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General Grand Chapter Minutes

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Royal Arch Masons International

Text edition · November 14, 2026

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Reading this edition

This text-only edition contains the complete transcriptions of the nine supplied digital volumes, in their original order. The catalogue labels “1797” and “1856” are retained. Their contents extend from the 1797 convention into the Nashville meeting of 1874.

“Reader page” identifies a page of the source PDF, not a page of this typeset edition. Volume bookmarks and source-page bookmarks provide navigation. Source links are included at the start of each volume.

Capitalization, punctuation, paragraph breaks, and tables are regularized for reading. Historical wording and spellings are retained where legible. **[unclear]** marks unreadable text; **[word?]** marks an uncertain reading. Editorial notes identify blank pages, repetitions, source gaps, and conflicting dates or figures.

Repeated leaves and the working and fair copies of the 1871 proceedings are retained. Missing source text is not supplied. Volume 2D ends partway through the 1874 meeting; its last written entry is on reader page 59, followed by a blank final page. Consult the original scans when quoting an uncertain passage.

1797 Volume A

Read the typed text of all 100 PDF scans, including the opening convention of 1797 and proceedings through September 1826. Covers, preliminary notes, and the repeated leaf are identified. Scan numbers match the PDF reader above.

The supplied PDF ends during the Alabama report on scan 100. The continuation is not in this file. Scans 77 and 78 show the same manuscript leaf.

Original source PDF · 100 source pages

Reader page 1 · Front cover

RECORDS OF THE
GENERAL
GRAND ROYAL ARCH
CHAPTER OF THE
NORTHERN STATES OF
AMERICA.

Reader page 2 · Unlabelled cover

[Editorial description: An unlabelled leather cover is shown. No text is visible.]

Reader page 3 · Preliminary chronological pencil notes

B.C. 536 Cyrus upon the death of Cyaxares and Cambyses, became the first King of Persia — Same year he gave orders for the return of the Jews.

534 — 2d Day of the 2d Month, they laid the foundation of the 2d Temple.

515 — March 10th the Temple [unclear] was consecrated.

Calculation of C. [surname unclear].

A.D. 1845 corresponds to 2379 of [unclear].

[unclear] say to 2275 =

[Editorial note: These preliminary pencil notes are very faint. Several words and the final numerical comparison remain uncertain.]

Reader page 4 · Convention and attendance

At a Convention of Committees from the following Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, viz: St. Andrews Chapter, Boston, Temple Chapter, Albany, and Newburyport Chapter, holden at Masons Hall, Boston, Massachusetts, Wednesday, [24th?] October, 5797.

Present

- M.E. Benjamin Hurd Junr — H Priest of St. Andrews Chapter.
- E. John Soley Junr — K, do.
- William Woart — Secy, do.
- M.E. Thomas S. Webb — HP of Temple Chapter, Albany.
- John Hanmer — Scrib, do.

- E. Jonathan Gage — PK of Newburyport Chapter.
- E. Joshua Greenleaf — K, of do.

The Most Excellent Thomas S. Webb was chosen Chairman, and William Woart Scribe.

The Companions above named, being regular Royal Arch Masons, having produced the credentials of their appointment by the several Chapters affixed to their names, as committees from said Chapters, to meet with any or every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons within the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont and New York, or with any committee duly appointed by any or all of said Chapters, and deliberate on the propriety and expediency of erecting a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons within the said States; upon motion being made and seconded, **Resolved Unanimously**, that the following Circular Letter be forwarded to each of the Chapters within the said States, and that Companions Benjamin Hurd Junr of St. Andrews Chapter, Boston, Thomas S. Webb of Temple Chapter, Albany, and Jonathan Gage of Newbury Port Chapter be and they and either of them hereby are—

[Continued on reader page 5.]

Reader page 5 · The circular letter

—are appointed a Committee for the purpose of transmitting copies of these proceedings and receiving communications and answers from said Chapters.

(Circular)

Companions,

From time immemorial, we find that Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons have been established wherever Masonry has flourished; for the purpose of granting Warrants for the erecting private Lodges, as well as for the establishment of certain general rules and regulations for the government of the same.

It is an opinion generally received, and we think well authenticated, that no Grand Lodge of Master Masons can claim, or exercise authority, over any Convention or Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, nor can any Chapter, altho’ of standing immemorial, exercise the authority of a Grand Chapter. We therefore think it highly expedient for the regular government of all Chapters within the said States, who exercise the rights & privileges of Royal Arch masons, and to prevent irregularities in the propagation and use of those rights and privileges, that there should be a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons established within the said States: And whereas this Convention have received official information from our Companions at Philadelphia, that the several Chapters within their vicinity have recently assembled & established a Grand Chapter of R.A.M’s for their Government. In conformity to their example, we think it our duty to recommend to the several Chapters within the said States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont & New York to unite and form a Grand Chapter for the said States.

The local situation of the States beforementioned, the easy and frequent intercourse between their several principal towns & Cities, as well as the similarity of habits, manners and customs, as citizens and as Masons, which prevail throughout the said States, induce us to believe that a Union of all the Chapters therein in one [abbreviation unclear] will have the most useful, lasting and happy effect, in the uniform distribution—

[Continued on reader page 6.]

Reader page 6 · Circular continued and attestation

—[unclear] and propagation of the sublime degrees of Masonry.

[We?] therefore take liberty of recommending to the consideration of your most Excellent Chapter, the propriety of appointing one or more delegate or delegates, to represent your Chapter at a meeting of the several Chapters beforementioned, to be holden at the City of Hartford, in the State of Connecticut, on the fourth Wednesday of January next ensuing; investing them with full power and authority, in conjunction with the other Delegates, to form and [open?] a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch masons, and to establish a Constitution, for the government and regulations of all the Chapters that now are or may hereafter be erected within the said States.

(Signed)

- Benj. Hurd Junr, John Soley Junr, William Woart — Committee of St. Andrews Chapter, Boston.
- Jonathan Gage, Joshua Greenleaf Junr — Committee of Newburyport Chapt.
- Thomas S. Webb, John Hanmer — Committee of Temple Chapter, Albany.

A true Record of the doings of this Convention of Committees, 24th October, 5797.

Attest, Wm. Woart, Scribe.

Editorial note: The opening date remains uncertain in this reading. Webb’s middle initial is read as S., consistent with the later entries in this volume. The closing attestation reads “24th October, 5797.” Shadow obscures several words at the left edge of this scan. Bracketed readings have not been silently reconstructed.

Reader page 7 · Hartford convention, 24 January 5798

At a Convention of Delegates, appointed by the several Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, affixed to their respective names, assembled at the City of Hartford, in the State of Connecticut, on the Twenty fourth day of January, A.L. 5798, agreeably to the recommendation of a Convention of Committees assembled at Boston in the State of Massachusetts in Octr 5797.

Present

- Benjamin Hurd Junior, MEHP; Henry Fowle, Scribe; William Woart, Secy — Delegates, St. Andrews Chapter, Boston, Massachusetts. Instituted 5769.
- Joshua Greenleaf Junr, EK; Jonathan Gage, PK — King Cyrus's Chapter, Newbury Port, Massachusetts. Inst. 5790.
- Revd Abraham Lynsen Clarke, MEHP; William Wilkinson, S — Providence Chapter No. 1, Providence, Rhode Island. Inst. 5796.
- Daniel Holbrook — Solomon Chapter, Derby, Connecticut. Inst. 5794.
- Gurdon Lathrop — Franklin Chapter No. 4, Norwich, Connecticut. Inst. 5796.
- Peter Johnston, MEHP — Franklin Chapter No. 6, New Haven, Connecticut. Inst. 5796.
- Samuel Edmonds Junr, MEHP; John C. Ten Broeck — Hudson Chapter, Hudson, New York. Inst. 5796.

M.E. Companion Benjamin Hurd Junr was elected President, Wm. Woart Scribe to the Convention.

The Delegates above named produced their several credentials of their appointment by the several Chapters affixed to their respective names—

Reader page 8 · Resolution to establish the Grand Royal Arch Chapter

—which being read and approved, the Convention **Resolved Unanimously**, that the Delegates who compose this Convention, being invested with ample powers, will establish a Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont and New York, to be denominated the **Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America**.

Resolved that Companions Revd Abm. L. Clarke, H.P. of Providence Chapter, and Jona. Gage, P.K., King Cyrus's Chapter, be and they hereby are appointed a Committee, to confer with the [name unclear] Judd, on the subject of an association, said to be entered into by the several Chapters in the State of Connecticut.

Resolved, that Companions William Woart of St. Andrews Chapter and Jonathan Gage of King Cyrus's Chapter be a Committee to confer with Stephen Titus Hosmer Esq. of Middletown, on the same subject.

Resolved, that Companions Revd Abm. L. Clarke and Samuel Edmonds be a Committee, to confer with Ephraim Kirby Esq. on the same subject.

Adjourned to meet tomorrow the 25th Inst. at this place.

A true record of the proceedings of this day.

Attest, Wm. Woart, Scribe to the Convention.

[Catchword at foot: “The”. The left edge is partly shadowed.]

Reader page 9 · 25 January 5798; constitution committee

January 25th Inst. 5798. The Convention met agreeably to adjournment.

Present as before

- Thomas [S.?] Webb, PP — Delegate, Temple Chapter, Albany, New York.
- Jedediah Sanger Esqr, EK — Horeb Chapter, Whitesbour[gh?], New York.

Produced the credentials of their appointment as Delegates for the Chapters affixed to their names, which were read & approved.

Resolved, upon report of the several Committees appointed for that purpose, that Companions Judd, Hosmer and Kirby, and such of their Companions, members of a Convention of Committees from several Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in the State of Connecticut, as they may wish present, be invited to attend the actings of this Convention, in order to establish a perfect understanding between the two Conventions, & that Companions Gage and Woart be a Committee to wait on them with a Copy of the above Vote.

Resolved, that Companions Revd Abraham L. Clarke, H.P. of Providence Chapter; Samuel Edmonds, H.P. of Hudson Chapter; and William Woart, Secy of St. Andrews Chapter, be and they hereby are appointed a Committee, to draught and report a form of a Constitution, for the government of said Grand Chapter.

Adjourned until tomorrow the 26th Inst.

A true record of the proceedings of this Convention this day.

Attest, Wm. Woart, Scribe.

Reader page 10 · 26 January 5798; Constitution preamble

January 26th 5798. The Convention met agreeably to adjournment.

Present as before

Resolved, that the following form of a Constitution, as reported by the Committee and amended by this Convention, be and it hereby is adopted.

Constitution

Whereas the several Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont and New York are destitute of any supreme head or superintending power: And whereas, from time immemorial, we find Grand Lodges of free and accepted Masons have been established wherever Masonry has flourished, for the purpose of granting warrants for the institution of private Lodges, as well as for the establishment of certain general rules and regulations for the government of the same:—

And whereas it is an opinion generally received and well authenticated, that no Grand Lodge of Master Masons can claim, or exercise authority, over any Convention or Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, nor any Chapter altho' of standing immemorial, exercise the authority of a Grand Chapter:— And whereas it is highly expedient for the regular government of all Chapters within the said States, who exercise the rights and privileges of Royal Arch masons, & to prevent irregularities in the diffusion and use of those rights & privileges, that there should be a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons established within said States:

Therefore, we the Delegates of St. Andrews Chapter, Boston — King Cyrus's Chapter, Newbury Port — Providence Chapter, Providence — Solomon Chapter, Derby — Franklin Chapter No. 4, Norwich — Franklin Chapter No. 6, New Haven — Temple Chapter—

[Continued on reader page 11. Several line beginnings lie in shadow.]

Reader page 11 · Constitution, sections 1–3

—Chapter, Albany — Hudson Chapter, Hudson, and Horeb Chapter, Whitesborough, to establish order and uniformity, to promote love and charity among masons, and render more general and extensive the principles of Benevolence and Philanthropy, do ordain and establish this as a Constitution for a Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the States aforesaid, to be denominated the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America.

Sec. 1

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall consist of a Grand High Priest, a Grand King, a Grand Scribe, a Grand Secretary, a Grand Chaplain, a Grand Treasurer, a Grand Marshal, and likewise of the Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the several Deputy Grand Chapters herein after enumerated, for the time being, and of the Past Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the said Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and the said enumerated Officers shall be the only Members & Voters of the said Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

Sec. 2

There shall be in each of the States within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter a Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter, which shall consist of a Deputy Grand High Priest, King and Scribe, Secretary, Chaplain, Treasurer, Marshal, and likewise of the High Priests, Kings & Scribes, for the time being, of the respective Chapters in the States over which it presides, and of the past Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the said Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapters, and the said enumerated Officers shall be the only Members & Voters of the said Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapters.

Sec. 3

When the Deputy Grand High Priest, King or Scribe of any of the Deputy Grand Chapters in this Jurisdiction cannot personally attend the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, or when the High Priest, King or Scribe of any Chapter cannot personally attend the Deputy Grand Chapter, they shall severally have the authority to constitute a proxy, which proxy shall have the same powers of his constituent.

Reader page 12 · Constitution, sections 4–8

Sec. 4

The first Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall be holden in the City of Middletown, in the State of Connecticut, on the Third Wednesday of September next, and afterwards once in every two Years, at such place as the Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall direct.

Sec. 5

The Officers of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall be elected by ballot once in every two Years, by the Members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter present; a majority of votes shall be necessary to constitute a choice; and proxies present shall be accounted members, and the Officers elected at the time of the adoption of this Constitution shall be the Officers of said Grand Royal Arch Chapter, & continue in office until the meeting of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter at the City of Middletown on the third Wednesday of Septr, and when a new election of Officers shall take place.

Sec. 6

The High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the several Chapters within the States aforesaid shall meet in manner following, viz — for Massachusetts, in Boston, and Rhode Island, at Providence, on the Tuesday following the second Monday of March next; for Connecticut, at Hartford on the third Wednesday of May next; for New York, at Albany on the second Tuesday of March next; who shall severally proceed to elect their Deputy Grand Officers as herein before enumerated.

Sec. 7

The Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapters shall severally be holden annually, at such times and places as they shall respectively direct; and the Deputy Grand High Priests, respectively for the time being, may at any time call a special Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter, to meet at such place as they shall severally think proper.

Sec. 8

The Officers of the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapters shall be chosen—

Reader page 13 · Constitution, sections 8–12

—chosen annually (after said first choice) by ballot, at such time and place as they shall respectively appoint, by the Members of the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapters present: a majority of votes shall be necessary to constitute a choice; and proxies present shall be accounted members.

Sec. 9

In case of the vacancy of any Office, by reason of the absence of the proper Officer, the next Officer in rank shall act in his place and stead; and whenever it becomes necessary that the Grand High Priest in the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, or the Deputy Grand High Priest in the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapters respectively, or first Officer for the time being, shall fill any vacancy by nomination.

Sec. 10

The Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapters shall (subject to the provisions hereafter mentioned) have the government and superintendence of the several Royal Arch Chapters, and of the Lodges of Most Excellent Masters, Past Masters, and Mark Master Masons, within their respective Jurisdictions; and shall have power, by Patent, under their seal and the sign manual of the Deputy Grand High Priest for the time being, attested by their Secretary, to constitute new Royal Arch Chapters and Lodges of Most Excellent, Past Master, and Mark Master Masons degrees; to establish an uniform mode of working — to assign the limits of the Royal Arch Chapters respectively — and to superintend and regulate the general police of Royal Arch Masonry within their respective Jurisdiction, according to the ancient usages and customs of Royal Arch Masonry.

Sec. 11

The several Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapters, subject to the provisions herein mentioned, shall have power to make such Bye-Laws for their own government as they may think proper.

Sec. 12

The Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapters, when granting a Charter to a newly constituted Chapter or Lodge within their Jurisdictions, may require such reasonable fees as by the Bye-Laws of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall be established.

Reader page 14 · Constitution, sections 13–18

Sec. 13

Until the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, or the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapters in the respective States, shall order otherwise, the [regulations?] heretofore adopted by the Chapters in said States respectively shall be considered obligatory on them.

Sec. 14

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall exclusively have the power of hearing and determining all controversies between the Chapters within their Jurisdiction, and of making such rules and regulations as they shall deem necessary to carry this Constitution into effect.

Sec. 15

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall have the general superintendence of the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapters respectively, with the right of appellate Jurisdiction over all their proceedings and administrations, with power to affirm or disannul them.

Sec. 16

That for the purpose of raising the requisite funds of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and furthering the necessary and important objects of its institution, it shall have power to require from the several Chapters within its Jurisdiction such reasonable proportion of sums by them respectively received for the advancement and exaltation of Candidates, as by the Bye-Laws shall be hereafter appointed.

Sec. 17

That all Chapters within the States aforesaid, not now represented in this Convention, may at any time hereafter, on ratifying this Constitution, be admitted and entitled to all the rights and privileges of the Chapters now represented.

Sec. 18

That until there shall be a Deputy Grand Chapter established within the States of Vermont and New Hampshire, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall have the sole power of granting Charters for—

[Continued on reader page 15. Some line beginnings on this page are shadowed.]

Reader page 15 · Constitution concluded; election and printing resolutions

—for opening Chapters within the said States.

Sec. 19

That it shall be competent to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, at any time hereafter on concurrence of two thirds of its members, to revise, amend, and alter this Constitution at pleasure.

Resolved, That a Circular Letter signed by the President, and countersigned by the Scribe to this Convention, be written to the several Chapters within the States abovementioned, not represented in this Convention, expressive of our wishes that they may unite with us in carrying this Constitution into effect — and that Companions Thomas [S.?] Webb, Saml. Edmonds, William Woart and William Wilkinson be and they hereby are appointed a Committee for this purpose.

Resolved, That five hundred copies of the Constitution, and Journals of the Convention, be printed, and that Companions Webb, Edmonds, Woart & Wilkinson be a Committee to superintend the printing, and to forward Twenty Copies to each Chapter under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter.

Resolved, that this Convention now proceed agreeably to the Constitution to the election of the several Officers of the Grand Chapter by ballot; which being accordingly done, the following Companions were declared to be duly elected to the several Offices affixed to their respective names — the Convention voting by Chapters — Each Chapter entitled to one Vote and no more.

[Catchword: “Ephraim”.]

Reader page 16 · First Grand Officers; 27 January 5798

- Ephraim Kirby Esq., of Litchfield, Con. — Grand High Priest.
- Benjamin Hurd Junr, of Charlestown, Massa. — Grand King.
- Thomas S. Webb, of Albany, New York — Grand Scribe.
- William Woart, of Boston, Massa. — Grand Secretary.
- Revd Abraham Lynsen Clarke, of Providence — Gd Chaplain.

- Stephen Titus Hosmer, of Middletown, Con. — Gd Treasurer.
- Gurdon Lathrop, of Norwich, Con. — Grand Marshal.

M.E. Companion Hurd, being the oldest High Priest present, then proceeded to Install the Grand High Priest elect, who thereupon installed the other Officers agreeably to ancient usage and custom.

Adjournd to meet again 27th Inst.

Attest, Wm. Woart, Scribe.

January 27th 5798. The Convention met agreeably to adjournment.

Present as before

Resolved, that the several Deputy Grand Chapters within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter shall for every warrant of Constitution, granted for the Institution of new Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, require the sum of Forty Dollars.

Reader page 17 · Treasury charges and receipt, 27 January 5798

Resolved, that Companions Peter Johnson and Daniel Holbrook be and they hereby are appointed a Committee, to wait on Companion S.T. Hosmer Esqr and inform him of his appointment to the Office of Grand Treasurer & solicit his acceptance thereof.

Resolved, that the thanks of this Convention be presented to M.E. Companion Hurd, President, for the important services he has rendered.

Charges assessed on the following Chapters

Chapter	Entries	£ s. d.
St. Andrew's Chapter, Boston	10/6 · 18/	1.8.6
King Cyrus Chapter, Newburyport	10/6 · 18/	1.8.6
Providence Chapter, Providence	10/6 · 18/	1.8.6
Solomon Chapter, Derby, Con.	10/6 · 18/	1.8.[6?]
Franklin Chapter No. 6, New Haven, Con.	10/6 · 18/	1.8.6
Franklin Chapter No. 4, Norwich, Con.	10/6 · 18/	1.8.6
Temple Chapter, Albany, N. York	10/6 · 18/	1.8.6
Hudson Chapter, Hudson, N. York	10/6 · 18/	1.8.6
Horeb Chapter, Whitesborough, N.Y.	10/6 · 18/	1.8.6
Total		12.16.6
Expenses of the house &c &c		4.14.6
Balance		8.2

Hartford, Jany 27th 5798. Then received of Wm. Woart, Grand Secy of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America, the sum of Eight pounds two shillings.

27 Dolls. — Gd Treasurer.

Attest, Wm. Woart, Grand Secy.

Reader page 18 · Middletown meeting, September 5798

At a meeting of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America, held in the City of Middletown in the State of Connecticut on the Third Wednesday of September 5798, agreeably to the Constitution, for the choice of Officers.

Present

- Comp. William Woart, Genl Grand Secretary.
- Revd Abraham L. Clarke, Genl Grand Chaplain.
- Excellent Benjamin Hurd Junr, Genl Grand King, was represented by Companion Henry Fowle of St. Andrews Chapter, Massachusetts, his Proxy.
- Excellent James Harrison, Dep. Grand Scribe, Massachusetts, represented by Companion Samuel Billings, his Proxy.
- Excellent Seth Wheaton, Dep. Gd H. Priest; Gershom Jones, Dep. Gd King; and Samuel Eddy, Dep. Gd Scribe — Dep. Gd Chapter, Rhode Island — represented by Excellent Companion Reverend Abraham Lynsen Clarke, their Proxy.

Agreeably to Constitution, the Grand Chapter proceeded to the choice of Officers — when on sorting and counting the Votes, the old Officers were all declared reelected.

Resolved that this meeting be, and the same hereby is adjourned, to the second Wednesday of January next, then to meet at Providence in the State of Rhode Island.

Attest, Wm. Woart, Gd Secy.

Reader page 19 · Providence meeting, January 5799

At a meeting of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America held at Providence in the State of Rhode Island on the second Wednesday of January, 5799 — agreeably to adjournment.

Present

- Excellent Benjamin Hurd Junr — G.H.P. pro tem.
- Thomas S. Webb — G.K. pro tem.
- James Harrison — G.S. pro tem.
- Revd Abraham L. Clarke — Grand Chaplain.
- William Woart, G. Secy, by J. Harrison his proxy.

Massachusetts Grand Chapter by

- Ex. Comp. Benjamin Hurd Junr — Dy Gd H.P.
- James Harrison — Dy G. S.

Rhode Island Grand Chapter

- Ex. Comp. Gershom Jones — Dy G. K.
- Samuel Eddy — Dy G. S.

New York Grand Chapter

- Ex. Com. Dewit Clinton Esq. — Dy Gd H.P.
- Thomas Frothingham — Dy G. K.

- Jedediah Sanger — Dy G. S.

Voted that Benjamin Hurd Junr, Thomas S. Webb and James Harrison be a Committee to revise the Constitution, and report such alterations and amendments thereto as they shall find necessary to be made.

Voted that Benjamin Hurd Junr, Thomas S. Webb and James Harrison be a Committee to report such Rules of Order as may be deemed necessary for the Government of the Grand—

Reader page 20 · 10 January 5799; meeting and attendance

—Chapter while at business.

Voted to adjourn until tomorrow morning, nine o'clock.

At a meeting of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter agreeably to adjournment — Jany 10th, 5799.

Present

- M.E. Benj. Hurd Junr — G.H.P. p.t.
- Thomas S. Webb — G.K.
- James Harrison — G.S.
- Revd Abraham L. Clarke — Grand Chaplain.
- Wm. Woart, Grand Secy, by E. Comp. James Harrison his proxy.

Massachusetts by

- E. Benjamin Hurd Junr — D. H.P.
- James Harrison — Dy G.S.

Rhode Island by

- E. S. Wheaton — D. H.P.
- Gershom Jones — D. Gd K.
- Samuel Eddy — D. Gd S.

New York by

- E. De Wit Clinton — D. H.P.
- Thomas Frothingham — D. G. K.
- Jedediah Sanger — D. G. S.

E. Companion Thomas S. Webb, Chairman of the Committee appointed to prepare Rules of Order for the government of the Grand Royal Arch—

Reader page 21 · Rules of Order; revised Constitution begins

—Chapter reported the following, which were unanimously adopted.

Rules of Order

Art. 1st. No member of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter can be permitted to take a seat in such until he has presented his credentials to the acceptance of the Grand Officers.

Art. 2nd. No member shall be permitted to depart the Grand Chapter without leave nor without giving the customary salutes.

Art. 3rd. Every member who speaks on any subject shall rise and respectfully salute the Chair in Masonic form.

Art. 4th. No member shall be permitted to speak more than twice to the same question without permission from the presiding Officer.

Art. 5th. Every motion made and seconded shall be committed to writing and handed to the presiding Officer before the question is put.

Companion Thomas S. Webb, Chairman of the Committee appointed to revise the Constitution, reported the following as altered & amended.

Constitution of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America

Art. 1st. Sec. 1st. There shall be a General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the six Northern States of America, enumerated in the—

Reader page 22 · Revised Constitution, Article 1, sections 1–5

—Preamble; which shall be holden as is hereinafter directed, and shall consist of a General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, General Grand Scribe, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, and Marshall, and likewise of the several Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes for the time being, of the several Grand Chapters hereinafter enumerated, and of the past General Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the said General Grand Chapter; and the said enumerated Officers, or their Proxies, shall be the only members and voters in the said General Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

Sec. 2. The General Grand Officers shall be elected, by ballot, on the second Thursday in January, A.D. 1799, and in every seventh year thereafter; for which, and other purposes, the General Grand Chapter shall meet, septennially, in the City of Middletown, in the State of Connecticut, on the second Thursday in January.

Sec. 3. A special meeting of the General Grand Chapter shall be called whenever it may be required by a majority of the Grand Chapters of the Northern States aforesaid; provided such requisition be made known in writing, by the said Grand Chapters respectively, to the General Grand High Priest, King, or Scribe of the Northern States. — And it shall be the duty of the said General Officers, and they are each of them severally authorized, empowered and directed, upon receiving official notice of such requisition from a majority of the Grand Chapters aforesaid, to appoint a time and place of meeting, and notify each of the said Grand Chapters thereof accordingly.

Sec. 4. It shall be incumbent on the General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, and General Grand Scribe, severally, to improve and perfect themselves in the sublime arts, and work of Mark Masters, Past Masters, most excellent Masters, and Royal Arch Masons:— to make themselves masters of the several Masonic Lectures and Ancient Charges; to consult with each other, and with the Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the several States aforesaid, for the purpose of adopting measures suitable and proper for diffusing a knowledge of the said Lectures and charges, and an uniform mode of working, in the several Chapters and Lodges throughout this jurisdiction; and the better to effect this laudable purpose, the aforesaid General Grand Officers are severally hereby authorized and empowered to visit and preside in any and every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and Lodge of Most Excellent, Past, or Mark Master Masons, throughout the said States, and to give such instructions and directions as the good of the Fraternity may require; always adhering to the ancient land marks of the order.

Sec. 5. In all cases of the absence of any Officer from any body of Masons instituted or holden by virtue of this Constitution, the Officer next in rank—

Reader page 23 · Revised Constitution, Article 1 concluded; State Grand Chapters

—rank shall succeed his superior; unless through courtesy said Officer should decline in favour of a [past?] superior Officer present. And in case of the absence of all the Officers from any legal meeting of either of the bodies aforesaid, the Members present, according to seniority and abilities, shall fill the several Offices.

Sec. 6. In every Chapter or Lodge of Masons, instituted or holden by virtue of this Constitution, all questions (except upon the admission of members or candidates) shall be determined by a majority of votes; the presiding Officer for the time being being entitled to vote as a member; and in case the votes should at any time be equally divided, the presiding Officer as aforesaid shall give the casting vote.

Sec. 7. The General Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall be competent (on concurrence of two thirds of its Members present) at any time hereafter to revise, amend and alter this Constitution.

Of the State Grand Royal Arch Chapters. Article 2.

Sect. 1. The several Deputy Grand Chapters of the States beforementioned shall in future be called State Grand Chapters; they shall severally consist of a Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Chaplain, and Grand Marshall, and likewise of the High Priests, Kings and Scribes for the time being of the several Chapters over which they shall respectively preside, and of the past Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the said Grand Chapters; and the said enumerated Officers (or their proxies) shall be the only members and voters in the said Grand Chapters respectively.

Sect. 2. The State Grand Chapters shall severally be holden at least once in every year, at such times and places as they shall respectively direct; and the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests respectively for the time being may at any time call a special meeting, to be holden at such place as they shall severally think proper to appoint.

Sect. 3. The Officers of the State Grand Chapters shall be chosen annually, by ballot, at such time and place as the said Grand Chapters shall respectively direct.

Sect. 4. The several State Grand Chapters (subject to the provisions of this Constitution) shall have the sole government and superintendence of the several Royal Arch Chapters, and Lodges of Most Excellent, Past and Mark Master Masons; to assign their limits, and settle controversies that may happen between them within their respective jurisdictions; — and shall have power, under their respective seals, and the sign manual of their respective Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings or Scribes (or their proxies), attested by their respective Secretaries, to constitute new Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, and—

Reader page 24 · State Grand Chapters, sections 4–9 continued

—and Lodges of Most Excellent, Past, and Mark Master Masons, within their respective jurisdictions.

Sect. 5. The Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests severally shall have the power and authority, whenever they shall deem it expedient (during the recess of the Grand Chapter of which they are members), to grant Letters of Dispensation, under their respective hands and private seals, to a

competent number of petitioners (possessing the constitutional qualifications), empowering them to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and Lodge of Most Excellent, Past and Mark Master Masons, for a certain specified term of time; provided, that the said term of time shall not extend beyond the next meeting of the Grand Chapter of the State in which such Dispensation shall be granted; and provided further, that the same fees as are required by this Constitution for Letters of Constitution shall be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Treasurer. — And in all cases of such Dispensations, the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests respectively, who may grant the same, shall make report thereof at the next stated meeting of the Grand Chapter of their respective jurisdictions, when the said Grand Chapters respectively may either continue or recall the said Dispensations, or may grant the petitioners a warrant of Constitution. — And in case a warrant shall be granted, the fees first deposited shall be credited in payment for the same; but if a warrant should not be granted, nor the Dispensation continued, the said fees shall be refunded to the petitioners, excepting only such part thereof as shall have been actually expended by means of their application.

Sect. 6. No warrant for holding a new Chapter of Royal Arch, Most Excellent, Past, and Mark Master Masons shall be granted for a less sum than forty Dollars; nor shall any warrant for holding a Mark Master Masons Lodge separately be granted for a less sum than [fifteen?] Dollars; and the said fees respectively shall be advanced and paid into the Grand Treasury before a warrant can be issued.

Sect. 7. No warrant shall be granted for instituting Lodges of Most Excellent or Past Masters independent of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

Sect. 8. The Grand Chapters severally shall have power to require from the several Chapters and Lodges under their respective jurisdictions such reasonable proportion of sums received by them for the exaltation or advancement of candidates, and such certain annual sums from their respective members, as by their ordinances or regulations shall hereafter be appointed; all which sums or dues shall be made good, & paid annually, by the said Chapters and Lodges respectively into the Grand Treasury of the Grand Chapter under which they hold their authority, on or before the first day of the respective annual meetings of the said Grand Chapters.

Sect. 9. Until there shall be a regular Grand Royal Arch Chapter established within the State of Vermont, the Grand Chapter of the State of New York shall have the sole power and privilege of granting warrants for the institution of Royal Arch Chapters and Lodges of Most Excellent Masters, Past Masters and Mark Master Masons throughout the said State. — And until there shall be a regular Grand Royal Arch Chapter established within the State of New Hampshire, the Grand Chapter of the State of Massa—

[Several line beginnings in this scan are shadowed.]

Reader page 25 · State Grand Chapters concluded; subordinate bodies

—Massachusetts shall have the sole power and privilege of granting warrants for the institution of Royal Arch Chapters and Lodges of Most Excellent Masters, Past and Mark Master Masons throughout the said State; provided that the said warrants shall be granted on the same principles and conditions as those that are granted for the States in which the said Grand Chapters shall respectively be holden.

Sect. 10. No warrant for the institution of a new Chapter of Royal Arch Masons shall be granted, except upon the petition of nine Regular Royal Arch Masons; which petition shall be accompanied by a certificate from the Chapter nearest to the place where the new Chapter is intended to be opened, vouching for the moral characters and masonic abilities of the petitioners, and

recommending to the Grand Chapters under whose authority they act to grant their prayer. And no warrant for the institution of a Lodge of Mark Master Masons shall be granted, except upon the petition of (at least) five regular Mark Master Masons, accompanied by vouchers from the nearest Lodge of that degree, similar to those required upon the institution of a Chapter.

Sect. 11. The several Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes, for the time being, of the several State Grand Chapters, are bound to the performance of the same duties, and are invested with the same powers and prerogatives throughout their respective jurisdictions, as are prescribed for the General Grand Officers in the 4th Section, 1st Article of this Constitution.

Sect. 12. The jurisdiction of the several State Grand Chapters shall not extend beyond the limits of the State in which they shall respectively be holden; excepting only the instances mentioned in the 9th Section, 2d Article of this Constitution.

Of the Subordinate Chapters and Lodges. Article 3d.

Sect. 1. All legally constituted assemblies of Royal Arch Masons are called CHAPTERS; as regular bodies of Mark Masters, Past Masters and Most Excellent Masters are called LODGES. — Every Chapter ought to assemble for work at least once in every three months; and must consist of an High Priest, King, Scribe, Capt. of the Host, Principal Sojourner, Royal Arch Captain, three Grand Masters, Secretary, Treasurer, and as many Members as may be found convenient for working to advantage.

Sect. 2. Every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and Lodge of Mark Master Masons, throughout this jurisdiction, should have a Warrant of Constitution from the Grand Chapter of the State in which they may respectively be holden: And—

Reader page 26 · Subordinate Chapters and Lodges, sections 2–8

—And no Chapter or Lodge shall be deemed legal without such warrant; and Masonic communication (either public or private) is hereby interdicted and forbidden between any Chapter or Lodge under this jurisdiction, or any Member of either of them, and any Chapter, Lodge or assembly that may be so illegally formed, opened or holden, without such warrant, or any or either of their Members, or any person exalted or advanced in such illegal Chapter or Lodge. — But nothing in this Section shall be construed to affect any Chapter or Lodge which was established before the adoption of the Royal Arch Constitution at Hartford, on the 26th day of January A.D. 1798, until after the first day of January A.D. one thousand eight hundred.

Sect. 3. Whenever a warrant is issued for instituting a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, with a power in said warrant to open and hold a Lodge of Most Excellent, Past and Mark Master Masons, the High Priest, King and Scribe for the time being of such Chapter shall be the masters and wardens in said Lodge, according to seniority.

Sect. 4. All applications for the exaltation or advancement of Candidates, in any Chapter or Lodge under this jurisdiction, shall lie over at least one meeting for the consideration of the Members.

Sect. 5. No Mason shall be a member of two separate and distinct bodies, of the same denomination, at one and the same time.

Sect. 6. No Chapter shall be removed, without the knowledge of the High Priest, nor any motion made for that purpose in his absence; but if the High Priest be present, and a motion is made and seconded for removing the Chapter to some more convenient place (within the limits prescribed in their warrant), the High Priest shall forthwith cause notifications to be issued to all the members informing them of the motion for removal, and of the time and place when the question is to be

discussed; which notice shall be issued at least ten days previous to the appointed meeting:— But if the High Priest (after motion duly made and seconded as aforesaid) should refuse or neglect to cause the notices to be issued as aforesaid, the Officer next in rank, who may be present at the next regular meeting following, upon motion made and seconded for that purpose, may in like manner issue the said notices.

Sect. 7. All Mark Master Masons Lodges shall be regulated, in cases of removal, by the same rules as are prescribed in the foregoing Section for the removal of Chapters.

Sect. 8. The High Priest and other Officers of every Chapter, and the Officers of every Lodge of Mark Master Masons, shall be chosen annually, by ballot.

Reader page 27 · Subordinate bodies concluded; constituting new Chapters

Sect. 9. The High Priest of every Chapter has it in special charge, as appertaining to his Office, duty and dignity, to see that the Bye Laws of his Chapter, as well as the Constitution and the General regulations of the Grand Chapter, be duly observed; that all the other Officers of his Chapter perform the duties of their respective Offices faithfully, and are examples of diligence and industry to their companions; that true and exact records be kept of all the proceedings of his Chapter by the Secretary; that the Treasurer keep and render exact and just accounts of all the monies belonging to the Chapter; that regular returns be made by the Secretary annually to the Grand Chapter of all admissions of Candidates & Members; and that the annual dues to the Grand Chapter be regularly and punctually paid. — He has the special care and charge of the Warrant of his Chapter. — He has the right and authority of calling his Chapter at pleasure, upon any emergency or occurrence which in his judgment may require their meeting, and he is to fill the Chair when present. — It is likewise his duty, together with his King and Scribe, to attend the meetings of the Grand Chapter (when duly summoned by the Grand Secretary), either in person or by Proxy.

Sect. 10. For the preservation of secrecy and a good harmony, and in order that due decorum may be observed while the Chapter is engaged in business, a worthy Royal Arch Mason is to be appointed from time to time for tyling the Chapter. His duty is fixed by custom, and known in all regular Chapters. — He may be elected annually, but is to continue in office only during good behaviour, and is to be paid for his services.

Sect. 11. All Lodges of Mark Master Masons are bound to observe the two preceding Articles, as far as they can be applied to the Government of a Lodge.

Sect. 12. No Chapter shall confer the degrees of Mark Master Mason, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason, upon any Brother, for a less sum than Twenty Dollars. And no Lodge of Mark Master Masons shall advance a Brother to that degree for a less sum than Four Dollars.

Sect. 13. When either of the Officers or Members of the General Grand Chapter, or any of the State Grand Chapters, cannot personally attend their respective meetings, they shall severally have the authority to constitute a proxy, which Proxy shall have the same right to a seat and vote as his Constituent.

Of Constituting New Chapters. Art. 4.

Sect. 1. When a Warrant of Constitution is granted, by either of the Grand Chapters, for constituting a new Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, agreeable to the [4th?] Section, 2d Article of this Constitution, the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priest shall—

Reader page 28 · Ceremony for constituting a new Chapter

—shall appoint a day and Hour for constituting the same, and installing the new Officers. On the Day and Hour appointed, the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priest, with his Officers, meet in a convenient Room near to the place where the new Chapter is to be constituted. The Officers of the new Chapter are to be examined by the Deputy Grand High Priest, or some companion appointed for that purpose; after they are approved, they are to return to the Hall, and prepare for the Reception of the Grand Chapter. When notice is given, by the Grand Marshal, that they are prepared, the Grand Chapter walks in procession to the Hall, when the Officers appointed for the new Chapter resign their seats to the Grand Officers, and take their several stations on the left: the necessary cautions are then given from the Chair, and the ceremony commences by performing an Anthem or Ode, adapted to the occasion. The Officers and Members of the new Chapter then form in front of the Grand High Priest.

