comp. Thos. J Corson, Committee on Correspondence.

NEW YORK, 1872.

The Seventy-fifth Annual Convocation was held at Albany, Feb'ry 6th, A. I. 2402, and subsequent days. M. E. Rees G. Williams, Grand High Priest presiding.

175 Subordinate Chapters represented.

In the excellent address of the G. H. P. we find the following:

During the heat of summer, when the Chapters generally suspend work, leave of absence for six weeks was granted to the Grand Lecturer to visit London, England, with authority to exemplify the Capitular Degrees before the Royal Craft of that city, and also to confer the Most Excellent Master's Degree upon Royal Arch Masons who had petitioned for the same. This was done by the assistance of four companions from this jurisdiction, and at the Free Masons' Tavern. The opportunity of witnessing the exemplification of the degrees was highly appreciated, and the companions of London expressed themselves as delighted and even surprised at the perfectness of the work in all its detail; and the manifestation of their gratitude was earnest and heartfelt, at being placed in possession of one of the most beautiful degrees in Masonry.

On which the Committee on Jurisprudence report as follows:

With respect to the authority given by the Grand High Priest to confer the Most Excellent Master's degree upon companions in London, the committee entertain very serious doubts; but are inclined to give the most favorable construction to its exercise in this particular. The companions in London asked for a warrant for a Council in London to confer that degree. The Grand High Priest did not accede to that request; but did authorize the Grand Lecturer to confer that degree upon properly qualified candidates, and to exemplify the capitular degrees.

Now, as a matter of instruction merely, the Grand Lecturer did not need such authority, if he conceived he had a right to communicate it; and the authority thus given had no force or power beyond the limits of this jurisdiction, and the giving it did not put the companions receiving it in lawful possession of the degree in question. We believe that it can only be properly conferred by a Chapter within our limits, upon proper application. But we are confident that the officers in question intended nothing improper or unlawful, but only meant an act of kindness and courtesy, and above all no intention or

wish to invade or intrude upon the jurisdiction of our Royal Arch Companions in England; an act which would meet with the most unqualified disapprobation of this Grand Chapter; and so believing, we pass the matter over, hoping that an experiment so doubtful and dangerous may not be repeated. If our companions in England desire to possess this degree, an application upon the part of the proper Grand Body to the proper officers of the General Grand Chapter, would meet with the most prompt and respectful attention.'

The G. H. P. in sympathetic language refers to the calamitous conflagrations at Chicago, and in the States of Wisconsin and Michigan, and the great suffering amongst brethren and companions caused thereby, and informs the Grand Chapter that a very hearty response had been made by the Chapters in New York to his request for aid, a large amount of funds having been promptly subscribed and forwarded.

The following quotation presents a happy picture :—

I take great pleasure in calling your attention to the excellent and harmonious relations existing between our own and concurrent jurisdictions. Nothing but the utmost good feeling and cordiality has characterized the year's intercourse between this and sister Grand Chapters. Indeed I think we may challenge any and all other associations or bodies of men, similarly situated, to a comparison of record either as to peaceful, quiet settlement of differences of opinion or conflict of claims, setting forth in the strongest light the great beauty of our system—Universal Brotherhood. Theorize as some will, argue as others may, the great fact still exists that Royal Arch Masonry has a charm and a power unequaled and irresistible.

The G. H. P. rendered the following decisions:

1. A companion who has been duly elected, and installed, and while serving as High Priest, cannot be a petitioner for a Dispensation to organize a new Chapter

2. That two Chapters, having contiguous jurisdiction, cannot mutually agree to render inoperative the fundamental law of the Grand Chapter in admitting candidates.

A review of the proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Chapters, including that of the General Grand Chapter is presented by Companion Joseph White, for the Com. on Foreign Correspondence.

Our Proceedings for 1871 are favorably noticed and quoted from at length.

The Reverend Grand Chaplain delivered an excellent address on "the Moral teachings of the seven degrees through which we have passed constituting us Royal Arch Masons."

Total number of Chapters in this Jurisdiction 184. Number of members 16,812.

M. E. Comp. Rees G. Williams re-elected Grand High Priest.

R. E. Christopher G. Fox re-elected Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA, 1871.

Twenty-third Annual Convocation held at Wilmington, N. C., June 5th, 6th and 7th, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Comp. William Murdoch, G. H. P. presiding. Twelve Chapters represented.

We cannot tell by the information furnished how many Chapters there are in this Jurisdiction; but from the fact that one of those represented was numbered 44, we presume there are nearly forty Chapters.

The G. H. P. states that their past masonic year only embraces *six months* (rather an Irishism) owing to the Annual Convocation being now held in June, instead of December. He recommends that the resolution adopted by the Body in 1857, withdrawing from the General Grand Chapter of the United States be repealed, and that the Grand Chapter be represented at next Triennial Convocation of General Grand Chapter—this view was subsequently adopted by the Grand Chapter.

A resolution, having for its object the summary disposal of Cyphers, Letters or Key was adopted.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is a good one.

The Proceedings at the formation of our Grand Chapter and subsequent Convocation in 1869, and also of the first Annual Convocation 1870 are kindly noticed. We would like to see our Grand High Priest's name spelt properly in future.

A proposal to raise a Joint Stock Company amongst the fraternity with a capital of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the purpose of erecting a Masonic Temple at Raleigh, N. C. was adopted.

M. E. Comp. John Nichols, elected Grand High Priest.

R. E. Comp. Thos. B. Carr, Grand Secretary.

OHIO, 1871.

The fifty-fifth Annual Convocation was convened in the City of Sandusky, commencing September 26, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Comp. Chas. C. Kiefer, G. H. P. presiding. Seventy-five Chapters represented, 129 on the roll, including 4 U. D.

The decease of several eminent and prominent Companions during the year is referred to by the G. H. P. in his address, in terms of deep sorrow.

Committees were appointed to prepare obituary notices of the several deceased Companions and report the same to Grand Chapter, which was subsequently done.

The financial position of the Grand Chapter is creditable.

Our sincere thanks are tendered for the hearty recognition of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia as expressed in the following resolution:—

***Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, the Grand Chapter**

of Royal Arch Masons of Nova Scotia has been lawfully established, and is hereby recognized, and the hand of fraternal sympathy is cordially extended to it.

The Grand High Priest refused to issue a Dispensation to open a new Chapter, for the reason, and a good and sufficient one we think, "that they did not have a suitable room in which to convene a Chapter," since which, however, a very creditable building has been erected and the Dispensation issued. Certainly these Companions deserve the greatest credit for their enterprise and determination.

Referring to the visitation and constitution of "Celina Chapter," and the installation of the officers thereof, the Grand High Priest says: "My friend and Companion Moore distinguished himself as a disciple of Nimrod, and bagged several fine *stall fed* ducks as trophies of the day."

At what period of the ceremony does this peculiar part come in, it certainly has slipt our memory entirely?

The Foreign Correspondence report is an excellent review by Comp. J. Kelly O'Neall of the proceedings of twenty-four Grand Chapters.

Our proceedings for 1869 and '70 are very favorably noticed and criticized. We extract the following from the Report:—

The Grand Chapter of Canada, following the example and the opinion of the Grand Z., "that where there is a Grand Lodge, a Grand Chapter may of right follow," cordially recognized this young sister and welcomed her, as we, expressing what we know to be the sentiments of the Companions of this jurisdiction, now welcome her to the great family of Royal Arch Chapters. It is a matter of regret that the formation of this Grand Chapter was not formally presented at our last Annual Convocation, but if her recognition has been long delayed, we hope long to live with her in harmony and the enjoyment of fraternal greetings.

No. of members 7060.

M. E. Comp. Charles C. Kiefer, Dayton, re-elected G. H. P.

R. E. James Nesbitt, Troy, re-elected Grand Secretary.

OREGON, 1871.

Eleventh Annual Convocation held in the town of Salem, June 16th, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Comp. James R. Bayley, G. H. P. presiding.

Five Chapters represented. We presume there are seven in the Jurisdiction. We notice the Chapters are numbered 1, 3, 5, 6, 7. What have become of Nos. 2 and 4, or were there ever any such in existence.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is an excellent production, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-three Grand Chapters.

The proceedings of our Convention and first Annual Report are reviewed at length, and we heartily thank the Companions for their fraternal recognition of our Supreme body.

The document from the Grand Chapter of Scotland containing the *false* assertion that the Chapters forming the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia were not unanimous in the matter, is quoted at length, and an expression of surprise manifested that the denial given to these misrepresentations by the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia by resolutions passed unanimously, had not had the effect of "removing all prejudice in the minds of the Companions of Scotland, and ensured recognition."

We are sorry to state that the Grand Chapter of Scotland has not yet accorded to us recognition, but we presume that time will soften their angry feelings. We have endeavored to discover why our Grand Chapter was not as promptly recognized by the Grand Chapter of Scotland as by that of England, but have been unable to arrive at the facts of the case.