The Deputy Grand High Priest then informs the Grand High Priest, that, “A number of companions duly instructed in the sublime mysteries, being desirous of promoting the honor of the Art, have applied to the Grand Chapter for a warrant to constitute a new Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, which having obtained, they are now assembled for the purpose of being constituted, and having their Officers installed in due and ancient form.”

The Grand High Priest then directs the Grand Secretary to read the Warrant, which being done, he asks the Members of the new Chapter if they still approve of the Officers nominated therein: this being signified accordingly, the Grand High Priest rises and says,

“By virtue of the high Powers in me vested, I do form you, my worthy Companions, into a regular Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; from henceforth you are authorized and empowered to open and hold a Lodge of Mark Masters, Past Masters, and Most Excellent Masters, and a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; and to do and perform all such things as thereunto may appertain; conforming in all your doings to the Constitution of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States, and the General regulations of the State Grand Chapter; and may the God of your Fathers be with you, guide and direct you, in all your doings.”

Grand Honours.

The Furniture, Jewels, Implements, Utensils, &c. belonging to the Chapter (having previously been placed in due form, covered, in the centre) are then uncovered, and the new Chapter is dedicated, in ancient manner and form, as is well described in the most excellent Masters degree. The Deputy Grand High Priest then presents the first Officer of the new Chapter to the Grand High Priest, saying,

“Most Excellent Grand High Priest, I present you my worthy Companion ——— nominated in the Warrant, to be installed High Priest of this new Chapter; I find him to be skillful in the Royal Art, and attentive to the moral precepts of our fore Fathers, and have therefore no doubt but he will discharge the duties of his Office with Fidelity.”

Reader page 29 · Installation address and questions to the High Priest

The Grand High Priest then addresses him as follows,

“Most Excellent Companion, I feel much satisfaction in performing my duty on the present occasion, by installing you into the Office of High Priest of this new Chapter. It is an Office highly honorable to all those who diligently perform the important duties annexed to it; your reputed Masonic knowledge, however, precludes the necessity of a particular enumeration of those duties; I shall therefore only observe, that by frequent recurrence to the Constitution and general

regulations, and a constant practice of the several sublime Lectures and charges, you will be best able to fulfil them; and I am confident, that the companions who are chosen to preside with you, will give strength to your endeavours, and support your exertions. — I shall now propose certain questions to you, relative to the duties of your Office, and to which I must request your unequivocal answer.

1. Do you solemnly promise that you will redouble your endeavours to correct the vices, refine the morals, and promote the happiness of those of your Brethren who have attained this sublime degree.
2. That you will never suffer your Chapter to be opened unless there be present nine regular Royal Arch Masons.
3. That you will never suffer either more or less than three Brethren to be exalted in your Chapter at one and the same time.
4. That you will not exalt any one to this degree, who has not shown a charitable and humane disposition; or who has not made a considerable proficiency in the foregoing degrees.
5. That you will promote the general good of our order, and on all proper occasions be ready to pay a due obedience to instructions, and particularly from the General and State Grand Officers.
6. That to the utmost of your power you will preserve the solemnities of our ceremonies, and behave in open Chapter with the most profound respect and reverence, as an example to your companions.
7. That you will not acknowledge or have intercourse with any Chapter that does not work under a constitutional warrant or dispensation.
8. That you will not admit any visitor into your Chapter who has not been exalted in a Chapter legally constituted, without his being first formally healed.
9. That you will observe and support such Bye-laws as may be made by your Chapter, in conformity to the Constitution and general regulations of the Grand Chapter.
10. That you will pay due respect and obedience to the instructions of the General and State Grand Officers, particularly relating to the several Lectures and Charges, and will resign the Chair to them, severally, when they may visit your Chapter.

Reader page 30 · Installation prayer, charge and benediction

11. That you will support and observe the Royal Arch Constitution, and the General Laws of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter under whose authority you act.

“Do you submit to all these things, and do you promise to observe and practise them faithfully?”

These questions being answered in the affirmative, the companions all kneel in due form, and the Grand High Priest or Grand Chaplain repeats the following, or some other suitable prayer.

“Most Holy and Glorious Lord God, the Great High Priest of Heaven and Earth.

“We approach thee with reverence, and implore thy blessing on the Companion appointed to preside over this new assembly, and now prostrate before thee; fill his heart with thy fear, that his tongue and actions may pronounce thy glory. Make him steadfast in thy service; grant him firmness of mind; animate his heart, and strengthen his endeavours; may he teach thy judgments and thy laws; and may the incense he shall put before thee, upon thine altar, prove an acceptable sacrifice unto thee. Bless him O Lord, and bless the work of his hands. — Accept us in mercy; hear thou from Heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive our transgressions.

“Glory be to God the Father, as it was in the beginning, &c.” Response, “So mote it be.”

All the Companions except High Priests and Past High Priests are then caused to withdraw, while the new High Priest is solemnly bound to the performance of his duties; and after the performance of other necessary ceremonies not proper to be written, they are permitted to return.

The Grand High Priest then addresses the new High Priest as follows:

“Most Excellent Companion! In consequence of your cheerful acquiescence with the charges and regulations just recited, I now declare you duly installed and anointed High Priest of this new Chapter; not doubting your determination to support the reputation and honour of our brilliant Order. I now cheerfully deliver unto you the warrant under which you are to work: — and I doubt not you will govern with such good order and regularity, as will convince your companions that their partiality has not been improperly placed.”

The Grand High Priest then clothes and invests the new High Priest with the various implements and insignia of the Order, with suitable observations to each of them.

The Grand High Priest then installs the several subordinate Officers in turn, and points out to them the duties appertaining to their respective Offices; after which he pronounces a suitable address to the new Chapter; and closes the ceremony with the following benedictions:

“The Lord be with you all; let brotherly love continue; be not forgetful to entertain strangers; — Now the God of Peace, our supreme High Priest, make you perfect to do his will.”

[Catchword: “Glory”. Some line beginnings are shadowed.]

Reader page 31 · Constitution attestation and signatures

“Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, and good will to men. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, &c.”

Sect. 2d. At the institution of all Lodges of Mark Master Masons under this jurisdiction, the same ceremonies as are prescribed in the foregoing section are to be observed, as far as they will apply to that degree.

Sect. 3d. Whenever it shall be inconvenient for the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests respectively to attend in person to constitute a new Chapter or Lodge, and install the Officers, they shall severally have power and authority to appoint some worthy High Priest, or Past High Priest, to perform the necessary ceremonies.

We the Officers and Members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America do certify, that the foregoing is a true Copy of the Constitution of the said Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America, as altered, amended and ratifyed, at a meeting of the said Grand Chapter at Providence in the State of Rhode Island this 9th day of January A.D. 1799, by adjournment from the City of Middletown in the State of Connecticut. As Witness our hands the day and year above mentioned.

- Benjamin Hurd, Grand King and Grand High Priest P.T.
- Thomas S. Webb, Grand Scribe and Grand King P.T.
- James Harrison, Grand Scribe P.T.
- William Woart, Grand Secretary.
- Abraham L. Clarke, Grand Chaplain.

Grand Chapter of Massachusetts

- Benjamin Hurd — Dy Grand H. Priest.
- James Harrison — Dy Grand Scribe.

Rhode Island

- Seth Wheaton — D. Grand H. Priest.
- Gershom Jones — D. Grand King.
- Samuel Eddy — D. Grand Scribe.

Reader page 32 · General Grand Officers elected for seven years

Grand Chapter of New York

- Dewit Clinton — D. Grand H. Priest.
- Thomas Frothingham — D. Grand King.
- Jedediah Sanger — D. Grand Scribe.

The following Companions were elected Officers of the General Grand Chapter of the Northern States of America, to continue in Office Seven Years from the Second Thursday in January A.D. 1799.

- Ephraim Kirby Esqr of Litchfield (Connecticut) — General Grand High Priest.
- Benjamin Hurd Junr of Charlestown (Massachusetts) — General Grand King.
- Thomas S. Webb of Albany (New York) — General Grand Scribe.
- Reverend Abraham L. Clarke of Providence (Rhode Island) — General Grand Chaplain.
- William Woart of Boston (Massachusetts) — General Grand Secretary.
- Joseph Huntington of Norwich (Connecticut) — General Grand Treasurer.
- John C. Tenbroeck Esq. of Hudson (New York) — General Grand Marshall.

Attest, Wm. Woart, Genl Gd Secy.

Reader page 33 · Septennial meeting at Middletown, 9 January 1806

Middletown, Connecticut, Jany 9, 1806.

At a septennial meeting of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter, holden at the city of Middletown, agreeably to the Constitution, on the second Thursday in the month of January A.D. 1806.

Present

Representatives from the States of Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont & New York.

- M.E. Thomas Smith Webb, Gen. Grand Scribe in the Chair.
- E. John Mix, of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut.
- E. John Carlile, E. John Davis, E. Nathan Fisher — of the Gd Chapt. of Rhode Island.
- E. Orias Fuller, of the Grand Chapter of Vermont.
- E. Samuel Edmunds, of the Grand Chapter of New York.
- E. John Carlile, Grand Secretary, Pro tem.
- E. Thomas Smith Webb, Gd Treasurer, Pro tem.

A Communication from Rutland in the State of Vermont, signed “Nichols Goddard, Grand Secretary,” was presented by Companion Orias Fuller, informing this General Grand Chapter of the formation of a Grand Royal Arch Chapter in the said State of Vermont, and enclosing a copy of their regulations, and also a certificate of the appointment of the said Orias Fuller as proxy of the Grand High Priest of the said Grand Chapter.

A Communication was also received from the Secretary of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, containing the Report of a Committee appointed by the said Grand Chapter, upon the subject of the formation of a Grand Chapter in the State of Vermont.

The two communications beforementioned having been read and duly considered, it was resolved that this General Grand Chapter deem it advisable, under a consideration of all the circumstances attending the formation of a Grand Royal Arch Chapter in the State of Vermont, to admit, and they do hereby admit, the said Grand Chapter of—

Reader page 34 · Vermont admission; Beaufort and Savannah warrants

—Vermont into an union with us under the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution.

A communication was received from the General Grand King and the General Grand Scribe, stating that, by virtue of authority derived from a special Decree of several of the Grand Chapters of the States, they had conjointly issued a warrant for instituting a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the town of Beaufort in the State of South Carolina by the name of Unity Chapter; and also another warrant for instituting a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the City of Savannah in the State of Georgia, by the name of Georgia Chapter, and that they had received and paid into the Treasury the sum of Eighty Dollars as fees for the said two warrants.

Whereupon it was resolved, That this General Grand Chapter do approve of the proceedings of the General Grand King and the General Grand Scribe, relative to the formation of Unity Chapter in Beaufort, and Georgia Chapter in Savannah; and their respective warrants be confirmed and made permanent by either of the abovenamed General Grand Officers.

Resolved, That in order to prevent the printing or circulation of mutilated or incorrect copies of the Constitution, the copyright of the same be vested in Companion Thomas S. Webb, General Grand Scribe, until the further orders of this General Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That a Committee consisting of the General Grand King and Grand Secretary be appointed to transcribe and procure to be printed a suitable number of copies of the Constitution, and transmit them to the several States, and that a sum not exceeding Twenty Dollars be appropriated for this purpose.

Resolved, That the General Grand King be appointed to devise and procure a suitable Seal for the use of the General Grand Chapter, and that a sum not exceeding Fourteen Dollars be appropriated for this purpose.

Resolved, That Companion Thomas S. Webb, Grand Treasurer, pro tem., be authorized and directed to pay the following sums, viz. To Mr. Nichols for his bill of entertainment furnished to the—

Reader page 35 · 1806 accounts, Charleston petition and election

—to the members during the present meeting.

Payment	Dollars
Entertainment to the members during the present meeting	19.00
To the Rhode Island Representation, consisting of four members	31.62½
To the Connecticut Representation	0.12½
To the Vermont Representation	4.25
To Bill of Postage	3.69
Total	58.69

A Petition was presented from Bryan Sweeny and others of the City of Charleston, S.C., praying for a Charter, to authorize them to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the said city; whereupon it was

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to grant the prayer of the said Petition, inasmuch as it is not accompanied by any recommendation from an adjacent Chapter.

Resolved, That the next septennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter be holden in the City of New York on the second Thursday in September, A.D. 1812.

The General Grand Chapter proceeded to a choice of Officers agreeably to the Constitution, when the companions whose names follow were elected to the offices annexed to their respective names, viz.

- M.E. Benjamin Hurd Junr, Esquire, of Charlestown, Mass. — General Grand High Priest.
- M.E. Thomas S. Webb, Esquire, of Boston, Mass. — General Grand King.
- E. Ezra Ames, of Albany, N.Y. — General Grand Scribe.
- E. Otis Ammidon, of Providence, R.I. — General Grand Secretary.
- E. James Harrison, of Boston, Mass. — General Grand Treasurer.
- E. & Rev. Jonathan Nye, of Newfane, Vt. — General Grand Chaplain.
- E. Joseph Huntington, of Norwich, Conn. — Genl Grand Marshal.

The General Grand Chapter resolved itself into a Committee of the whole upon the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution, when sundry alterations and amendments were proposed and considered, and afterwards—

Reader page 36 · 1806 General Grand Royal Arch Constitution, Article I

—afterwards ratified and confirmed by the General Grand Chapter; which Constitution, as ratified and confirmed, is in the words following, to wit:

The General Grand Royal Arch Constitution. Article I. Of the General Grand Chapter.

Section I. There shall be a General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America, which shall be holden as is hereinafter directed, and shall consist of a General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, General Grand Scribe, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain and Marshal, and likewise of the several Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings, and Scribes, for the time being, of the several Grand Chapters hereafter enumerated, and of the Past General Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the said General Grand Chapter: and the said enumerated officers, or their proxies, shall be the only members and voters in the said General Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

Section II. The General Grand Chapter shall meet septennially, on the second Thursday in September, for the choice of Officers and other business; dating from the second Thursday in September, A.D. 1805, at such place as may from time to time be appointed.

Section III. A special meeting of the General Grand Chapter shall be called whenever the General Grand High Priest, General Grand King and General Grand Scribe, or any two of them, may deem it necessary; and also whenever it may be required by a majority of the Grand Chapters of the States aforesaid; provided such requisition be made known in writing by the said Grand Chapters respectively to the General Grand High Priest, King or Scribe. And it shall be the duty of the said General Officers, and they are each of them severally authorized, empowered and directed, upon receiving official notice of such requisition from a majority of the Grand Chapters aforesaid, to appoint a time and place of meeting, and notify each of the said Grand Chapters thereof accordingly.

Reader page 37 · 1806 Constitution, Article I, sections IV–VIII

Section IV. It shall be incumbent on the General Grand High Priest, General Grand King and General Grand Scribe, severally, to improve and perfect themselves in the sublime arts, and work of mark masters, past masters, most excellent masters, and royal arch masons; — to make themselves masters of the several masonic lectures and ancient charges; — to consult with each other, and with the Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the several states aforesaid, for the purpose of adopting measures suitable and proper for diffusing a knowledge of the said lectures and charges and an uniform mode of working in the several chapters and lodges throughout this jurisdiction; and the better to effect this laudable purpose, the aforesaid General Grand Officers are severally hereby authorized and empowered to visit and preside in any and every chapter of royal arch masons, and lodge of most excellent, past or mark master masons throughout the said states, and to give such instructions and directions as the good of the fraternity may require; always adhering to the ancient land marks of the order.

Section V. In all cases of the absence of any officer from any body of masons, instituted or holden by virtue of this constitution, the officer next in rank shall succeed his superior; unless through courtesy said officer should decline in favour of a past superior officer present. And in case of the absence of all the officers from any legal meeting of either of the bodies aforesaid, the members present, according to seniority and abilities, shall fill the several offices.

Section VI. In every chapter or lodge of masons, instituted or holden by virtue of this constitution, all questions, except upon the admission of members or candidates, shall be determined by a majority of votes; the presiding officer for the time being being entitled to vote as a member; and in case the votes should at any time be equally divided, the presiding officer as aforesaid shall give the casting vote.

Section VII. The General Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall be competent, on concurrence of two thirds of its members present, at any time hereafter to revise, amend and alter this constitution.

Section VIII. In case any casualty should at any time hereafter prevent the septennial election of officers, the several general grand officers shall sustain their respective offices until successors are duly elected and qualified.

Reader page 38 · 1806 Constitution, jurisdiction and State Grand Chapters

Section IX. The general grand high priest, general grand king, and general grand scribe shall severally have power and authority to institute new royal arch chapters and lodges of the subordinate degrees in any state in which there is not a grand chapter regularly established. But no new chapters shall be instituted in any state wherein there is a chapter or chapters holden under the authority of this constitution, without a recommendation from the chapter nearest the residence of the petitioners. The fees for instituting a new royal arch chapter, with the subordinate degrees, shall be ninety dollars; and for a new mark masters lodge, twenty dollars; exclusive of such compensation to the grand secretary as the grand officers aforesaid may deem reasonable.

Article II. Of the State Grand Royal Arch Chapters.

Section I. The State Grand Chapters shall severally consist of a Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Chaplain and Grand Marshall, and likewise of the high priests, kings and scribes, for the time being, of the several chapters over which they shall respectively preside, and of the past Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings & Scribes of the said Grand Chapter; and the said enumerated officers, or their proxies, shall be the only members and voters in the said grand chapters respectively.

Section II. The State Grand Chapters shall severally be holden at least once in every year, at such times and places as they shall respectively direct; and the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests respectively, for the time being, may at any time call a special meeting, to be holden at such place as they shall severally think proper to appoint.

Section III. The officers of the State Grand Chapters shall be chosen annually, by ballot, at such time and place as the said Grand Chapters shall respectively direct.

Section IV. The several State Grand Chapters, subject to the provisions of this constitution, shall have the sole government and superintendence of the several royal arch chapters and lodges of most excellent, past and mark master masons within their respective jurisdictions; to assign their limits and settle controversies that may happen between them; — and shall have power—

Reader page 39 · 1806 Constitution, State Grand Chapters, sections IV–VII

—power, under their respective seals and the sign manual of their respective Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes, or their legal proxies, attested by their respective secretaries, to constitute new chapters of royal arch masons, and lodges of most excellent, past and mark master masons within their respective jurisdictions.

Section V. The Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, severally, shall have the power and authority, whenever they shall deem it expedient, during the recess of the Grand Chapter of which they are officers, to grant letters of dispensation under their respective hands and private seals, to a competent number of petitioners possessing the qualifications required by the ninth section of the second article, empowering them to open a chapter of royal arch masons, and a lodge of most excellent, past and mark master masons, for a certain specified term of time; provided, that the said term of time shall not extend beyond the next meeting of the Grand Chapter of the state in which such dispensation shall be granted; and provided further, that the same fees as are required by this constitution for warrants shall be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Treasurer. — And in all cases of such dispensation, the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests respectively who may grant the same shall make report thereof at the next stated meeting of the Grand Chapter of their respective jurisdictions, when the said Grand Chapters respectively may either continue or recall the said dispensations, or may grant the petitioners a warrant of constitution. — And in case

such warrant shall be granted, the fees first deposited shall be credited in payment for the same; but if a warrant should not be granted, nor the dispensation continued, the said fees shall be refunded to the petitioners, excepting only such part thereof as shall have been actually expended by means of their application.

Section VI. The several State Grand Chapters shall have authority, upon the institution of new royal arch chapters or lodges of mark masters within their respective jurisdictions, to require the payment of such fees as they may deem expedient and proper, which said fees shall be advanced and paid into the treasury before a warrant or charter shall be issued.

Section VII. No warrant shall be granted for instituting lodges of most excellent or past masters independent of a chapter of royal arch masons.

Reader page 40 · 1806 Constitution, State Grand Chapters, sections VIII–XI

Section VIII. The Grand Chapters severally shall have power to require from the several chapters and lodges under their respective jurisdictions such reasonable proportion of sums received by them for the exaltation or advancement of candidates, and such certain annual sums [on?] their respective members, as by their ordinances or regulations shall hereafter be appointed; all which said sums or dues shall be made good and paid annually by the said chapters and lodges respectively into the grand treasury of the Grand Chapter under which they hold their authority, on or before the first day of the respective annual meetings of the said Grand Chapters.

Section IX. No warrant for the institution of a new Chapter of Royal Arch masons shall be granted, except upon the petition of nine regular royal arch masons, which petition shall be accompanied by a certificate from the Chapter nearest to the place where the new chapter is intended to be opened, vouching for the moral characters and masonic abilities of the petitioners, and recommending to the Grand Chapter under whose authority they act to grant their prayer. And no warrant for the institution of a Lodge of mark master masons shall be granted, except upon the petition of at least five regular mark master masons, accompanied by vouchers from the nearest lodge of that degree, similar to those required upon the institution of a new Chapter.

Section X. The Grand Secretaries of the State Grand Chapters shall severally make an annual communication to each other, and also to the General Grand Secretary, containing a list of Grand Officers and all such other matters as may be deemed necessary for the mutual information of the said Grand Chapters. And the said Grand Secretaries shall also regularly transmit to the general grand secretary a copy of all their Bye Laws and regulations.

Section XI. Whenever there shall have been three or more Royal Arch Chapters instituted in any state by virtue of authority derived from this constitution, a Grand Chapter may be formed in such state, with the approbation of one or more of the General Grand Officers, by the High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the said chapters, who shall be authorized to elect the Grand Officers. Provided always that no new State Grand Chapter shall be formed until after the expiration of one year from the establishment of the junior chapter in such state.

Reader page 41 · 1806 Constitution, Article III begins

Section XII. The several Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes, for the time being, of the several State Grand Chapters are bound to the performance of the same duties, and are invested with the same powers and prerogatives throughout their respective jurisdictions as are prescribed to the general grand officers in the fourth section, first article of this constitution.

Section XIII. The jurisdiction of the several State Grand Chapters shall not extend beyond the limits of the state in which they shall respectively be holden.

Article III. Of the Subordinate Chapters and Lodges.

Section I. All legally constituted assemblies of Royal Arch Masons are called Chapters, as regular bodies of Mark Masters, Past Masters and Most Excellent Masters are called Lodges. — Every Chapter ought to assemble for work at least once in every three months; and must consist of an High Priest, King and Scribe, Captain of the Host, Principal Sojourner, Royal Arch Captain, three Grand Masters, Secretary, Treasurer, and as many members as may be found convenient for working to advantage.

Section II. Every Chapter of Royal Arch masons, and lodge of Mark Master masons throughout this jurisdiction, shall have a warrant of constitution from the Grand Chapter of the state in which they may respectively be holden, or a warrant from one of the General Grand Officers. And no chapter or lodge shall be deemed legal without such warrant; and masonic communication, either public or private, is hereby interdicted and forbidden between any chapter or lodge under this jurisdiction, or any member of either of them, and any chapter, lodge or assembly that is so illegally formed, opened or holden, without such warrant, or any or either of their members, or any person exalted or advanced in such illegal chapter or lodge. But nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any chapter or lodge which was established before the adoption of the Grand Royal Arch Constitution, at Hartford, on the Twenty Seventh day of January, A.D. 1798.

Reader page 42 · 1806 Constitution, subordinate bodies, sections III–IX

Section III. Whenever a warrant is issued for instituting a chapter of Royal Arch Masons, with a power in said warrant to open and hold a lodge of most excellent, past and mark master masons, the High Priest, King and Scribe for the time being of such Chapter shall be the masters and Wardens in said lodges according to seniority.

Section IV. All applications for the exaltation or advancement of candidates in any chapter or lodge under this jurisdiction shall lie over at least one meeting, for the consideration of the members.

Section V. No mason shall be a member of two separate and distinct bodies of the same denomination at one and the same time.

Section VI. No Chapter shall be removed without the knowledge of the High Priest, nor any motion made for that purpose in his absence; but if the High Priest be present, and a motion is made and seconded for removing the Chapter to some more convenient place within the limits prescribed in their warrant, the High Priest shall forthwith cause notifications to be issued to all the members informing them of the motion for removal, and of the time and place when the question is to be determined; which notice shall be issued at least ten days previous to the appointed meeting. — But if the High Priest, after motion duly made and seconded as aforesaid, should refuse or neglect to cause the notices to be issued as aforesaid, the officer next in rank who may be present at the next regular meeting following, upon motion made and seconded for that purpose, may in like manner issue the said notices.

Section VII. All mark master masons lodges shall be regulated in cases of removal by the same rules as are prescribed in the foregoing section for the removal of Chapters.

Section VIII. The High Priest and other officers of every chapter, and the officers of every lodge of mark master masons, shall be chosen annually by ballot.

Section IX. The High Priest of every Chapter has it in special charge, as appertaining to his office, duty and dignity, to see that the bye laws of his Chapter, as well as the General Grand Royal—

Reader page 43 · 1806 Constitution, subordinate bodies concluded

—Royal Arch Constitution and the general regulations of the Grand Chapter be duly observed; that all the other officers of his Chapter perform the duties of their respective offices faithfully, and are examples of diligence and industry to their companions; — that true and exact records be kept of all the proceedings of the Chapter by the secretary; that the treasurer keep and render exact and just accounts of all the monies belonging to the Chapter; that regular returns be made by the secretary annually to the Grand Chapter of all admissions of candidates or members; and that the annual dues to the Grand Chapter be regularly and punctually paid. He has the special care and charge of the warrant of his Chapter. He has the right and authority of calling his chapter at pleasure, upon any emergency or occurrence which in his judgment may require their meeting, and he is to fill the chair when present. It is likewise his duty, together with his King and Scribe, to attend the meetings of the Grand Chapter when duly summoned by the Grand Secretary, either in person or by proxy.

Section X. For the preservation of secrecy and good harmony, and in order that due decorum may be observed while the Chapter is engaged in business, a worthy Royal Arch mason is to be appointed from time to time for tyling the Chapter. His duty is fixed by custom and known in all regular chapters. He may be elected annually, but is to continue in office only during good behaviour, and is to be paid for his services.

Section XI. All Lodges of Mark Master masons are bound to observe the two preceding articles, as far as they can be applied to the government of a lodge.

Section XII. No Chapter shall confer the degrees of Mark Master mason, Past Master, most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason upon any brother for a less sum than twenty dollars. And no Lodge of mark master masons shall advance a brother to that degree for a less sum than four dollars.

Section XIII. When either of the officers or members of the General Grand Chapter, or of any of the State Grand Chapters, cannot personally attend their respective meetings, they shall severally have the authority to constitute a proxy, which proxy shall have the same right to a seat and vote as his constituent.

Reader page 44 · 1806 Constitution, constituting new Chapters

Article IV. Of Constituting New Chapters.

When a warrant of Constitution is granted by either of the General Grand Officers or either of the State Grand Chapters for constituting a new Chapter of Royal Arch masons, the Grand Officers respectively shall appoint a day and hour for constituting the same and installing the new officers; on the day and hour appointed, the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priest (or the presiding officer for the time being), with his officers, meet in a convenient room near to the place where the new Chapter is to be constituted. The officers of the new Chapter are to be examined by the Deputy Grand High Priest, or some Companion appointed for that purpose; after they are approved, they are to return to the hall, and prepare for the reception of the Grand Chapter. When notice is given by the Grand Marshall that they are prepared, the Grand Chapter walks in procession to the hall, when the officers appointed for the new Chapter resign their seats to the Grand Officers and take their several stations on the left; the necessary cautions are then given from the chair, and the ceremony commences by performing an anthem or ode adapted to the occasion. The officers and members of the new Chapter then form in front of the Grand High Priest.

The Deputy Grand High Priest then informs the Grand High Priest that “a number of Companions, duly instructed in the sublime mysteries, being desirous of promoting the honour of the art, have applied to the Grand Chapter for a warrant to constitute a new chapter of Royal Arch masons, which having obtained, they are now assembled for the purpose of being constituted, and having their officers installed in due and ancient form.”

The Grand High Priest then directs the Grand Secretary to read the warrant, which being done, he asks the members of the new Chapter if they still approve of the officers nominated therein; this being signified accordingly, the Grand High Priest rises and says, “By virtue of the high powers in me vested, I do form you, my worthy companions, into a regular chapter of royal arch masons; from henceforth you are authorized and—

Reader page 45 · 1806 installation ceremony and address

—and empowered to open and hold a lodge of Mark Masters, Past Masters, and Most Excellent Masters and a chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and to do and perform all such things as thereunto may appertain; conforming in all your doings to the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution and the general regulations of the State Grand Chapter, and may the God of your fathers be with you and guide and direct you in all your doings.”

Grand Honours.

The Furniture, jewels, implements, utensils, &c. belonging to the Chapter, having previously been placed in due form, covered, in the centre, are then uncovered, and the new chapter is dedicated in ancient manner and form, as is well described in the most excellent masters degree. The Deputy Grand High Priest then presents the first officer of the new chapter to the Grand High Priest, saying,

“Most Excellent Grand High Priest, I present you my worthy Companion ———, nominated in the warrant to be installed High Priest of this new chapter; I find him to be skilful in the Royal Art and attentive to the moral precepts of our forefathers, and have therefore no doubt but he will discharge the duties of his office with fidelity.”

The Grand High Priest then addresses him as follows.

“Most Excellent Companion, I feel much satisfaction in performing my duty on the present occasion, by installing you into the office of high priest of this new chapter. It is an office highly honourable to all those who diligently perform the important duties annexed to it; your reputed masonic knowledge however precludes the necessity of a particular enumeration of those duties; I shall therefore only observe, that by a frequent recurrence to the Constitution and General Regulations, and a constant practice of the several sublime lectures and charges, you will be best able to fulfil them; and I am confident that the companions who are chosen to preside with you will give strength to your endeavours, and—

Reader page 46 · 1806 installation questions, 1–10

—and support to your exertions. — I shall now propose certain questions to you, relative to the duties of your office and to which I must request your unequivocal answer.

1. Do you solemnly promise that you will redouble your endeavours to correct the vices, purify the morals, and promote the happiness of those of your brethren who have attained this sublime degree.
2. That you will never suffer your chapter to be opened unless there be present nine regular royal arch masons.
3. That you will never suffer either more or less than three brethren to be exalted in your chapter at one and the same time.
4. That you will not exalt any one to this degree who has not shown a charitable and humane disposition; or who has not made a considerable proficiency in the foregoing degrees.
5. That you will promote the general good of our order, and on all proper occasions be ready to give and receive instructions, and particularly from the General & State Grand officers.
6. That to the utmost of your power you will preserve the solemnities of our ceremonies, and behave in open chapter with the most profound respect and reverence as an example to your companions.
7. That you will not acknowledge or have intercourse with any chapter that does not work under a constitutional warrant or dispensation.
8. That you will not admit any visitor into your chapter who has not been exalted in a Chapter legally constituted, without his first being formally healed.
9. That you will observe and support such bye-laws as may be made by your chapter, in conformity to the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution and the General Regulations of the Grand Chapter.
10. That you will pay due respect and obedience to the instructions of the General and State Grand officers, particularly relating to the several lectures and charges, and will resign the chair to them, severally, when they may visit your Chapter.

Reader page 47 · 1806 installation prayer and charge continued

11. That you will support and observe the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution, and the General Regulations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter under whose authority you act.

“Do you submit to all these things, and do you promise to observe and practise them faithfully?”

These questions being answered in the affirmative, the Companions all kneel in due form and the Grand High Priest or Grand Chaplain repeats the following or some other suitable prayer.

“Most Holy and Glorious Lord God, the Great High Priest of Heaven and Earth:

“We approach thee with reverence and implore thy blessing on the companion appointed to preside over this new assembly and now prostrate before thee; fill his heart with thy fear that his tongue and actions may pronounce thy glory. Make him steadfast in thy service; grant him firmness of mind; animate his heart and strengthen his endeavours; may he teach thy judgments and thy laws; and may the incense he shall put before thee, upon thine altar, prove an acceptable sacrifice unto thee. Bless him, O Lord, and bless the work of his hands. Accept us in mercy; hear thou from Heaven thy dwelling place and forgive our transgressions.

“Glory be to God the Father, as it was in the beginning, &c.” Response. “So mote it be.”

All the Companions, except High Priests and Past High Priests, are then caused to withdraw, while the new High Priest is solemnly bound to the performance of his duties, and after the performance of other necessary ceremonies, not proper to be written, they are permitted to return.

The Grand High Priest then addresses the new High Priest as follows:

“Most Excellent Companion, In consequence of your cheerful acquiescence with the charges and regulations just recited, I now declare you duly installed and anointed High Priest of this new—

Reader page 48 · Installation concluded; obligation to the Constitution

—new Chapter, not doubting your determination to support the reputation and honour of our sublime order, I now cheerfully deliver unto you the warrant under which you are to work; and I doubt not you will govern with such good order and regularity as will convince your companions that their partiality has not been improperly placed.”

The Grand High Priest then clothes and invests the new High Priest with the various implements and insignia of the order, with suitable charges to each of them.

The Grand High Priest then installs the several subordinate officers in turn, and points out to them the duties appertaining to their respective offices; after which he pronounces a suitable address to the new Chapter and closes the ceremony with the following benediction:

“The Lord be with you all; let brotherly love continue; be not forgetful to entertain strangers. Now the God of Peace, our Supreme High Priest, make you perfect to do his will.”

“Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, and good will to men. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,” &c.

Section II. At the institution of all Lodges of Mark Master Masons under this jurisdiction, the same ceremonies as are prescribed in the foregoing section are to be observed as far as they will apply to that degree.

Section III. Whenever it shall be inconvenient for the General Grand Officers, or the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests respectively, to attend in person to constitute a new chapter or lodge and instal the officers, they shall severally have power and authority to appoint some worthy high priest or past high priest to perform the necessary ceremonies.

Section IV. The officers of every chapter and lodge under this jurisdiction, before they enter upon the exercise of their respective offices, and also the members of all such chapters and lodges, and every candidate upon his admission into the—

Reader page 49 · Obligation and certified copy of the Constitution

—the same shall take the following obligation, viz.

“I, A.B., do promise and swear, that I will support and maintain the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution.”

I hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true Copy of the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution for the United States of America, as altered, amended and ratified at a meeting of the General Grand Chapter begun and holden at New York, in the State of New York, on the Tenth day of January 1806.

Witness, John Abbot, G. Scy p.t.

[Editorial note: The place and date in this certification are reproduced as written.]

Reader page 50 · Special meeting at New York, 6 June 5816

General Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

Pursuant to special notice, the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America assembled at New York in the State of New York, on Thursday, June 6th, 5816.

General Grand Officers present, to wit:

- M.E. Thomas S. Webb, Esquire — General Grand King.
- M.E. Ezra Ames, Esquire — G.G. Scribe.
- E. and Rev. Jonathan Nye — G.G. Chaplain.

The G.G. Secretary being absent, the M.E. G.G. King was pleased to appoint M.E. John Abbot, Esquire, G.G. Secretary pro tem.

The following Companions appeared and presented credentials as officers and proxies of officers of the several State Grand Chapters, to wit:

From Massachusetts

- M.E. John Abbot Esq. — G. H. Priest.
- M.E. Henry Fowle Esq. — G. King.

From Rhode Island

- M.E. William Wilkinson Esq. — D. G. H. Priest.
- E. Seth Peck Esq. — Grand Scribe.
- E. Caleb Earle Esq., as proxy of John Carlile, G. H. Priest.
- E. Peter Grinnell Esq., as proxy of John Davis, G. King.

From New York

- M.E. Ezra Ames Esq. — G. H. Priest.
- E. Joel Hart Esq. — D. G. H. Priest.
- E. Joseph Enos — G. K.
- E. John Brush — G. S.

[Continued on reader page 51.]

Reader page 51 · 1816 meeting; State representatives and credentials

From Connecticut

E. John H. Lynde Esq. — G. King.

From Vermont

M.E. Charles K. Williams Esquire, G. H. Priest. He also appeared as Proxy of E. Josiah Dunham, D. G. H. Priest; E. Jeduthan Loomis, G. K.; E. Elijah Buck, G. S.

From South Carolina

M.E. Thomas S. Webb Esqr as Proxy of M.E. William Young, G. H. Priest; E. Foster Burnet, G. King; E. Benjamin Phillips, G. S.

From Maryland

The following Companions appeared as Delegates from the Grand Chapter of the State of Maryland:

- M.E. Philip P. Eckel Esq. — G. H. Priest.
- E. Benjamin Edes Esq. — G. Secretary.

The foregoing Credentials being presented to the G.G. Secretary pro tem., the M.E. G.G. King was thereupon pleased to appoint the M.E. G.G. Scribe and the M.E. G.G. Chaplain as a Committee to examine the said credentials, who, after examination of the same, reported the foregoing Companions from the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Connecticut, Vermont and South Carolina are duly qualified to sit and act in the said G.G.R.A. Chapter; and that the said Companions from the said State of Maryland are duly qualified as Delegates.

Voted to adjourn to Four o'clock in the afternoon.

Attest, John Abbot, G.G. Sec. pro tem.

Reader page 52 · 6 June 5816 afternoon; authority and revision committee

June 6th, 5816, 4 o'clock, P.M.

Met according to adjournment. The M.E. G.G. King having been pleased to appoint Companion Joseph Jacobs G.G. Tyler, and the G.G.R.A. Chapter having in due form been opened, the minutes of the forenoon being read, Voted to accept the same.

The M.E. G.G. King directed the G.G.R. Arch Constitution to be read, which was done by the G.G. Secretary pro tem. accordingly.

Certain Letters and Documents from the G.G. H. Priest, King and Scribe respectively, relative to the G. Chapter's not meeting in September, A.L. 5812, being read, Voted to commit the same to Companions Jonathan Nye, Henry Fowle and Charles K. Williams, who afterwards reported as follows,

“That the situation of the country was such at that time as to render it highly inconvenient for the G.G. Chapter to convene; and the meeting having been prevented by a casualty such as is contemplated by the 8th Section of the first article of the G.G.R.A. Constitution, your Committee are unanimously of opinion, that the present meeting is holden in pursuance of the said constitution, and is legally competent to do and transact any business which may come before them.”

J. Nye, per order.

Which Report being read, Voted to accept the same.

On motion, Voted, that a Committee of one Companion from each State represented be raised to report what alterations or explanations (if any) are necessary to be made in the Constitution of the

G.G. Chapter. Companions John Abbot, William Wilkinson, John Brush, John H. Lynde, Charles K. Williams and Foster Burnet were appointed such Committee.

Voted to adjourn for half an hour.

Attest, John Abbot, G.G. Sec. pro tem.

Reader page 53 · Committees, Maryland union and 7 June meeting

Met according to adjournment.

On motion, voted to raise a Committee of three to confer with the Delegates from Maryland, relative to their forming a masonic union with the Grand Chapters of the several states now acknowledging and under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States.

Companions Joel Hart, Henry Fowle and Ezra Ames were appointed such committee.

Voted to choose a Committee of Three to audit the accounts of the G.G. Secretary and Treasurer.

Companions Jonathan Nye, Peter Grinnell and Joseph Enos were appointed such committee.

Voted to choose a Committee of Three relative to the granting of sundry charters for Royal Arch Chapters by the G.G. King and G.G. Scribe.

Companions Henry Fowle, Jonathan Nye and Joseph Enos were appointed such committee.

Voted to proceed to the election of G.G. officers tomorrow, June 7th at 12 o'clock, M.

Voted to choose a Committee of one to make arrangements preparatory to a discourse to be delivered tomorrow by Rev. Companion Nye. Companion Joel Hart was appointed such committee.