Recognized as we are almost universally by the Grand Chapters of the world, we think the action of Scotland of an extremely selfish character, and not at all tending to increase that fraternal feeling which should be the basis of our Institution.

The non-recognition by Scotland, however, does not in the least disturb our equanimity nor can it retard our progress.

Companion Patton, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, submitted the following preamble and resolution which was adopted:—

Whereas, A Grand R. A. Chapter of the Province of Nova Scotia has been formed, and from a careful examination of the steps taken to secure its formation, this Grand Chapter is satisfied that it has complied with all the requirements usual in such cases; therefore,

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of the State of Oregon hereby recognizes the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Nova Scotia, and extends to her the warmest fraternal regards, with the Royal Arch greeting and right hand of Fellowship.

The whole Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Oregon are creditable in the extreme—the Foreign Correspondence particularly, being one of the most readable documents in that line that it has been our privilege to peruse. All we can do is to mention the fact. circumstances will not permit us to elaborate.

Membership about 175.

M. E. Comp. James R. Bayley, Corvallis, Oregon, re-elected G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. R. P. Earhart, Salem, re-elected Grand Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA, 1871.

Abstract of the proceedings of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania for the year A. I. 2401.

Four quarterly Communications held February, May, August and November, presided over on all these occasions by the M. E. G. H. P. M. Nisbet.

The transactions at these meetings were almost entirely of local import. We notice, however, that a resolution was passed recognizing the Grand Mark Lodge of England.

The Annual Communication was held on 27th December, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Comp. Michael Nisbet, G. H. P. presiding.

It is very evident from the address of the Grand High Priest that he has not been asleep during the year in reference to Royal Arch Masonry. A great deal of work necessary for the prosperity of the Grand Chapter has been faithfully performed by him, and the general good order which appears to pervade the Jurisdiction is evidently the result of his close attention to the duties of his office.

The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania repudiate all connection with the General Grand Chapter of the United States, failing as they state to see the advantages to be derived from any such Union, but on the contrary many disadvantages.

They pretend to have a history of their own, and we have not much doubt that their tradition is reliable.

The following quotation taken from an address delivered by the M. E. G. H. P. elect, Chas. E. Meyer, at the same Convocation, may be interesting to some of our people :—

The earliest history of Royal Arch Masonry in Pennsylvania is no doubt intimately connected with a Chapter or Chapters worked by officers of the British army, stationed in Philadelphia, about the middle of the last century. It will be found by reference to the reprint of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, that Lodge No. 3 claims the honor of having, as far as known, the oldest records of the Royal Arch degree in this country, its records dating back as far as 1767. In 1795, the great innovator, Thomas Smith Webb, and a few others from the New England States, made strenuous efforts to form a Grand Chapter in Pennsylvania; owing, however, to the influence of many members of the Grand Lodge, they were not successful, and the very object they tried to accomplish was carried out by the Royal Arch Masons of Pennsylvania in forming a Grand Chapter, subordinate, however, to the Grand Lodge.

A few years after this, in 1797, a Grand Chapter of the Northern States of America was formed by Webb and his coadjutors. The present General Grand Chapter of the United States was not formed until 1806, at which time, if we are not mistaken, they first claimed jurisdiction over the Past Master's so-called degree.

In 1820, the members of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania endeavored to make the Grand Chapter an independent body, not subordinate to or under any control of the Grand Lodge. This movement was strenuously opposed by many distinguished Masons, led by Brother Josiah Randall, more particularly on account of the intended incorporation of the degree of Most Excellent Master. To the Mark Master's degree there appears to have been not so much objection, as Brother Randall and others had previously received it, but how or where we have not been able to learn.

After a series of motions, pro and con, on the 17th day of December, 1824, the Grand Chapter became independent, and from that time Royal Arch Masonry has prospered in this jurisdiction.

The G. H. P. touches on an innovation which has crept into the institution, ow-

to the want of knowledge of their duties on the part of presiding officers, viz: that of allowing the introduction of what is termed Parliamentary usage in the Government of the Chapter. Such motions as to "lay upon the table," "indefinitely postpone," "the previous question," &c., he considers as unmasonic and should not be tolerated, arguing that the High Priest has discretionary power when to stop the debate and put the question.