Voted to adjourn till tomorrow, June 7th, to meet at this place, at 10 o'clock, A.M.

Attest, John Abbot, G.G. Sec. pro tem.

June 7, 5816. Met according to adjournment; and the minutes of June 6 being read, voted to accept the same.

The Committee to whom was referred the G.G.R.A. Constitution for revision made the following Report: that Article 1, Section 1, be in the following words, instead of said article in the G.G.R.A. Constitution, as the same therein is written: To wit;

Reader page 54 · Proposed Deputy General Grand High Priest; Article 1 revision

Article 1.

Section 1. There shall be a General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for the United States of America, which shall be holden as is hereinafter directed, and shall consist of a General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, General Grand Scribe, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, and Marshal, and likewise of the several Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings, and Scribes, for the time being, of the several State Grand Chapters under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter; and of the Past General Grand High Priests, Deputy General Grand High Priests, Kings, and Scribes of the said General Grand Chapter; and the aforesaid officers, or their proxies, shall be the only members and voters in said General Grand Chapter. And no person shall be constituted a proxy unless he be a present or past officer of this or a State Grand Chapter.

Whereupon it was resolved to substitute the above Section as reported by the Committee, in place of the first Section of the First Article of the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution.

And the Committee further report that the General Grand Secretary be directed to transmit a copy of said article, amended as aforesaid, to the Grand Secretary of each State Grand Chapter under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter; and that no other alteration of the said General Grand Constitution appears to be required.

John Abbot, per order.

Which Report being read, Ordered that the same lie on the table for the consideration of the members of the General Grand Chapter.

The Committee appointed to confer with the Delegates of the Grand Chapter of Maryland and District of Columbia, on the subject of a Masonic Union, made the following Report, to wit;

Reader page 55 · Maryland and District of Columbia admitted to the union

Report.

The undersigned, having been appointed a Committee for the purpose of conferring with M.E. Companions Philip P. Eckel and Benjamin Edes, delegates of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maryland, beg leave to report that they have had an interview with the abovenamed Companions, from whom they received the following proposition, to wit; The Grand Chapter for the State of Maryland and District of Columbia are willing to support the Constitution of this General Grand Chapter. It will not grant any warrants out of its District, and will discountenance all Chapters formed contrary to the General Grand Constitution; but requests that it shall not be forced to alter its mode of working if any difference should exist at present, and to be received on an equality with the other Grand Chapters.

Under a consideration of all the above circumstances, your Committee recommend that the said Grand Chapter of the State of Maryland be admitted to an union with this General Grand Chapter.

Ezra Ames,
Joel Hart,
Henry Fowle.

New York, June 7, 5816.

The undersigned, Delegates from the Grand Chapter of the State of Maryland and District of Columbia agree to the above report.

P.P. Eckel, G.H.P.
Benjamin Edes.

Which Report being read, voted to accept the same; and thereupon Voted to receive the said Grand Chapter of the State of Maryland and District of Columbia under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter; and the said Grand Chapter of the State of Maryland and District of Columbia is accordingly admitted under said jurisdiction, subject to the Constitution and Regulations of the said General Grand Chapter.

Reader page 56 · Revision vote; list of charters granted

The Report of the Committee for revising the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution being taken up and under consideration, on Motion made by Companion Hart, that said report be so amended as that the Past Grand High Priests, Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the State Grand Chapters under this jurisdiction be permanent members of the General Grand Chapter, said amendment of the Report of said Committee was by vote rejected; and thereupon Voted to accept said Report as made by said Committee.

The Committee to whom was referred the granting of Charters for opening Royal Arch Chapters by the General Grand King and General Grand Scribe made the following report:

That the General Grand King has granted warrants or charters for the following Chapters, to wit;

- St. Andrews Chapter, Hanover, N.H. — 27 January, 5807.
- Trinity Chapter, Hopkinton, N.H. — 15 February, 5807.
- Phœnix Chapter, Fayetteville, N. Carolina — 1 September, 5815.
- Washington Chapter, Portsmouth, N.H. — November, 5815.
- Union Chapter, Louisville, Georgia — 10 December, 5815.
- Cheshire Chapter, Keene, New Hampshire — 14th May, 5816.
- Concord Chapter, Wilmington, N. Carolina — 5815.

That the General Grand Scribe has granted warrants or charters for the following Chapters, to wit;

- Washington Chapter, Newark, New Jersey — 26 May, 5813.
- Washington Chapter, Chillicothe, Ohio — Sept. 20, 5815.
- Cincinnati Mark Lodge No. 1, Hanover, N. Jersey — April, 5811.
- Union Mark Lodge No. 2, Orange, N. Jersey — July, 5812.

And your Committee are of opinion that the above warrants or—

Reader page 57 · Charters confirmed; 1816 General Grand Officer elections

—charters have been issued agreeably to the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and ought to be confirmed by the same. All which is respectfully submitted by

Henry Fowle,
Joseph Enos,
Jonathan Nye.

Which being read, Voted to accept the same, and that said warrants or charters be, and they are hereby confirmed accordingly.

The time for Election of General Grand Officers having arrived, voted that the General Grand King, Scribe and Secretary be a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes, which being done, the following Companions were declared to be duly elected to the offices respectively affixed to their names, to wit;

- M.E. Thomas Smith Webb, Esquire, G.G. H. Priest, who after declaration of his election declined to accept said office, whereupon was unanimously elected M.E. & Hon. Dewitt Clinton of New York City, G.G. H. Priest.
- M.E. Thomas Smith Webb Esq. of Boston, Massachusetts — Deputy G.G. H. Priest.

- M.E. Ezra Ames of Albany, N. York, G.G. King, who after declaration of his election declined to accept said office, whereupon was elected M.E. John H. Lynde Esq. of New Haven, Connecticut, G.G. King.
- M.E. Philip P. Eckel Esq. of Baltimore, Maryland — G.G. Scribe.
- M.E. John Abbot Esq. of Westford, Massachusetts — G.G. Secretary.
- M.E. Peter Grinnell Esq. of Providence, R. Island — G.G. Treasurer.
- M.E. & Rev. Jonathan Nye of Newfane, Vermont — G.G. Chaplain.
- M.E. John Harris Esq. of Hopkinton, N. Hampshire — G.G. Marshal.

Voted and chose Companions Joel Hart, John Brush and Jonathan Nye a Committee to wait on the M.E. & Hon. Dewitt Clinton, and notify him of his election to the office of G.G. H. Priest.

Voted to adjourn to half past three o'clock in the afternoon, then to meet at this place.

Attest, John Abbot, G.G. Secretary Pro Tem.

Reader page 58 · Discourse, Clinton acceptance and printing resolution

Met according to adjournment.

An elegant and ingenious discourse having been delivered before the G.G. Chapter by M.E. & Rev. Companion Nye, according to appointment, Voted and chose M.E. Thomas S. Webb, Ezra Ames and John Abbot a Committee to return Companion Nye the thanks of this General Grand Chapter, and respectfully request him to furnish the General Grand Secretary with a copy of said discourse, to be placed on the files of the said General Grand Chapter.

The Committee appointed to wait on the M.E. & Hon. Dewitt Clinton reported his acceptance of the office of General Grand High Priest, and that he would attend the General Grand Chapter tomorrow, at eleven o'clock A.M., for the purpose of installation.

On Motion, the following resolutions were passed unanimously by the General Grand Chapter, to wit;

Resolved, that the G.G.R.A. Constitution be so far amended as that the Deputy General Grand High Priest shall have and possess powers and prerogatives equal and similar to those possessed by and vested in the General Grand High Priest, King and Scribe of the General Grand Chapter by the said Constitution.

Resolved that the General Grand Secretary be authorized and directed, with the approbation of the General Grand High Priest or Deputy General Grand High Priest, to procure to be printed a suitable number of copies of the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution, as amended, together with an abstract of the proceedings of the present meeting of the General Grand Chapter; and that he forward a copy thereof to each of the General Grand Officers, and also to forward to each of the State Grand Chapters, and to the Chapters holden in States wherein there are no Grand Chapters, copies in proportion to their respective numbers; and that the General Grand or Deputy General Grand High Priest—

Reader page 59 · 8 June 5816; fund and treasury reports

—be authorized to allow and draw for the expense of the same upon the General Grand Treasurer.

Voted and chose Companions Joel Hart, Charles K. Williams and Philip P. Eckel a Committee for the purpose of considering the propriety of devising measures for raising a fund for the use of the General Grand Chapter, and that said Committee report as soon as may be.

Voted to adjourn till tomorrow, June 8, 5816, to meet at this place at 10 o'clock, A.M.

Attest, John Abbot, G.G. Sec. pro tem.

June 8, 5816. Met according to adjournment, and the minutes of yesterday, June 7, being read, Voted to accept the same.

The Committee appointed to consider the expediency of raising a Fund for the use of the General Grand Chapter made the following report.

That on mature consideration of the above object, it is the opinion of your Committee that at present it is inexpedient to adopt additional measures for establishing a Fund for this General Grand Chapter.

New York, June 8, 5816. — Joel Hart, P.P. Eckel, Committee.

Which being read, Voted to accept the same.

The Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Grand Secretary and Treasurer Reported, That they find monies on hand ready to be paid to the present Grand Treasurer amounting to the sum of Seven Hundred and Eighty Dollars and thirty one cents. Which is respectfully submitted.

J. Nye.
Joseph Enos.
Peter Grinnell.

Which being read, Voted to accept the same.

Reader page 60 · 1816 dues resolution and closing

Voted, and chose Joel Hart, Charles K. Williams and Henry Fowle a Committee to audit and allow the accounts of the General Grand Officers for their expenses in attending the meeting of the General Grand Chapter and also the expenses incurred by said G.G. Chapter while in session.

On motion, Voted that the next meeting of the General Grand Chapter be holden in the City of New York, in the State of New York, unless the first four, or a majority of the first four General Grand Officers shall designate some other place, and cause timely notice thereof to be given to all companions interested.

The General Grand Officers appeared and were duly installed into their respective offices.

The following Resolution was passed by the General Grand Chapter, to wit;

Resolved, That for every Companion heretofore exalted in any Chapter holden by dispensation or warrant from either of the General Grand Officers, such Chapter shall pay the sum of One Dollar into the General Grand Treasury, and that for every Companion that may be hereafter exalted in any Chapter holden as aforesaid the sum of Two Dollars shall be paid in like manner. And that the General Grand Secretary notify the said Chapters hereof, and request them to settle their dues accordingly.

The Committee to return the thanks of the General Grand Chapter to the General Grand Chaplain, and request a copy of the Discourse delivered by him to be placed on the files of the General Grand Secretary, reported, That they had performed the duty assigned them.

The foregoing minutes of June 8th being read, Voted to accept the same.

The General Grand Chapter was then closed in due form, to meet on the Second Thursday in September, A.D. 1819.

Attest, John Abbot, G.G. Secretary.

Reader page 61 · New York meeting, 9 September 5819

General Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

Pursuant to notice, the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States assembled at New York in the State of New York, on Thursday, September 9th, A.L. 5819.

General Grand Officers present, to wit:

- M.E. Peter Grinnell Esq. — G.G. Treasurer.
- M.E. & Rev. Jonathan Nye — G.G. Chaplain.

M.E. & Rev. Jonathan Nye was requested to preside in the G.G. Chapter.

The G.G. Secretary being absent, M.E. Henry Fowle was appointed G.G. Secretary pro tem.

The following Companions appeared and presented credentials as Officers and Proxies of Officers of the several State Grand Chapters, to wit:

From Massachusetts

- M.E. Henry Fowle, Deputy G.H. Priest. He also appeared as proxy for M.E. John Abbot Esq., G.G. Secretary.
- M.E. Andrew Sigourney, Esquire, as Proxy of the Hon. James Prescott Esq., G.H. Priest.
- M.E. Samuel L. Knapp Esq., as proxy of M.E. & Rev. James Morse, G. Scribe.

From Rhode Island

- M.E. William Wilkinson Esq. — G.H. Priest.
- E. Caleb Earle Esq. — G. Scribe.

Reader page 62 · 1819 representatives; credentials approved

From Connecticut

- M.E. Laban Smith Esq. — Deputy G.H. Priest.
- E. Thomas H. Cushing — G. Scribe. He also appeared as Proxy of M.E. Lyman Law Esq., G.H. Priest.

From Vermont

- M.E. John H. Cotton Esq. — G.H. Priest. He also appeared as Proxy of E. Lemuel Whitney Esq., G. King, and E. Joseph Farnsworth, G. Scribe.
- M.E. Gurdon Newell — Deputy G.H. Priest.

From New York

- M.E. Richard Hatfield Esq. — Deputy G.H. Priest.
- E. Joseph Enos Esq. — G. King.
- E. Ebenezer Wadsworth Esq., as Proxy of M.E. Ezra Ames Esq., G.G. Scribe.

From Ohio

- M.E. John Snow Esq. — G.H. Priest.

- E. David Embree Esq. — G. King. He also appeared as Proxy of M.E. Phineas Ross Esq., Deputy G.H. Priest, and E. Gardiner Stone Esq., G. Scribe.

From Kentucky

E. David G. Cowan Esq., G. King. He also appeared as Proxy of M.E. John Willett Esq., G.H. Priest, and E. William G. Hunt Esq., G. Scribe.

The Most Excellent G.G. High Priest, pro tem., was pleased to appoint M.E. Henry Fowle and M.E. Peter Grinnell a Committee to examine said credentials, who, after examination of the same, reported that the foregoing Companions from the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, New York, Ohio and Kentucky are duly qualified to sit and act in the said G.G.R.A. Chapter, which report was accepted.

The General Grand Chapter was then opened in due form.

Reader page 63 · Deaths of Webb and Lynde; 1819 memorial resolutions

The G.G. H.P. pro tem. announced the death of M.E. Thomas Smith Webb and John H. Lynde, Esquires, since the last session of the G.G. Chapter.

On Motion, Voted — That a Committee be raised to take into consideration the melancholy events of the death of M.E. Thomas Smith Webb Esq., late Deputy G.G. H. Priest, and M.E. John H. Lynde Esq., late G.G. King of this G.G. Chapter, and report what notice is proper to be taken by the G.G. Chapter of these afflicting dispensations of Providence.

M.E. Companions Wilkinson, Fowle, Cotton, Snow, Hatfield, Smith and Cowan were appointed a Committee for the above purpose.

Voted — That 4 o'clock tomorrow afternoon be assigned for the election of the G.G. Officers.

Certain papers being presented relating to the establishment of a Grand Chapter in the State of New Jersey, they were committed to M.E. Companions Enos, Smith and Earle.

Voted — That this G.G. Chapter do now adjourn to 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Attest, Henry Fowle, G.G. Secretary, pro tem.

September 9th. 4 o'clock P.M.

Assembled according to adjournment. The Committee appointed on the events of the death of M.E. Companions Webb and Lynde recommended the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved by the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America: That we deeply deplore, in common with the whole Masonic Family, the loss which Masonry and society at large have sustained by the death of our Most Excellent Companions Thomas Smith Webb Esq., late Deputy G.G. H. Priest, and John H. Lynde Esq., late General Grand King of said General Grand Chapter.

Reader page 64 · Memorial eulogy; Ohio and Kentucky Grand Chapters

Resolved further — That our Most Excellent and Reverend Companion Jonathan Nye be requested to pronounce an Eulogy before this body, commemorative of the distinguished worth of our much lamented Companions.

Voted unanimously to adopt said resolutions, and that the same Committee be directed to wait upon the M.E. and Rev. Companion Nye, and request him to pronounce the Eulogy; and that they make all necessary arrangements for the occasion.

Several communications from the G.G. H. Priest were read and committed to E. Companions Knapp, Wadsworth and Smith.

A verbal communication was made by M.E. John Snow from the G. Chapter of Ohio: whereupon, Voted — That the G. Chapter of Ohio be now received into the union of the State G. Chapters under the jurisdiction of this G.G. Chapter.

The proceedings of the G. Chapter of Kentucky were read, whereupon the following resolution was passed.

Whereas it has been communicated to this General Grand Chapter that several Warrants of Constitution were granted since the last communication, authorizing the opening and holding of Royal Arch Chapters in Lexington, Frankfort and Shelbyville, in the State of Kentucky, by our late M.E. Companion Thomas Smith Webb, and that said Chapters having been constitutionally in operation for the space of more than one year did form themselves into a Grand Chapter for said state, under the jurisdiction of this body, and have been regularly recognized as such by M.E. Companions Dewitt Clinton, General G. H. Priest, and Thomas S. Webb, late Deputy G.G. H. Priest:

Resolved therefore, That this General Grand Chapter approves and recognizes the formation of said Grand Chapter for said State of Kentucky.

Resolved that M.E. Companions Knapp, Grinnell, Wadsworth, Cotton, Cushing, Cowan and Snow be a Committee to take into consideration and report what, if any, alterations or amendments ought to be made in the Constitution of this G.G. Chapter;

Reader page 65 · 10 September 5819; New Jersey Grand Chapter report

—and that a Communication from Vermont be referred to said Committee.

A communication was presented from the G.G. Secretary, and committed to E. Companions Hatfield, Embree and Cushing.

Voted — that E. Companions Enos, Cotton and Snow be the Committee of Finance.

Adjourned until 9 o'clock A.M. tomorrow.

Attest, Henry Fowle, G.G. Secretary, pro tem.

Friday, September 10th, 5819.

The G.G. Chapter assembled according to adjournment; the minutes of yesterday were read and accepted.

The Committee on the communication from New Jersey reported the following, viz:

The Committee to whom was referred the Communication from the Companion from the State of New Jersey on the subject of forming a Grand Chapter in the State of New Jersey beg leave to report — That they have examined the several communications committed to their charge, and from the information of the Companion who presented the same, it appears that there are two Royal Arch Chapters in the State of New Jersey under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter and one under the authority of the State of Pennsylvania, which does not acknowledge the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter. Your Committee therefore are of opinion that the constitutional regulation, interdicting all communication of Chapters and Members under this jurisdiction with those who do not acknowledge it, ought to be strictly adhered to; and that no Grand Chapter can be legally constituted in said State until there shall be three Royal—

Reader page 66 · Secretary correspondence and disciplinary notices

—Royal Arch Chapters acknowledging this jurisdiction.

Which is respectfully submitted, Sept. 10, 5819, by Andrew Sigourney, Joseph Enos, Caleb Earle.

Voted — that the above report be accepted.

The Committee on the communication of the G.G. Secretary made the following report, which was accepted.

The Committee to whom was referred certain papers of the Grand Secretary report that, on examining them, they find a communication from Washington Chapter in Newark, state of New Jersey, to the G.G. Secretary, stating the expulsion of John P. Decatur.

A communication from Union Royal Arch Chapter in the state of Georgia, stating the expulsion of John Gordon, with a very particular account of the charge and specifications exhibited against him, and the proceedings of the said Chapter thereon. Covering the above is a communication from the said Chapter, mentioning that the returns of the said Chapter were enclosed, together with the sum of Forty Dollars, being the amount of its dues to the General Grand Chapter.

A Letter from John Harris to the G.G. Secretary, dated Aug. 23d, 1819, stating that a Grand Chapter had been formed and organized on the tenth day of June last in the State of New Hampshire. Also a list of the officers of the said Grand Chapter, and that official notice thereof would be given as soon as a circular could be printed.

Returns from the Grand Chapter of Vermont for the year 1818. The like from the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts for the same year. The like from the Grand Chapter of Connecticut for the years 1818 and 1819.

The Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Reader page 67 · Disciplinary confirmations; New Hampshire recognition

Resolved — That the General Grand Chapter do confirm the proceedings of Washington Chapter, in Newark, in the State of New Jersey, in the expulsion of John P. Decatur; and the proceedings of Union Royal Arch Chapter of Louisville, in the state of Georgia, in the expulsion of John Gordon.

Resolved — That, so soon as official notice of the formation of a Grand Chapter in the State of New Hampshire shall be received by the G.G. Secretary, he be, and is authorized to issue a circular recognizing the said Grand Chapter in union of the Grand Chapters of the States under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter.

Richard Hatfield.
T.H. Cushing.
David Embree.

Resolved — That a Committee be appointed to consider if any further measures are to be adopted for the more extensive diffusion of masonic light; a more thorough and extensive organization of Grand and Subordinate Chapters, and a more regular system of labour and discipline throughout this jurisdiction.

The M.E. Companions Nye, Newell, Enos, Cowan, Embree, Earle and Knapp were appointed a Committee for the above purpose.

Voted — That this G.G. Chapter do now adjourn to 4 o'clock P.M. — Adjourned accordingly.

Attest, Henry Fowle, G.G. Secretary, pro tem.

Reader page 68 · 10 September 1819 afternoon; General Grand Officers elected

Friday, September 10, 4 o'clock, P.M.

The G.G. Chapter assembled according to adjournment.

Voted — To proceed to the election of the G.G. Officers.

M.E. Companions Wilkinson, Wadsworth and Newell were appointed a Committee to collect, assort, count and declare the votes.

The votes were then collected, and the following M.E. Companions were declared duly elected to the several offices annexed to their respective names, viz:

- M.E. & Hon. Dewitt Clinton of Albany, N.Y. — G.G. H. Priest.
- M.E. Henry Fowle Esq. of Boston, Massachusetts — Deputy G.G. High Priest.
- M.E. John Snow Esq. of Worthington, Ohio — G.G. King.
- M.E. Philip P. Eckel Esq. of Baltimore, Maryland — G.G. Scribe.
- M.E. John Abbot Esq. of Westford, Massachusetts — G.G. Secretary.
- M.E. Peter Grinnell Esq. of Providence, R.I. — G.G. Treasurer.
- M.E. & Rev. Jonathan Nye of Newfane, Vermont — G.G. Chaplain.
- M.E. David G. Cowan Esq. of Kentucky — G.G. Marshal.

A request was presented by E. Companion Hatfield, from a number of Royal Arch Masons of the City of New York, desiring to be admitted to the G.G. Chapter for the purpose of making a communication interesting to the craft. The request was granted, and nine o'clock tomorrow assigned for the purpose. Twelve o'clock tomorrow was also assigned for the solemn services on account of the death of M.E. Companions Webb and Lynde.

Voted — That M.E. Companions Enos, Snow and Newell be a Committee to audit accounts.

The G.G. Chapter was then adjourned to 8 o'clock A.M. tomorrow.

Attest, Henry Fowle, G.G. Secretary, pro tem.

Reader page 69 · 11 September 5819; proposed Washington meeting

Saturday, September 11, 5819, 8 o'clock, A.M.

The General Grand Chapter assembled according to adjournment; the minutes of yesterday were read and accepted.

The G.G. Chapter resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the Constitution. M.E. William Wilkinson Esq. in the chair.

The Committee appointed to consider whether any alterations or amendments were necessary to be made to the G.G. Constitution made the following report, which was accepted.

The Committee appointed to enquire if any, and what alterations are necessary to be made in the G.G. Constitution have discharged the duty assigned them, and beg leave respectfully to report it as their opinion that no alterations are necessary at the present time; but considering that the general interests of Royal Arch Masonry require an earlier meeting than is provided by the Constitution, your Committee recommend the following resolution.

Resolved — That it is the sense of this G.G. Chapter, now assembled in the City of New York, that a meeting of this G.G. Chapter should be called by the G.G. Officers, according to the provisions of

the Constitution, to be holden at the City of Washington, in the District of Columbia, on the Second Wednesday of February, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty three.

Samuel L. Knapp, per order.

A Committee of Royal Arch Masons desired admission to the G.G. Chapter.

Voted, that the Committee of the whole now rise, report progress, and have leave to sit again.

Reader page 70 · Tribute to Webb from New York Chapters

The G.G. Chapter in session, the Committee of Royal Arch Masons were admitted and introduced to the G.G. High Priest, pro tem.

The Committee then presented the following communication from Jerusalem Chapter, No. 8, and another of similar elegance and import from Rising Sun Chapter, No. [16?], both of the City of New York.

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America.

Most Excellent Companions,

It becomes our melancholy duty, as a Committee deputed by Jerusalem Chapter, No. 8, to address you on the loss the Brethren have sustained in the death of our late and well beloved brother Thomas S. Webb; a loss which we fear will not speedily be repaired.

Of him it might be said with justice and propriety, that he was a Father to the Order; for all his acts, whether public or private, tended, as far as human nature would permit, to promote the general good and advancement of the craft.

He did not only devote his time to the instruction of his brethren by precept and example, but he has also left to us a rich and permanent legacy in his writings, from which, by application, we may reap that knowledge and wisdom which will enable us to become in part what he was.

In his private life he was beloved and esteemed, and was possessed of that suavity of manners which rendered him amiable and agreeable in every circle, but especially amongst his brethren. He acquired the love and good will of all who knew him. The Philosopher, Philanthropist, Widow and Orphan with all his brother Masons hold him in grateful and pleasing remembrance.

But his Brethren with us, Sirs, not only feel his loss as one of the Order, but as the loss of a Father, whose paternal affection has been in so peculiar a manner—

Reader page 71 · Webb tribute continued; Constitution report adopted

—evinced towards them; and as a Father who in every situation has studied their welfare and interest, by endeavouring to teach them in the true principles and excellencies of the Masonic Art, and whose virtues remain as a shining light to conduct them to its sacred altar. But since it has pleased the Great Architect of the universe to call him to that celestial Grand Lodge above, it becomes our duty to acquiesce in the fiat, and though we might still wish to have retained him, let us endeavour to say, Great Architect of the universe, thy will be done.

Please to accept, collectively and individually, our wishes for your prosperity and welfare; though we may not be permitted again to meet, yet may we all be in possession of that celestial password, which shall admit us to our departed brother.

With sentiments of fraternal affection and esteem, we remain, brethren, yours,

W.F. Piatt Jr.
Thaddeus Whitlock.
Jacob Tisdale.
John S. Gantz.
John Utt.
Committee. (L.S.)

Voted that said communications be referred to M.E. Companions Knapp, Newell and Hatfield.

The G.G. Chapter again resolved itself into a Committee of the whole; M.E. William Wilkinson in the chair; when a substitute for the report of the Committee was offered by E. Companion Cowan, and is on file.

The question on the acceptance of the report of the Committee on the Constitution was taken, and passed in the affirmative.

Reader page 72 · Memorial service; dispensations including Augusta, Georgia

The Committee of the whole then rose and reported to the General Grand Chapter, and the report was accepted.

At 12 o'clock, many Royal Arch Masons having assembled, they were admitted into the G.G. Chapter, and the solemn services appointed to be performed on account of the death of our late M.E. Companions Webb and Lynde commenced by an impressive prayer by the M.E. & Rev. Companion Nye, G.G. Chaplain, who, agreeably to the request of the Committee of Arrangements, delivered an elegant and appropriate address, in which our duties as men, as Masons and as christians were faithfully delineated and felicitously enforced, and the character and example of our late most worthy Companions affectionately exhibited for our imitation and improvement. The interesting services were closed with prayer by the G.G. Chaplain.

The G.G. Chapter then adjourned to 4 o'clock, P.M.

Attest, Henry Fowle, G.G. Secretary, pro tem.

At 4 o'clock P.M. the G.G. Chapter assembled according to adjournment. The Committee on the communications from the G.G. High Priest reported the following, which was accepted, viz:

Your Committee, to whom was referred the report of the G.G. High Priest and other communications on the subject of granting warrants, &c., beg leave to report that they have attended to the duties assigned them, and find the G.G. High Priest has granted the following dispensations, viz:

- To Monroe Chapter at Detroit, Michigan, on the third of December, 5818.
- To Augusta Chapter in Augusta, Georgia, on the sixth of December, 5818.
- To Cumberland Chapter in Nashville, Tennessee, on the 2d of March, 5818.
- To Missouri Chapter, Missouri Territory, on the third of April, 5819.
- To Union Mark Lodge No. 1 in Claremont, New Hampshire, on the third of July, 5818.

The fees for which, amounting to Three Hundred & Eighty Dollars, they understand to be in his hands, subject to the order of the G.G. Treasurer. All of which appears to have been correct, and ought, in the opinion of the Committee, to be approved, and they recommend that warrants be granted—

Reader page 73 · Newark and Indiana dispensations; secretary accounts

—to them respectively, if necessary to their confirmation, whenever the constitutional returns, dues, &c. shall be made to the G.G. Secretary and Treasurer.

On the sixth of May, 5813, M.E. Ezra Ames, then G.G. Scribe, granted a dispensation to John N. Cummings, John C. [Kinckle?], Jephthah Baldwin and others, to hold a Chapter in Newark, N.J., by the name of Washington Chapter, No. 1, which dispensation was renewed on the ninth of June, 5819, by M.E. Thomas S. Webb, D.G.G. High Priest, and is now returned to the G.G. Chapter, and the dues paid to the G.G. Treasurer, praying for a charter; Your Committee recommend therefore, that a Charter be granted them accordingly.

The Committee were informed that the late D.G.G. High Priest, Companion Webb, has granted the following dispensations in the State of Indiana, viz: Madison Chapter in Madison, and Brookville Chapter at Brookville; but as no official communication from them has been received, owing, they presume, to the death of that officer, the Committee do not deem any order thereon necessary. All which is respectfully submitted.

E. Wadsworth, per order.

The Committee on the G.G. Secretary and Treasurer's accounts made the following report, which was accepted, viz:

The Committee to whom was referred the settlement of the G.G. Secretary and Treasurer's accounts, with a statement of the funds, have attended to the duty assigned them, and beg leave to submit the following Report.

That during the recess of the General G. Chapter the G.G. Secretary has received $64.58, $44 of which he has paid to the G.G. Treasurer; $4 for entering the records of the last meeting of the G.G. Chapter; $5.75 for advertising the present meeting; leaving a balance in his hands of $10.83 to pay for stationary and writing various communications under this jurisdiction.

Received	$64.58
Paid	$53.75
Balance	$10.83

Reader page 74 · Treasury report; presentation to Webb’s widow

The G.G. Treasurer has received during the recess of the G.G. Chapter, as appears by his account current, $917.75, and has paid out, as appears, $435.15, leaving a balance in his hands of $482.60.

It appears from the report of the G.G. H.P., Hon. Dewitt Clinton, that he has during the recess granted four dispensations for chapters, the fees for which amount to $360.00; for one Mark Masters Lodge, $20.00; total $380.00. Which amount is ready to be paid to the order of the G.G. Treasurer.

Also a Certificate from T. Brown, clerk of the Bank of Cincinnati, of the deposit of one hundred and eighty dollars, to the credit of Peter Grinnell, G.G. Treasurer, and subject to his order — $180.00.

Recapitulation

In the hands of the G.G. Treasurer	$482.60
In the hands of the G.G. H. Priest	$380.00
In Cincinnati Bank	$180.00
Total	$1042.60

Which is respectfully submitted.
Joseph Enos, per order.

Resolved unanimously, that as a testimony of our esteem for the eminently distinguished services of our late E. Companion Thomas Smith Webb Esq., this G.G. Chapter do present his widow with the sum of two hundred dollars, in a medal, a piece of plate, or otherwise, at the discretion of the Committee; and that the D.G.G. H. Priest, General G. Treasurer and G.G. Secretary be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to present the same accordingly.

The G.G. Chapter was then adjourned until 1 o'clock P.M. tomorrow.

Attest, Henry Fowle, G.G. Secretary, pro tem.

Reader page 75 · 12 September 5819; printing and reply to New York Chapters

September 12th, 5819.

The General Grand Chapter assembled at 7 o'clock, P.M., agreeably to adjournment; the preceding minutes being read were accepted.

Resolved, that the G.G. Secretary be requested to cause the transactions of the present session of this G.G. Chapter to be printed and distributed to the several State Grand Chapters at his discretion, and draw on the G.G. Treasurer for the payment of the expenses attending the same.

Resolved that the Deputy G.G. H. Priest be requested to make such selections from the minutes of this session of the G.G. Chapter as respects its notice on the death of M.E. Companions Webb and Lynde, and cause the same to be printed in the public newspapers.

The Committee on the communications from the New York Chapters reported the following answer, which was accepted, and M.E. Companion Hatfield was appointed a Committee to present the same in such manner as he may think proper.

New York, September 11, 5819.

Companions,

The General Grand Chapter of the United States have received, with the deepest emotions of sympathy, the letter of condolence from Jerusalem Chapter of the City of New York, on the death of our late beloved Companion Thomas Smith Webb, and while they mingle their tears with the weeping fraternity throughout this country, they derive the sweetest consolation from knowing that his merits were so justly appreciated and so extensively acknowledged.

He was indeed a model worthy of imitation; a man endowed with the rarest gifts from nature. To a quick apprehension, extensive views, good intentions, and delicate feelings, he added an almost unexampled industry, and active inexhaustible benevolence. He was not only skilled in the science and mysteries of masonry, but his life was a noble, practical commentary on its precepts.

To cherish the recollection of his deeds will be the pleasure of the feeling and the honest; to extend his fame will be the delightful exertion of the generous and the just; and to draw practical lessons

of wisdom from his life will be the duty and happiness of the sagacious and the good. His labours and his virtues have raised for him an indestructible monument, and the affections of a grateful Masonic Community will write an ineffaceable epitaph of purest praise to his memory.

Reader page 76 · Reply concluded; 1819 expense accounts

We reciprocate most cordially, Companions, your kind wishes for our temporal and eternal welfare, and hope and trust that if we meet not again here, we may hereafter in the mansions of the just made perfect.

With affection and respect, we are your friends and brethren,

Samuel L. Knapp,
Gordon Newell,
Richard Hatfield.
Com. of G.G. Chapter.

To Wm. F. Piatt, Jr. &c.

Voted that M.E. Companions Knapp, Hatfield and Wilkinson be a Committee to return the thanks of this G.G. Chapter to the M.E. & Rev. Companion Nye for his elegant address delivered before this G.G. Chapter, and request a Copy of the same to be preserved on the files of this G.G. Chapter.

The G.G. Officers elect were duly inducted into their respective offices by the G.G. H. Priest pro tem.

Voted that the next septennial assembly of the G.G. Chapter be held in the City of New York, in the State of New York, unless the first four or a majority of the first four officers shall otherwise determine.

The Committee on Accounts made the following Report, which was accepted:

The Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the G.G. Chapter have examined the same and submit the following report.

Account allowed	Dollars
Companion Nye	100.00
Brother Hodges' Bill	17.50
W.G. Hunt, do.	2.50
W.B. Fowle, two bills for executing three Charters for Chapters	30.00
G.G. Goddard, for advertising	2.00
G. Lincoln, for do.	1.00
Peter Grinnell, G.G. Treasurer	45.00
Joseph Jacobs, for attendance	15.00
Henry Fowle, for services	20.00
Total	233.00

Companion Wadsworth's bill as proxy for the M.E. Ezra Ames, Past Grand Scribe, was not allowed. Which is respectfully submitted.

Joseph Enos,
John Snow,
Gordon Newell.

Reader page 77 · 1819 closing and certification

On motion by M.E. Companion Knapp —

Resolved that the thanks of this G.G. Chapter be given to the M.E. & Rev. Companion Jonathan Nye, for the able, assiduous and independent manner in which he has discharged the duties of the office of G.G. H. Priest during the present session of this G.G. Chapter.

The General Grand Chapter was closed after an address to the throne of Grace by the G.G. Chaplain.

Attest, Henry Fowle, G.G. Secretary, pro tem.

Having examined the foregoing records of the proceedings of the meeting of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter holden at New York, A.L. 5819, I certify that the same are correctly and truly entered.

Attest, John Abbot, G.G. Secretary.

Reader page 78 · Duplicate of reader page 77

[Editorial description: This scan repeats the preceding leaf, including the closing resolution, Henry Fowle's attestation, and John Abbot's certification. The text is transcribed under reader page 77.]

Reader page 79 · New York meeting, 14 September 5826

General Grand Royal Arch Chapter, U.S.

Pursuant to notice, the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States assembled at New York in the State of New York on Thursday, September 14, A.L. 5826.

General Grand Officers Present, to wit:

- M.E. John Snow, Esquire — G.G. King.
- Peter Grinnell — G.G. Treasurer.
- Rev. Jonth. Nye — G.G. Chaplain.

The G.G. Secretary not being present, M.E. Nathaniel Coffin was appointed G.G. Secy Pro Tem.

The following Companions appeared and presented Credentials as officers and proxies of officers of the several State Grand Chapters, to wit:

- M.E. Moses Richardson of Boston, Massachusetts, as proxy for M.E. Henry Fowle, D.G.G.H.P.
- M.E. John [Jas.?] Loring of Boston, Mass., as proxy for M.E. John Abbot, G.G. Secy.

State of New York

- M.E. Asa Fitch, of Salem, Washington Co. — G.H.P.
- Ezra S. Crozier, of Utica — D.G.H.P.
- Orville Hungerford, Watertown, Jeff. Co. — G.K.
- Jonth. Eights, of Albany — G.S.

Rhode Island

- M.E. Peter Grinnell, of Providence — G.H.P.
- Caleb Brown, of Pawtucket — D.G.H.P.
- Caleb Brown, as Proxy for M.E. Joseph Humphries — G.K.
- Peter Grinnell, as Proxy for M.E. Jere. Clark, of Providence — G. Scribe.

Reader page 80 · 1826 State delegations, Connecticut through Ohio

Connecticut

- M.E. Heman Hubbard, of Pomfret, Windham Co. — G.H.P.
- Wm. H. Jones, of New Haven — D.G.H.P., by John Barker, Proxy.
- Andrew Harris, of Canterbury — G. King.
- Asa Child, of Norwich — G. Scribe.

Massachusetts

- M.E. & Rev. Paul Dean, of Boston — G.H.P.
- Samuel L. Knapp, of Boston, as Proxy for M.E. Augustus Peabody — D.G.H.P.
- Daniel L. Gibbens, of Boston — G. King.
- John [Jas.?] Loring, of Boston — G. Scribe.

Vermont

- M.E. John H. Cotton, of Windsor — G.H.P.
- Rev. Paul Clapp, of Shelburne — D.G.H.P.
- John H. Cotton, as proxy for M.E. Hannibal Hodges, of Bennington — G. King.
- John H. Cotton, as proxy for M.E. Naphtali Shaw — G. Scribe.

South Carolina

- M.E. Richard Pennell, of New York, as Proxy for M.E. John [J.?] Deleon, of Charleston — G.H.P.
- James Eylard, as proxy for M.E. Geo. Cuthbert, of Beaufort — D.G.H.P.
- Samuel Coleman, of Charleston — G. King.
- Liberty Olds, of Charleston — G. Scribe.

Maryland

- M.E. Joseph K. Stapleton, of Baltimore — G.H.P.
- George Keyser, of Baltimore — G. Scribe.

Ohio

M.E. Edward King, of Chillicothe — G.H.P.

Reader page 81 · 1826 State delegations, Kentucky through Louisiana

Kentucky

M.E. William G. Hunt, of Nashville, as Proxy for M.E. Jno. Pirtle, G.H.P.

New Hampshire

- M.E. Samuel Cushman, of Portsmouth — G.H.P.
- Joseph Warren White, as Proxy for M.E. Frederick A. Sumner, of Charleston — D.G.H.P.
- Joseph Warren White, of Portsmouth — G. King.
- Joseph Warren White, as proxy for M.E. Oliver Heaton, of Keene — G. Scribe.

Maine

- M.E. Nathaniel Coffin, of Wiscasset — G.H.P.
- Samuel Fessenden, of Portland — D.G.H.P.
- Peleg Sprague, of Hallowell — G. King.
- Silas Stearns, of Bath — G. Scribe.

By their Proxy, M.E. Nathl. Coffin.

Alabama

M.E. Thaddeus Sanford — Grand Scribe.

Tennessee

- M.E. Wm. G. Hunt, of Nashville — G.H.P.
- [Name unclear], of Nashville — D.G.H.P.
- E.H. Steele, of Clarksville — G. King.
- Dyer Pearl, of Nashville — G. Scribe.

By their Proxy, M.E. Wm. G. Hunt.

Dis. of Columbia

M.E. Thomas Howard, of Washington City — D.G.H.P., by his Proxy, E.J. Lewis.

New Jersey

- M.E. John C. Huckel, of Newark — G.H.P.
- Chas. J. Thompson, of Newark — D.G.H.P.

Louisiana

M.E. Elisha Andrews, of Jackson — H. Priest of Lafayette Chapter.

Reader page 82 · 1826 credentials; Clinton received; afternoon session

The M.E. G.G. H. Priest, Pro Tem., did appoint M.E. Jonth. Nye & the M.E. Peter Grinnell a Committee to examine said Credentials, who after having examined the same reported that the foregoing named Companions from the States of New York, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, South Carolina, Maryland, Ohio, Kentucky, New Hampshire, Maine, Alabama, Tennessee, District of Columbia and State of New Jersey were duly qualified to sit and act in the said G.G.R.A. Chapter, which Report was accepted.

The G. Grand Chapter was then opened in due form.

On Motion, the M.E. Edward King, M.E. Peter Grinnell & M.E. Saml. L. Knapp were appointed a Committee to wait upon the M.E. G. Grand High Priest and inform him that the General G. R. Arch

Chapter was now duly assembled and opened for business — and ready to receive any Communications which he might be pleased to make.

The Committee having performed the duty assigned them, the M.E. Dewitt Clinton, G.G. H. Priest, was announced and received with appropriate Masonic Honours.

The Members of the General Grand Chapter were then severally introduced to the G.G. H. Priest, and the G.G. Chapter was on Motion adjourned until 4 o'clock P.M.

September 14. 4 o'clock P.M.

General Grand Chapter assembled pursuant to adjournment.

Present

- M.E. John Snow — G.G.H.P. Pro Tem.
- Samuel Cushman — D.G.G.H.P. Pro Tem.
- Paul Dean — G.G.K. Pro Tem.
- Nathl. Coffin — G.G. Secy Pro Tem.
- Peter Grinnell — G.G. Treasr Pro Tem.
- Jonth. Nye — G.G. Chaplain Pro Tem.
- D.L. Gibbens — G.G. Marshall Pro Tem.

And the representatives from the several State Grand Chapters as in the forenoon session.

On Motion, M.E. Companions King, Fitch and Knapp were appointed a Committee to Examine & report on the papers and proceedings of the General Grand Officers during the recess.

Reader page 83 · District of Columbia recognition; Kentucky memorial begins

The following resolution was offered by E. Compn. Lewis and referred to M.E. Compns. Fitch, King & Knapp, to wit:

Resolved That the assent given by the M.E. General Grand High Priest under his private seal on the 3d day of August, 1822, to the formation of a Grand Chapter within and for the District of Columbia be, and the same is hereby approved, ratified and confirmed by this G.G. Chapter — and the said Grand Chapter is hereby recognized as such, and admitted to an union with this General Grand Chapter; and the Grand Chapter within and for said District of Columbia shall have jurisdiction over all Chapters of Royal Arch Masons within the same, agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution of this General Grand Chapter.

And the authority of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maryland and District of Columbia over said District shall from and after the date hereof cease and determine except so far as relates to Potomac Chapter — And said Grand Chapter for the State of Maryland and District of Columbia shall hereafter be known and distinguished by the style & title of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the State of Maryland — and shall have authority to alter their seal accordingly.

On Motion, M.E. Companions Loring, Richardson & Hunt were appointed a Committee to audit and settle the accounts of the G.G. Secretary & G. Treasurer.

A letter from the Most E. John Abbot, G.G. Secretary, declining a Re Election to that Office and relating to other subjects of interest to the General Grand Chapter was read and referred to M.E. Compns. Loring, Richardson and Hunt.

M.E. William G. Hunt, as proxy for the G.H.P. of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, presented for the consideration of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter the following Resolutions, which was adopted by the said Grand Chapter at a Grand Annual Convocation held at Masons Hall in the Town of Lexington on Monday the 5th day of September, 1825, to wit:

“Resolved, That a Committee be appointed for the purpose of Drafting a Memorial or Petition to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and of Corresponding with the several Grand Chapters Subordinate to the said General Grand Chapter of the United States, upon the propriety of dissolving the Genl G. Chapter, and when said Committee report the result of such Correspondence to the—

Reader page 84 · Kentucky memorial; arguments for dissolution

—M.E. Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, and that he take such steps thereon as may seem to him most Expedient.”

Whereupon Compns. McKinney, Johnston & Cosby were appointed a Committee for that purpose.

Attest, Philip Swigert, G. Secy.

And also the following Memorial adopted by a Committee appointed by the Grand Chapter of Kentucky for that purpose.

To wit; The Committee appointed in pursuance of the foregoing resolution of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky would most respectfully beg leave to present for the Consideration of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and of the respective State Grand Chapters, the reasons which induce them to ask for a dissolution of the said General Grand Chapter.

The Establishment of a General Grand Chapter may have been useful at first, when the number of Chapters in our Country was small, and a legitimate source from whence new Chapters might derive their authority to work; but as Grand Chapters have since been Established in most of the States, the existence of the General Grand Chapter is no longer necessary; and as its authority and jurisdiction are not acknowledged by all the State Grand Chapters, it tends to produce discord among the fraternity.

The State Grand Chapters are Emphatically appellate and Legislative Bodies, and must possess the power of adapting their laws to the opinions and customs of the fraternity within their respective jurisdictions. This would not interfere with the general design of true masonry; but would merely give to Each State Grand Chapter the right to modify its written rules, without being subjected to the Control of a Superior power.

The General Grand Chapter must of necessity hold its meetings at so great a distance from most of the State Grand Chapters that they will generally fail to be all represented; and the Expense of sending a representation is an unnecessary waste of their funds.

Reader page 85 · Kentucky memorial; proxies, costs and charity

By the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, the Past Officers are made members for life of the several State Grand Chapters; and in case they find it inconvenient to attend in person they are allowed the privilege of appointing proxies. — The Past officers may increase in number at the rate of four per annum, and generally do increase at the rate of one or two — perhaps they average two per annum. They are Each Entitled to a vote upon Every question presented to the Grand Chapter and in a few years will outnumber, and may Completely Control the representatives of the Subordinate Chapters. If however through Courtesy they should still be retained as Members of the Grand Chapters, it is Conceived they ought not to be allowed the privilege of appointing proxies to represent them when absent. It is presumed that they were made members of the Grand Chapters on account of the skill and ability which had procured their Elevation to high Grand Masonic; but as they cannot transfer these qualities to their proxies, the reason ceases, and the privilege should cease with it. The same objections may be with equal weight against allowing the present officers the privilege of appointing proxies to represent them when absent in person.

It may be said that some of these inconveniences might be cured by amendments to the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter. But other Evils and inconveniences will be found to Exist, and its meetings are so far apart that it is impracticable from time to time for all the changes which Experience may suggest; and to make its meetings more frequent would increase the burden already Complained of.

The true objects of Masonic Institutions are not splendid Establishments or Pompous Exhibition; but the relief of the distressed, the promotion of brotherly love, and the Exercise of private Charity. In the ancient genuine masonry we hear Nothing of General Grand Chapters or General Grand Lodges, nor Even of Grand Chapters or Lodges. Each Lodge Constituted a separate and independent body, Cultivating within its bosom the most Exalted of human Virtues, and dispensing its bounty to the needy brethren and their destitute families within the Sphere of its jurisdiction, while its individual members were hailed as brothers, and if found needy relieved by all the Sister Lodges. The affairs of Each Lodge were settled within itself in its own way without appeal or Control.

The resources of the order, instead of being devoted to Costly Entertainments and the support of splendid Establishments, were applied to the relief of needy brethren and their destitute widows and Children, [unclear] of the original [word struck out] pure and simple objects of the institution. Inconveniences were doubtless Experienced from the occasional prevalence of party spirit, originating from a—

Reader page 86 · Kentucky memorial; analogy with political institutions

—difference of opinion and misguided passions, as well as injustice to meritorious brothers. Hence in process of time it was found proper to a majority of the Craft to Establish Grand Chapters & Lodges with a supervising and Controlling power over the original Chapters & Lodges. Even those additions to the Masonic Edifice were not necessary to Extend the original object of the institution; but merely to Guard against those Errors of opinion, and those Gusts of passion, which are incident to all human institutions. They are a kind of necessary Evil. They are Evils, because they Consume a portion of the funds of the order, and thereby lessen its ability to diffuse its Charities; and by Creating High Offices, they Encourage ambition in the Craft — which ought to be distinguished only by disinterestedness and humble deportment; but we are not disposed to Censure the Establishment of Grand Chapters and Grand Lodges; for with all their Evils, they do essential Good in Correcting the Errors of the Subordinate institutions, and promoting harmony among Masons.

The idea of a General Grand Chapter, as well as of a General Grand Lodge, seems to have been suggested by the political institutions of our Country. But are the Cases analogous? The original Chapters and Lodges were formerly independent bodies like our States. They Confederated under Grand Chapters and Lodges which Exercise a Controlling [word struck out] and revising power, and fill the place of our National Government. Here the analogy between our Masonic & Political institutions is at an End. It matters not, that the Masonic Confederation Extends only to the limits of a State, while the political Embraces almost half a Continent. The analogy Exists in principle not in the Extent of Surface over which the Confederation may spread.

There are in many of the States more Lodges than there are States in the American Union. In our Masonic Union the Grand Chapters & Lodges Exercise their jurisdictions Each in its Sphere, and the same territory and the same people, like our National & State Governments; To add to these a General Grand Chapter or Lodge is like Establishing a General Grand Government over the Nations of the Earth, which would introduce into the United States a third jurisdiction Controlling both the National and State Governments as well as Each individual Citizen. Where is the Politician so mad as to think of a project like this? Is not our political Machine sufficiently—

Reader page 87 · Kentucky memorial · Necessity and uniformity

Complicated, and does it not operate with sufficient harmony without resorting to another Superintending and Controlling power?

Yet, what Else has been done in Masonry? We have our Chapters with jurisdictions analogous to those of our States; we have our Grand Chapters analogous to the Government of the United States, but not Content with these, we must have our General Grand Chapter also, which has not its parallel in our own or any other Government and is really of little use but to increase our burthens and add an unmeaning pomp and Splendour to our humble & lowly institution.

The Same necessity does not Exist for a Confederation in the Masonic as in the political World. Masonry is pacific in Every thing. It fears no invasion or insurrection; Its force is moral, not physical. It defends itself not by arms, but by the purity of its principles & the benevolence of its acts. It Conquers not by destroying or Enslaving the bodies of Men, but by winning their hearts. There was no Enemy abroad which required the Establishment of a General Grand Chapter for the defence of American Masonry; there were no dangerous dissensions between the Grand Chapters of the States, which Could only be quelled by the interposition of a Superior power. Masonry attempts to make man what he ought to be, to lead the Energies of his nature by gentle precepts wholly to the promotion of the general happiness. Why therefore Should she imitate those

gorgeous Establishments which are formed as well to Curb and punish his licentiousness as to minister to his Vanity?

Of what use is the General Grand Chapter in promoting the true and legitimate objects of Masonry? Does it increase the resources of our order? No; it Consumes them. Does it Search and present to us worthy and unknown objects of Charity? No; this duty is performed by the original Chapters. Is it necessary to Correct the Errors of the Chapters, & Maintain harmony among Masons? No; this is Sufficiently done by the Grand Chapters. The only plausible pretext for the Establishment and Support of this institution is, that it will produce uniformity in the Work of Masons. Masonry is Essentially the Same in all ages and all Countries. From its ancient Land Marks there Can be no Essential deviation without destroying its Character and forfeiting its benefits. For many ages before the General Grand Chapter Existed, Masons of different Nations and Languages found no difficulty in making themselves known to Each other, and the great objects of the order were Every where understood, and its fundamental principles—

Reader page 88 · Kentucky memorial · A national institution

remained unchanged. If, with all this Splendid and Expensive paraphernalia Masonry remained uniform through the dark ages of barbarism and Superstition, is it necessary, in this day of light and Knowledge to raise up barrier upon barrier, and Exhaust the means of the order to fence against innovation? The Masons of the different States found no difficulty in making themselves known to Each other and in practising the great Virtues of the order before the General Grand Chapter Existed. No Chapter Could deviate materially from ancient form and usage, without being Excluded from the fraternity and making themselves Strangers among the Masonic brotherhood. As for ages past, So for ages to Come, this matter will regulate itself, and Masonry would Continue to be what it Ever has been were there no General Grand Chapter in Existence. Variations in the work and language of Masonry will necessarily be So Slight as not to affect the general principles or practice of the order; and if it were otherwise, it would be found impracticable for the General Grand Chapter to Correct these Errors over too wide a Jurisdiction; nor is it Certain that the authority to do So will always be placed in the hands of those best qualified for the task. But if this argument prove the [unclear] of a General Grand Chapter of the United States, much more does it prove the necessity of a Still higher Story to the Masonic Edifice, which Shall overlook the whole Masonic World.

If a General Grand Chapter Can only produce uniformity in america, what Shall preserve it in Europe, Asia & africa? Ought not those who introduce this argument to propose an Universal Grand Chapter whose decisions Shall bind all the Masons of the Earth, and introduce among us a Fourth Jurisdiction, and a fourth Grade of Chapters, to be Supported by our Contributions? That which regulates itself, needs no regulator. In relation to uniformity of Work & language Masonry will Ever regulate itself; and for the Settlement of disputes and Correcting Errors, Grand Chapters & Lodges, in addition to the original Chapters and Lodges are amply Sufficient.

It is no defence of a General Grand Chapter that it is National. Why Should we have a National thing when there is no use for it? Who would advocate or Support a National Government were it not useful? Could the people be Convinced That a President, Congress and National Judiciary did—

Reader page 89 · Kentucky memorial concludes · Referral to committee

nothing for their good, which might not as well or better be done by their State Governments, would they not abolish them all? Would they keep up the paraphernalia of a National Government at an Enormous Expense Merely to gratify the Vanity and ambition of a few men? We think not. Yet we pay the Expense and keep up a General Grand Chapter for no practical Good Either to ourselves or the Craft in General. Are we doing our duty by this, or are we more gratified at Seeing this Splendor than by witnessing the Tear of Gratitude flow down the Cheeks of the widow and orphan whom this very money might relieve from urgent distress?

We Can look upon the General Grand Chapter only as an institution Calculated to waste the funds of our order, Engender ambition, administer food to Vanity, and Every way incompatible with the pure & Sublime principles of Masonry. We also apprehend that it will be used by political men as a Convenient instrument to further their intrigues and Spread their influence; and that Elevation will be Sought in it, more to obtain an Exalted attitude in the Eyes of the people, than to promote true Charity or the interest of the Craft.

With these facts before us, and Entertaining these opinions and apprehensions we are induced to ask for and to recommend a dissolution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States; and we request the Early attention of the Several State Grand Chapters to this Subject, that an Expression of their opinions may be laid before the General Grand Chapter at its approaching Septennial Convocation in September 1826.

John McKinney Jun.
Robert Johnston.
Dabney C. Cosby.

October A.D. 1825.

Which having been read, were on Motion referred to a Committee Composed of M.E. Companions Dean, Hubbard, Cotton, Crozier and Cushman, to Consider and report thereon.

When on Motion the General Grand Chapter was adjourned until 9 o'Clock to morrow Morning.

Reader page 90 · September 15, 1826 · Officers and visiting Companions

Friday Morning 9 o'Clk — Septr. 15, 1826

The General Grand Royal arch Chapter assembled pursuant to adjournment.

Present

- M.E. Dewitt Clinton — G.G.H.P.
- John Snow — D.G.G.H.P.
- Saml. Huntington — G.G.K.
- Revd. Paul Dean — G.G.S.
- Nathl. Coffin — G.G. Secy. Pro.
- Jonth. Nye — G.G. Chaplain.
- D.L. Gibbens — G.G. Marshall.

Also the representatives from the Several State Grand Chapters as on yesterday.

The General Grand Chapter having been Called to order the Minutes of the proceedings of yesterday were read & Confirmed.

M.E. William H. Jones, Grand H.P. of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, who was yesterday represented by Proxy, and M.E. John Scott, G.K. of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey appeared & took their Seats.

On Motion, resolved That the Members of this General Grand Chapter have the privilege of introducing as Visitors, Such Royal arch Masons, as they Can recommend as worthy the Confidence of this General Grand Chapter.

In pursuance of the above resolution the following Companions were introduced to Wit:

- M.E. Laban Smith, P.G.H.P. — Connecticut.
- E. James Cushman — N. Jersey.
- Richard Ellis — N. York.
- Amos Hulse — N. York.
- James Webster — N. York.
- Thos. G. Potter — N. York.
- Frederick G. King — N. York.
- Adolph Heilbronn — N. York.
- A.L. Coke — N. York.
- Peter LaBaucher — Albany.
- Stephen Moore — New Jersey.

The Committee to whom was referred the Resolution and Memorial of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, after—

Reader page 91 · Committee report · State responses to Kentucky

having given due notice thereof, made the following Report, Viz:

The Committee of the General Grand Royal arch Chapter of the United States, to whom was referred the resolution and Memorial from the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, respectfully Report, that after having Examined the Same and other documents relating thereto,

Your Committee find that:

1. The Grand Chapter of Maine had Considered the Subject and Committed it to the first four Officers of their Grand Chapter with full power to act thereon.
2. The Grand Chapter of New Hampshire referred the Subject to a Committee with full power to act thereon. That Committee Considered it inexpedient to dissolve the General Grand Chapter, and Communicated that opinion to the Grand Chapter of Kentucky.
3. The Grand Chapter of Massachusetts Considered the Subject and referred the Same to their first four Officers with full power to act thereon.
4. The Grand Chapter of Connecticut referred the Subject to a Committee, who will probably report thereon in May next.
5. The Grand Chapter of Vermont, in their deliberation on the Subject, Resolved That it was inexpedient to dissolve the General Grand Chapter, which resolution was Communicated to the G.G. Secretary.
6. The Grand Chapter of Rhode Island referred the Subject to a Committee, who have not made a report.

7. The Grand Chapter of New York referred the Subject to their first four Officers with full power to act on the Same. They were unanimous in the opinion that it was inexpedient to dissolve the General Grand Chapter—and Communicated their decision to the G.G. Chapter and also to the Grand Chapter of Kentucky.

Reader page 92 · Committee of the whole · Recorded vote

Committee of the Whole, M.E. John Snow in the Chair, where the report was again read, and after having been deliberately discussed and Considered, it was agreed to report the Same without amendment to the General Grand Chapter.

The Committee of the Whole then rose and reported to the General Grand Chapter, and the report was agreed to by Yeas & Nays, as following to wit:

Yeas

Companion	Votes
Dewitt Clinton	1
M. Richardson	1
John Snow	1
Peter Grinnell	3
John [J.?] Loring	2
Asa Fitch	1
E.S. Crozier	1
Jonth. Nye	1
Orville Hungerford	1
Jonth. Eights	1
Caleb Brown	2
[Thomas?] Hubbard	1
Wm. H. Jones	1
Andrew Harris	1
Asa Child	1
Paul Dean	1
Samuel L. Knapp	1
Danl. L. Gibbens	1
John H. Cotton	3
Paul Clapp	1
Richard Pennell	1
James Eylard	1
Saml. Coleman	1
Liberty Olds	1
Jos. K. Stapleton	1
Wm. G. Hunt	5
Saml. Cushman	1
Jos. Warren White	3
Nathl. Coffin	4
Thaddeus Sanford	1
Edward J. Lewis	1
John C. Huckell	1
C.J. Thompson	1

Companion	Votes
John Scott	1
Yeas	49

Nays

Companion	Votes
Edward King	1
Geo. Keyser	1
Nays	2

Reader page 93 · Constitution committee · Charters and dispensations

A Communication from the M.E.G.G.H. Priest in relation to the formation of a Grand Chapter in the District of Columbia was read & Committed with the papers accompanying the Same to Companions King, Fitch & Knapp.

On Motion, M.E. Companions Jonth. Nye, of Claremont N.H.; Paul Clapp, of Shelburne, Vermont; Edward King, Chillicothe, Ohio; Asa Child, Norwich, Connecticut; Edward J. Lewis, of Washington City; Thaddeus Sanford, Mobile, Alabama; & Geo. Keyser of Baltimore, Maryland, were appointed a Committee to Consider whether any, & if any, what alterations are necessary in the General Grand Constitution and report thereon.

The Committee to whom was referred the papers & proceedings of the General Grand Officers of the G.G. Chapter of the U.S. during the recess, and also a resolution on the Subject of Maryland & District of Columbia's Grand Chapter, having had the Same under Consideration made the following report to Wit:

That Charters have been Granted to the States of New Jersey and Georgia, and also a dispensation to the District of Columbia Enabling the respective Chapters therein to form and hold Grand Chapters in the Said States, by the M.E.G.G.H. Priest His Ex. Dewitt Clinton. That Charters have been Granted to—

Chapter	Place	Date
Mechanics Chapter	Lexington, Geo.	10 June 1820
Webb Chapter	Sparta, Geo.	16 Novr. 1821
Greenboro Chapter	Walterboro, So. Caro.	1822

by the M.E.D.G.H. Priest Henry Fowle.

That Charters have been Granted to—

Chapter or Lodge	Place	Date
Vincennes Chapter	Vincennes, Indiana	13 May 1820
Jennings Mk. Lodge	Vevay, Indiana	4 [May?] 1821
Franklin Chapter	Franklin, Tennessee	25 March 1824
Clarksville Chapter	Clarksville, Tennessee	11 Decr. 1824

Chapter or Lodge	Place	Date
Lafayette Chapter	Columbia, Tennessee	5 Jany. 1825

by the M.E. General Grand King John Snow.

That dispensations have been granted by the M.E.G.G.H.P. as follows, to Wit:

- Franklin Chapter — State of Georgia.
- Union Chapter — State of Georgia.

Reader page 94 · Charter report concludes · Audit of accounts

- Mobile Chapter — Alabama.
- Port Gibson — Mississippi.
- Franklin — New Jersey.
- Lafayette — St. Francisville, Louisiana.
- Monroe — Claiborne, Alabama.
- Mark Lodge — St. Augustine.
- Mark Lodge — St. Francisville.

All which appear to be in accordance with the duties of Said officers, and to the Constitution of the G.G.R.A. Chapter, and Your Committee recommend the adoption of the Resolution above alluded to.

All which is respectfully Submitted.

Edward King
Asa Fitch
Saml. L. Knapp
Com.

Which having been read the report was accepted and the Resolution unanimously adopted.

The Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the G.G. Secy. and G.G. Treasurer Reported as follows to Wit:

The undersigned, a Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the G.G. Secy. & G.G. Treasurer, Report That they have attended to the duty assigned them, and after having Examined the accounts together with the Vouchers accompanying the Same, they find that during the Recess, the General Grand Secy. received the Sum of one hundred & twenty Six dollars; that he has paid out Sundry Small bills, leaving a balance of $118, which has been paid over to the General Grand Treasurer. They also find that the amt. received by the General Grand Treasurer, including the bal. in the Treasury at the last meeting, is $[368.60?]; that he has paid out Sundry Sums Amounting to $241.25, leaving a balance in his hands of $127.35.

Your Committee have also taken into Consideration the Communication from the G.G. Secy. which was referred to them, and find that the only Subject therein mentioned, which in their opinion requires Special Notice, has been already made the Subject of deliberation, and has been Specially referred to another Committee. They beg leave therefore respectfully to recommend the adoption of the following Resolution:

Resolved, that the Communication from Companion John Abbot G.G. Secy. be received and filed among—

Reader page 95 · Thanks to John Abbot · Re-election of DeWitt Clinton

the papers of the General Grand Chapter, and also that the thanks of the General Grand Chapter be and the Same are hereby presented to the M.E. John Abbot, for the faithful and unwearied discharge of his duties as G.G. Secy.

Which was unanimously adopted.

On Motion Resolved, That all documents in the hands of the G.G. Secy. not otherwise disposed of be referred to Comps. White, Huckell & Stapleton, Brown & Richardson.

A Memorial from Monroe Chapter, held at Claiborne, Alabama, and a remonstrance of Said Chapter, against the proceedings of the Body Entitled the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama together with a Communication from Said Grand Chapter were on Motion referred to Companions Knapp, Hunt & Cotton.

On Motion Comps. Sanford, Child & Lewis were appointed a Committee to inquire into and report what measures, if any, are necessary or Expedient to be adopted for introducing uniformity of Work in the Several Chapters under this jurisdiction.

Resolved, That there be a Suspension of business for Ten Minutes and that at the Expiration of that period this Genl. Grand Chapter proceed to the Election of officers agreeably to the G.G. Constitution.

At the time assigned the G.G. Chapter was Called to order, M.E.G.G. King in the Chair, who was pleased to appoint Comps. Knapp, King & Hubbard a Committee to Collect the Votes for Genl. Grand Officers, and who upon receiving & Comparing the Same for G. Grand H. Priest reported that His Excellency Dewitt Clinton of Albany in the State of New York, was unanimously Re-Elected to the office of General Grand High Priest of the General G.R.A. Chapter of the United States of America.

The General G.C. then appointed Comps. Nye, Dean & Clapp, as a Committee to wait upon his Excellency and inform him of his Re-Election to that office. When the G.G.C. adjourned until 4 o'Clk P.M.

Reader page 96 · September 15–16, 1826 · Election and installation

Friday afternoon, 4 P.M. — Sept. 15, 1826

The General Grand Chapter Convened pursuant to adjournment.

Present M.E. John Snow in the Chair and other officers and representatives as in the Morning.

The Committee appointed to wait upon his Excellency the M.E. Dewitt Clinton, reported that they had discharged that duty and that he was pleased to accept the office to which he had been re Elected.

The General Grand Chapter then proceeded in the Election of Genl. Grand Officers, when the—

Companion	Residence	Office
M.E. John Snow	Worthington, Ohio	D.G.G.H. Priest
John Lyde Wilson	Charleston, So. Caro.	G.G. King
Revd. Paul Dean	Boston, Mass.	G.G. Scribe
Lebbeus Chapman	New York, New York	G.G. Secretary

Companion	Residence	Office
Peter Grinnell	Providence, R. Island	G.G. Treasurer
Revd. Jonth. Nye	Claremont, N. Hampshire	G.G. Chaplain
Wm. G. Hunt	Nashville, Tennessee	G.G. Marshall

The Election having been Completed the General Grand Chapter adjourned until 9 o'Clk the following Morning.

Saturday Morning 9 o'Clk — Septr. 16, 1826

The General Grand Chapter Convened pursuant to adjournment.

Present M.E. John Snow in Chair, other officers and representatives Same as yesterday.

The Minutes of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter having been read & approved, the M.E. Lebbeus Chapman General Grand Secretary Elect was duly installed into office, and Entered upon the discharge of the duties of G.G. Secy.

Resolved Unanimously—That the thanks of the G.G.C. be and the Same are hereby presented to the M.E. Nathl. Coffin for the able and faithful discharge of his duties as acting Grand Secretary for the time being.

Reader page 97 · Uniformity of work · Recognition of Grand Chapters

The Committee to whom was referred the Subject of Enquiry, as to the measures necessary to be adopted in relation to an uniform mode, made report, made the following report, Viz:

That they find on Examining the 6th Section of the first article of the Constitution of this G.G.C., that it is made the duty of the first 4 Officers to perfect themselves in the Work in these degrees and to prescribe the Mode of Work for the Subordinate Chapters. Your Committee therefore are of Opinion that no further measures are necessary to be adopted, Except it be to recommend that Some one of the afore mentioned officers, previous to Closing the G.G.C. be requested to prescribe to the M.E. Comps. the mode of Work So far as relates to the particular Subjects referred to your Committee.

[T.?] Sanford, per Com.

Which having been read was on motion adopted.

A memorial from Missouri Royal arch Chapter No. 1, Explanatory of the Causes which have rendered them unable to Comply with the requisitions of the G.G. Chapter and also praying for a Warrant or for a Continuation of their dispensation was on Motion referred to M.E. Comps. Cotton & Huckell.

Comps. White, Dean, Richardson & Eylard were appointed a Committee of Finance.

The Committee to Whom was referred the documents in the hands of the G.G. Secy. (not otherwise disposed of) reported the following preamble & Resolution, Viz:

Whereas it appears from documents in possession of this Genl. G.C. that G.R.A. Chapters have been legally & Constitutionally formed Since the last meeting of this body, within and for the States of Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Georgia, Tennessee with the Consent of one of the Genl. Grand Officers. Therefore Resolved, That the Said G. Grand Chapters be received and recognized as regular Constitutional Bodies under the patronage and Sanction of this G.G. Chapter, and all Royal arch Masons, within their Jurisdiction are hereby required to regard Each of

the Same as Entitled to all the rights and privileges of a G.R.A.C. within the States for which they have been respectively formed.

J.W. White, for Com.

adopted.

Reader page 98 · Constitution amendments · Missouri Chapter petition

The Committee to whom was referred the Subject of alterations in the G.G. Constitution, reported,

That they recommend the Striking out the Word “Septennial,” in the Second line of the Second Section of the General Gd. Constitution, and insert the word “Triennial,” and also Submit for the Consideration of the G.G.C. the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Said Committee have leave to act during the recess of the G.G. Chapter, and prepare Such amendments to the G.G. Constitution and rules and regulations for the Government of the Genl. G.R.A. Chapter as in their judgments Shall Seem necessary and that they have liberty to print the Same and furnish Each Grand Chapter with four Copies, and Each G.G. Officer with one Copy and that the Same be Submitted to the ultimate decision of the G.G. Chapter. And also that the Committee have leave to draw on the G.G. Treasurer for the Contingent Expenses of the Same.

Jonth. Nye, Chairman.

Which report having been read was ordered to lie on the Table.

On Motion, E. Comp. E.J. Lewis had leave of absence during the remainder of the Session. M.E. John Lyde Wilson of Charleston So. Caro., G.G. King Elect was announced, and received with appropriate Masonic Honours.

On Motion the G.G. officers Elect were Severally invested into their respective offices agreeably to the ancient Customs & usages of the Fraternity.

The Committee to whom was referred the memorial of Missouri R.A. Chapter No. 1, made the following report, Viz:

That they have Examined Said memorial and the papers accompanying the Same and find that the facts therein are Substantially true, and would therefore recommend that the amt. due for Exaltation Fees from Said Chapter to the G.G.C. be remitted. Your Committee also report that from the Evidence obtained from the transcripts of the proceedings of Said Chapter while Working under a letter of dispensation have been Correct and Masonic, they therefore recommend them to receive a Charter or Warrant from this G.G. Chapter.

all which is &c.
J.H. Cotton
John C. Huckell

adopted.

Reader page 99 · Constitution vote · Alabama memorial

On Motion of Comp. Knapp it was ordered that the report of the Committee on the amendment of the G.G. Constitution be now read and Considered.

On the Question in relation to the Striking out the word “Septennial” and inserting the word “Triennial,” which was Called for by Yeas & Nays, a debate arose upon the inquiry whether a

General Grand officer of the G.G. Chapter and who is at the Same time a Grand officer of a State G. Chapter Shall or Shall not be by Virtue of the Said offices, Entitled to [two?] Votes in this G.G. Chapter. The M.E. John Snow being in Chair decided in the affirmative.

Whereupon an appeal was made and the Genl. Grand Chapter Refused to Concur in his Opinion.

The Question was then taken and lost. Ayes 17. Nays 17.

M.E. Companion Cushman having obtained leave of absence during the remainder of the Session the Genl. G. Chapter adjourned until 4 o'Clk P.M.

Saturday afternoon 4 o'Clk — Sep. 16, 1826

The General Grand Chapter assembled pursuant to adjournment.

M.E. John Snow in the Chair.

M.E. J.H. Cotton had leave of absence during the remainder of the Session.

M.E. Richard Pennell presented his Credentials as proxy for Comp. Coleman G. King of the Grand Chapter of So. Carolina and was admitted to a Seat in the G.G.C.

The following Companions were admitted as Visitors; Viz. John B. Scott, William F. Piatt, D.H. Stewart, Anthony Chappell, F. Andreas, P.H. Libell and Daniel F. Lee, of New York; E. Hubart, Boston; J. Underwood, [Thode Wood?] & J.B. Warren, Alabama.

The Committee having under Consideration the Memorial of Monroe Chapter, Alabama & the Communication of the G. Chapter of Alabama, made the following Report. Viz:

Reader page 100 · Alabama report · Final scan of Volume A

The undersigned a Committee to whom was referred the Memorial of Monroe Chapter, & the Communication of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, beg leave to Report That they have Carefully Examined the documents referred to, and have heard the Statements of facts, views and opinions relating thereto, of the Companions respectfully representing the Said Monroe Chapter and the Said Grand Chapter. From all which they are Satisfied that the unfortunate differences which have Existed among the fraternity in that State, have resulted Entirely from a MisConstruction of the General Grand Constitution and of the rights, privileges and duties resulting therefrom.

Your Committee regret that the Copy of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Alabama referred to in the letter from the Secretary of that body, as having been transmitted by the Same mail, has not been received, although we are happy to add, the facts which appear from the documents within our reach are Sufficient to Settle the principles which must Constitute the basis of this Report.

A reference to the date of the dispensation of Monroe Chapter—which Commenced its Existence in the Month of February 1823 and to that of the Meeting at Mobile at which it was resolved and attempted to form a Grand Chapter for the State of Alabama Viz. the third Monday of May 1823, will at once demonstrate the unconstitutionality of the proceedings of that Meeting, and the Subsequent illegality and want of due authority of the body Claiming the title, and Exercising the rights & privileges of the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

The 11th Section of the 2d Article of the General Grand Constitution under the authority of which the afore Said Meeting was held at Mobile, Expressly provides “that no new State Grand Chapter Shall be formed until after the Expiration of one Year from the Establishment of the junior Chapter in Such State.” It was therefore most obviously unconstitutional and unwarrantable to form a Grand Chapter for the State of Alabama until after Monroe Chapter, which was then the junior

Chapter in Said State had been in Existence for at least one Year, which as will be Seen by reference to the dates afore Said, was not the Case at the time when the body Styled the Grand Chapter of Alabama Commenced its operations.

We deem it unnecessary therefore to go into an investigation of any other facts Connected with the formation or Subsequent proceedings of that body, in order to Settle the Extent of its powers, or the authority of its decisions, Without attributing to the Companions Composing the Convention at Mobile, any intention to act prematurely or to assume powers not Constitutionally [words struck out] and—

Editorial note: The supplied 100-scan Volume A PDF ends here during the Alabama report. Its continuation is not contained in this file.

1797 Volume B

Read the typed text of all 100 PDF scans, from the continuation of the Alabama report in September 1826 through the September 1841 proceedings. The file retains its library title “1797 Volume B.” Scan numbers match the PDF reader above.

This file begins in the Alabama report continued from Volume A and ends during an invitation in the 1841 proceedings. The supplied sequence also skips an opening heading before the 1838 meeting and part of a report before the 1841 election. These gaps and conflicting manuscript dates or figures are noted beside the relevant scans.

Original source PDF · 100 source pages

Reader page 1 · Alabama report continued from Volume A

Editorial note: This scan continues the Alabama report from the final scan of Volume A.

and fairly belonging to them, we are Compelled to Say that that their attempts at that time to form a Grand Chapter for the State, was Expressly prohibited by the article above referred to in the General Grand Constitution, and that as a necessary Consequence, all the acts and doings of that body as a Grand Chapter of the State have been unconstitutional.

In Coming to this Conclusion, it will be Seen that we have intentionally avoided all reference to the facts Stated in the Remonstrance of Monroe Chapter as the grounds of their Complaint and have thought it unnecessary and inexpedient to Express any opinion in relation thereto. It is Sufficient for us and the fraternity, that we have ascertained as we believe beyond the possibility of a reasonable doubt, that the formation of a Grand Chapter for the State of Alabama, at the time it was attempted, was prohibited by our Constitution, and therefore impracticable.

The Consequence inevitably follows, without Entering upon doubtful or disputed topics, that the body Claiming that title and Exercising the rights and privileges resulting therefrom, has never had a legitimate or Constitutional Existence. It appears however to be of the utmost importance to the prosperity of the Craft, to that interesting & growing Section of our Country and due to the feelings, Character and Standing of the Companions, who from oversight or misapprehension of the Constitution, organized that body and their members, that Some Step Should be taken by this General Grand Chapter to legalize and give a retrospective and retroactive Sanction to its proceedings, with Such limitations and restrictions as may Seem to be required by the principles of the Constitution and the Masonic rights of others who may be Effected thereby.

Your Committee therefore beg leave respectfully to recommend the adoption of the following resolutions to Wit:

Resolved, That the formation of a Grand Chapter for the State of Alabama in May 1823, prior to “the Expiration of one Year from the Establishment of the junior Chapter in Such State” was prohibited by the 11th Section of the 2d Article of the General Grand Constitution, and that therefore this General Grand Chapter Cannot ratify or approve the proceedings of the Convention held at Mobile on the—

Reader page 2 · Alabama resolutions · Recognition and new charters

third Monday of May 1823, or recognize the body Claiming to be Constituted as the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

Resolved, That the M.E. General Grand High Priest be requested to renew or Continue the Charters or dispensations of the Royal Arch Chapters, which Existed at Tuscaloosa, Cahawba, Mobile & Claiborne in the State of Alabama on the third Monday of May 1823, provided they or Either of them may have Expired, or be about to Expire with Such limitations respectively, as he may deem proper.

Resolved, That the Charters & dispensations which may have been granted and issued from the body Styling itself the Grand Chapter of Alabama, Creating Lodges & Chapters in the Said State, and all the proceedings of Said Lodges & Chapters, by Virtue and under the authority of Said Charters or dispensations, So far as they may have been Consistent with the great principles of Masonry and the ancient Land Marks of the order, be and the Same are hereby ratified, Sanctioned & Confirmed, and all Masons & Masonic Lodges under this jurisdiction be hereby required to regard & treat them as Valid—and Such of the Said Charters & dispensations, as may not previously Expire by their own limitations, Shall Continue and be in force, as though they had been Constitutionally and legally granted, until the first day of Septr. next.