He is bound to govern his Chapter with justice, equity and prudence, allowing the youngest member the fullest privilege of the oldest, ever remembering that the peace and harmony of the Chapter has been confided to his hands. No question should be taken until the fullest and freest debate has been allowed.

We agree most decidedly in his remarks.

A report on Foreign Correspondence is presented by Companion Griscom. It is brief. We do not find ourselves noticed in any way in the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, although all the Reports since the formation of our Grand Chapter have been forwarded to them. Please make the *amende honorable* in future Proceedings.

No. of Members, 7664; No. of Chapters, 81.

M. E. Comp. Charles E. Meyer, G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. John Thomson, Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE, 1871.

Annual Convocation was held in the city of Nashville, November 8, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Comp. W. H. Armstrong, G. H. P. presiding.

The Grand High Priest delivers the usual address recapitulating a very large amount of duty performed: such as visiting Chapters, instructing them in their work and lectures, &c.

On questions of Masonic Law and usage put to him, he replies as follows:—

"Can a Chapter U. D. exercise discipline?" instancing the case of the P. S. of his Chapter, who was guilty of "gross unmasonic conduct." He had been in the community about three years, having a Dimit from a Chapter in England. He represented himself as a single man, while he had a wife in New York. He had stolen from a Companion R. A. Mason, and then absconded to parts unknown.

I answered that a Chapter U. D. had the right to discipline its members, and in this instance, I thought it ought to be done.

It has been asked, "is it necessary for an actual Past Master to take the Past Master's Degree in the Chapter prior to exaltation?

I answered "yes."

The degrees are not the same, and it is necessary that they should be kept distinct from each other in the Lodge and Chapter. I have known Lodges of virtual Past Masters to confer the degree on Actual Past Masters as a qualification to preside which is all wrong, and it is time that R. A. Masons everywhere should so understand it.

We hardly understand the ideas of the Grand High Priest on the subject of uniformity of work. We agree in the view (to use his own words) "that to obtain more light should be the object of every Mason; but question whether the mode hinted at would be advisable.

We may not quite understand the real ideas intended to be conveyed, but can hardly conceive that the publication of Masonic books, Periodicals, &c., can help us much in the main work of the *Ritual*. We acknowledge the necessity of the Craft being well informed of the antecedents and genuineness of the institution to which they belong, and also of the free discussion of the desirability of such an institution as that of Freemasonry, but there are parts of the system which surely will be acknowledged as peculiarly belonging to the *initiated* and of these peculiarities *they* only should be the possessors.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was submitted by the Assistant Grand Secretary, Companion George S. Blackie, and is a creditable production. Our Proceedings for 1870 is kindly noticed. We extract the following:—

The difficulties in the way of the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia having been removed, and as there appears to be an unwritten law that where a Grand Lodge is settled, there a Grand Chapter may follow, and as the three Chapters forming the Grand Body compose the major portion of the craft, and the establishment of the Grand Chapter has roused the Companions from a lethargic apathy fast increasing among them, we believe it to be for the good of Royal Arch Masonry that this Grand Body be fully recognized and welcomed among the Chapters of America. A Grand Council of High Priesthood has been formed, and rules and regulations prescribed for its government.

At the same Convocation the following resolution was adopted, for which we express our grateful acknowledgement:—

Resolved, That as it appears that the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia has been regularly formed, and has received the sanction of the Grand Chapters of England, Canada, and many of the American Grand Chapters, and that a trivial misunderstanding alone prevents its recognition by the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, we welcome said Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia into the sisterhood of American Grand Chapters and offer her correspondence and friendship.

The Fee for Warrant in this jurisdiction is $90.

Total number of Chartered Chapters, 90.

Total number of Royal Arch Masons, 4122.

M. E. Comp. A. J. Wheeler, Memphis, elected G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. John Frizzell, Nashville, Grand Secretary.

TEXAS, 1871.

Twenty-second Annual Convocation held at the city of Houston, commencing on Monday, June 12, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Comp. S S. Munger, G. H. P. presiding.

Forty-four Chapters represented; number on the roll, 103.

The address of the Grand High Priest is arranged in a very systematic manner; it is composed of matter principally of interest to the jurisdiction itself.

We quote some of the questions put to him for official decision and his answers thereto.

Question 1. Can a Chapter Under Dispensation grant jurisdiction to a Chartered Chapter in another State to confer on a brother the M. E and R. A. degrees, he having been marked and passed in the Chapter Under Dispensation?

Answer. A Chapter Under Dispensation has the same rights, as to jurisdiction and candidates, as a Chartered Chapter.