Resolved, That Whenever the four Chapters in the State of Alabama deriving their authority from this General Grand Chapter, which were in Existence on the third Monday in May 1823, Shall mutually agree to the formation of a Grand Chapter for Said State, and Shall with the Consent of a General Grand Officer Effect the Same, all those Lodges & Chapters, which may have received Warrants from the body now Styling itself the Grand Chapter of Alabama, Shall be received & recognized as regular Constitutional Lodges & Chapters and Shall be Entitled to the Same rights & privileges, and vested with the Same powers & authorities, as though they had obtained their Charters & dispensations from the Said new & Constitutional Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the four Chapters first Existing in the State of Alabama to proceed without delay to the formation of a Grand Chapter in Said State, and that the M.E.G.G.H. Priest—

Reader page 3 · Alabama resolutions adopted · Constitutional questions

be requested directly or through the agency of Some other of the Grand officers, to use all possible Exertions, to facilitate the formation of Said Grand Chapter, in a legal, Constitutional and harmonious Manner, with a due regard to the feelings, Characters, rights & duties of all parties interested.

all which is respectfully Submitted
Wm. G. Hunt
Saml. L. Knapp
Jonth. Eights
Committee.

Which having been read was on Motion accepted and the Resolutions unanimously adopted.

The following Resolutions were on Motion referred to the Committee on the revision of the Constitution, Viz:

Resolved, That no Royal arch Mason, within the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter Shall be permitted to Confer any degree in Masonry not recognized as a Constitutional degree, nor to Establish any Society of Masons not recognized as a Constitutional body.

Resolved, That the first four officers of this Genl. Grand Chapter Shall in all Cases, have authority to decide all Constitutional questions arising under the foregoing resolution. Provided, that this

resolve Shall not be So Construed as to Extend to any degree recognized by the Genl. Grand Encampt. of the United States.

On Motion, Resolved, That the M.E. Thaddeus Sanford G. Scribe of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, be & he is hereby respectfully invited to retain his Seat during the remainder of the Session.

M.E. Nathl. Coffin having obtained leave of absence during the remainder of the Session the General Grand Chapter adjourned until Monday the 18th inst. at 9 o'Clk A.M.

Reader page 4 · September 18, 1826 · Triennial meetings adopted

Monday Morning 9 o'Clk — Septr. 18th, 1826

The General Grand Chapter Convened pursuant to adjournment.

Present

- M.E. John Snow — D.G.G.H. Priest.
- John Lyde Wilson — G.G. King.
- Paul Dean — G.G. Scribe.
- Lebbeus Chapman — G.G. Secretary.
- Peter Grinnell — G.G. Treasurer.
- Jonth. Nye — G.G. Chaplain.
- Wm. G. Hunt — G.G. Marshall.

and Representatives from the Several States as on Saturday.

The Minutes of the proceedings were read & Confirmed.

On Motion Resolved, That it may be deemed regular for the Subordinate Chapters under the jurisdiction of this General G. Chapter to Confer the degrees in Said Chapters, on all regularly authorized officiating Clergymen, without fees.

M.E. Companions Wilson, Hunt & Nye having been appointed for that purpose, reported the following resolution, Viz:

Resolved, That the next Meeting of the G.G. Chapter, be holden in the City of New York, State of New York unless the first four or a Majority of the first four General Grand officers Shall designate Some other place, and Cause timely notice thereof to be given to all Companions interested.

Which was adopted.

The M.E. General Grand High Priest being announced was received with appropriate Masonic Honours.

On Motion it was agreed to reconsider the question on the amendment of the General Grand Constitution, Whereupon it was Resolved unanimously that the word “Septennial” in the Second line of the Second Section of the Genl. Grand Constitution be Stricken out and the word “Triennial” inserted in the room thereof.

Reader page 5 · Printing proceedings · Dispensations and receipts

On Motion Resolved That the General Grand Secretary be directed to procure to be printed as Soon as may be, the proceedings of the present Meeting of the General Grand Chapter and that he forward a Copy thereof to Each of the General Grand Officers and also to forward to the State Grand Chapters & to the Chapters holden in States where there are no Grand Chapters, Copies in proportion to their respective numbers—and that he draw for the Expenses of the Same, on the General Grand Treasurer.

Resolved That in all Cases where dispensations have been granted by the General Grand officers, during the recess, and which have been recommended by the Committee appointed to report thereon, Warrants Shall be made out and forwarded to the Several Chapters & Lodges, whenever the Constitutional returns dues &c. have have been made, to the Genl. G. Secretary.

On Motion of M.E. Companion Knapp it was Resolved Unanimously That a Majority of the first four officers of the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America have power to grant dispensations or Charters for Royal arch Chapters, in any Country, Republic or Territory Whatever where in their opinion the good of the Craft Shall require the Establishment of the order.

The following Companions were admitted as Visitors Viz:

- John W. [Vattick?] — Baltimore.
- Asa Bigelow — Connecticut.
- Lionel M. Lawrence — Hudson.
- John J. [Rickles?] — N. York.
- Samuel H. Rogers — N. York.

The Finance Committee made report as follows, Viz: That the General Grand Secretary has received during the present Session the following Sums Viz:

Receipt	Dollars
Dues from Washington Chapter No. 1, New Jersey	56.00
Dues from Solomon Chapter No. 2, New Jersey	52.00
Dues from Franklin Chapter No. 3, New Jersey	68.00
Amt. Forward	176.00

Reader page 6 · Finance report · Receipts and expenses

Receipt continued	Dollars
Amt. Forward	176.00
Dues from Cumberland Chapter, Tennessee	100.00
Dues from Port Gibson, Mississippi	75.00
From M.E. D.G.G.H. Priest John Snow: Dues from Clarksville Chapter, Tennessee	28.00
Dues from Vincennes Chapter, Indiana	38.00
Charter for Vincennes Chapter, Indiana	90.00
Charter for Franklin Chapter, Tennessee	90.00
Charter for Clarksville Chapter, Tennessee	90.00
Charter for Lafayette Chapter, Tennessee	90.00
Charter for Jennings Mk. Lodge, Indiana	15.00
From M.E.G.H. Priest Dewitt Clinton: Dispensation for Monroe Chapter, Detroit	90.00
From M.E.G.H. Priest Dewitt Clinton: Dispensation for Augusta Chapter, Georgia	90.00
From M.E.G.H. Priest Dewitt Clinton: Dispensation for Cumberland Chapter, Tennessee	90.00
From M.E.G.H. Priest Dewitt Clinton: Dispensation for Missouri Chapter, St. Louis	90.00
From M.E.G.H. Priest Dewitt Clinton: Dispensation for Union Mk. L., N. Hampshire	20.00
From M.E.G.H. Priest Dewitt Clinton: Dispensation for Franklin Chapter, Georgia	90.00
From M.E.G.H. Priest Dewitt Clinton: Dispensation for Union Chapter, Georgia	90.00
From M.E.G.H. Priest Dewitt Clinton: Dispensation for Mobile Chapter, Alabama	90.00
From M.E.G.H. Priest Dewitt Clinton: Dispensation for Port Gibson Chapter, Mississippi	90.00
From M.E.G.H. Priest Dewitt Clinton: Dispensation for Franklin Chapter, N. Jersey	90.00
From M.E.G.H. Priest Dewitt Clinton: Dispensation for Lafayette Chapter, St. Francisville	90.00
From M.E.G.H. Priest Dewitt Clinton: Dispensation for Monroe Chapter, Alabama	90.00
From M.E.G.H. Priest Dewitt Clinton: Dispensation for Mark Lodge, St. Augustine	20.00
From M.E.G.H. Priest Dewitt Clinton: Dispensation for Mark Lodge, St. Francisville	20.00
Dues from Chapters	42.00
Total Amt. received	1884.00

Which Sum has been paid over into the hands of the General Grand Treasurer—to Wit $1884. To which add ball. in his hands, per Report 127.35. Amt. in Hands of Treasurer $2011.35.

Your Committee recommend the payment of the following bills, Viz:

Bill	Dollars
Comp. Clinton, attendance, Postage &c.	75.00
Snow, attendance, Postage &c.	140.44
Nye, attendance, Postage &c.	75.00

Bill	Dollars
Grinnell	50.00
Richardson, proxy D.G.G.H.P.	50.00
Chapman, Services	20.00
Simpson, Printing	1.50
Amt. Forward	411.94
D. [Marsh?], expenses	34.00
Use of Hall	40.00
Robt. [Waring?], Stewd.	20.00
[Lindsay?], Tyler	20.00
Total	525.94

Reader page 7 · Finance report concluded · 1826 meeting closes

Your Committee find that there is in the hands of M.E. Henry Fowle, P.D.G.G.H. Priest, received for Charters during the recess a balance of $241.95/100 Dollars.

Your Committee also recommend the adoption of the following resolution, Viz:

Resolved That the General Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay from the funds in the Treasury all bills for advertising the Meetings of the G.G. Chapter, and all other Small bills and accounts which in his opinion, are really due to individuals from this General Grand Chapter.

all which is respectfully Submitted
Jos. W. White
Jas. Eylard
Moses Richardson

Which being read was on Motion accepted and the Resolution adopted.

M.E. Companion Loring's bill for attendance as Proxy for the G.G. Secy. was not allowed.

The General Grand Chapter decided that no Compensation Shall be allowed any member of this G.G. Chapter for attendance as Proxy for a General Grand officer.

No further business being offered for the Consideration of the G.G. Chapter, the M.E.G.G. Chaplain made a Solemn and impressive address to the Throne of Grace. And the General Grand Chapter was Closed in Solemn and Ample Form.

Attest,
Lebbeus Chapman,
General Grand Secretary.

Reader page 8 · New York meeting · September 10, 1829

General Grand Chapter of the United States

Agreeably to a resolution adopted September 1826, the General Grand Chapter of the United States assembled at the City of New York in the State of New York on Thursday September 10, 1829.

General Grand officers present, to wit:

- M.E. John Snow — Deputy General Grand High Priest.
- Lebbeus Chapman — General Grand Secretary.
- Rev. Paul Dean — General Grand Scribe, as G.G. King.
- Joseph K. Stapleton — as General Grand Scribe.
- Peter Grinnell — General Grand Treasurer.
- Rev. Jonth. Nye — General Grand Chaplain.

when the following named Companions appeared, presented their Credentials as officers and proxies of officers of the State Grand Chapters, Viz:

Massachusetts

- M.E. Daniel L. Gibbens, of Boston — Grand High Priest.
- Samuel Clarke, Princeton, Worcester Co. — Grand Scribe.
- John P. Bigelow, Boston — Proxy for R.[L.?] Phipps, Grand King.
- Thomas Tolman, Canton, Norfolk Co. — Proxy for R. Robinson, Deputy Grand High Priest.

New Hampshire

- M.E. Frederick A. Sumner, of Charlestown — Grand High Priest.
- Isaac W. Hubbard — Proxy for Horace Chase, Grand King.

Vermont

- M.E. Rev. Paul Clapp, of Bethel — Grand High Priest.
- Hannibal Hodges, Clarendon — Grand King.
- Philip Tucker, Vergennes — Grand Scribe.

Maine

M.E. Amos Nourse, of Hallowell — Deputy Grand High Priest and proxy for M.E. Nathl. Coffin, Grand High Priest, and H. Seaver, Grand King.

Reader page 9 · 1829 meeting · State representatives continued

Rhode Island

M.E. Rev. Paul Dean — Proxy for Caleb Brown, G.H. Priest.

New York

- M.E. Richard Pennel, New York — Grand High Priest.
- Ezra S. Cozier, Utica — D. Grand High Priest.

Maryland

- M.E. Joseph K. Stapleton, Baltimore — Grand High Priest, and proxy for M.E. Philip Eckel, Past G.G. Scribe, and James King, Grand King.
- George Keyser, Baltimore — Deputy G.H. Priest, and proxy for Thomas W. Hall, Grand Scribe.

South Carolina

- M.E. James Eylard, Charleston — Grand High Priest and proxy for James [Conover?], Grand Scribe.
- Edward Sebring — proxy for Alex. McDonald, D.G.H. Priest.
- Saml. L. Knapp — proxy for Edward J. [Levering?], Grand King.

Connecticut

M.E. Asa Child, Hartford — Grand King.

District of Columbia

Samuel L. Knapp, proxy for M.E. W.W. Seaton, Grand High Priest; J.B. [Bannerman?], D. Grand H. Priest; E.J. Lewis, Grand King; and J. [Launhan?], Grand Scribe.

Louisiana

M.E. Alex. E. McConnell, New Orleans — Delegate.

Province of Upper Canada

Companion James Robinson Wright — High P., Union Chapter at Kingston.

The General Grand Chapter was after having been duly organized and an address to the throne of Grace by the M.E. General Grand Chaplain, opened in due and Solemn Form.

Reader page 10 · 1829 committees · Revision of the Constitution

The General Grand Secretary then laid before the General Grand Chapter Sundry Communications, which having been read, the following Committees were appointed, Viz:

- Companions Knapp, Stapleton, Nye, Clapp and Gibbens—for taking into Consideration the most Suitable measures to be adopted by the General Grand Chapter, in relation to the death of the late General Grand High Priest Dewitt Clinton.
- Companions Keyser, Cozier and Child—on proceedings of General Grand officers during the recess.
- Companions Tucker, Nourse and Pennell—on the Secretary & Treasurer's accounts and on Finances.
- Companions Nourse, Tolman and Gibbens—on the Memorial of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana.
- Companions Clapp, Cozier and Tolman—on a Communication from M.E. Joseph K. Stapleton on the Subject of the degrees of Royal and Select Master.

The General Grand Chapter then adjourned until 4 o'Clk P.M.

Afternoon Session — 4 o'Clk, Sep. 10, 1829

General Grand Chapter was Called to order, M.E. John Snow in the Chair.

M.E. Companion Nye, Chairman of the Committee appointed at the last Triennial Meeting on the revision of the General Grand Constitution, reported thereon, which being read, was on Motion referred to a Committee of the Whole—

Reader page 11 · September 11, 1829 · Louisiana admitted

the M.E.J.K. Stapleton in the Chair—when, after having made Considerable progress thereon the Committee rose, reported and had leave to Sit again.

General Grand Chapter then adjourned until to morrow Morning at 9 o'Clk.

September 11, 1829 · Friday Morning 9 o'Clk

The General Grand Chapter assembled pursuant to adjournment. M.E. John Snow in the Chair, the minutes of the proceedings of yesterday were read and approved.

Companion Nourse from the Committee on the Memorial of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana presented the following report, Viz:

The Committee to whom was referred a Communication from the Grand Chapter of Louisiana praying to be admitted within the Jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, have had the Same under Consideration and Report that in their opinion, the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry require that the prayer of their petition Should be granted. They therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of Louisiana be and it hereby is admitted into Union with the Grand Chapters under this jurisdiction, and Entitled to all the rights, powers and privileges thereunto belonging; and that the M.E. Alex. E. McConnell the delegate from Said Grand Chapter be admitted to a Seat and Vote in this General Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the General Grand Secretary be directed to inform Lafayette Chapter at St. Francisville, that the Grand Chapter of Louisiana having been recognized by this General Grand Chapter, Said Lafayette Chapter will hereafter act under the immediate jurisdiction and authority of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana.

Reader page 12 · Royal and Select Master degrees · Councils and Chapters

The Said report and resolutions having been read were on Motion unanimously adopted.

The following report from the Committee to whom was referred the Communication of Comp. J.K. Stapleton was received, read and the resolutions adopted—to Wit:

Whereas, it is Satisfactorily proved to this General Grand Chapter that the Constituting of Councils of Royal and Select Master Masons, in different parts of the United States, by Some persons, has been hitherto without any legitimate authority; and whereas, these Degrees are Conferred in Some Chapters, under the authority of the General Grand Chapter; and whereas it was proved, that it was the only and Sole intention of the M.E. Companions, from whom these degrees emanated, that they Should be Conferred under the authority of Royal arch Chapters, Therefore

Resolved, That this General Grand Chapter Cordially recommend to the different Councils in the United States, to adopt measures to place these degrees under the authority of the State Grand Chapters.

Resolved, That authority be and is hereby granted to the Several Grand Chapters under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter to make Such arrangements as Shall be deemed necessary, for Conferring the degrees of Royal and Select Master in Royal arch Chapters; Provided always, That no Grand Chapter within the limits of which is a Grand Council Shall authorize the Royal arch Chapters under its jurisdiction, to Confer Such degrees, without the Consent of Such Grand Council.

Signed Paul Clapp,
pr. order.

The General Grand Chapter again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the revision of the Constitution, M.E.J.K. Stapleton in the Chair—when after having made Some progress thereon—the Committee rose, reported & obtained leave to Sit again.

The General Grand Chapter then adjourned until 4 o'Clk P.M.

Reader page 13 · September 11, 1829 · Memorial to DeWitt Clinton

September 11, 1829 · Afternoon Session

General Grand Chapter assembled pursuant to adjournment. M.E. John Snow in the Chair—the G.G. Chapter again went into Committee of the Whole on the revision of the Constitution, M.E.J.K. Stapleton in the Chair, when having finished their labours, rose and reported Complete.

General Grand Chapter then proceeded to business, Most E. John Snow presiding. The Most Ex. Companion Knapp from the Committee on the Subject of the death of M.E. Dewitt Clinton made the following report, Viz:

The Committee that had under Consideration the Subject of a proper notice of our bereavement in the death of Dewitt Clinton the first officer of this Masonic body ask leave to report, That as more than nineteen months have Elapsed Since this mournful Event in their opinion the Customary funeral rites So Consonant to the heaviness of recent grief and So proper in their Season, Should be dispensed with at this Meeting; as Shrouding our Council Chamber in black or wearing a badge of Mourning for thirty days would add nothing to the deep Sense we feel at our loss, or fix more indelibly in our minds the recollections of his Services; but as no accident nor length of time Can Ever Efface or blot out his name from the pages of his Country's history or lessen the height of his Character we deem it most meet and proper while in Session for the first time after his death, to trace on our records a brief Memorial of So great and So good a man as our late High Priest, and also to tell the world how Sincerely we loved him and to give our Successors, or those who may Search our archives, hereafter to understand what manner of man we thought him; we who lived in his day, and were guided by his Councils.

For in him were united Exalted genius, profound acquirements, a happy tact in business, with great patience and unwearied industry. In the morning of his life—

Editorial note: The sentence crosses the scan boundary; the supplied images do not show a clear connecting phrase.

Reader page 14 · Clinton memorial · Character and public service

the whirlwinds and furiously breasted the peltings of the Storm.

His enemies reviewing his life are Silent when they Cast up the account of his virtues, and his friends love him the more when they recount the deeds he has done; Malice never charged him with avarice, nor did Slander Ever whisper that he Could be Corrupted by Gold; if Sometimes disappointed ambition in a paroxysm at the loss of office, alleged that he was partial, in a calmer Moment, he was forced to Confess that his errors (for he was human and Could not be free from them) Sprung from the irregular pulsation of too warm a heart, and from too much Confidence in the professions of assimilated views; and even Envy, that first wisher, and then believer all ill, owns, Since he is gone, that the only harvest he Ever gathered in was glory; and all must acknowledge, that the only Estate that he left his orphan children is his fame.

His Exertions were not limited to the temporal welfare of his fellow men, for he knew that the Excellency of all Knowledge Consists in divine truth, and he was unwearied in his Efforts to

disseminate the Sacred writings, believing that in them are the oracles of God and the promises of Everlasting life.

His death has been deplored, as that of one who died too Early;—but if the prominent deeds of men are as So many Mile Stones on the journey of life, his Course Cannot have been Short who has Set up So many monuments [unclear] onward to Eternity; and all was finished before age had required the Sustaining Staff, or the helping hand.

Such was our Companion and brother the late Chief officer of this General Grand Chapter—the pride of those who lived and acted with him, and an Example for those who may hereafter arise to take a distinguished part in the welfare of our Country. Let learned biographers write his life—let talented artists chisel his monument and make his bust for an admiring people, while we must Content ourselves with a miniature profile of him, traced in a Single moment when kneeling at our altars; but there is Some Consolation for us in feeling that this Sketch is made as it were upon our—

Reader page 15 · Clinton memorial adopted · Constitution considered

Jewels, and is to be worn on our breasts, an Emblem, a faint one indeed of his image in our hearts.

Saml. L. Knapp
J.K. Stapleton
Jonth. Nye
Paul Clapp
Daniel L. Gibbens
Committee.

The above report was read & adopted, and the General Grand Secretary directed to furnish a Copy thereof to the widow of the decd.

The General Grand Chapter adjourned until to morrow Morning at 9 o'Clk.

September 12, 1829 · Saturday, 9 A.M.

The General Grand Chapter assembled pursuant to adjournment. M.E. John Snow presiding.

The Minutes of the proceedings of yesterday were read and approved. It was on Motion Resolved, That the General Grand Chapter proceed to the Consideration of the Report of the Committee of the Whole on the revision of the Constitution—which was then read and adopted article by article, and the question on the whole being taken—the Constitution as reported unanimously adopted, and is as follows, Viz:

Reader page 16 · Constitution revised in September 1829 · Article 1

Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America, as Revised and adopted September 1829

Article 1 — Of the General Grand Chapter

Section 1. There Shall be a General Grand Chapter of Royal arch Masons for the United States of America, which Shall be holden triennially, on the Second Thursday in September at Such place as Shall from time to time be designated for that purpose, and at which time the General Grand officers Shall be Elected by ballot and installed.

Section 2. The General Grand Chapter Shall have and Maintain jurisdiction over all State Grand Chapters, and over Chapters in those States, districts, Republics & Territories who recognize this

jurisdiction and where there is no Grand Chapter regularly Established agreeably to the provisions of this Constitution; and Shall have authority to Suspend the proceedings of Such State Grand Chapters & Such Chapters in States where there is no Grand Chapter as do or may knowingly Violate any of the provisions of this Constitution; to Settle all difficulties which may arise and give Such advice and instruction as may Seem most Conducive to their peace and to the advancement of the great Cause of benevolence and virtue.

Section 3. The officers of the General Grand Chapter Shall Consist of a General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand—

Reader page 17 · 1829 Constitution · General Grand Chapter, sections 3–7

High Priest, General Grand King, General Grand Scribe, General Grand Secretary, General Grand Treasurer, General Grand Chaplain and General Grand Marshall; these together with the first four officers of the Several State Grand Chapters under this jurisdiction or the regular proxies of the Said first four officers of the Said State Grand Chapters, Shall Compose the General Grand Chapter.

Section 4. On all questions to be decided by the General Grand Chapter, Each State Grand Chapter Shall be Entitled to four Votes by its representation or representatives.

Section 5. The General Grand High Priest, and Deputy General Grand High Priest, Shall have authority to Call a Meeting of the General Grand Chapter whenever they may Consider it Expedient or necessary; and it Shall be their duty So to do, when properly requested by a Majority of the State Grand Chapters, of which four Months notice Shall be given of the time and place of Meeting.

Section 6. The General Grand High Priest & Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King and General Grand Scribe, Shall Severally have power and authority to grant dispensations or Charters for new Royal arch Chapters in any State, Country, Republic or Territory in which there is not a Grand Chapter regularly Established when in their opinion the good of the Craft Shall require the Establishment of the order; but no new Chapter Shall be Established in any State, Country, Republic or Territory, where there is a Chapter within a reasonable distance, under the Sanction of this jurisdiction, without the approbation of the Chapter nearest to the place where Said new Chapter is proposed to be located.

Section 7. The fees for instituting a new Royal arch Chapter with Subordinate degrees Shall be ninety dollars and no more, and the Secretary Shall be paid by the petitioners two dollars for his Services in furnishing the Charter.

The fees in the Several States, for Conferring the Several degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal arch Mason, Shall not be less than twenty dollars—and the fees for the advancement of a Candidate to the degree of Mark Master in Such Lodges & Chapters Shall not be less than four dollars; and no Credit Shall be given—

Reader page 18 · 1829 Constitution · Instruction and authority

Chapter, or for Conferring the degrees in any Chapter or Lodge under this jurisdiction; and any Chapter holden by dispensation or Warrant, from Either of the officers of the General Grand Chapter authorized to give them, Shall pay for Each Companion hereafter Exalted the Sum of two dollars into the Treasury of the General Grand Chapter.

Editorial note: The supplied scan begins mid-sentence following the preceding page's discussion of fees; wording is clipped or absent at this scan boundary.

Section 8. It Shall be the duty of the General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King & General Grand Scribe, to improve and perfect themselves in the Sublime arts, and work of Mark Masters, Past Masters, Most Excellent Masters and Royal arch Masons; to make themselves masters of the Several Masonic Lectures, and ancient Charges; to Consult with Each other and with the Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings & Scribes of the Several State Grand Chapters aforesaid, for the purpose of adopting measures Suitable and proper for diffusing a Knowledge of the Said Lectures and Charges, and the better to accomplish this laudable object, the aforesaid officers are hereby Severally authorized and Empowered to visit and preside in any Chapter of Royal arch Masons, and Lodge of Most Excellent Masters and Past Master Masons throughout the Said States, and to give Such instructions and directions as the good of the fraternity may require—always adhering to the ancient Land marks of the order.

Section 9. No Royal arch Mason within the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter Shall be permitted to Confer any degree in Masonry, not recognized as a Constitutional degree; nor to Establish any Society of Masons not recognized as a Constitutional body; and the first four officers of the General Grand Chapter or any three of them Shall in all Cases have authority to decide all Constitutional questions under this Section; nor Shall any Royal arch Mason be permitted to give lectures or instructions on the Various degrees of Masonry, Conferred by or on authority of the General Grand Chapter, Except he or they Shall have been duly authorized by two of the State Grand officers, which authority Shall be given under their hands and the Seal of the State Grand Chapter, attested by their Grand Secretary.

Section 10. In all Cases of the absence of any officer from any body of Masons instituted or holden by Virtue of this Constitution the officer next in rank Shall occupy his place, unless through—

Reader page 19 · 1829 Constitution · Voting and State Grand Chapters

Courtesy, or for other reasons, he Should decline in favour of another Companion or brother, and in Case of the absence of all the officers from any regular Meeting of Either of the bodies aforesaid the Members present Shall designate Some Suitable Companion or brethren to officiate in Several Stations.

Section 11. In Every Chapter and Lodge under this jurisdiction, all questions, Except the admission of Members or Candidates, which Shall require an unanimous ballot, Shall be Considered and determined in Such way and Manner as Such Chapters & Lodges may all Circumstances Considered, find most Conducive to their harmony and permanent prosperity; provided they do not in any Case interfere or infringe on the regulations of the General Grand Chapter.

Section 12. The General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter, Shall have and Keep a Seal, which Shall be affixed to all his Communications.

Section 13. Should any Casualty at any time hereafter prevent the triennial Election of officers—the Several officers Shall retain their respective offices, until Successors are duly Elected and qualified.

Article II — Of State Grand Chapters

Section 1. The State Grand Chapters Shall Severally Consist of a Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Chaplain, Grand Marshall; and likewise of the High Priests, Kings and Scribes for the time being of the Several Chapters over which they Shall respectively preside, and of the Past Grand & Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings & Scribes of the Said Grand Chapters; and the Said Grand Chapters Shall have full power and authority to Elect Such other officers, and Establish Such rules and regulations, as they Shall from time to time Consider necessary and proper; provided Such regulations do not in any way interfere with the provisions of this Constitution.

Section 2. The State Grand Chapters Shall Severally be holden once in Every year, and oftener if they Shall Consider it Expedient and necessary, at Such time and places as they Shall respectively direct; and at their annual Meetings, the Constitutional officers Shall be Elected, or appointed, in Such manner as Shall be provided for by—

Reader page 20 · 1829 Constitution · State jurisdiction and dispensations

by their rules and regulations, and installed into their respective offices; and the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priest respectively for the time being, may Call Special meetings, to be holden at Such times and places, as they may think proper.

Section 3. The Several State Grand Chapters Shall have the Sole Government and Superintendence of the Several Royal arch Chapters and Lodges of Most Excellent, Past & Mark Master Masons within their respective jurisdictions, to assign their limits & Settle the Controversies that may happen between them; and Shall have power under their respective Seals and the Sign Manual of their respective Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings & Scribes, attested by their respective Secretaries, to Constitute new Chapters of Royal arch Masons, within their respective jurisdictions; but their jurisdictions Shall in no Case be Construed to Extend beyond the limits of the State, Except by Consent of the General Grand Chapter.

Section 4. The Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests Severally Shall have the power and authority, whenever they Shall deem it Expedient, during the recess of the Grand Chapter of which they are officers, to grant letters of dispensation, under their respective hands and private Seals, to a Competent number of petitioners possessing the qualifications required in the 7th Section of the Second article, Empowering them to open a Chapter of Royal arch Masons for a Certain Specified term of time, provided that the Said term of time Shall not Extend beyond the next Meeting of the Grand Chapter of the State in which Such dispensation Shall be granted, and provided further, that the Same fees as are required by this Constitution for Warrants, Shall be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Treasurer. And in all Cases of Such dispensation, the officer who may grant the Same Shall make report thereof at the next State Meeting of the Grand Chapter of his jurisdiction, when the Said Grand Chapter may Either Continue or recall the Said dispensation, or may grant the petitioners a Warrant of Constitution, and in Case Such Warrant Shall be granted, the fees first deposited Shall be Credited in payment for the Same; but if a Warrant Should not be granted nor the dispensation Continued, the Said fees—

Reader page 21 · 1829 Constitution · State Grand Chapters, sections 5–9

Shall be refunded to the petitioners, Excepting only Such part thereof as Shall have been actually Expended by means of their application.

Section 5. No Warrant Shall be granted for instituting Lodges of Most Excellent, Past or Mark Masters independent of a Chapter of Royal arch Masons.

Section 6. The Grand Chapters Shall have power Severally to require from the Several Chapters and Lodges under their respective jurisdictions, Such reasonable proportions of Sums received by them for the Exaltation or advancement of Candidates, and Such Certain annual Sums from their respective members, as by their ordinances or regulations Shall be appointed; all which Said Sums or dues Shall be made good and paid annually by the Said Chapters and Lodges, respectively into the Treasury of the Grand Chapters under which they have their authority, on or before the first day of the respective annual Meetings of the Said Grand Chapters.

Section 7. No Warrant for the institution of a new Chapter of Royal arch Masons Shall be granted Except upon the petition of nine regular Royal arch Masons; which petition Shall be accompanied with a Certificate from the Chapter nearest to the place where the new Chapter is intended to be opened, Vouching for the moral Character and Masonic abilities of the petitioners, and recommending that a Charter be granted them.

Section 8. The Secretaries of the State Grand Chapters Shall Severally make one annual Communication to Each other, and also to the Secretary of the General Grand Chapter, Containing a list of Grand officers, and all Such other matters as may be deemed necessary for the mutual benefit and information of the Said Grand Chapters. And the Said Grand Secretaries Shall also regularly transmit to the Secretary of the General Grand Chapter, a Copy of all their By-Laws and regulations, and also a Copy of their proceedings annually, to Each of the officers of the General Grand Chapter; and the State Grand Chapters Shall See that their Secretaries faithfully & punctually perform this duty.

Section 9. Whenever there Shall have been three Chapters regularly instituted and Consecrated in any State, Country, Republic or Territory by Virtue of authority derived from this Constitution—

Reader page 22 · 1829 Constitution · Subordinate Chapters and Lodges

a Grand Chapter Shall be Established, as Soon as Convenience and propriety may dictate, provided the approbation of one of the first four officers of the General Grand Chapter be first obtained, and Said Chapters by their regular officers Shall assemble in Some Suitable place, Elect their officers and make Such rules and regulations for their Government as may be necessary—not inconsistent with the regulations of the General Grand Chapter.

Section 10. No person Shall be permitted to take a Seat in any State Grand Chapter, as the representative of more than one Chapter or Lodge; nor unless he is a member of a Subordinate Chapter under that jurisdiction.

Article III — Of the Subordinate Chapters and Lodges

Section 1. Every Chapter of Royal arch Masons and Lodge of Mark Master Masons, throughout this jurisdiction Shall have a Warrant of Constitution from the Grand Chapter of the State in which they may respectively be holden or a Warrant from one of the General Grand officers; and no Chapter or Lodge Shall be deemed legal having no Such Warrant; and Masonic Communication, both public & private is hereby interdicted and forbidden between any Chapter or Lodge under this jurisdiction, or any member of Either of them, and any Chapter, Lodge or assembly that may be So illegally formed, opened or holden without Such Warrant or any or Either of their members or any person Exalted or advanced in Such illegal Chapter or Lodge. But nothing in this Section Shall be Construed to affect any Chapter or Lodge which was Established before the adoption of the Grand Royal arch Constitution at Hartford on the 27 day of January A.D. 1798.

Section 2. Whenever a Warrant is issued for Constituting a Chapter of Royal arch Masons, with a power in Said Warrant to open and hold a Lodge of Most Excellent, Past and Mark Master Masons,

the High Priest, King and Scribe for the time being of Such Chapter, Shall be the Master & Wardens in Said Lodges according to Seniority.

Section 3. It is incumbent on the High Priest of Every Chapter as appertaining to his office, duty and dignity to See that the by Laws of his Chapter, as well as the Constitution of the General Grand—

Reader page 23 · 1829 Constitution · Chapter duties and constitution of new Chapters

and the regulations of the Grand Chapter, be duly observed; that all his Subordinate officers perform the duties of their respective Stations faithfully, and are Examples of diligence and industry to their Companions; that true and Exact records be Kept of all the proceedings of the Chapter by the Secretary; that the Treasurer Keep and render Exact and just accounts of all the Moneys belonging to the Chapter; that regular returns be made by the Secretary annually to the Grand Chapter, of all admissions of Candidates or members; and that the annual dues to the Grand Chapter be regularly and punctually paid.

The Warrant of his Chapter is Committed to his Special Care & Charge; he has the right and authority of Calling his Chapter at pleasure upon any Emergency or occurrence which in his judgment may require their Meeting & he is to fill the Chair when present. It is likewise his duty together with his King & Scribe, to attend the regular Meetings of the Grand Chapter Either in person or by Proxy.

Section 4. All Lodges of Mark Master Masons are bound to observe the preceding article, So far as it Can be applied to the Government of a Lodge.

Section 5. No person having been a Member of a Chapter or Lodge, Shall be admitted a member of any other Chapter or Lodge under this jurisdiction until he Shall have produced a Certificate from the Chapter or Lodge to which he last belonged, that he was in regular Standing, and as Such, at his own request, is dismissed and recommended.

Section 6. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any Stated Meeting of the General Grand Chapter, with the approbation of two thirds of the Voters present, and not otherwise.

Article IV — Of Constituting new Chapters

Section 1. When a Warrant of Constitution is granted by Either of the General Grand officers or Either of the State Grand Chapters, for Constituting a new Chapter of Royal arch Masons, the Grand officers respectively, Shall appoint a day and hour for Constituting the Same, and installing the new officers. On the day & hour appointed, the Grand or the Deputy Grand High Priest* with his officers meet in a Convenient room, near to the place where the new Chapter is to be Constituted. The officers of the new Chapter are to be Examined by the Deputy Grand High Priest, or Some Companion appointed for that purpose; after—

** Or the presiding officer for the time being. [Footnote in the manuscript.]*

Reader page 24 · 1829 Constitution · Ceremony for a new Chapter

they are approved, they are to return to the hall, and prepare for the reception of the Grand Chapter. When notice is given by the Grand Marshall that they are prepared, the Grand Chapter walks in procession to the Hall, when the officers appointed for the new Chapter, resign their Seats to the Grand officers, and take their Stations on the left; the necessary Cautions are then given from the Chair, and the Ceremony Commences by performing an anthem or ode adapted to the occasion. The officers and Members of the new Chapter then form in front of the Grand High Priest.

The Deputy Grand High Priest then informs the Grand High Priest that “a number of Companions duly instructed in the Sublime Mysteries, being desirous of promoting the honour of the art, have applied to the Grand Chapter for a Warrant to Constitute a new Chapter of Royal arch Masons, which having obtained, they are now assembled for the purpose of being Constituted, and having their officers installed in due and ancient form.”

The Grand High Priest then directs the Grand Secretary to read the Warrant, which being done, he asks the Members of the new Chapter, if they Still approve of the officers nominated therein; this being Signified accordingly, the Grand High Priest arises and Says “By virtue of the high powers in me Vested, I do form you, my worthy Companions, into a regular Chapter of Royal arch Masons; from henceforth you are authorized and Empowered to open and hold a Lodge of Mark Masters, Past Masters, and Most Excellent Masters, and a Chapter of Royal arch Masons; and to do and perform all Such things as thereunto may appertain, Conforming in all your doings to the General Grand Royal arch Constitution, and the general regulations of the State Grand Chapter; and may the God of your Fathers be with you, guide and direct you in all your doings.”

Grand Honours.

The Furniture, Jewels, Implements, Utensils &c. belonging to the Chapter (having previously been placed in due form—Covered in the Centre) are then uncovered, and the new Chapter is dedicated in ancient Manner and form, as is well described in the Most Excellent Master degree, the Deputy Grand High Priest then presents the first officer of the new Chapter to the Grand High Priest, Saying,

Reader page 25 · 1829 Constitution · Installation of the High Priest

“Most Excellent Grand High Priest, I present you my worthy Companion nominated in the Warrant, to be installed High Priest of this new Chapter. I find him to be Skillfull in the Royal art, and attentive to the moral precepts of our forefathers, and therefore have no doubt but he will discharge the duties of his office with fidelity.”

“Most Excellent Companion, I feel much Satisfaction in performing my duty on the present occasion, by investing you with the office of High Priest of this new Chapter. It is an office highly honourable to all those who diligently perform the important duties annexed to it; your reputed Masonic Knowledge, however, precludes the necessity of a particular Enumeration of those duties; I Shall therefore only observe, that by a frequent recurrence to the Constitution, and general regulations, and a Constant practice of the Several Sublime Lectures and Charges, you will be best able to fulfill them; and I am Confident, that the Companions who are Chosen to preside with you will give Strength to your Endeavours, and Support your Exertions. I Shall now propose Certain Questions to you relative to the duties of your office; and to which I must request your unequivocal answer.

First. Do you Solemnly promise that you will redouble your Endeavours, to Correct the vices, purify the Morals, and promote the happiness of those of your brethren, who have attained this Sublime degree.

Second. That you will never Suffer your Chapter to be opened, unless there be present nine regular Royal arch Masons.

Third. That you will never Suffer Either more or less than three brethren to be Exalted in your Chapter at one and the Same time.

Fourth. That you will not Exalt any one to this degree who has not Shown a Charitable and humane disposition; or who has not made a Commendable proficiency in the foregoing degrees.

Fifth. That you will promote the general good of our order, and on all proper occasions be ready to give and receive instruction, and particularly from the General and State Grand officers.

Sixth. That to the utmost of your power you will preserve the Solemnities of our Ceremonies, and behave in open Chapter with the most profound respect as an Example to your Companions.

Reader page 26 · 1829 Constitution · Installation promises and prayer

Seventh. That you will not acknowledge or have intercourse with any Chapter that does not work under a Constitutional Warrant or dispensation.

Eighth. That you will not admit any Visitor into your Chapter who has not been Exalted in a Chapter legally Constituted without his being first formally healed.

Ninth. That you will observe and Support Such By Laws as may be made by your Chapter, in Conformity to the General Grand Royal arch Constitution and the General regulations of the Grand Chapter.

Tenth. That you will pay due respect and obedience to the instructions of the General & State Grand officers, particularly relating to the Several Lectures and Charges, and will resign your Chair to them Severally when they may visit your Chapter.

Eleventh. That you will Support and observe the General Grand Royal arch Constitution, and the General Regulations of the Grand Royal arch Chapter under whose authority you act.

Do you Submit to all these things, and do you promise to observe and practice them faithfully?”

These questions being answered in the affirmative; the Companions all Kneel in due form and the Grand High Priest or Grand Chaplain repeats the following or Some other Suitable prayer,

“Most Holy and Glorious Lord God, the Grand High Priest of Heaven and Earth, we approach thee with reverence, and implore thy blessing on this Companion appointed to preside over this new assembly, and now prostrate before thee; [filling?] his heart with thy fear, that his tongue and actions may pronounce thy Glory; Make him Steadfast in thy Service, Grant him firmness of mind, animate his heart, and Strengthen his Endeavours; may he teach thy judgments, and thy law; and may the incense which he Shall put before thee, upon thine altar, prove an acceptable Sacrifice unto thee. Bless him, O Lord, and bless the Work of his hands; Accept us in Mercy, hear thou from Heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive our transgressions.”

“Glory be to God the Father, as it was in the beginning &c.” Response “So mote it be.”

Reader page 27 · 1829 Constitution · Installation concluded

All the Companions, Except High Priest and Past High Priests, are then desired to withdraw, while the new High Priest is Solemnly bound to the performance of his duties; and after the performance of other necessary Ceremonies not proper to be written, they are permitted to return.

The Grand High Priest then addresses the new High Priest as follows:

“Most Excellent Companion, In Consequence of your Cheerful acquiescence with the charges and regulations just recited, I now declare you duly installed and anointed High Priest of this new Chapter, not doubting your determination to Support the reputation and honour of our Sublime order. I now Cheerfully deliver unto you the Warrant under which you are to work; and I doubt not you will govern it with Such good order and regularity, as will Convince your Companions, that their partiality has not been improperly placed.”

The Grand High Priest then Clothes and invests the new High Priest with the Various implements and insignia of the order, with Suitable Charges to Each of them.

The Grand High Priest then installs the Several Subordinate officers in turn; and points out to them the duties appertaining to their respective offices; after which he pronounces a Suitable Charge to the new Chapter, and Closes the Ceremony with the following benediction—“The Lord be with you all; let brotherly love Continue; be not forgetful to Entertain Strangers, Now the God of Peace, our Supreme High Priest, make you perfect to do his will.”

Section 2. Whenever it Shall not be Convenient for the General Grand officers or the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests respectively to attend in person to Constitute a new Chapter, and install the officers, they Shall Severally have power and authority, to appoint Some worthy High Priest or Past High Priest to perform the necessary Ceremonies.

Section 3. The officers of Every Chapter and Lodge under this jurisdiction, before they Enter upon the Exercise of their respective offices and also the members of all Such Chapters and Lodges and Every Candidate before his admission into the Same Shall take the following obligation Viz: “I A.B. do promise and declare That I will Support and Maintain the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal arch Masons for the United States of America.”

Reader page 28 · 1829 election · Edward Livingston and General Grand Officers

On Motion, Resolved—That the General Grand Secretary be directed to Cause to be printed at least 1000 Copies of the Constitution as adopted, and also a Suitable number of Copies of Extracts of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter, and to distribute them to the General Grand officers and State Grand officers, in proportion to their respective requirements; and that he be authorized to draw for the Expenses of the Same on the General Grand Treasurer.

Pursuant to a resolution, the General Grand Chapter proceeded to the Election of officers for the Ensuing three years, the result of which was as follows, Viz:

- M.E. and Hon. Edward Livingston, of Louisiana — General Grand H. Priest.
- Joel R. Poinsett, Charleston, So. Car. — D.G. Grand H. Priest.
- Revd. Paul Dean, Boston, Mass. — General Grand King.
- Joseph K. Stapleton, Maryland — General Grand Scribe.
- Lebbeus Chapman, New York — General Grand Secy.
- Peter Grinnell, Rhode Island — General Grand Treasurer.
- Rev. Jonth. Nye, New Hampshire — General Grand Chaplain.
- Amos Nourse, Maine — General Grand Marshall.

On Motion—Companions Nye, Knapp & Keyser were appointed a Committee with instructions to notify the M. Excellent Companions Livingston, Poinsett & Dean of their Election and to inform them that a Commission will be issued authorizing the Grand Chapter of the State of Maryland and District of Columbia to make arrangements for their installation at the City of Washington in the Month of January next.

The General Grand Chapter then adjourned until 4 o'Clk P.M.

September 12, 1829 · Saturday, 4 P.M.

General Grand Chapter assembled, M.E. John Snow in Chair.

Companion Keyser from the Committee of proceedings of the G.G. officers during the recess, made the following report:

“The Committee to whom were referred the papers and proceedings of General Grand officers of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, Report, That it appears from the papers Submitted to them, that the—

Reader page 29 · Dispensations · Next meeting and treasury report

M.E. General Grand H. Priest Dewitt Clinton granted a dispensation on the [9th?] day of January 1828, to James Robinson Wright, and others to form, open and hold a Chapter of Royal arch Masons, in the town of Kingston, in the province of upper Canada, for which the fees were paid into his hands, and that M.E. John Snow D.G.H. Priest, granted a dispensation on the 18 day of March 1828 to John H. [Ryland?] and others to form, open and hold a Chapter of Royal arch Masons, at the town of Franklin, Howard Co. in the State of Missouri, for which the fees have not been received. The Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the General Grand Secretary be directed to Engross a warrant for Union Chapter at Kingston, upper Canada, which, when Executed, to transmit the Same, and give the Companions the authority to retain their dispensation, agreeably to their request, as a Memorial of So great and good a man as was our late brother & Companion Dewitt Clinton.

Geo. Keyser, for Com.

Which having been read, was accepted & the resolution adopted.

On Motion Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of this General Grand Chapter be, and they are hereby presented to M.E. Companion John Snow, P.D.G.G.H. Priest for the able and faithful performance of his duties as an officer and Member of this General G. Chapter.

On Motion, Resolved that the next triennial meeting of this General Grand Chapter (which will be on the Second Thursday of September 1832) Shall be held in the City of Baltimore in the State of Maryland.

The Committee on the Secretary & Treasurer's accounts and on Finances Reported as follows:

That there was in Treasurer's hands previous to September 1826—a Balance of 127.35. And that he received at that date the Sum of 1876.75. Total $2004.10. That he has paid out, per proper Vouchers, 757.94, leaving a balance in his hands this day of $1246.16.

The account of the Secretary against the General Grand Chapter for Sums paid out, and for Services rendered, as allowed—

Reader page 30 · 1829 finance report concluded · Meeting closes

by this Committee is $241.93, of which he has received of the G.G. Treasurer 175, leaving a Balance due him of $66.93.

Your Committee recommend the payment of the following Sums, Viz:

Payment	Dollars
M.E. Companion Snow, attendance & Postages	144.00
Dean, attendance & Postages	50.00
Grinnell, attendance & Postages	41.00

Payment	Dollars
Nye, attendance & Postages	75.00
Committee on the revision of the Constitution, printing, Postages &c., being a balance due them	52.35
Tyler, Stewards & use of Hall	45.00
Total	407.35

Your Committee also recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved that the General Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay, from the funds in the Treasury, all bills for advertising the Meetings of the G.G. Chapter, and all other Small bills which in his opinion are justly due to individuals, from this G. Grand Chapter.

all which is respectfully Submitted
Philip C. Tucker
Amos Nourse
Richard Pennel
Committee.

Which being read was accepted, and the resolution adopted.

The Minutes of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter were read and approved, and the business of the G.G. Chapter having been Concluded M.E. General Grand Chaplain made a Solemn address to the throne of Grace. The General Grand Chapter was duly Closed.

Attest,
Lebbeus Chapman
General Grand Secretary.

Reader page 31 · Baltimore meeting · November 28, 1832

General Grand Chapter of the United States · 1832

At the time appointed for the Meeting of the G.G. Chapter of the United States (September 1832) the City of Baltimore with many other Cities of the United States was afflicted with Cholera, which rendered it improper to hold the Meeting at that time. The G.G. officers, therefore, directed the triennial meeting to be Called, for the transaction of the regular business of the G.G.C. on Wednesday the 28th of November 1832.

Accordingly, on that day the triennial Meeting of the G.G. Chapter was held at the Masonic Hall in the City of Baltimore and opened in due form and with Solemn prayer.

Present

- M.E. Comp. the Rev. Paul Dean, G.G.K., as G.G.H. Priest.
- M.E. Comp. Joseph K. Stapleton, G.G. Scribe, as G.G. King.
- M.E. Comp. James M. Allen, of New York, as G.G. Scribe.
- M.E. Comp. James Herring, of New York, as G.G. Secretary.
- M.E. Comp. Peter Grinnell, G.G. Treasurer.
- M.E. Comp. George Keyser, of Maryland, as G.G. Marshall.

And the representatives of the Grand Chapters of the—

Reader page 32 · 1832 meeting · Committees and credentials

States of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Maryland, District of Columbia, Louisiana, and Ohio.

The M.E. Companions Myers, Keyser and Crawford were appointed a Committee to Examine the Credentials of representatives.

M.E. Comp. Myers moved that Comp. Robert Young be appointed assistant G.G. Sentinel of the G.G.C. during the present Session, which Motion being duly Seconded was put and lost—but leave was granted Comp. Young to visit the G.G. Chapter during the Session.

A letter was received from M.E. Lebbeus Chapman G.G. Secretary declining a re-election to that office which was read and ordered to be filed.

Another letter from the Same G.G. officer in relation to his accounts was received, read, and referred to the Committee on accounts of the G.G. Secy. and Treasurer.

The following Committees were then appointed:

- Comps. C.S. Peters, C. Gilman & A.D. Scovell on Finance and G.G. Sec. and Treasurer accounts.
- Comps. Fiske, Haswell and Baldwin on the transactions of the G.G. officers Since the last triennial meeting.

A Communication was received from the M. Ex. Comp. Haswell in relation to the State of Masonry in Vermont which was read and with the documents accompanying it, ordered to be laid on the table.

The Committee on Credentials then presented the following report which was accepted, Viz:

The Committee on Credentials beg leave to report that they have performed the duty assigned them and that the following Companions are duly authorized as representatives in this Gen. Gd. Chapter.

M.E. Nathan B. Haswell, G.H.P. of the State of Vermont and Proxy for the D.G.H.P., G.K. and G. Scribe of the Same.

Reader page 33 · 1832 credentials · Representatives continued

- M.E. Comp. Charles Gilman, Proxy for the officers of the Grand Chapter of the State of New Hampshire.
- M.E. Comp. Josiah J. Fiske, G.H.P. of the State of Massachusetts.
- M.E. Comp. Edward A. Raymond, G.K. of the State of Massachusetts.
- M.E. Comp. Jacob Ames, Proxy for Charles Wills, Grand Scribe.
- M.E. Comp. Ingoldesby W. Crawford, G.H.P. of the State of Connecticut.
- M.E. Comp. Andrew D. Scovell, G.S. of the State of Connecticut.
- M.E. Comp. James M. Allen, G.H.P. of the State of New York.
- M.E. Comp. Mordecai Myers, D.G.H.P. of the State of New York.
- M.E. Comp. George Keyser, D.G.H.P. of Maryland, Proxy for the Grand Chapter of the State of Louisiana.
- M.E. Comp. Wm. W. Billings, Proxy for M.E. Marmaduke Dove, G. [Secy.?] of the G.C. of the District of Columbia.

- M.E. Comp. W.W. Haller, D.G.H.P.; C.S. Peters, G.K.; Jos. S. Peters, G. Scribe; and M.E. Comp. Thomas Phenix, G.S.—of the G.C. of Maryland.
- M.E. Comp. James Salsbury, Proxy for M.E. Christopher [Fowler?], G.H.P. of the G.C. of the State of Rhode Island.
- M.E. Comp. Samuel Stokely, G.H.P. of the State of Ohio.
- M.E. Comp. James Herring of New York, Proxy for M.E. Lebbeus Chapman Gen. Gd. Secretary.

signed
M. Myers
Geo. Keyser
I.W. Crawford.

The G.G. Chapter then adjourned until 7 o'Clock P.M.

G.G. Chapter met pursuant to adjournment and was Called to order at 7 o'Clock.

The Minutes of the Morning Session were read and approved.

The M.E. Comp. Nye offered the following Resolution which was adopted, Viz:

Resolved, that a Committee of Seven be appointed to take into Consideration the present Situation of our—

Reader page 34 · 1832 committees · State of the institution and next meeting

institution and recommend Such things and measures as they in their wisdom may Consider Expedient and necessary. The following Committee was thereon appointed:

- M.E. Companions Fiske, of Massachusetts.
- Crawford, Connecticut.
- Allen, New York.
- C.S. Peters, Maryland.
- Billings, Dis. of Columbia.
- Keyser, Louisiana.
- Haswell, Vermont.

The Communication of Comp. Haswell was Called up by Companion Gilman and on being read was with the accompanying documents referred to the above named Committee.

A Report was received from the G.C. of the Dis. of Columbia in relation to the installation of the M.E. Edward Livingston G.G.H.P. and the M.E. Joel R. Poinsett D.G.G.H.P. which was read and the Said report being deemed erroneous leave was granted the representation from the District of Columbia to withdraw it for Correction.

It was Resolved that a Committee be appointed to designate the place for the next triennial Meeting of this G.G. Chapter; and Comps. Nye, Keyser and Billings were accordingly appointed thereon.

Resolved that the above Committee be also instructed to Enquire into the Expediency of altering the period at which the Said Meeting Shall be held, to Some time during the Session of Congress.

The G.G.C. then adjourned until 12 o'Clock to morrow.

Reader page 35 · November 29–30, 1832 · Thanks to the Grand Lodge of Maryland

On Thursday the 29th of November 1832 the G.G. Chapter Convened at 12 o'Clock, and was Called to order, the M.E. & Rev. Paul Dean G.G. King presiding, and the representatives as before.

The G.G. Chaplain addressed the throne of Grace.

The Minutes of the Meeting of the G.G. Chapter held last Evening were read and approved.

A Copy of the proceedings of the R.W. Grand Lodge of Maryland making the offer of the Masonic Hall to this G.G.C. for the present Meeting was read and referred to a Committee Consisting of Comps. Baldwin, Myers & Raymond.

Ordered, that the Election for G.G. officers Shall take place at 12 o'Clock to morrow.

The G.G.C. then adjourned until 10 o'Clock to morrow.

At 10 o'Clock on Friday Morning the G.G. Chapter met pursuant to adjournment and opened with prayer, M.E. & Rev. Paul Dean in the Chair.

The Minutes of the Session of Thursday were read and approved.

The following report was received, read and approved, Viz:

“The Committee to whom was referred the Communication from the R.W. G. Lodge of Maryland Containing the Extract from the proceedings of their May Session 1832 make the following Report That the thanks of this G.G.C. is justly due to that Distinguished Body, for their Singular Kindness, and fraternal Solicitude in tendering us the use of their Hall and that the M.E.G.G. Secretary transmit a Copy of this Report to Said Body. All which is most respectfully Submitted.”

E. Baldwin
E.A. Raymond
M. Myers

Masons' Hall Balt.
Nov. 29, 1832.

Reader page 36 · 1832 report · State of the institution

The Committee appointed to designate the time and place for the next Meeting of the G.G.C. reported in favor of holding the next triennial Meeting in the City of Washington on the first Monday in December 1835. The report of the Committee was agreed to, and the Constitution of the G.G. Chapter amended by Striking out the words “the Second Tuesday in September” from the 1st Section of the 1st Article and inserting “the first Monday in December.”

Editorial note: This entry reads “Tuesday”; the Constitution transcribed earlier in this volume specifies the second Thursday.

The Committee on the State of the institution made the following report, which was accepted and the resolutions therein Contained adopted unanimously, Viz:

The Committee to whom was referred the Communication of the M.E. Nathan B. Haswell, G.H.P. of the Grand Chapter of Vermont together with the accompanying documents and who were likewise instructed to take into Consideration the present Situation of our institution and to recommend Such measures as they might Consider Expedient, have attended to the Services assigned them and ask leave respectfully to report

That they have Carefully Examined Said Communications and documents together with Several other important papers relating to the recent Events and Various Subjects which have reference to the present Situation of the institution of Masonry.

It appears from the appeal published by the Masons in Vermont in 1829 that Various presses had been Established in that State as vehicles of fraud and malignity against the adherents of Masonry.

Reader page 37 · 1832 report · Charges and declarations concerning Masonry

The appellants declare that as Masons they had been charged with, being accessory to the abduction of William Morgan—with Shielding Masons from just punishment for Crimes they might have Committed—with Exercising a Masonic influence over the legislative, Executive and judiciary branches of the Government—with tampering with juries—with Exerting an improper influence for the political preferment of the brotherhood—with Various blasphemous practices—with Causing the death of a distinguished Mason—with Sanctioning principles at variance with religion and virtue—with the assumption of a power to judge individual Masons by laws Known only to the fraternity and to inflict punishments Corporally Even unto the pains of death.

To these Charges, the members of the Grand Lodge and other Masons in the State, making on the whole nearly 200 in number, affirmed in the most Solemn manner that of Each and all the Charges, they were Entirely guiltless—that, as Masons, they held themselves guiltless in any manner of the Shedding of human blood—guiltless in any manner of Conspiring against the liberties or privileges of the people or of Endeavouring to monopolize an unequal portion of those privileges to themselves or of abridging the rights of others—guiltless in any manner of impairing, retarding or diverting the Course of justice—guiltless in any manner of attempting to identify the Subject of Masonry with the politics of the day, or of making politics a Subject of discussion or remark—guiltless in any manner of performing any rites or acts irreligious or immoral, and guiltless in any manner of Entertaining the remotest Suspicion that the life of a fellow being was Subject to their Control.

It appears also, that a great number of the Masons, residing in the different Sections of the Union have been impelled from a Sense of Self respect to make Similar declarations and to publish them to the world. In the State of Connecticut this Course was pursued under the direction—

Reader page 38 · 1832 report · Declarations and Rhode Island inquiry

and Sanction of the M.W. Grand Lodge of the State, and in Massachusetts by a Voluntary declaration deliberately Signed by more than 1200 Masons in the different parts of the Commonwealth. Having thus made their declarations with apparent Sincerity of heart and denied the Charges which had been preferred against them, they deliberately Cast themselves and their Cause upon the good Sense of the Country for a Calm, dispassioned and Enlightened Verdict.

The Committee further report that it appears from Certain documents which have been for a long time before the public, that very different measures, in relation to this Subject, have been adopted in the State of Rhode Island. In that State, a Memorial Emanating from an Anti Masonic Convention held in Decr. 1830 Charging the Grand Lodge and other Masonic bodies with Violations of the Constitution and the laws of the land, was formally presented to the legislature of the State; and the Grand Lodge in [enjoining?] that Memorial, Challenged the Strictest Scrutiny and offered the greatest facilities to an investigation of all their Concerns. It Seems, however, that after the most laborious and patient investigation of the Subjects referred to in the Memorial by an able and impartial Committee, the Lodges were Sustained by the legislature of the State and were virtually and triumphantly acquitted from all the Charges which had been brought against them.

In Short, from a due Consideration of a great number of documents which have been Spread before the Committee, they are unanimously of—

Reader page 39 · 1832 report · Education and Masonic libraries

opinion, that the Masons generally, by a frank, dignified and firm avowal during the last three years of all the grand principles of the order, and by an open, direct and prudent Course of Conduct towards their implacable Enemies, they have furnished to their fellow Citizens a most manly vindication of all their rights and privileges as men, and to the fraternity and the World, a just and true declaration of their obligations and duties as Masons and as Citizens.

During the Continuance of the Cruel and unrelenting warfare which has been for Some time unremittingly Carried on against Masonry by its Enemies, it Could not be reasonably Expected, that many additions Could be made to the Charity fund, or to the members of the fraternity. The Committee however learn that during the last 3 years very Considerable additions have been made in Some of the Lodges and Chapters, and that in others, where less attention than usual has been paid to an observance of the rites and Ceremonies of the order, an unusual degree of attention has been paid to the Subject of Lectures and Experiments in the Various branches of useful learning and of Such of the practical arts and Sciences as are most intimately Connected with the Every day Concerns of life, and are best Calculated to Enlist the feelings and improve the Condition of Every member of the Social fraternity.

And the wisest and best of Masons have not yet been able to discern why most of the Lodges may not, without any abandonment of the legitimate objects of Masonry, become Seminaries of learning more Extensively useful than they ever yet have been, Each having its own little library, or Certain articles of apparatus more or less valuable according to the voluntary Contributions of those who may be Specially benefitted by them. In this respect our Masonic Halls may in Some degree be made to bear a resemblance to the most popular Lyceums, where the—

Reader page 40 · 1832 report adopted · Education and ancient landmarks

Choicest Lectures and best regulated debates may be Either public or private as occasion may require, and may be on questions of a Character Entirely free from Sectarian influence or partisan warfare.

In View of the present Situation and prospects of Masonry, the Committee do not Consider it necessary or Expedient to recommend any measures, Except the adoption of the following Resolutions.

Resolved that this G.G. Chapter do Cordially approve the dignified firmness, the Commendable prudence and Sound discretion with which the great body of our adhering Masons have met the attacks which have been made against the institution.

Resolved, that we highly appreciate the perseverance with which Certain Lodges and Chapters have determined to avail themselves of Every Masonic occasion for their Special advancement in a Knowledge of the more useful as well as liberal arts and Sciences, and for the Cultivation of all their moral, Social, humane and friendly affections, and it is recommended to all other Lodges and Chapters that they imitate So laudable an Example, always guarding against an improper removal of the ancient landmarks and a departure from the grand principles of the order.

All which is respectfully Submitted
Josiah J. Fiske
Ingoldesby W. Crawford

W.W. Billings
C.S. Peters
Nathan B. Haswell
J.M. Allen
Geo. Keyser
Committee.

The G.G. Chapter then proceeded to act on the order of the day, the hour appointed for the Election having arrived:

Reader page 41 · Edward Livingston letter · Re-election in 1832

Whereupon, the M.E.G.G.H.P. appointed Comps. Ames and Haller as tellers.

The following letter was received and read:

Washington Nov. 20, 1832

Dr. Sir and Companion,

It gives me deep regret that I Can not at the next Meeting of the G.G. Chapter perform the duties of the office with which they have honored me, and that I am also forced to decline the fraternal invitation of the officers of the Maryland G.C. to dine with them on Saturday.

At almost any other period I Should have Seized with pride and pleasure an opportunity of Exercising the functions of the office with which the partiality of my brethren has invested me, and have availed myself of the invitation of the officers of the Maryland Grand Chapter in order to have formed a personal acquaintance with the members of the fraternity, who will meet on that occasion. But the very near approach of the Session of Congress makes Constant attendance at my department absolutely necessary; and as you know (notwithstanding the allegations of our Enemies) that the duties we owe to our Country are paramount to the obligations of Masonry, or to the indulgence of fraternal feelings, I trust that my apology will be deemed Sufficient to the Companions of the G.G.C. and the officers of the G.C. of Maryland to whom I pray you respectfully to offer it on my behalf.

With high regard
Your most Obed.
Edw. Livingston

J.K. Stapleton
G.G. Scribe &c.

The M.E. and Hon. Edward Livingston was unanimously re Elected Gen. Gd. High Priest.

The M.E. and Hon. Joel R. Poinsett was unanimously re Elected D.G.G.H.P.

Reader page 42 · 1832 officers · Installation report and thanks

The M.E. and Rev. Paul Dean was re Elected G.G.K.

The M.E. Joseph K. Stapleton was unanimously re Elected G.G.S.

The M.E. & Rev. Jonathan Nye was Elected G.G. Secretary.

The M.E. Peter Grinnell was re Elected G.G. Treasurer.

The M.E. & Rev. Charles S. Williams, of Baltimore, was Elected G.G. Chaplain.

The G.G. Chapter then adjourned until 9 o'Clock to morrow Morning.

On Saturday Morning Decr. 1st, 1832 the G.G. Chapter met pursuant to adjournment and opened in form. M.E. Comp. Paul Dean presiding. The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and approved.

Communications were received from the Grand Chapters of Maryland and the District of Columbia, Certifying, that under a Commission from the G.G. Chapter, issued in Dec. 1829 they had installed the M.E. and Honorable Edward Livingston G.G.H.P. Elect of this G.G. Chapter and the M.E. and Hon. Joel R. Poinsett D.G.G.H.P. Elect into their respective offices on the 3rd of April 1830.

Comp. Haswell offered the following Resolution which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved that the thanks of the General Grand Chapter of the United States be tendered to the M.E. and Rev. Jonathan Nye for his Christian and Masonic labors as Gen. Grand Chaplain of this body for the last twenty Six years, and that the G.G. King be requested to furnish him with a Copy of this Resolution.

Comp. Keyser offered the following Resolution which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved that the thanks of the General Grand Chapter of the United States be and the Same is hereby given to our worthy Companion James Herring Esqr. of New York for the able and obliging manner with which he has discharged the duty of G.G. Secretary to the G.G. Chapter at its present Session.

The G.G. Chapter then proceeded to the Election of—

Reader page 43 · 1832 election concluded · Oaths and Secretary resignation

a G.G. Marshall and on the ballots being Counted it appeared that M.E. Comp. Mordecai Myers of New York was duly Elected to that office.

The M.E. Comp. Keyser then offered the following Resolution which was adopted unanimously.

Resolved, that the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia be requested to receive the renewal of the Oath of office from the Honorable Edward Livingston on his acceptance of the office of Gen. Gd. High Priest of the United States and that the Grand officers of Said Grand Chapter make the necessary arrangements to perform the Same.

Resolved that the Grand Chapter of the State of South Carolina be requested to receive the renewal of the Oath of office from the Honorable Joel R. Poinsett on his acceptance of the office of Dep. Gen. Gd. High Priest of the United States and that the Grand officers of Said Grand Chapter make the necessary arrangements to perform the Same and that a Copy of the above resolutions be Sent to the above Grand Chapters by the G.G. Secy. under the Seal of the G.G. Chapter.

The Committee on proceedings of G.G. officers reported that no business had been presented for their Consideration and asked to be discharged. The Report was accepted and the Committee discharged.

M.E. Comp. Nye Stated that after a due deliberation on the Subject of his Election to the office of G.G. Secretary, he had Come to the Conclusion to decline that office though he Should always be ready to perform any Service or duty in the body.

The resignation of Comp. Nye was accepted and a new Election ordered.

The ballots being received it appeared that Comp. James Herring was Elected G.G. Secretary.

The Committee on Finance and accounts of G.G. Secretary and Gen. Gd. Treasurer Reported as follows:

The Committee appointed on the Secretary and Treasurer's accounts and on Finances beg leave to report that agreeably to the Statement furnished by the G.G. Treasurer there remained in his hands at the triennial Communication—

Reader page 44 · 1832 treasury report · Balances and expenses

of September 1829 a balance of $751.88 out of which have been paid to the order of the G.G. Secretary the Sum of $225.00, Postage $0.60 and leaving a balance in his hands at this Communication of $526.28 and that the above Expenditures are Supported by proper Vouchers.

With respect to the Statement furnished by the G.G. Secretary the Committee is unable to report inasmuch as the report is incomplete and unaccompanied by the necessary Vouchers, it is accordingly returned to the G.G. Chapter for further disposition.

The Committee Cannot Close their report without Calling the attention of this Chapter to the very rapid decrease of its funds and the Certainty of their total Extinguishment at a very Early period unless measures be Speedily adopted for the Creation of resources to replenish its Treasury.

All which is respectfully Submitted
signed C.S. Peters
Chas. Gilman
Andrew D. Scovell.

The Committee recommend the payment of the following Sums:

Payment	Dollars
M.E. & Rev. Paul Dean, for attendance &c.	60.00
Peter Grinnell, for attendance &c.	35.00
Jonathan Nye, for attendance &c.	50.00
James Herring, for attendance &c.	27.00
J.K. Stapleton, for Expenses attending installation of G.G.H.P., postage &c.	25.13
M.E. Comp. Geo. Keyser, for the Same	15.00
Henry Leiby, as Tyler &c.	20.00
John D. Miller, as Steward	4.00

Baltimore, Decr. 1, 1832—Signed by the Same Committee.

Which report was accepted and the Grand Treasurer directed to pay the Sums above mentioned.

On Motion of Comp. Allen it was Resolved that the accounts of the G.G. Secretary be referred—

Reader page 45 · 1832 meeting closes · Fraternal dinner

to a Special Committee of three with power to Examine and Settle it. The Committee appointed Consists of the M.E. Comps. Keyser, Nye and Crawford.

Comp. Gilman offered the following Resolution, which was adopted and referred to Comps. Gilman, Haswell and Fiske, Viz:

Resolved that a Committee of three be appointed to take into Consideration the present State of the funds of the G.G. Chapter; to Correspond with the Several Grand Chapters upon the Subject of increasing the Same, and to report the result of their deliberations at the next Meeting of this body.

On Motion of M.E. Comp. Myers the G.G. Secretary was authorized to publish 500 Copies of the proceedings and 1000 Copies of the report of the Com. on the State of Masonry for distribution.

The M.E.G.G. King, Scribe, Secretary, Treasurer and Marshall were Severally installed into office.

The installation of the M.E. & Rev. Companion Williams G.G. Chaplain Elect was referred to the Grand Chapter of Maryland.

The G.G. Treasurer was authorized to pay the necessary Expenses for printing the proceedings of this Meeting when Certified by the G.C. Marshall, G.G. Secretary.

The Minutes of the G.G. Chapter were then read and approved and the G.G. Chapter Closed the Session with Solemn prayer by the M.E. Comp. the Revd. Paul Dean.

James Herring, G.G. Secretary.

After the Close of the business of the G.G. Chapter the Members, together with the Members of the G.G. Encampment partook of a dinner given by the Grand Chapter of Maryland in honor of the occasion. The Entertainment was got up by Comp. Barnum in Elegant Style. M.E. Comp. J.K. Stapleton presided. In the Course of the Evening the highest tokens of fraternal unanimity and Satisfaction were Elicited. The Kind Expressions of good wishes by Companions from one State were answered by those from another. The Eloquent addresses from the East were responded from the South, the West and the North. The recollection of the pleasure afforded by the rich flow of intellect and feeling will never be Effaced, and we Can only regret that Springing as those addresses did from Spontaneous Emotions, they were not & Cannot be recorded.

Reader page 46 · Washington meeting · December 7, 1835

General Grand Chapter of the United States · 1835

The Triennial Meeting of the General Grand Chapter of the United States was held at the Masonic Hall in the City of Washington, on Monday, the 7th day of December, 1835.

Present

- The M.E. Comp. Jonathan Nye, as G.G.H. Priest.
- James Herring, G.G. Secretary.
- Peter Grinnell, G.G. Treasurer.

And delegates from the Several State Grand Chapters under this jurisdiction.

The G.G. Chapter was opened with the usual Solemnities.

On Motion of Comp. R. Pennell of New York, a Committee on Credentials was appointed Consisting of Richard Pennell, of New York; Edward A. Raymond, of Massachusetts; Ingoldesby W. Crawford, of Connecticut.

The M.E. Comp. Paul Dean, G.G. King, and the M.E. Comp. Joseph K. Stapleton, G.G. Scribe, were then announced; and on being admitted, the M.E.G.G. King took the Chair.

Printed Copies of the proceedings of the last Triennial Meeting of the G.G. Chapter being in the hands of the Companions present, it was Resolved, that the reading of the Minutes of Said proceedings be dispensed with.

The Committee on Credentials reported, in part, as follows:

Reader page 47 · 1835 credentials · Use of Freemasons Hall

The Committee appointed to Examine Credentials respectfully report in part, that they have attended to the duty assigned them, and find the following Companions Entitled to Seats in the G.G. Chapter, Viz:

- From the G. Chapter of New York: M.E. Comp. J.F.B. Van Vechten, G.H.P.; M.E. Comp. Richard Pennell, D.G.H.P.; M.E. Comp. Nathan Gillett, G.S.
- From the G. Chapter of New Hampshire: M.E. Comp. B.L. Greenough, G.H. Priest—Isaac Hill, proxy for D.G.H. Priest; M.E. Comp. Jonathan Nye, G. King.
- From the G. Chapter of Massachusetts: M.E. Comp. E.A. Raymond, G.H. Priest; M.E. Comp. S.W. Robinson, G. Scribe.
- From the G. Chapter of the District of Columbia: M.E. Comp. W.W. Billing, G. King.
- From the G. Chapter of Ohio: M.E. Comp. John Barney, proxy for the G.H. Priest and G. King.
- From the G. Chapter of Connecticut: M.E. Comp. I.W. Crawford, G.H. Priest.

Which report was accepted and approved.

The following Communication was received, and on Motion, referred to a Special Committee.

Washington, Dec. 7th, 1835.

To the M.E. Edward Livingston, Gen. Grand H. Priest of the G.G. Royal Arch Chapter of the United States.

Sir, I am directed by the Board of Trustees of the Lodge Room, in Free Masons' Hall, in this City, to offer for the accommodation of the General Grand Chapter, the use of Said room, during the present Session. With very great respect, I am Sir &c.

W.W. Billing, Chairman.

Reader page 48 · 1835 committees · December 8 session

On a question arising how the Said Committee Should be appointed, it was Resolved, that all Committees Shall be appointed by the Chair, unless otherwise ordered.

The Committee was then appointed, Consisting of the M.E. Companions Robinson, Nye, and Van Vechten.

Ordered, That when the G.G. Chapter adjourn, they adjourn until 10 o'Clock to morrow Morning.

The following Committees were then appointed:

- On Finance, M.E. Companions Pennell, Robinson, Crawford.
- On Proceedings of G.G. officers, M.E. Companions Barney, Gillett, Billing.
- On the present State of the Masonic institution, M.E. Companions Van Vechten, Hill, Stapleton, Dean, Raymond, Barney, Billing.

Resolved, That Companion Thomas Fields be appointed Tyler, and Companion John Robinson assistant Tyler, during the present Session of the G.G. Chapter.

The G.G. Chapter was then adjourned until 10 o'Clock to morrow Morning.

Tuesday Morning, December 8, 1835

The G.G. Chapter Convened pursuant to adjournment, and was Called to order.

Present

The M.E. Comp. Paul Dean, G.G. King, in the Chair—officers and Members as yesterday.

After prayer by the M.E. Comp. Clark, the—

Reader page 49 · 1835 credentials continued · Prior accounts and finances

Minutes of the Meeting of the G.G. Chapter, last Evening, were read and approved.

The following report was received and accepted:

The Committee on Credentials further report, that there are in attendance, as representatives of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, M.E. Comp. G.W. Haller, D.G.H. Priest; M.E. Comp. C.S. Peters, G. King; M.E. Comp. C. Gilman, proxy for J.S. Peters, G. Scribe.

Signed R. Pennell,
E.A. Raymond.

The Committee to whom had been Entrusted, at the last triennial Meeting of the G.G. Chapter, the duty of Examining the accounts of the late G.G. Secretary, Comp. Lebbeus Chapman, reported that the Chairman of that Committee had written twice to Comp. Chapman, but had received no answer from him.

The report of the Committee was accepted and laid on the table.

The Committee appointed at the last triennial Meeting to take into Consideration the State of the funds, and to Correspond with the Several State Grand Chapters, was Called upon for their report; whereupon the M.E. Comp. Gilman offered the following, which was accepted, and the resolution adopted:

Whereas, the Committee to whom was referred the Subject matter of the State of the funds of this G.G. Chapter have had no Meeting for the purpose of deliberating upon that Subject; and Whereas there is but one member of that Committee present at this Meeting, Therefore, Resolved, That Said Committee be discharged—

Reader page 50 · Texas Chapter application · Proposed resolution on accounts

from further duty on that Subject.

The Committee to whom was referred the Communication of Comp. Billing, for and in behalf of the Board of Trustees of Masons' Hall, tendering the use of the Lodge Room to the G.G. Chapter during its present Session, have Considered the Same and respectfully ask leave to report That the thanks of this G.G. Chapter are justly due to that distinguished body for their great Kindness, and fraternal Solicitude in tendering to the G.G. Chapter the use of their Hall; and the G.G. Secretary be directed to transmit a Copy of this report to Said Board.

Signed S.W. Robinson, for Committee.

The M.E. Comp. Van Vechten, on behalf of Companions Samuel M. Williams, James H.C. Miller and others associated with them, they made an application for a Charter to Constitute a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the State of Texas—which was referred to a Committee Consisting of Comp. Van Vechten, Raymond and Crawford.

The M.E. Comp. Van Vechten offered the following resolution, which, after debate, was laid on the table.

Resolved, That the Committee to whom was referred the accounts of the late G.G. Secretary, be instructed again to Call upon him for Settlement and payment of monies in his hands belonging to the G.G. Chapter; and in Case of his non-Compliance within three months from the [blank] day of [blank], that the Said late G.G. Secretary be Expelled from all—

Editorial note: Spaces for the date were left blank in this proposed resolution, which the record says was laid on the table.

Reader page 51 · 1835 report · State and prospects of the institution

Masonic privileges, and that Said Committee Cause Said Expulsion to be made public.

The Committee of the present State of the Masonic institution reported as follows:

The Committee to whom it was referred to inquire into and to report upon the State of the institution respectfully Report:

That in the discharge of their duties, they have made inquiries from the Companions in attendance, and find nothing that Calls for the particular attention of the G.G. Chapter. The Committee are happy to be able to State that the prospects of the institution are Evidently brightening—and they Entertain a Strong hope, that the time is not far distant, when purified by the trials through which it has passed, it will again flourish in its pristine glory. Your Committee would respectfully urge upon the fraternity the necessity of more Caution in their future operations, and a Stricter Enforcement of the principles of the institution, for they feel fully persuaded that the difficulties under which they have laboured are owing to neglect in these particulars.

By order of Committee.
Signed Jacob F.B. Van Vechten,
Chairman of Com.

On Motion, Resolved, that the Election of G.G. officers Shall take place to morrow at 12 o'Clock.

On Motion—

Reader page 52 · Constitution referrals · December 8, 1835 finance session

Resolved, That when the G.G. Chapter adjourn, it adjourn until 5 o'Clock this afternoon.

On Motion of Comp. Raymond, Resolved, That the Eighth Section of the Second article of the Constitution of this G.G. Chapter be referred to a Committee for revision and amendment.

On Motion of Comp. Nye, Resolved, That the first Section of the first article be referred to a Committee for the Same purpose.

Whereupon the Subject matter of both the last two resolutions was referred to the M.E. Companions Raymond, Van Vechten and Crawford.

The G.G. Chapter then adjourned.

Tuesday Afternoon, December 8, 1835

The General Grand Chapter Convened, pursuant to adjournment, and was Called to order.

Present

The M.E. Comp. Paul Dean, G.G. King, the officers and Members as before.

The Minutes of the Morning Session were read and approved.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows:

The Committee on Finance have attended to the duties assigned them, and Submit the following report, in part:

That they have Examined the G.G. Treasurer's accounts and find it Correct, and properly Vouched, with the Exception of one Claim for printing, amounting to the Sum of $49.25, which Voucher—

Reader page 53 · Finance report and Constitution amendments · December 9, 1835

the Treasurer Says is mislaid.