Question 2. In case several Companions should petition for a dispensation for a new Chapter, is it necessary for them to dimit from their respective Chapters?

Answer. It is not necessary to dimit.

Question 3. Two brethren have received all the degrees except the Royal Arch. There were three protests filed against each of them. Are they thus stopped, or are they entitled to an investigation of the reasons on which the protests have been filed?

Answer. A protest has the same effect as a black ball, until withdrawn by the Companion presenting it, and more than one is equivalent to more than one black ball. It would not be any more allowable to investigate the cause of the protest than it would the black ball.

The Grand High Priest recommends that constitutional provision be made, and action taken by Grand Chapter on the question as to who are eligible for the office of Grand High Priest, the constitution being vague and undefined on the subject.

The following resolution was offered and referred to a committee.

Resolved, That should a Companion, suspended for non-payment of dues, fail to pay the same during the further space of twelve months after his suspension, he may be expelled by the Chapter, by regular proceedings and trial.

We consider this resolution unmasonic, and savoring rather of the dollar and cent principle than of the inculcation of those good principles which the Masonic Institution is supposed to teach. We know that in some parts of the world Freemasonry is supposed to mean the payment of fees to certain persons holding office in the fraternity; but we did not think that this disease had found its way to the Western continent. It is to be hoped that the Grand Chapter of Texas will not allow such a resolution as the above to become law.

In the jurisdiction they have a Grand Orator, who, on this occasion, delivered an elaborate and interesting dissertation on Royal Arch Masonry, showing a knowledge of the subject treated on, which must have highly delighted our Companions of Texas. Would that we had some Companions, in our locality, with time and ability at their disposal, to enlighten the ignorance of the Masonic body of Nova Scotia on their own creed.

There is no Report on Foreign Correspondence, owing to the illness of the Companion to whom had been entrusted that duty. But Grand Secretary

Brewster acknowledges the receipt of Proceedings from several Grand Chapters, ours being amongst them.

The following extraordinary resolution we find amongst those now in force in the Grand Chapter of Texas:—

Resolved, That one black ball cast against a candidate for Chapter degrees shall render him ineligible for one year, and two or more black balls, two years.

Total number of Members, 3268.

M. E. Comp. J. B. Jones, Corsicana, Texas, elected G. H. P.; E. Comp. Robert Brewster, Houston, Grand Secretary.

VERMONT, 1871.

Annual Convocation was held in the city of Burlington, on 16th June, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Comp. E. A. Jewett, Grand High Priest presiding.

Twenty-four Chapter represented; being all in the jurisdiction.

A considerable portion of the address of the Grand High Priest is taken up with the question, as to whether the Grand Chapter of Vermont did or did not derive its existence from the Grand Chapter of New York, as the latter maintains they did; also as to whether the secession of the Grand Chapter of Vermont from the General Grand Chapter of the United States was right.

In reference to the former, he concluded, from facts presented that the Grand Chapter of Vermont was not a creature of the Grand Chapter of New York but of the General Grand Chapter. Also that they had no right to assume to withdraw from their sworn allegiance to the General Grand Chapter.

In reference to ourselves we find, in the address, the following fraternal suggestion.

A Convocation of Royal Arch Masons was held at Halifax, Nova Scotia, on the 14th day of October, 1869, for the purpose of forming a Grand Chapter for that Province. Four Chapters were represented, and by a vote of three to one agreed to organize a Grand Chapter.

They held their first Annual Convocation on the 23rd of June, 1870.

I respectfully suggest that at this Convocation we extend to them a fraternal greeting, and welcome the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia into the great family of Grand Royal Arch Chapters.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by Companion Squire Marcy, and we must say, that although not the most elaborate we have perused, still, in our opinion, it takes its place amongst the most interesting.

The "Squire" makes his final bow to the Capitular fraternity in his official

relations thereto, stating that "Age, infirm health, and a desire for repose, all conduce to the step."

In the review of our Proceedings we find the following:—

We cheerfully welcome this young sister as a new member into the great family of Grand Chapters, and extend to her our good right hand with the hope that her prosperity may be commensurate with the zeal of her Companions. We inscribe her name on the lists of our correspondents, with the assurance that her recognition will be duly acknowledged by the Grand Chapter of Vermont.

And subsequently the Committee on the address of the Grand High Priest, report:—

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of Vermont hereby recognizes the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, and bids her welcome into the sisterhood of Grand Chapters.

Number of Members, 1562.

M. E. Comp. E. A. Jewett, Burlington, re-elected G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. W. H. S. Whitcomb, Burlington, re-elected Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA, 1871.

Annual Convocation held in the city of Richmond on 13th December, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Comp. John P. Little, Grand High Priest presiding.

There is no such officer as a Deputy Grand High Priest in this jurisdiction.

Thirty-three Chapters represented—about 55 on the roll.

In his address the Grand High Priest mentions, as the most interesting event during his term of office, the formation of a Grand Chapter for West Virginia, and in the most hearty and praiseworthy manner recommends a lot of courtesies to be extended to the young Body for the purpose of furthering the objects of its creation, stating that his reasons for advising such a course were that there were many expenses attending this new formation, and of course the beginning was made with an empty treasury. The following resolution in relation thereto was subsequently adopted by Grand Chapter:—

Resolved, That those subordinate Chapters who have connected themselves with the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, and who have heretofore owed allegiance to this Grand Chapter, be directed to pay all the money due to this Grand Chapter to the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, and whatever money has been paid over to this Grand Chapter from Chapters so situated at this convocation, be handed over to the Grand Chapter of West Virginia.

When such feelings as the above animate the Body is it any wonder that brotherly love and harmony prevails.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence merely reported the reception of a number of the Proceedings of the various Grand Chapters, ours for last year not amongst them.

The Chairman, Comp. W. B. Isaacs, on whom, we presume, heretofore has devolved all the labor of producing the Report, claims indulgence for his shortcoming on this occasion for good and sufficient reasons, and begs to be relieved of the duty for the present at least.

In the Report of the Grand Committee (which is somewhat similar to our Committee of General Purposes) we notice the following in reference to the Past Master's Degree:—

Resolved, that the ceremonies of conferring the Past Master Degree, be left to the discretion of the High Priest of the Chapter.

In this jurisdiction the Council degrees appear to be jumbled together with the Royal Arch in a manner we cannot quite understand, which must, we think necessarily create confusion

Number of Members, 1841.

M. E. Comp. Robert E. Withers, G. H. P.: R. E. John Dove, Grand Secretary,

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WISCONSIN, 1872.

Annual Convocation held in the city of Milwaukee, January 16, A. I. 2402. M. E. Companion Joseph Yates, G. H. P. presiding.

Forty Chapters represented—forty-two on roll.

In the Annual Address the Grand High Priest congratulates Grand Chapter on the uninterrupted and almost unprecedented peace and prosperity amongst the Craft in the jurisdiction, but deplores the loss by death of over forty Companions during the year, closing his remarks on the subject as follows:—

Peace to their ashes: and while we leave them thus at rest let as assure their families of our heartful sympathies and those among them who may be helpless and needy, that with confidence they may lean on the companions for protection, support and relief.

Referring to the use of keys and ciphers; he enjoined on their Grand Lecturer the necessity of destroying all that he might be able to obtain, and impressed on the Companions the great impropriety of keeping such in their possession, "it being contrary to all the obligations and teachings of Masonry."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by the Chairman Companion J. P. C. Cottrill, and is a first rate production. Our Proceedings for 1871 are kindly reviewed and quoted from, and the decease of our late Chairman of Foreign Correspondence noticed.

We beg to correct some slight mistakes made in the quotations from "Nova Scotia."

It is stated that "interesting extracts are given from the records of St. Andrew's Lodge, now St. Andrew's Chapter No. 1, and Artillery Lodge now being Chapter No. 3." It should be St. Andrew's Lodge, now *St.*

Andrew's Lodge, No. 1, R. N. S., (not Chapter) and *Artillery Lodge*, (*now Virgin Lodge*, *No.* 3, *R. N. S.*)

Under the head of Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the decision reported in the address of the Grand High Priest, is the following:—

In the case of Milwaukee Chapter, No. 32, a brother had been elected to receive the Chapter degrees. A protest against his advancement was lodged with the High Priest of the Chapter. Question. When does the protest expire?

The decision of the Grand High Priest was that a protest against advancement has the same effect as a rejection by ballot. Your committee believe the decision of the Grand High Priest to be correct and in accordance with the Constitution.

It appears to us that these protests override the ballot. The proper mode of procedure we think would be for the Companion who objects to the advancement to prefer a charge against the offender.

The following resolution was received and adopted:—

Resolved, The Grand High Priest, if present, shall preside at all meetings of the Grand Chapter, in case of his absence, the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King or Grand Scribe, in the order here named, and in the absence of all these the oldest Past Grand High Priest present shall fill the chair.