The G.G. Treasurer has paid from the funds of the G.G. Chapter, the Sum of $236.13, leaving a balance in the Treasury of $240.90, Subject to the disposal of this G.G. Chapter.—All of which is respectfully Submitted.

The G.G. Chapter then adjourned until 10 o'Clock to morrow Morning.

Wednesday Morning, December 9, 1835

The G.G. Chapter Convened pursuant to adjournment, and was Called to order.

Present

The M.E. Comp. Paul Dean, G.G. King, presiding, the officers and Members as before.

After prayer the Minutes of the last Meeting were read and approved.

The resolution, relating to the late G.G. Secretary, laid upon the table yesterday, was Called up, and after discussion, it being Suggested that the Committee on Finance had had the Subject under Consideration, and that they would probably report resolutions on that Subject, the resolution was withdrawn.

The following report was received, and the proposed alterations of the G.G. Constitution adopted:

That the first Section of the first article be altered by Striking out the words “first Monday in December” and Substituting therefor, “Second Tuesday of September.”

That the Eighth Section of the Second article, the following words: “and also a Copy of their proceedings—

Reader page 54 · 1835 finance report · Bills and proposed annual contributions

annually,” be Stricken out.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.

Signed Edward A. Raymond,
Jacob F.B. Van Vechten,
I.W. Crawford.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows:

The Committee further report—That there is in the Treasury the Sum of $240.90. And that there is due from this G.G. Chapter on account of the following bills, Viz:

Bill	Dollars
For advertising the Meetings	14.76

Bill	Dollars
To the G.G. Tyler and assistant	7.50
To the G.G. Secretary for postage	2.66
For Candles	1.50
To Comp. Gilman for postage	1.00
The Sum of	27.42

Leaving a balance of $[213.52?].

They would recommend the allowance to the G.G. officers:

Companion	Dollars
M.E. Comp. Paul Dean	50.00
Peter Grinnell	35.00
J.K. Stapleton	20.00
James Herring	50.00

The Committee would Suggest the following mode of raising funds for the future Expenditure of the G.G. Chapter, Viz: to respectfully request the Several Grand Chapters under this jurisdiction to Contribute yearly the Sum of $25.00, to be Sent to the G.G. Treasurer until the next triennial Meeting of the G.G. Chapter.

Your Committee, though not Strictly within the limit of their appointment, beg leave to Suggest, in Connection—

Reader page 55 · 1835 accounts · Demand for funds and documents

with the Subject of Finance, the Case of the late G.G. Secretary, Comp. Lebbeus Chapman. It appears from the report of the Chairman of the Committee appointed to Settle the accounts of the Said late G.G. Secretary, that he has written to that individual two letters, to neither of which has he received any answer. Your Committee are of opinion that it is high time this matter be brought to a Close; and with that View, beg leave to report for adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, That [blank] be a Committee to demand from the late G.G. Secretary, Lebbeus Chapman, the funds and documents in his possession belonging to this G.G. Chapter; and unless Such demand be Complied with in four months from this date, the Said Lebbeus Chapman be, and he is hereby, Expelled from all the rights and privileges of the Masonic fraternity.

Resolved, That the G.G. Secretary be directed to furnish Comp. Lebbeus Chapman with a Copy of these resolutions together with the names and residence of the Committee.

Signed R. Pennell,
S.W. Robinson,
I.W. Crawford.

Which report was accepted and the resolutions adopted. The blank was then filled with the names of Comps. Van Vechten, Stapleton, and Nye, as Said Committee.

On Motion it was Resolved, That the Chairman of the Said Committee be directed to notify the G.G. Secretary of the result of the demand on Comp. Chapman, and in Case of his refusal to Comply with that demand, that the G.G. Secretary be—

Reader page 56 · San Felipe de Austin Chapter No. 1 · Texas warrant approved

required to give public notice of his Expulsion in Such newspapers as he may deem proper.

The Committee on the application for a Charter in Texas reported as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the application of Companions Samuel M. Williams, James C. Miller, and other Royal Arch Masons of Texas associated with them, for a Warrant or Charter for a R.A. Chapter to be located at San Felipe de Austin, respectfully report:

That, in their opinion, the application is proper and ought to be granted. And they would respectfully recommend that a Warrant or Charter, by the name of San Felipe de Austin R.A. Chapter No. 1 of Texas, issue to Comp. Williams as H.P. and Comp. Miller as King, with authority to them to fill up the other offices. And they would further recommend, that the D.G. High Priest of N. York be and he is hereby authorized to install into the office of High Priest of Said Chapter, Comp. Samuel M. Williams.

All which is respectfully Submitted.
By order of the Committee
Signed Jacob F.B. Van Vechten, Chairman.

Which report was approved and adopted.

The G.G. Chapter then took a recess until twelve o'Clock M.

At twelve o'Clock, the G.G. Chapter was again Called to order and proceeded to the Election of the G.G. officers for the Ensuing three years.

Companions Robinson and Nye were appointed to Collect the Votes.

Reader page 57 · 1835 election · Next meeting in Boston

- M.E. Comp. Edward Livingston was Elected G.G.H. Priest.
- Joel R. Poinsett was Elected D.G.G.H. Priest.
- Paul Dean was Elected G.G. King.
- Joseph K. Stapleton was Elected G.G. Scribe.
- Charles Gilman was Elected G.G. Secretary.
- Edward A. Raymond was Elected G.G. Treasurer.
- Revd. Comp. Frederick Clark was Elected G.G. Chaplain.
- Comp. Ingoldesby W. Crawford was Elected G.G. Marshall.

On Motion, it was Resolved, That when this G.G. Chapter adjourns, it adjourns to meet again in the City of Boston, on the Second Tuesday of September, 1838.

The Committee on the proceedings of the G.G. officers reported as follows; which being read, was adopted.

The Committee appointed to take into Consideration “the proceedings of the General Grand officers” beg leave respectfully to State, that no business of importance has been presented for their Consideration. It affords them pleasure, however, to State, that, So far as their inquiries have

Extended, in regard to the absence of the M.E.G.G.H. Priest Livingston, your Committee are Clearly of opinion that this august body have been deprived of his Valuable aid, only by Circumstances of an important Character Connected with his official relations to his Country (which are beyond his Control) and not from any feelings of disrespect toward this body, or indifference to the interest or welfare of the order.

In relation to the absence of the M.E.D.G.G.H.P. Poinsett, your Committee respectfully refer your honourable body, in the absence of any other information, to a letter addressed by him to Companion—

Reader page 58 · 1835 officers report concluded · December 9 evening session

James Lawrenson, W.M. of Columbia Lodge No. 3 of the D.C. and Chairman of the Com. Arrangements in September last, in which he Expresses his ardent attachment to the Masonic institution, and regret that, in Consequence of Severe indisposition he was unable to attend a Procession, had at that time; they incline to the belief, therefore, that his absence has been occasioned by his low State of health, and perhaps his present residence at a Considerable distance.

They therefore beg leave to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of this G.G. Chapter be presented to Such of the M.E. Grand officers as have attended on the present occasion, and for the faithful and Satisfactory manner in which they have discharged the duties assigned them.

Signed John Barney,
Nathan Gillett,
W.W. Billings.

The G.G. Chapter then adjourned until 6 o'Clock this Evening.

Wednesday Evening, December 9, 1835

The G.G. Chapter Convened, pursuant to adjournment, and was Called to order.

Present

The M.E. Comp. Paul Dean, G.G.K., in the Chair.

The officers and members as before.

Reader page 59 · 1835 installation · Thanks to James Herring

The Minutes of the Morning Session were read and approved.

The M.E. Comp. Paul Dean, General Grand King, was then presented for installation by the M.E. Comp. J. Nye. The G.G. King then renewed his oath of office in Solemn form.

The M.E.G.G. Scribe, Comp. J.K. Stapleton, was then in the Same manner presented, and renewed his oath of office.

The M.E. Comp. Charles Gilman, G.G. Secretary Elect, was then presented and duly installed into office.

The M.E. Comp. Edward A. Raymond, G.G. Treasurer Elect, was then presented and duly installed into office.

The M.E. and Rev. Comp. Frederick Clark, G.G. Chaplain Elect, was then presented and duly installed into office.

The M.E. Comp. I.W. Crawford, G.G. Marshall Elect, was then presented and duly installed into office.

Proclamation was then made by the G.G. Marshall that the officers of this G.G. Chapter present were now duly installed into office, and that the G.G. Chapter was about to adjourn for the Ensuing three years.

The following Resolution was offered and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this G.G. Chapter be tendered to our worthy, and M.E. Comp. James Herring of New York, for the very able and faithful manner in which he has Executed the duties of the office of G.G. Secretary; and that the present G.G. Secretary be directed to forward to him a Copy of this Resolution.

The following Resolution was offered and unanimously passed:

Reader page 60 · 1835 meeting closes · Thanks to Peter Grinnell

Resolved, That the thanks of the G.G.R.A. Chapter be tendered to our M.E. Comp. Peter Grinnell, late G.G. Treasurer, for the faithful manner in which he has long performed the duties of that office; and that the G.G. Secretary be directed to forward to him a Copy of this Resolution.

The Minutes of the G.G. Chapter being read were approved, and the General Grand Chapter was then Closed in Solemn prayer by the M.E.G.G. Chaplain.

Charles Gilman,
G.G. Secretary.

Reader page 61 · 1838 proceedings · Representatives and committees

Editorial note: The supplied PDF moves from the closing of the 1835 meeting to this entry without an opening heading for the next meeting. The following scan identifies the session as September 11, 1838.

On Motion of Comp. Gilman, it was Resolved That all R.A. Masons in good and regular Standing [unclear] have permission and are invited to take Seats as Visitors in the G.G. Chapter during its present Session.

The Committee on Credentials made the following report, which was accepted and approved:

The Committee on Credentials ask leave to report that the following named Companions have a right to Seats as representatives in the G.G. Chapter:

From the G. Chapter of New Hampshire

M.E. Comp. Robert Smith, G.H. Priest.

From the G. Chapter of Massachusetts

- M.E. Comp. Simon W. Robinson, G.H. Priest.
- John B. Hammatt, D.G.H. Priest.
- Elijah Atherton, G. King.
- Enoch Hobart, G. Scribe.

From the G. Chapter of Connecticut

- M.E. Comp. Wm. H. Ellis, G.H. Priest.
- I.W. Crawford, proxy for M.E. Comp. A.L. Bell, G. Scribe.

From the G. Chapter of New York

- M.E. Comp. Jacob F.B. Van Vechten, G.H.P.
- Joseph Cuyler, G. King.
- Granger Wadsworth, G. Scribe.

From the G. Chapter of Maryland

- M.E. Comp. Joseph K. Stapleton, G.H. Priest.
- C.S. Peters, G. King.

From the G. Chapter of Ohio

M.E. Comp. Charles Gilman, proxy for M.E. Comp. William J. Reese, G.H. Priest.

On Motion of Comp. Raymond, it was Resolved, That when the G.G. Chapter adjourns, it adjourn to meet again at half past 3 o'Clock this afternoon.

The following Committees were then announced:

- On the present State of Masonry: Companions J.F.B. Van Vechten of New York, S.W. Robinson of Massachusetts, Robert Smith of New Hampshire, J.K. Stapleton of Maryland, and Charles Gilman of Ohio.
- On Finance: Comps. Cuyler, Hobart, and Smith.

Reader page 62 · September 11, 1838 · Communications and Livingston memorial

On the proceedings of the G.G. officers: Comps. Haswell, Bell and Atherton.

On Motion the G.G. Chapter was then adjourned.

Tuesday Afternoon, Septr. 11, 1838

The General Grand Chapter met according to adjournment, and was Called to order.

Present

The M.E. and Rev. Comp. Paul Dean presiding. The other officers and members as before.

The Minutes of the proceedings of the Morning Session were read and approved.

Companion Smith, at his own request, was Excused from Serving as a Member of the Committee on Finance, and Companion Haswell was appointed to fill the Vacancy.

A Communication was received from King Solomon Chapter in Indiana, and referred to the Committee on the proceedings of the G.G. officers.

A Communication was received from Certain Masons in Florida, and on Motion, was referred to a Special Committee Consisting of Companions Ellis, Cuyler and Robinson.

It having been Suggested that, Since the last triennial Meeting of the G.G. Chapter, the M.E. Comp. Edward Livingston, General Grand High Priest of this G.G. Chapter, had departed this life, on Motion of Comp. Ingoldesby W. Crawford, it was Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to Consist of the present General Grand Council, as now organized, and the M.E. Comp. James Herring, to report a Suitable notice of the demise of our late G.G.H. Priest.

On Motion it was Resolved, That when the G.G. Chapter adjourns, it adjourn to meet again at 3 o'Clock to morrow afternoon. The G.G. Chapter was then adjourned.

Wednesday, Septr. 12, 1838

The General Grand Chapter met according to adjournment, and was Called to order.

Reader page 63 · 1838 proceedings · Macon Chapter and receipts

Present

The M.E. and Rev. Comp. Paul Dean presiding. The other officers and members as before.

The Minutes of the proceedings of the last Meeting were read and, as amended, approved.

The G.G. Secretary informed the G.G. Chapter that he had had in his possession Certain documents whereby it appeared that the M.E. Comp. Joel R. Poinsett, D.G.G.H. Priest, had issued his dispensation Establishing a R.A. Chapter in the City of Macon, in the State of Georgia—that Comp. Poinsett had forwarded to him the Constitutional fees for the Same, with a request that he would transmit them to the G.G. Treasurer, which he had accordingly done.

Whereupon it was Ordered, That Said documents be referred to the Committee on the proceedings of the G.G. officers.

The Committee on Credentials made further report, that the following Companions have right to Seats in the G.G. Chapter, as members thereof:

- M.E. Comp. Nathan B. Haswell, proxy for M.E. Horace Goodwin, 2d, D.G.H. Priest of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut.
- M.E. Comp. James M. Allen, proxy for M.E. Joel R. Poinsett, D.G.G.H. Priest.

Which report was accepted and approved.

On Motion of the M.E.G.G. Scribe it was Resolved, That the G.G. Secretary be requested to make a Special report of all the monies which have Come to his hands belonging to the G.G. Chapter, Since the last triennial Meeting.

Comp. Ellis offered the following resolution, which was ordered to be laid upon the table:

Resolved, That all monies belonging to the G.G. Chapter arising from dispensations granted by the G.G. officers Shall by them be paid over to the G.G. Secretary who Shall pay them over to G.G. Treasurer and take his receipt for the Same.

On Motion a Committee of three were appointed to Examine what alterations, if any, is necessary to be made in the Constitution in relation to the duties of the G.G. officers relative to the—

Reader page 64 · Florida education memorial · Letter from Joel R. Poinsett

funds of the G.G. Chapter. Companions Wadsworth, Smith and Dean were appointed on Said Committee.

The Special Committee to which was referred the Memorial from Florida made the following report which was accepted and adopted:

The Committee to which was referred the Memorial of John G.S. Norman and others asking the aid and Countenance of the General Grand Chapter to Enable them to Establish an institution in the Territory of Florida for the advancement of Education and to Erect a “mental monument” to the memory of a portion of the brave men who lost their lives in the Service of the Country, Report That they have had the Memorial under Consideration, and that the object intended to be accomplished by the Memorialists is laudable and praiseworthy and will undoubtedly receive due attention from the Masonic fraternity; but they deem the Subject more appropriate for the

Consideration of Lodges, Chapters and individuals of the Masonic order throughout the Country than for any action of this General Grand Chapter, and ask to be discharged from further Consideration of the Same.

All which is respectfully Submitted.
Signed Wm. H. Ellis,
Jos. Cuyler,
S.W. Robinson.

On Motion it was Resolved, That when the G.G. Chapter adjourns it adjourn to meet again to morrow afternoon at 3 o'Clock, and that the Election of the G.G. officers Shall be held at 4 o'Clock the Same afternoon.

Comp. Allen read two letters from the M.E. Comp. Joel R. Poinsett, D.G.G.H. Priest, from which the following are Extracts:

Reader page 65 · Poinsett letter · June 7, 1838

“Washington, June 7th, 1838.

My dear Sir:

My Severe indisposition and protracted Convalescence have prevented me from answering your letters on the Subject of the General Grand Chapter and Encampment in September next.

There is no probability that my public duties will permit me to be present at that Meeting, and if you Should attend I will with pleasure avail myself of your Kindness to take charge of my proxy.

In doing So I must beg you to Signify to our brethren and Companions my desire not to be Considered a Candidate Either for the place I now hold, or that Vacated by the death of our lamented Companion Edward Livingston.

The part I have taken in defence of the Character, principles and the Conduct of the Craft, during the period of an unjust and unprovoked persecution, will Convince our friends of my Zeal and devotion to their interests; but the public Situation I now occupy renders it very desirable that I Should withdraw from the administration of the affairs of the order.

We have been accused, unjustly it is true, of perverting our ancient institution, Established for purposes of wide Spread and Enlightened benevolence, to Selfish and ambitious uses; and to place at its head an officer of the General Government might give a Color to this accusation with the ignorant and unwary; besides the interests of the General Grand Chapter require more attention than the duties of my public Station will permit me to bestow upon them, and I must beg respectfully and Earnestly to be relieved from the responsibilities of the Station to which the partiality and flattering Votes of my Companions have Elevated me.

I am, with Sentiments of fraternal regard,
Your Friend and Brother.”

Reader page 66 · Poinsett declines further office · September 13, 1838

“White Sulphur Springs, 23d Aug., 1838.

By the date of this letter you will perceive that it will be Entirely out of my power to meet the Chapter at Boston. My health requires not only relaxation but active remedies and I have found them in these waters.

I See no Cause to Change my former opinions and wishes on the Subject of the high office I now hold, and beg the favour of Explaining them to our Companions.

With great respect, Esteem and regard,
I am, faithfully,
Your Friend and Companion,
J.R. Poinsett.

Hon. James M. Allen, Esqr.,
Grand High Priest of the State of New York and General Grand Master of Knights Templars, &c. for the United States.”

The G.G. Chapter was then adjourned.

Thursday, September 13th, 1838

The General Grand Chapter met according to adjournment and was Called to order; the M.E. Comp. J.K. Stapleton presiding.

The Minutes of the proceedings of the last Meeting were read and approved.

It appearing that the Grand Chapters of the States of Massachusetts, New York and Maryland, had responded favorably to the request of the General Grand Chapter at its last triennial Meeting, asking aid to its funds from the Several Grand Chapters under its jurisdiction, and that Said Grand Chapters have voted to grant the aid So asked for, Comp. Raymond offered the following resolution which was passed:

Reader page 67 · 1838 proceedings — funds and the General Grand Secretary’s report

Resolved, That the Subject of an annual allowance from the Several Grand Chapters under the jurisdiction of the G. G. Chapter, in aid of the funds of the latter, be referred to the committee on Finance, with request that Said committee will report as to the necessity of rescinding the appropriations which have been made by certain of Said Grand Chapters.

Companions Cuyler, Wadsworth and Crawford were appointed a committee to confer with the committee of the G. G. Encampment as to the time and place of the next triennial meeting of this G. G. Chapter.

The General Grand Secretary made the following report of his doings, which was accepted and his acts approved:

The General Grand Secretary of the G. G. Grand Chapter of the United States respectfully reports:

That on the 25th day of January 1836, in pursuance of a resolution of this G. G. Chapter at the last triennial meeting, he communicated to the late G. G. Secretary, Lebbeus Chapman, a copy of a resolution passed upon the 13th and 14th pages of the printed copies of the proceedings of Said meeting; a copy of which communication is herewith exhibited, marked A. That he Subsequently wrote to the Said Chapman on the Same Subject, copies of which letters are also herewith exhibited, marked B. and C. That on the 4th day of September 1837, he received information from the chairman of the committee to which this matter had been referred, that the Said Chapman had refused to comply with the requirements of this G. G. Chapter and directing him to give public notice that the Said Lebbeus Chapman was expelled from all the rights and privileges of the Masonic fraternity; which notice was thereupon given by issuing a circular to each of the—

The Secretary’s report continues on scan 68.

Reader page 68 · 1838 Secretary's report — Texas charter and Document A

—principal Masonic institutions in the country, Stating that fact; a copy of which circular is herewith exhibited, marked D.

The General Grand Secretary further reports, that in accordance with resolution of this G. G. Chapter at its last meeting, a charter has been forwarded to San Filipe de Austin Chapter, at San Filipe de Austin, in Texas; and that the Sum of ninety dollars, as fees for the Same, has been paid over to the General Grand Treasurer.

He also reports that he has received the Sum of Sixty two dollars as fees to this G. G. Chapter, from King Solomon's Chapter at Richmond Ia. and has paid the Same over to the G. G. Treasurer.

All which is respectfully Submitted.

(Signed) Charles Gilman, G. G. Sec'y.
Boston, Sept. 11, 1838.

Document A

At the triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America, held in the city of Washington, December 9th, 1835.

The Committee on Finance, among other things reported the following preamble and resolutions:

"Your committee, though not precisely within the limits of their appointment, beg leave to Suggest in connexion with the Subject of Finance, the case of the late G. G. Secretary, Comp. L. Chapman. It appears from the report of the chairman of the committee appointed to Settle the accounts of the late Secretary, that he has written to that individual two letters, to neither of which has he received any answer.

Reader page 69 · Document A — resolution concerning the former Secretary

Your committee are of opinion that it is high time this matter be brought to a close, and with that view beg leave to report for adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, That companions Van Vechten, Stapleton and Nye, be a committee to demand from the late G. G. Secretary, Lebbeus Chapman, the funds and documents in his possession, belonging to this G. G. Chapter; and unless Such demand be complied with in four months from this date the Said Lebbeus Chapman be and he is hereby expelled from all the rights and privileges of the Masonic fraternity.

Resolved, That the General Grand Secretary be directed to furnish Comp. Lebbeus Chapman with a copy of these resolutions, together with the names and residences of the committee.

(Signed) R. I. Samuell; S. W. Robinson; I. W. Crawford.

Which report was accepted and the resolutions adopted. On motion, it was

Resolved, That the chairman of Said committee be directed to notify the G. G. Secretary of the demand on Comp. Chapman, and of his refusal to comply therewith, that the G. G. Secretary be requested to give public notice of his expulsion in Such manner as he may deem proper.

A true copy from the proceedings.
(Attest) Charles Gilman, G. G. Secretary.

Committee above named:
Jacob F. B. Van Vechten, Albany N. Y.

Joseph K. Stapleton, Baltimore, Md.
Jonathan Nye, Claremont N. H.

Baltimore, January 4, 1836.
Comp. L. Chapman—Sir, By the foregoing you will perceive that an unpleasant duty has devolved upon me. I write now merely to Say that—

The letter continues on scan 70. “Ia.” on the preceding scan is retained as written in the source.

Reader page 70 · Secretary’s correspondence — January and July 1836

—the Spirit of it, and that you will do that which ought to be done in the premises. I Shall delay the publication of the proceedings until the expiration of the four months mentioned, and Should you think proper to comply with the requirements of the G. G. Chapter, that part appertaining to yourself will be omitted in the printed copies.

I am Respectfully,
Yours &c.
(Signed) Charles Gilman, G. G. Sec’y.

L. Chapman, Esq., Newburgh, Pa.

Document B

Baltimore, July 25, 1836.
Comp. L. Chapman,
Dear Sir—I am requested by our worthy Comp. J. K. Stapleton to address to you a note, to ascertain if you purpose to comply with the requisitions of the committee of the G. G. Chapter, as communicated to you by him Some time Since? He instructs me to Say to you that he has received no answer from you to that communication; and that after a proper time for this to reach you, and an answer to be returned, if nothing farther is heard from you, the proceedings of the last meeting of the G. G. C. will be published and circulated.

I am respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed) Charles Gilman, G. G. Sec’y.

Reader page 71 · Documents C and D — October letter and circular

Document C

Baltimore, Octbr. 18, 1836.
Comp. L. Chapman:

Sir—On the 25th July last I addressed a letter to you on the Subject of the claim of the G. G. Chapter upon yourself, to which I have received no reply. I am requested by Comp. Stapleton Still to address you again, as I now do, lest there Should have any accident happened to his call to you on this Subject, by which it has not been received. Allow me to inform you that unless prevented by Some movement on your part, I Shall issue a copy of the last proceedings of the G. G. Chapter to press the first of next, and that the resolution of the G. G. Chapter, in relation to yourself, will be immediately thereafter carried fully into effect.

I am Your obedient Servant,
(Signed) Charles Gilman, G. G. Sec’y.

Document D — Circular

Whereas, At a triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, held at the city of Washington on the 9th day of December 1835, a resolution was passed by which Lebbeus Chapman, late of the city of New York, Supposed now to be of Newburgh in the State of Pennsylvania, a past General Grand Secretary of the Said General Grand Chapter, was expelled from all the rights and privileges of the Masonic fraternity, unless he, the Said Lebbeus Chapman, within four months from that time—

The circular continues on scan 72. The incomplete phrase “to press the first of next” is retained as written above.

Reader page 72 · Circular concluded — Secretary’s receipts

—Should deliver up to a committee of that body appointed to demand the Same, the funds and documents in his possession, belonging to Said General Grand Chapter—

And whereas, the committee aforesaid did duly demand of the Said Lebbeus Chapman the funds and documents aforesaid, with which demand he has neglected and refused to comply, which Said neglect and refusal has been communicated to me by the chairman of Said committee—

Now therefore, pursuant to a resolution of Said General Grand Chapter, passed at the triennial meeting aforesaid, I hereby give notice that the Said Lebbeus Chapman is expelled from all the rights and privileges of the Masonic fraternity.

(Signed) Charles Gilman,
G. G. Sec. of the G. G. Chap. of the U. S.
Baltimore, Sept. 4th, 1837.

The General Grand Secretary made the following report which was accepted:

The General Grand Secretary, in pursuance of a resolution of this General Grand Chapter requesting him to report what monies have come to his hands belonging to the General Grand Chapter, Since the last Triennial meeting, respectfully Submits the following Statement:

Receipt	Amount
That he has received of the M. E. Comp. Joel R. Poinsett, D. G. G. H. Priest, on account of a dispensation for a Chapter at the city of Macon in the State of Georgia	$90.00
Of the M. E. Comp. Jos. K. Stapleton, G. G. Scribe, on account of dispensations for Chapters at Palmyra in the State of Missouri and at Richmond in the State of Indiana	$180.00

The receipts statement continues on scan 73.

Reader page 73 · 1838 resolutions — next meeting and acknowledgment of hospitality

Receipt, continued	Amount
That he has received on account of a charter for San Filipe de Austin Chapter	$90.00
Also from King Solomon’s Chapter at Richmond in the State of Indiana, on account of dues to the General Grand Chapter	$52.00
Total, including the preceding scan	$412.00

And has paid the Same over to the G. G. Treasurer.

(Signed) Charles Gilman, G. G. Sec’y.
Sept. 13, 1838.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the time and place of the next triennial meeting of the G. G. Chapter reported the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That when this G. G. Chapter adjourns its present triennial meeting, it will adjourn to meet in the city of New York on the Second Tuesday of September 1841.

Comp. Ellis offered the following resolution which passed:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Grand Chapter are justly due to the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, for their kindness and attention, in tendering to the G. G. Chapter the use of their halls, furniture and other accommodations during its present Session, and that the M. E. General Grand Secretary be directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.

The resolution offered by Comp. Todd yesterday, and laid on the table, was taken up and referred to the Special committee appointed to take into consideration the duties of the G. G. Officers, in relation to the funds of the G. G. Chapter.

The following report was received and unanimously adopted:

The committee to whom was referred the duty—

The $52.00 receipt above differs from the $62 reported on scan 68; both figures are transcribed as written. The committee report continues on scan 74.

Reader page 74 · 1838 — resolution in memory of Edward Livingston

—of preparing a Suitable tribute of respect to the memory of the late General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, beg leave to Submit the following preamble and Special orders:

(Signed) Paul Dean; Jos. K. Stapleton; G. Wadsworth; James Herring. Committee.

Whereas, The General Grand Royal Arch Chapter have been officially informed of the death of the M. E. Comp. the late Edward Livingston, who for many years, and at the time of his decease, was the presiding officer of this body; and whereas it will be alike honorable to the memory of the deceased, and to the Masonic institution, that the high regard entertained for him in life by his fraternity, and their respect for his memory, Should thus be put upon perpetual record: Therefore, it is—

Ordered, 1st, That the G. G. Secretary cause one page of the record of this G. G. Chapter to be occupied with the following epitaph:

Reader page 75 · Memorial inscription — Edward Livingston, LL. D.

To the Memory
of
Our Most Excellent Companion,
Edward Livingston, LL. D.

Born in the State of New York,
in the year 1764;
Took part in the glorious Struggle

for the Independence of his Country,
while yet a boy;

Was afterwards a Member of Congress
from his native State;
Mayor of the city of New York;
Senator of the United States from Louisiana;
Author of the Penal Code of Louisiana—
Secretary of State of the United States,
and
Minister to France.

He was, through his life, alike honourable
for great Talents and correct Principles.

He was an active and devoted member
of the
Masonic Fraternity,
from early life to the time of his death.

He held the office of Deputy Grand Master
of the
Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in 1803;
Was General Grand High Priest of the G. G. R. A. Chapter
of the United States,
from 1829 to the period of his Decease,
on the 23d day of May, in the year
MDCCCXXXVI.

This scan is a memorial page enclosed in a ruled border. Dates and biographical statements are transcribed from the manuscript as written.

Reader page 76 · 1838 — memorial orders and finance report

Ordered, 2dly, That the G. G. Secretary cause the Same to be printed with the proceedings of the G. G. Chapter.

Ordered, 3dly, That the G. G. Secretary transmit copies of Said printed proceedings to the family of the deceased.

The committee on Finance made the following report, which was accepted and adopted:

To the M. E. the G. G. Royal Arch Chapter of the United States.

The committee on Finance beg leave respectfully to report, That they have had the Several Subjects referred to them under consideration and have given to them the attention their importance required. They find the accounts of the G. G. Treasurer correctly Stated, and that he has received the following Sums, Since his last report to the last triennial meeting of the G. G. Chapter, viz:

Receipts	Amount
Cash received from the M. E. Peter Grinnell, late G. G. Treasurer, as a balance in his hands	$240.90

Receipts	Amount
Cash from the G. G. Secretary for fees and dues from King Solomon’s Chapter at Richmond, Indiana	$52.00
Cash from the G. G. Secretary for a charter to San Filipe de Austin Chapter in the State of Texas	$90.00
Cash for a dispensation to hold a R. A. Chapter at Macon in the State of Georgia, by the M. E. J. R. Poinsett, D. G. G. H. P.	$90.00
Cash for a dispensation to hold a R. A. Chapter at Richmond in the State of Indiana, by the M. E. J. K. Stapleton, G. G. Scribe	$90.00
Cash for a dispensation to hold a R. A. Chapter at Palmyra in the State of Missouri, by the M. E. J. K. Stapleton, G. G. Scribe	$90.00
Total	$652.90

Reader page 77 · 1838 finance report — disbursements and allowances

Making, in the whole received by the G. G. Treasurer, Six hundred and fifty two dollars and ninety Cents.

Your committee find that the G. G. Treasurer has expended and paid the following Sums, and for which he has produced the proper vouchers, viz:

Disbursements	Amount
To Paul Dean	$50.00
James Herring	$58.66
Peter Grinnell	$35.00
J. K. Stapleton	$20.00
Charles Gilman	$1.00
J. Philips for candles	$1.50
Same for Tiling	$1.50
For printing proceedings 1835	$19.00
Total	$186.66

Making, in the aggregate, the Sum of one hundred and eighty Six dollars and Sixty Six Cents; and leaving in the hands of the G. G. Treasurer, at the present meeting, the Sum of four hundred and Sixty Six dollars and twenty four Cents.

Your committee further report, That they find due from the G. G. Chapter, the Sums following, viz:

Due	Amount
To M. E. Comp. Gilman, G. G. Secretary, for Stationery and postage	$9.75
For cash paid for printing circular on Subject of L. Chapman	$2.00
Total	$11.75

And they recommend an allowance of the following Sums to the G. G. Officers:

Allowance	Amount
To M. E. Comp. J. K. Stapleton	$30.00
Charles Gilman	$40.00
I. W. Crawford	$20.00
Wm. C. Mullins as Tyler	$7.50

Your committee find, from the present State of the funds of the G. G. Chapter, that it will not be necessary to call upon the State Grand Chapters to make the contributions recommended by the committee on Finance, at the last triennial meeting of this G. G. Chapter.

Reader page 78 · 1838 — report on the state of Masonry

All which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) Jos. Cuyler; Enoch Hobart.

The committee on the State of Masonry made the following report, which was accepted and the resolution adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

The committee upon the general State of Masonry throughout the United States beg leave respectfully to report: That from the information which they have been able to obtain, there is every reason for thankfulness and rejoicing at the prospects of the institution; and your committee feel warranted in expressing, without hesitation, the decided opinion that the time is not far distant when the institution will again Stand forth to the world in all its ancient Splendour.

Your committee cannot but regret that amid all the encouragements expressed, we find difficulties have occurred in Some Sections of the country, which require the prompt and official action of this body. They allude, particularly, to the State of things in the city of New York. In 1837, the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in pursuance of its constitutional duty, expelled from Masonic privileges a number of individuals residing in that city of New York, for a gross violation of Masonic duty.

These individuals, thus expelled, have associated and resolved themselves into a body which they Style a new Grand Lodge; and, as your committee are informed, have actually reorganized new lodges under their jurisdiction, and have So far imposed on innocent persons as to induce them to take warrants under them!

A manuscript insertion dating the New York Grand Lodge action to 1837 has been incorporated into the sentence above. The report continues on scan 79.

Reader page 79 · 1838 — report concerning the spurious Grand Lodge

Your committee entertain a doubt how far it would be proper, on the part of this Grand Chapter, to adopt any action in this matter, which might be in any way construed as an attempt, on their part, to interfere with the lower degrees of Masonry.

But they can entertain no doubt, that it is the incumbent duty of this Chapter to express their reprobation of the conduct of those individuals, and at the Same time to adopt Such measures as will prevent the uninitiated and unwary from being misled.

Your committee hold it as a Sound principle, that a fair and just expulsion from a Lodge ought to exclude the individual from all Masonic communications; and with that view would Suggest a

recommendation from the General Grand Chapter to all the Subordinate Chapters under its jurisdiction, to abstain from all intercourse with those acknowledging in any way the authority of the Spurious Grand Lodge of New York, and would respectfully recommend to your body the following resolution:

Resolved, That the G. G. Secretary be directed to communicate to the different Grand Chapters under this jurisdiction, the fact of the existence of a Spurious Grand Lodge in the city of New York; and also the opinion of this G. G. Chapter, that there Should be no Masonic communication between them and any one connected with the Spurious body.

All which is respectfully Submitted.
Signed in behalf of the committee,
Jacob F. B. Van Vechten, Chairman.

The G. G. Chapter then took a recess of fifteen minutes.

The manuscript insertion “from a Lodge” has been incorporated into the paragraph on expulsion.

Reader page 80 · 1838 — election of officers

The G. G. Chapter being again called to order, it resolved itself into a committee of the whole, for the purpose of going into the choice of officers for the ensuing three years. The M. E. Comp. Wadsworth in the chair.

In Committee of the Whole, Comps. Hobart and Crawford were appointed to receive and count the votes.

The votes were then taken, and the following officers elected, viz: G. G. High Priest, D. G. G. H. Priest, G. G. King, G. G. Scribe, G. G. Secretary and G. G. Treasurer.

M. E. Comp. Robert Smith being elected to fill the office of G. G. Marshall, at his own request, was excused from Serving.

On motion, voted that the election of G. G. Chaplain and G. G. Marshal be postponed.

The committee then arose and reported progress to the G. G. Chapter, and that the following named M. E. Companions were been unanimously elected to fill the Several offices attached to their respective names, viz:

- The M. E. and Rev. Paul Dean, of Boston, Mass., to be G. G. H. Priest.
- The M. E. J. K. Stapleton, of Baltimore, Md., to be D. G. G. H. Priest.
- The M. E. J. F. B. Van Vechten, of Albany, New York, to be G. G. King.
- The M. E. Ingoldesby W. Crawford, of New London, Ct., to be G. G. Scribe.
- The M. E. Charles Gilman, of Baltimore, Md., to be G. G. Secretary.
- The M. E. Edward A. Raymond, of Boston, Mass., to be G. G. Treasurer.

Which report was accepted and adopted.

The G. G. Chapter was then adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o’Clock A. M.

Reader page 81 · September 14, 1838 — remaining officers and installation

Friday, September 14, 1838

The General Grand Chapter met agreeably to adjournment and was called to order.

The M. E. Comp. J. K. Stapleton presiding.

The minutes of the proceedings of the last meeting were read and approved.

On motion of Comp. Allen, it was Resolved, That the vacancies in the G. G. offices be now filled.

Companions Crawford and Hobart were appointed to receive and count the votes.

The votes being taken, the M. E. David Patten, D. D., of Troy, N. Y., was declared unanimously elected G. G. Chaplain; and the M. E. Ezra S. Barnum, of Utica, N. Y., was declared duly elected G. G. Marshall.

The G. G. Officers elect, with the exception of the G. G. Chaplain, being present, were Severally duly installed into their respective offices.

The G. G. Master then made proclamation that the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America was duly organized, and its officers, with the exception of the G. G. Chaplain, installed for the ensuing three years.

The following resolutions were offered and passed:

Resolved, That the G. G. Secretary be directed to notify the M. E. and Rev. David Patten of his election to the office of G. G. Chaplain.

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of the State of New York be respectfully requested to install the M. E. and Rev. David Buttrick into the office of G. G. Chaplain of this G. G. Chapter, at Such time as Shall be most convenient, and that the G. G. Secretary notify Said Chapter of this request.

The Special committee on the duties of the G. G. officers made a report which was accepted, as follows:

The manuscript names David Patten in the election and notification entries, but David Buttrick in the installation request. These names are retained as written. The report continues on scan 82.

Reader page 82 · 1838 — constitutional revision and officers’ acts

On motion of Comp. Allen, the following resolution was Submitted and passed:

Resolved, That a committee of three Companions be, and the Same is hereby appointed, to revise and amend the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and to report to the next triennial meeting Such amendments to the Same as they may deem expedient and proper.

Companions Allen, Van Vechten and Wadsworth were appointed as Said committee.

The committee on the doings of the G. G. Officers reported as follows, which report was accepted, and the resolution adopted:

The committee to whom was referred the doings of the General Grand Officers beg leave to report, That in attending to that duty they find the M. E. J. R. Poinsett granted a dispensation for a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at Macon in Georgia, dated June 21, 1838, and received the fees therefor, which he paid to the G. G. Secretary, by whom they have been paid to the G. G. Treasurer.

Your committee have not been favored with a report of companion Poinsett; but have obtained entire Satisfaction that in the above case he has acted correctly.

By the report of M. E. G. G. Scribe J. K. Stapleton, it appears that he has granted dispensations as follows: For a Chapter at Palmyra in the State of Missouri, and for one at Richmond in the State of Indiana; all of which appears to have been done correctly and upon proper applications, the latter of which has made the necessary returns and—

The preceding scan announces a report, but this scan begins with a motion on constitutional revision before presenting the officers' report. The sequence is retained as supplied.