The Grand High Priest *must*, as a matter of course, if present, preside at all Convocations of the Grand Chapter, but we doubt whether the officer called a Deputy Grand High Priest, who has no defined duties, has any right to usurp what properly belongs to the King and Scribe whose duties are defined, viz: "to assist the M. E. G. H. P. in the discharge of his duties, &c., &c."

Amongst the edicts is the following:—

A Mark Master's Lodge can be opened and proceed to work without first opening the Chapter, when opened for the purpose of instruction or conferring the Mark Master's degree.

Membership nearly 2500.

M. E. Comp. C. F. G. Collins, G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. W. T. Palmer, Grand Secretary.

General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America, 1871.

The twenty-first Triennial Convocation was held in Baltimore, State of Maryland, September 19, A. I. 2401.

M. E. Comp. James M. Austin, G. G. H. P. presiding, with a full staff of officers.

Twenty-nine State Grand Chapters represented.

That the General Grand Chapter has a strong hold on the affection of the

Subordinate Chapters, all the Proceedings of the Convocation tend to show, and it is very evident that the few Grand Chapters who now remain aloof will very soon enrol themselves under the General head.

A motion to strike from the Ritual the Past Master's Degree was negatived by a large vote.

The use of Substitutes was decided to be allowable, but it was thought that their use should only be exercised in cases of emergency.

The Convocation appears to have been a very enjoyable one, and we do not doubt but that it will prove to have been a profitable one to the Royal Craft.

The next Convocation of the General Grand Chapter will be held at Nashville, Tennessee, on the last Tuesday of November, 1874.

M. E. Comp. Josiah H. Drummond, of Portland, Maine, was elected G. G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. Christopher G. Fox, General Grand Secretary.

CONCLUSION.

Having completed the review of the Proceedings of the several Grand Chapters received, we must now state that the result is not at all satisfactory to us.

The lamented death during the past year of our Foreign Correspondence Committee, J. Conway Brown, who was rapidly making himself perfect in the duties of such a Committee, necessitated the immediate appointment of a successor—the mantle fell on the present incumbent, but we are sorry to say, but a small portion of the spirit of his predecessor.

Apology, however, for the meagre report will not make the matter either better or worse.

With the extremely limited space allowed us, and the knowledge that the printer's bill must be just so much, and no more, we have made but few comments, but have presented such extracts as were thought to contain matters of interest, and which might possibly be useful to us in the future.

The kind and fraternal manner in which our Supreme Grand Body has been noticed by the Grand Chapters of the world, just entering as we are upon life, demands our warmest thanks, and we assure all those who have taken such a truly brotherly interest in the welfare of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, that their confidence will not be misplaced. Our determined efforts shall be used to maintain and uphold the dignity of the Royal Craft in this Province, and also our own supremacy.

In the perusal of the mass of Proceedings received, we must confess to having experienced a great deal of pleasure, but have to regret that on this occasion circumstances have compelled us to omit almost entirely the expression of our own views on the many questions requiring full and free discussion; we trust however that as our Grand Body grows in years and prosperity, we shall not be *compelled* to confine our remarks within a limited number of pages, from the fear of want of funds to pay the printer.

JAMES GOSSIP,
Grand Secretary,
Chairman Com. For. Correspondence.

SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS,

UNDER THE REGISTRY OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF NOVA SCOTIA.

ROYAL UNION, No. 1, Halifax.

M. E. Comp. Geo. T. Smithers,.....*High Priest.*
E. " James Gossip.....*King.*
E. " James Martin.....*Scribe.*
" Thomas Short.....*Secretary.*

Past High Priests.—Comps. Jno. D. Nash, Wm. Twining, Wm. S. Symonds, R. T. Roome, Benjamin Curren, Wm. A. Hesson.

ST. ANDREW'S, No. 2, Halifax.

M. E. Comp. James K. Munnis.....*High Priest*
E. " William Williams.....*King.*
E. " Wm. F. Chase.... .....*Scribe.*
T. A. Cossman.....*Secretary.*

Past High Priests—Comps. Wm. Taylor, Chas. J. McDonald, S. R. Sircom, David Pottinger.

HIRAM, No. 3, Windsor.

M. E. Comp. Fraser W. Dakin.....*High Priest.*
E. " Allan Haley.....*King.*
E. " James Poyntz.....*Scribe.*
" Thomas H. Timlin.....*Secretary.*

KEITH, No. 4, Truro.

M. E. Comp. William T. Wilkins.....*High Prtest.*
E. " Julius W. Miller.....*King.*
E. " Thomas V. Cooke.....*Scribe.*
" John Ronayne.....*Secretary.*

Past High Priests—Comps. George Fraser, Levi H. Verge.

EUREKA, No. 5, Annapolis.

M. E. Comp. Robert Wylie.....*High Priest.*
E. " Frederick Leavitt.....*King.*
E. " George T. Bingay.....*Scribe.*
" John Tobias.....*Secretary.*

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS TO GRAND CHAPTER OF NOVA SCOTIA, 1871-72.

No.	Name of Chapter.	Where Held.	No. of Members.	Exaltations.	Affiliations.	Dimissions.	Deaths.	Suspensions.	Expulsions.	Rejected.
1	Royal Union.....	Halifax	60	8	2	4	2	...	...	1
2	St. Andrew's	Halifax	52	9	5	2	1	...	...	1
3	Hiram	Windsor	39	5	1	7	1	...	...	1
4	Keith	Truro	21	10	...	...	...	...	...	1
5	Eureka, U. D	Annapolis	17	...	...	...	...	..	..	..

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND COUNCIL OF THE ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD

FOR THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood for the Province of Nova Scotia, convened at Mason Hall, Halifax, June 3rd, 1872, at 9 o'clock P. M.

PRESENT:

M. E. Stephen R. Sircom,	G. H. P.....acting	M. E. President
E. Benjamin Curren,	P. H. P.....	E. Chaplain.
E. George Fraser,	P. H. P.....	E. Treasurer.
E. William A. Hesson,	P. H. P.....acting	E. Recorder.
E. Richard T. Roome,	P. H. P.....	E. Conductor.

The Grand Council was opened in Due Form. The Proceedings of the last Annual Convention being printed and in the hands of the members, the reading of the same was dispensed with.

The petitions of the following Companions elected High Priests, accompanied by the requisite certificate were received, severally ballotted for and declared duly elected, viz:--

Companion	J. D. Nash,	P. H. P.,	Royal Union	Chapter	No. 1.
"	G. T. Smithers,	H. P.,	" "	"	"
"	D. Pottinger,	P. H. P.,	St. Andrew's	"	No. 2.
"	J. K. Munnis,	H. P.,	"	"	"
"	J. M. Taylor,	P. H. P.,	"	"	"
"	Rev. W. T. Wilkins	H. P.,	Keith	"	" 4.
"	F. W. Dakin,	H. P.,	Hiram	"	" 3.
"	A. Fletcher,	H. P.,	Montreal	"	R. Canada.

They were then introduced, anointed, consecrated and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood in due form with the usual ceremonies of the Order.

The M. E. President, in appropriate remarks, referred in feeling terms to the loss this order had sustained in the death of their Recorder,

E. Companion J. Conway Brown, Grand King, Grand Chaplain.

The Convention then proceeded with the election of officers for the ensuing year with the following result, viz:—

M. E. Stephen R. Sircom,	G. H. P.....	M. E. President.
E. Benjamin Curren,	P. H. P.....	E. Vice-President.
E. Rev. W. T. Wilkins,	H. P.....	E. Chaplain.
E. John D. Nash,	P. H. P.....	E. Treasurer.
E. George T. Smithers,	H. P.....	E. Recorder.
E. Arthur Fletcher,	H. P.....	E. M. of Ceremonies.
E. Fraser W. Dakin,	H. P.....	E. Conductor.
E. David Pottinger,	P. H. P.....	E. Herald.
E. R. T. Roome,	P. H. P.....	E. Steward.
E. John M. Taylor,	P. H. P.....	E. Sentinel.

The officers were then duly installed.

There being no further business the Grand Convention was then closed in Ample Form.

Attest:—

George T. Smithers,
Recorder.

IN MEMORY OF

COMPANION

JOSEPH CONWAY BROWN, 18°

OF

Newport, Monmouthshire, South Wales.

Past Master of "Acadia" Lodge, No. 14, R. N. S.

Past High Priest of "Hiram" Chapter, No. 3, R. N. S.

Past Grand Superintendent under the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Grand King of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia.

K. T., K. M.

Died July 23rd 1871. Aged 33 Years.

8°

ADDRESS:

STEPHEN R. SIRCOM,
Grand High Priest,
HALIFAX, N. S.

JAMES GOSSIP,
Grand Secretary,
HALIFAX, N. S.