Reader page 83 · 1838 — report approved and thanks to Poinsett

—done all things requisite to entitle them to a charter; and that the fees for Said dispensations, amounting to $180, have been received and paid to the G. G. Treasurer, by the hand of the G. G. Secretary.

Your Committee are Satisfied, that the other G. G. Officers have not granted any dispensations, or transacted any business requiring to call out a written report for consideration; but they deem it just to Say, that it appears to them Satisfactory that the G. G. Officers, during the recess, have discharged their various duties with talent and zeal, manifesting devotion to the interests of the order Commensurate with the high and important trusts confided to them; and consequently merit the unqualified Confidence and grateful acknowledgments of the G. G. Chapter.

Your Committee offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That a Charter be issued to the Companions at Richmond, Indiana, they having complied with all things on their part to entitle them thereto; and that the Same be done in relation to the others named in the above report whenever they make the necessary constitutional returns to the G. G. Secretary.

Masonic Temple, Boston, Mass.
September 14, 1838.
(Signed) G. Wadsworth; Elijah Atherton.

Com. Robinson offered the following resolution, which passed accordingly:

Resolved, unanimously, That the thanks of this General Grand Chapter be tendered to our worthy Companion the Hon. Joel R. Poinsett, for the faithful manner in which he has—

The resolution continues on scan 84.

Reader page 84 · September 1838 — closing and banquet

—executed the duties of the office of Deputy General Grand High Priest, together with the expression of our regret that his health and official duties will not permit him longer to preside over this body; and that the General Grand Secretary be directed to forward to him a copy of this resolution.

The credentials of Companion Moses Stevens, as proxy for the M. E. Benj. F. [unclear], G. H. Priest of the Grand Chapter of Germany, were presented, and, on motion of Comp. Wadsworth, it was—

Resolved, That Comp. Moses Stevens be admitted to a Seat as a member of this G. G. Chapter.

Comp. Coffin offered the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this G. G. Chapter be presented to Such of the M. E. General Grand Officers as have attended on the present occasion, and for the faithful and Satisfactory manner in which they have discharged the duties assigned them.

The General Grand Chapter was then closed in due form.

Charles Gilman, G. G. Secretary.

On the Thursday evening during the Session, the members of the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment were invited to a banquet given upon the occasion by the Companions of Boston, and Served up in one of the apartments of the Masonic—

The surname in the German representative’s credentials is not securely legible. The banquet account continues on scan 85.

Reader page 85 · 1838 — banquet account concluded

—Temple in a Style at once elegant and Sumptuous, at which M. E. Comp. Daniel L. Gibbens, of Boston, presided.

A numerous and highly respectable company assembled to join in the festivities of the evening and to greet the Companions from abroad.

During the evening, the warmest and most generous exhibition of fraternal regard was manifested whilst eloquence and wit were poured forth in rich and copious effusions to cheer and enliven the Scene. The time, the occasion, and the feeling there evinced have formed a nucleus, around which memory will long delight to linger, unaccompanied with the [unclear].

Most of this scan is blank below the concluding banquet paragraph. The final handwritten phrase is unclear.

Reader page 86 · New York, September 14, 1841 — triennial meeting

General Grand Chapter of the United States of America

The triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America was held in the Chapter Room of the Apollo, in the city of New York, on Tuesday, the 14th day of September 1841.

Present

- The M. E. and Rev. Paul Dean, G. G. H. Priest.
- The M. E. Richard Ellis, as D. G. G. H. Priest.
- The M. E. I. W. Crawford, as G. G. King.
- The M. E. Joseph Cuyler, as G. G. Scribe.
- The M. E. Ebenr. Wadsworth, as G. G. Secretary.
- The M. E. E. A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer.
- The M. E. & Rev. Robert Punshon, as G. G. Chaplain.
- The M. E. E. S. Barnum, G. G. Marshal.
- Comp. Wm. Boardman, G. G. Sentinel.

Prayer by M. E. & Rev. Robt. Punshon, of Ohio.

On motion, the reading of the minutes of the proceedings of the last triennial meeting was dispensed with.

On motion, Companions R. Ellis, of New York, M. Goodwin, 2d, of Connecticut, and R. Punshon, of Ohio, were appointed a Committee on Credentials.

The G. G. Chapter was then adjourned to 4 o’Clock, P. M.

Reader page 87 · 1841 — memorial resolution for Jacob F. B. Van Vechten

Afternoon Session

The G. G. Chapter met pursuant to adjournment and was called to order.

The M. E. G. G. High Priest presiding.

Other officers and members as before.

Prayer by Rev. Companion Punshon.

The M. E. General Grand High Priest having announced in a most appropriate manner the recent death of the Most Excellent Jacob F. B. Van Vechten, General Grand King of the General Grand Chapter, Whereupon Comp. Richard Ellis, of New York, offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously concurred in:

It having been announced to this General Grand Chapter, that Since our last triennial meeting, our late Comp. the M. E. Jacob F. B. Van Vechten, who held the exalted Station of General Grand King of this G. G. Chapter, has departed this life—and it being not only customary, but fit and proper that we express our feelings on the bereavement which this G. G. Chapter, with the whole Masonic fraternity, as well as his affected family, have Suffered by his death; therefore,

Resolved, That this G. G. Chapter deeply regret the decease of the M. E. G. G. King, Comp. J. F. B. Van Vechten, and Sincerely Sympathize with his bereaved family in the irreparable loss Sustained by his death:—

Resolved, That the G. G. Secretary transmit a copy of the above preamble and resolution to the family of our late M. E. Comp. Van Vechten.

The G. G. Chapter was then adjourned to 9 o’Clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, September 15, 1841

The G. G. Chapter met agreeably to adjournment and was called to order.

The M. E. Paul Dean, G. G. H. Priest, presiding.

Reader page 88 · 1841 — representatives and credentials

Other officers and members as before.

Prayer by the Rev. Comp. R. Punshon.

The committee on Credentials reported that the following named Companions are entitled to Seats as members of the G. G. Chapter, which report was accepted.

M. E. Comp. James M. Allen, proxy for M. E. Comp. Joel R. Poinsett, Past D. G. G. H. Priest.

From the G. Chapter of Vermont

M. E. Comp. Nathan B. Haswell, G. H. Priest.

From the G. Chapter of New Hampshire

M. E. Comp. Robert Smith, proxy for A. Hutchins, D. G. H. Priest.

From the G. Chapter of Massachusetts

- M. E. Comp. Elijah Atherton, G. H. Priest.
- Charles W. Moore, proxy for C. Tolman, D. G. H. Priest.

- J. R. Bradford, G. King.
- Robert Keith, G. Scribe.

From the G. Chapter of Rhode Island

- M. E. Comp. Barney Merry, proxy for Wm. E. Baker, G. H. Priest.
- Joseph M. Miller, proxy for Barzilla Cranston, D. G. H. Priest.
- William Field, G. King.
- Alvin Jencks, G. Scribe.

From the G. Chapter of Connecticut

- M. E. Comp. Wm. H. Ellis, G. H. Priest.
- Horace Goodwin, 2nd, D. G. H. Priest.

From the G. Chapter of New York

- M. E. Comp. Richard Ellis, G. H. Priest.
- Benjamin Enos, D. G. H. Priest.
- Joseph M. Cuyler, G. King.
- Ezra S. Barnum, G. Scribe.

From the G. Chapter of Ohio

M. E. & Rev. Comp. Robert Punshon, proxy for Comp. Oliver M. Spencer, G. H. Priest.

The M. E. G. G. High Priest appointed the—

The committee appointments continue on scan 89.

Reader page 89 · 1841 — committees and invitation from New York

—following Committees:

On the general State of Masonry

- Companion Joseph Cuyler, of New York.
- N. B. Haswell, of Vermont.
- Wm. Field, of Rhode Island.

On Finance

- Companion Ebenezer Wadsworth, of N. York.
- Alvin Jencks, of Rhode Island.
- Robert Smith, of New Hampshire.

On the acts of the G. G. Officers

- Companion J. M. Allen, of New York.
- Wm. H. Ellis, of Connecticut.
- C. W. Moore, of Massachusetts.

On Warrants

- Companion Joseph Cuyler, of New York.

- Robert Punshon, of Ohio.
- Wm. H. Ellis, of Connecticut.

The following communication from a joint Committee on the part of the Grand Encampment, Grand Chapter, and Grand Lodge of the State of New York, was received, and the invitation accepted:

Howard House Committee Rooms,
September 15th, 1841.

To the G. G. Secretary
of the G. G. Chapter of the U. S.

M. E. Comp.

The undersigned, on behalf of a joint Committee of the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, and Grand Encampment of the State of New York, are instructed most respectfully to invite the members of the Gen. Grand Chapter to participate with the fraternity of the State of New York, in the ceremonies and festivities of the 16th inst., Set apart for this purpose.

In performing this agreeable duty, they feel pleasure in assuring that Grand Body of the high esteem and respect they individu—

The invitation continues on scan 90; the final word is divided at the scan boundary.

Reader page 90 · 1841 — report proposing a constitutional treasury article

—ally, as well as the fraternity at large, entertain.

They remain, with much fraternal regard,
Very Respectfully,
Signed—Lewis Feuchtwanger; W. Rockwell; S. Phillips. Committee.

Companion Allen, from the Committee appointed at the last triennial meeting to revise and amend the Constitution of the G. G. Chapter, made the following report, which, on motion, was laid on the table:

The Committee to whom was referred the General Grand Constitution, with instructions to report Such amendments thereto as they might believe necessary, beg leave respectfully to report:

That they have given to the Subject committed to their care, all the consideration which its importance required, and have not been able to discover any material defects therein, farther than will be noticed in their report.

Masonic usage, from time immemorial, having prescribed the duties of the treasurer to be the receiving and Safe-keeping of all monies belonging to the different Orders of the Craft, it was probably deemed inexpedient to provide any written regulation upon the Subject.

Yet, inasmuch as by ancient usage, it often happens that monies are received by other officers and members, who are not elected with any Special view to this duty; and as it Seemed to be the wishes of your body, at the time of the appointment of your Committee, that Some regulations Should be provided for the government of members in like cases, your Committee would recommend an additional article to be added to the Constitution for the government and regulation of the officers and members here—

Reader page 91 · 1841 — proposed treasury duties and afternoon session

—after, in the following words, viz:

It Shall be the duty of the General Grand Treasurer to receive and keep all monies belonging to the General Grand Chapter, and to pay them out only upon the order thereof; and every officer and member of the General Grand Chapter who Shall receive any money for the use thereof, Shall immediately pay the Same over to the Treasurer, and in case he does not reside at the Same place, they Shall transmit the Same to him within thirty days after receiving it, by due course of Commercial exchange.

Your Committee cannot close their report without briefly alluding to the fact, that the continued illness and Subsequent death of our worthy and most excellent Companion Jacob F. B. Van Vechten, who was joined with them for the consideration of this Subject, has deprived them of the valuable aid of his advice and assistance in the execution of the duties imposed on them by your appointment.

All which is respectfully Submitted.
Signed—J. M. Allen; Eb. Wadsworth.

The G. G. Chapter was then adjourned to meet again at 4 o’Clock in the afternoon.

Afternoon Session

The G. G. Chapter met agreeably to adjournment and was called to order.

M. E. Paul Dean, G. G. H. Priest, presiding.

Other officers and members as before.

Prayer by the Rev. Comp. R. Punshon.

A Committee consisting of Companions Atherton, of Mass., Field, of R. Island, Punshon, of Ohio, Cuyler, of New York, Smith, of New Hampshire, Goodwin, of Connecticut, and Haswell, of Vermont,—

The committee appointment continues on scan 92.

Reader page 92 · September 1841 — amendment adopted and future meeting place

—was appointed to meet a Committee from the G. G. Encampment, and to designate a Suitable time and place for the next triennial meeting of the two orders.

The report from the Committee on the alterations and amendments of the Constitution was then taken up and adopted.

The G. G. Chapter was then adjourned to meet again at 7 o’Clock.

Evening Session

The G. G. Chapter met agreeably to adjournment and was called to order.

The M. E. Paul Dean, G. G. H. Priest, presiding.

The Committee appointed to designate a place for the next triennial meeting of the G. G. Chapter reported the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the next triennial meeting of this G. G. Chapter be held in the city of New Haven, in the State of Connecticut, on the 2nd Tuesday of September, 1844.

The G. G. Chapter was then adjourned to half-past 9 o’Clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, Sept. 16, 1841

The G. G. Chapter met agreeably to adjournment and was called to order.

The M. E. Paul Dean, G. G. H. Priest, in the chair.

Other officers and representatives as before.

Prayer by the Rev. Comp. R. Punshon.

On motion, adjourned to 4 o’Clock, P. M.

Afternoon Session

The G. G. Chapter met agreeably to adjournment.

The M. E. Paul Dean, G. G. H. Priest, in the chair.

The other officers and members as before.

Reader page 93 · 1841 — Deputy General Grand High Priest’s report

Prayer by the Rev. Comp. R. Punshon.

M. E. Companion Joseph K. Stapleton, G. H. Priest of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, and D. G. G. H. Priest of the G. G. Chapter, and M. E. Companion Charles Gilman, G. G. Secretary, appeared and took their Seats.

A communication was received from the G. Secretary of the G. Chapter of New Jersey, which, on motion, was referred to the committee on Warrants.

The M. E. G. G. H. Priest presented a letter which he had received Some time Since, from Lebbeus Chapman, late G. G. Secretary of the G. G. Chapter, with a copy of his reply thereto, which, on motion, were referred to the Committee on Finance.

The M. E. Joseph K. Stapleton, D. G. G. H. Priest, made the following report, which was referred to the committee on Warrants:

To the Most Excellent the G. G. Royal Arch Chapter of the United States:—

The D. Gen. Grand High Priest respectfully reports that Since the last triennial meeting of the G. G. Chapter, he has granted Dispensations for the following new Chapters, and that the regular fees for the Same have been paid to the Gen. Grand Secretary.

On the 19th of March, 1839, he granted a renewal of a Dispensation for a Chapter to be located at Logansport in the State of Indiana, to be called Egan Chapter, a Dispensation having been granted by the late D. G. G. H. Priest, the Hon. Joel R. Poinsett, previous to the last triennial meeting, but by accident the proceedings of the new Chapter were not laid before the G. G. Chapter at that time, and the authority to hold a Chapter under that Dispensation having become extinct, it was thought just and equitable that the Same Should be renewed.

That on the 1st of February, 1840, he granted a Dispensation for a Chapter to be located at Fayette—

The report continues on scan 94.

Reader page 94 · 1841 — officers elected for the ensuing three years

The preceding scan ends in the middle of the Deputy’s report. This scan instead begins with the election of officers; the missing continuation is not supplied in this PDF sequence.

The G. G. Chapter then resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the purpose of a choice of G. G. Officers for the ensuing three years.

The M. E. Joseph K. Stapleton in the chair.

Companions Moore and Field were appointed tellers.

The ballots were then taken and the Several offices filled.

The Committee then rose, and reported to the General Grand Chapter, that the following named Companions had been elected to the Several offices affixed to their respective names, viz:

- The M. E. and Rev. Paul Dean, of Boston, Mass., G. G. H. Priest.
- The M. E. Jos. K. Stapleton, of Baltimore, Md., D. G. G. H. Priest.
- The M. E. I. W. Crawford, of Union, Ct., G. G. King.
- The M. E. Ezra S. Barnum, of Utica, N. Y., G. G. Scribe.
- The M. E. Charles Gilman, of Baltimore, Md., G. G. Secretary.
- The M. E. Edw. A. Raymond, of Boston, Mass., G. G. Treasurer.
- The M. E. and Rev. Robert Punshon, of Cincinnati, Ohio, G. G. Chaplain.
- The M. E. Nathl. B. Haswell, of Burlington, Vt., G. G. Marshal.

Which report was accepted and adopted.

The G. G. Chapter was then adjourned to 9 o’Clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, Sept. 17, 1841

The G. G. Chapter met pursuant to adjournment and was called to order.

Present

The M. E. Paul Dean, G. G. H. Priest, presiding.

Reader page 95 · 1841 — state of Masonry and District of Columbia chapters

The other officers and representatives as before.

Prayer by the Rev. Comp. R. Punshon.

The Committee on the general State of Masonry made the following report, which was accepted:

To the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States:—

The Committee on the general State of Masonry report: That from the examination of documents which have been laid before them, and from information which they have otherwise obtained, they have reason to congratulate the G. G. Chapter, and the order generally, upon the prosperity of the Institution.

Your Committee feel happy in expressing, without hesitation, that the Masonic Institutions in the United States and the Republic of Texas, are in a prosperous and flourishing condition; and that even in the benighted State of Vermont, the Sun of Masonry is above the horizon; and that in a few years it will again Shine forth with bright effulgence.

All which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) Joseph Cuyler, For the Committee.

The M. E. D. G. G. H. Priest made a verbal Statement in relation to the present condition of certain Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in the District of Columbia. Whereupon Comp. R. Ellis offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That the M. E. Joseph K. Stapleton, D. G. G. H. Priest, of this General Grand Chapter, be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to take the necessary Steps to place all the Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, in that part of the District of Columbia which formerly belonged—

The resolution continues on scan 96.

Reader page 96 · 1841 — warrants, Secretary’s digest, and officers’ report

—to the State of Maryland, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Maryland; and at his discretion, to heal and legalize, in Such mode as he may think proper, any irregularity in the issuing of any Chapter fees by Said Chapters, or any one of them, or in the proceedings of Such Chapters, or either of them, upon their Submitting to his requirements.

The Committee on Warrants made the following report, which was accepted and adopted:

The Committee on Warrants have attended to the duty assigned them, and recommend that Charters be granted to the Several Chapters for which Dispensations have been issued by the D. G. G. H. Priest, viz: To Egan Chapter, at Logansport, in the State of Indiana—Vicksburg Chapter, at Vicksburg, in the State of Mississippi—Springfield Chapter, at Springfield, in the State of Illinois—and Far West Chapter, at Fayetteville, in the State of Arkansas.

All which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) Jos. Cuyler; Robt. Punshon; Wm. H. Ellis.

Comp. Haswell offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the G. G. Secretary be directed to prepare and present, on the first day of each triennial Session hereafter, a digest of the Communications received by him, requiring the action of this General Grand Chapter.

The Committee on the acts of the G. G. Officers made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee to whom was referred the proceedings of the General Grand Officers, Since—

The report continues on scan 97.

Reader page 97 · 1841 — Logansport dispensation and correspondence

—the last triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter, beg leave respectfully to report:

That they have had under consideration the reports of the Most Excellent General Grand High Priest, and General Grand Scribe, by which it appears that no official acts have been performed by them, requiring the action of this body.

They have also examined the report of the Most Excellent Deputy General Grand High Priest, and the papers and documents which have been referred for their examination.

It appears that previous to the meeting at Boston, in 1838, a Dispensation had been issued by the then Most Excellent Deputy General Grand High Priest, the Hon. J. R. Poinsett, to the Companions at Logansport, in the State of Indiana, constituting a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at that place.

That on the 3rd of September, 1838, the Dispensation, returns, &c., were duly mailed at Washington, under the frank of John Tipton, then a Senator from the State of Indiana, and addressed to the Hon. Jonathan Nye, as the Deputy General Grand High Priest of the General G. Chapter, U. S., Boston, Mass., in due Season, as will appear by reference to dates, to have been acted upon by the General Grand Chapter at that meeting.

It further appears that in January, 1839, hearing nothing from the General Grand Chapter, Senator Tipton addressed a letter on the Subject to Mr. Poinsett, who, notwithstanding his arduous and never-ceasing duties as Secretary of War, placed a private mark upon the letter, and with the untiring vigilance and energy which has—

The report continues on scan 98. “Chapter fees” in the preceding scan is transcribed as written.

Reader page 98 · 1841 — Logansport report continued

—ever characterized the acts of that distinguished Mason, returned an answer to General Tipton, that he was not then an officer of the General Grand Chapter, but giving him correct references and advice what course he ought to pursue, and referring him to Companion Gilman, the Gen. Grand Secretary, at Baltimore.

The result of the whole proceeding was a Spirited and active Search for the lost papers by Companion Tipton, which were at last brought forth from the recesses of the dead letter office at Washington, and placed in the hands of the General Grand Secretary; and on the 12th day of March, 1839, a renewal of the Same dispensation was granted by the Most Excellent Deputy General Grand High Priest, Stapleton, which has been returned at this Session for a Charter which is asked agreeably to the provisions of the Constitutions.

In the whole course of these proceedings your committee perceive nothing to disapprove; but very much to commend in the activity and zeal evinced on the part of all the persons connected therewith, and believe they will be fully Sanctioned and approved by this Gen. Grand Chapter.

Dispensations have also been granted by the Most Excellent Deputy General Grand High Priest, for a Chapter to be located at Fayetteville, in the State of Arkansas.

At Vicksburg, in the State of Mississippi, and at Springfield, in the State of Illinois, as detailed in his report; in all of which cases the papers and proceedings appear to have been reg—

This report dates the renewed Logansport dispensation to March 12, 1839; the Deputy’s report on scan 93 gives March 19. Both dates are retained as written. The final word continues on scan 99.

Reader page 99 · 1841 — officers’ report concluded and finance report

—ular and according to the Masonic usage.

In conclusion, your committee beg leave to express their opinion, that the doings of the General Grand Officers during the recess, are highly Satisfactory, and evince an active zeal for the promotion of the best interests of our order, on the part of the General Grand Officers.

All which is respectfully Submitted.
New York, Sept. 17, 1841.
(Signed) J. M. Allen; Wm. H. Ellis; Chas. W. Moore.

The Committee on Finance made the following report, which was accepted and adopted:

The Committee on Finance beg leave to report, that they have had the Several Subjects referred to them under consideration, and have given to them the attention required. They find that there is a balance of Cash in the hands of the G. G. Treasurer, after paying the expenses of the meeting in 1838, and during the recess, as follows:

Receipts and balance	Amount
Balance of old account	$281.19

Receipts and balance	Amount
Received of G. G. Sec’y., this Session	$456.00
Amounting in the whole, to	$737.19

From which they recommend the payment of the following Sums as the expenses of this Session:

Allowance	Amount
To M. E. and Rev. Paul Dean	$50.00
Jos. K. Stapleton	$50.00
I. W. Crawford	$25.00
C. Gilman	$75.00
E. A. Raymond	$35.00
E. S. Barnum	$33.00

The allowances and finance report continue on scan 100.

Reader page 100 · 1841 — finance report and resolution of thanks

Allowances, continued	Amount
To M. E. J. M. Allen	$25.00
E. Wadsworth	$25.00
Comp. Wm. Boardman	$7.50

They also recommend the payment of the following bills:

Bill	Amount
To M. E. J. K. Stapleton, for postage, 6 years	$5.94
C. Gilman, for postage and Stationery	$13.75
Alexander Jamieson	$12.58

They further report that, upon examination of the accounts of the G. G. Secretary, and G. G. Treasurer, they find them correct; that those officers have ably and faithfully fulfilled the duties of their respective offices; and that full faith and confidence may be placed in them. The Committee further report, that it is inexpedient to grant the application of Lebbeus Chapman on the terms proposed.

(Signed) E. Wadsworth; Robert Smith.

The following resolution was offered by Comp. W. H. Ellis, and adopted by the G. G. Chapter:

Resolved, That the thanks of the G. G. Chapter are due, and they hereby are tendered, to the Grand Chapter of New York, to Morton Encampment, and the Subordinate Chapters in the city of New York, for their kindness and attention to the G. G. Chapter, for the use of their Hall, and other accommodations during the present Session; and that the G. G. Secretary be directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the G. Secretary of Said Grand Chapter.

Companions Herring and Greenfield, from the joint Committee of the Masonic Fraternity in New York, tendered an invitation to the officers and members of the G. G. Chapter, to visit the public—

End of the supplied 100-scan Volume B PDF. The last invitation continues beyond this file; its remaining text is not present here.

1797 Volume C

Read the typed text of all 100 PDF scans, from the closing September 1841 proceedings through New Haven in 1844 and Columbus in September 1847. The file retains its library title “1797 Volume C.” Scan numbers match the PDF reader above.

This file begins with an invitation continued from Volume B and ends during the Florida report of 1847. The supplied sequence has a break between scans 8 and 9. Scans 39–42 repeat the manuscript leaves on scans 35–38; each repeat is identified and linked to its first appearance. Original corrections, uncertain readings, and conflicting dates or financial figures are noted beside the relevant scans.

Original source PDF · 100 source pages

Reader page 1 · 1841 proceedings continued — Hiram Chapter and closing session

Editorial note: This scan continues the invitation at the end of Volume B, scan 100.

—institutions and public works of the city; which invitation was accepted.

Certain papers and documents received from the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, were referred to the Committee on the general State of Masonry.

The G. G. Secretary offered the following resolution, which, on motion, was adopted:

Resolved, That Hiram Chapter, at Newton, be advised to place itself under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York; and that Said Grand Chapter be advised to legalize the proceedings of Hiram Chapter Subsequent to the dissolution of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey.

The G. G. Officers elect were then Severally installed into their respective offices.

On motion, the G. G. Secretary was directed to cause 250 copies of the minutes of the proceedings of the present Session to be printed for distribution and the use of the G. G. Chapter.

The G. G. Chapter was then adjourned to 4 o’Clock P. M.

Afternoon Session

The G. G. Chapter met agreeably to adjournment.

Present

The M. E. and Rev. Paul Dean, G. G. H. Priest, presiding.

Other officers and members as before.

A communication was received from Vicksburg Chapter, in relation to a Grand Chapter in the State of Mississippi, which, on motion,—

Reader page 2 · 1841 meeting closes — New York Masonic festival

—was laid on the table; and the G. G. Secretary was directed to open a correspondence with the Chapters in that State on the Subject.

The minutes of the proceedings were then read and approved.

The G. G. Chapter was then duly closed with Solemn prayer by the M. E. G. G. Chaplain.

Charles Gilman, Gen. Grand Sec’y.

On Thursday, the 16th, during the Session, the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, and Grand Encampment of the State of New York, agreeably to previous arrangements, gave a Grand Masonic festival, to which the officers and members of the G. G. Chapter and G. G. Encampment were invited. At the appointed hour the Several Masonic Associations in the city were convened at their respective places of meeting, where they were formed into a Grand Procession, under the direction of Sir James Dodge as Grand Marshal.

After moving through Several of the principal Streets, the procession was convened in the Tabernacle church, in Broadway; where, after Some choice music, under the direction of Bro. Charles E. Horn, the Throne of Grace was addressed by the M. E. and Rev. Sir Robert Punshon, of Ohio. Then followed addresses of welcome, to the officers and members of the G. G. Encampment and G. G. Chapter, by Sir Richard Carver, of Ithaca, on behalf of the G. Encampment; by Companion John A. Morrill, of New York, on behalf of the G. Chapter; and by R. W. Bro. James Herring, of New York,—

The festival account continues on scan 3.

Reader page 3 · 1841 festival — banquet and visits to public works

—on behalf of the G. Lodge of New York, in language cordial and eloquent, to which responses of thanks were made by the M. E. Sir James M. Allen, of Cayuga, G. Master of the G. G. Encampment, and by the M. E. and Rev. Paul Dean, of Boston, G. G. H. Priest of the G. G. Chapter.

After the exercises at the Tabernacle were closed, the procession was again formed, and returned to the Apollo, where a banquet was Spread and Served up by Bro. Alker, rich, various, and abundant in Smiling viands and mellow wines. Then followed the heart’s full Sentiment, in toast and Song, and “days o’ lang Syne” came back to greet each kindly heart. And Still when other days and years Shall have Sped their flight, that day, with its unalloyed pleasures, Shall be found recorded on memory’s page.

On Saturday, after the Sessions were closed, the officers and members of the two bodies, by invitation from the Same Source, received through Companions Herring and Greenfield, visited the public institutions and public works of the city, accompanied by Aldermen Greenfield and Stewart, and by Joseph P. [Pirson?] and [Uzziah?] Wenham, Esquires. That greatest effort ever heretofore undertaken by man, the Croton Water Works, was visited, and the important parts of the vast Structure kindly pointed out and explained by the intelligent chief engineer, Mr. Wenham; afterwards the institutions on Blackwell’s Island, Long Island, and other places were visited; and thus the day was occupied; and thus have our New York friends laid us under very many agreeable obligations, long to be remembered.

The two names accompanying the aldermen are not securely legible and are marked as uncertain.

Reader page 4 · New Haven, September 10, 1844 — triennial session

General Grand Chapter of the United States of America

The triennial Session of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America, was held at the Temple, in the city of New Haven, in the State of Connecticut, on the 10th day of September, 1844, at 10 o’Clock, A. M.

Present

- The M. E. Paul Dean, G. G. High Priest.
- The M. E. Joseph K. Stapleton, D. G. G. High Priest.

- The M. E. I. W. Crawford, G. G. King.
- The M. E. Horace Goodwin, 2d, as G. G. Scribe.
- The M. E. Charles Gilman, G. G. Secretary.
- The M. E. Edward A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer.
- The M. E. N. B. Haswell, G. G. Marshal.
- The M. E. Albert Case, as G. G. Chaplain.
- Comp. Isaac Tuttle, Sentinel.

The General Grand Chapter was opened with Solemn prayer by the G. G. Chaplain.

The M. E. G. G. High Priest appointed Comps. Crawford, of Connecticut, Case, of South Carolina, and Hubbard, of Ohio, a Committee on Credentials.

The record of the proceedings of the last triennial Session was read, for the information of the members of the G. G. Chapter.

Reader page 5 · 1844 credentials — representatives and Secretary’s communication

The Committee on Credentials made the following report in part:

The Committee on Credentials beg leave to report in part, that they have examined the certificates, and find the following Companions entitled to Seats as representatives in the General Grand Chapter.

(Signed) I. W. Crawford; A. Case; W. B. Hubbard.

- M. E. Rev. Paul Dean, G. G. High Priest.
- Joseph K. Stapleton, D. G. G. High Priest.
- I. W. Crawford, G. G. King.
- Charles Gilman, G. G. Secretary.
- E. A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer.
- Nathan B. Haswell, G. G. Marshal.

Representatives from State Grand Chapters

- M. E. Robert Smith, Proxy of G. H. Priest of New Hampshire.
- Paul Baker, Proxy of G. H. Priest of Massachusetts.
- John B. Hammatt, Proxy of D. G. H. Priest of Mass.
- Charles W. Moore, Proxy of G. King of Massachusetts.
- Horace Goodwin, D. G. H. Priest of Connecticut.
- Wm. E. Sanford, G. Scribe of Connecticut.
- Rev. Albert Case, D. G. H. Priest of South Carolina.
- Wm. B. Hubbard, G. H. Priest of Ohio.
- C. S. Peters, G. King of Maryland.

The General Grand Secretary made the following communication, which being read, was referred to a Special Committee of three, consisting of Companions Moore, of Massachusetts, Goodwin, of Connecticut, and Hubbard, of Ohio, whose duty it was made to report Specially as to the disposition of the Several matters therein contained.

To the M. E. the General Grand High Priest, and other Officers and Members of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America.

Reader page 6 · 1844 Secretary’s digest — San Filipe de Austin Chapter and Texas

In pursuance of a resolution of the General Grand Chapter, requiring the General Grand Secretary to prepare and present, on the first day of each triennial Session, a digest of the communications received by him, requiring the action of the General Grand Chapter, the undersigned has the honor to Submit the following:

Soon after the close of the last triennial Session, the General Grand Secretary received the herewith accompanying papers, marked “Documents No. 4,” from San Filipe de Austin Chapter, which documents were intended to be Submitted for your advice and instruction at that Session, but unfortunately the vessel by which they were Sent was detained above a month after the adjournment.

From these papers it appears that, in consequence of unforeseen events, the Companions to whom the Charter of that Chapter was granted, found it impracticable to conduct the business of the Chapter at San Filipe de Austin, the place designated in their Charter for its location, and assumed the responsibility of opening the Same at Galveston, which was done on the 2d of June, 1840. It appears also that Said Chapter has received a communication, purporting to come from a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at the city of Austin, in that Republic, called “Lone Star Chapter No. 3,” proposing a union with another body of Royal Arch Masons, at Matagorda, Styling themselves “Cyrus Chapter No. 2,” for the purpose of organizing a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the Republic of Texas. This the Chapter at Galveston declined, and wisely refused to hold Masonic intercourse with Said So called Chapters at Matagorda and Austin, on the ground that the Companions composing those assemblages had no legal Masonic right to hold Chapters of Royal Arch Masons. And in this they are correct, for it is not pretended that they have any Charter or Warrant whatever,—

Reader page 7 · 1844 Secretary’s digest — authority over Texas chapters

—but are merely individual Royal Arch Masons, who have by their own unaided acts associated themselves together for this purpose, assuming the right So to do, on account of the people of the country being politically Separated from all others. How the minds of these respectable gentlemen, having a recollection of their Masonic obligations, could come to Such a conclusion, it is difficult to conceive.

They Say that the General Grand Chapter has no jurisdiction over the territory of Texas, and therefore they owe you no allegiance! This is very true; but if any number of Masons reside in Texas, where there is no Masonic body to which they could apply for authority to open a Chapter, apply to the General Grand Chapter, as in the case of San Filipe de Austin, can it be doubted that, according to the Masonic usage throughout the world, you have a right to grant Such authority? Or Suppose they Should apply to the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, or of Virginia, neither of which are under your jurisdiction, have not either of these Grand Chapters a right to grant the authority? No one can doubt that Such an act is in perfect accordance with Masonic usage, and that the Chapters and their members are thereby placed under the parent body, the Same as they would have been had they been located within the Same political bounds.

Under these circumstances and facts, the officers and members of San Filipe de Austin Chapter ask, first, that you will approve and ratify their removing their Chapter from San Filipe de Austin

to Galveston; and Secondly, your advice and instruction touching their course towards the Said So called Chapters at Matagorda and Austin.

The matter of the Royal and Select Masters degrees Still continues to be a Subject of perplexity and—

Reader page 8 · 1844 Secretary’s digest — Royal and Select Masters degrees

—irritation in the Southern and Western States, and the conferring of them, in Some instances, a matter of private emolument. It will be remembered that this Subject was brought before you at the Session in 1829, and, as was Supposed, definitely Settled. It Seems however, that, notwithstanding the undersigned has taken much pains to promulgate the order of the G. G. Chapter in the premises, there are those who are Still uninformed as to the present regulations touching those degrees, or are disposed to disregard it.

It will be Seen by reference to the printed minutes of the proceedings of the G. Chapter of Alabama in 1843, on page 16, that that body have determined that they will recognize no Royal and Select Masters who have received those degrees in Chapters of Royal Arch Masons. The Same Subject has been brought before the Grand Chapter of Ohio, as will be Seen by reference to the printed minutes of that body of 1842, on page 17; and again in 1843, as will be found at pages 5 and 7 of the printed minutes of their proceedings in that year. A Grand Council for the State of Alabama also, formed, as is believed, long Since the regulation above alluded to, has taken action on the Subject, and determined that they will not receive Such Companions as may have received those degrees in Chapters, as will be found on page 15 of the pamphlet first above mentioned.

From a communication received from Comp. Alexander F. Douglass, under date the 18th March, 1844, it will be Seen that a certain Edwin Graham, a R. A. Mason, in violation of this regulation aforesaid, is traveling from place to place, assuming a right to confer these degrees upon individuals, when and where it may best Suit his pleasure or convenience. Such itinerant parasites are a hindrance to the well being of Masonry, and Serve to destroy its usefulness. The papers and pamphlets touching this matter are herewith—

The digest continues on scan 9.

Reader page 9 · 1844 Secretary’s digest — dues and Louisiana appeal

Editorial note: The supplied sequence does not complete the sentence at the end of scan 8. This scan begins with a discussion of chapter returns; the antecedent of “their” is not visible at the transition.

No return has been made of their doings from the time of their organization in 1819 to 1842. That the irregularities among these Companions are the result of mistake, as to the extent of the power given by their dispensations, there can be no doubt; and those at Madison now pray that their acts may be made lawful by the approval of the G. G. Chapter, that their dues up to 1842 may be remitted, and that a perpetual Charter may be granted them.

There is much reason to believe that these are not the only Chapters in like circumstances, whilst there are others that have received Charters by order of the G. G. Chapter, but have never after thought proper to report their doings, nor to pay the constitutional dues. This may arise from a want of knowledge of the provisions of your Constitution, or it may be from carelessness and inattention. It is not known that a register of the Chapters deriving their existence immediately from the G. G. Chapter, has ever been kept, consequently, no one can obtain an account of them without first Searching through the records, and then instituting inquiries whether they are now in existence.

By the papers herewith Submitted marked Documents No. IV, it will appear that an unhappy State of things has, for Some time past, existed among the fraternity in New Orleans, now or heretofore members of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana. In February, 1842, the Grand Secretary of that Grand Chapter forwarded to the undersigned an official notice that the Warrant of Chapter Howard, No. 9, (a Chapter Subordinate to that jurisdiction,) had been recalled for insubordination and disobedience to the lawful authority of that G. Chapter; and that two of its members, to wit, Cotton Henry, and D. C. [Lehman?], had been expelled from the Order of Masons for having taken the most active part in the rebellion. From this decree, So far as respects himself, and of the competency of that body to Sit in judgment upon any Masonic matter, the Said D. C. [Lehman?] has taken an appeal to the G. G. Chapter, of which due notice Seems to have been given to the appellees. The testimony of witnesses—

The appellant’s surname is uncertain. The digest continues on scan 10.

Reader page 10 · 1844 Secretary’s digest — Louisiana and Jackson Chapter

—has been taken to Shew that the G. Chapter of Louisiana is not a legally constituted Masonic body; and also that it holds itself independent of, and in no way Subordinate to this G. G. Chapter. The question Seems to be one involving the entire existence of a Grand Chapter in the State of Louisiana.

In the month of August, 1843, a dispensation was granted to a competent number of petitioners, by the M. E. Joseph K. Stapleton, D. G. G. High Priest, empowering them to open and hold a Chapter at Jackson, in the State of Mississippi; and Charles R. Proziminski was appointed the first High Priest. By a copy of the record from the proceedings of that Chapter, herewith presented, and marked “Documents No. V,” it appears Said Chapter has expelled Said Proziminski “from all the rites, benefits, and privileges of Masonry, for flagrant moral dereliction, in a fraudulent and false assumption of Masonic rites to which he was not entitled.”

Although not within the Scope of his official duty, under the resolution aforesaid, yet the undersigned would Suggest a query whether it be competent for a Chapter to try and expel its High Priest from the rites and privileges of Masonry, during the period for which he has been appointed?

There are other matters and things among the papers and documents which will be laid before you, but as they will probably be the Subject matter of reports from other G. G. Officers, it is not considered necessary here particularly to notice them.

(Signed) Charles Gilman, G. G. Sec’y.
New Haven, September 9th, 1844.

Companion Hubbard, from the Special Committee on the report of the G. G. Secretary, made the following report, which was accepted, and the resolutions adopted:

The Committee to whom was referred the report made by the G. G. Secretary, in pursuance of a resolution therefor by the G. G. Chapter at its last Session, have had the Same under consideration,—

The committee report continues on scan 11.

Reader page 11 · 1844 — referrals of the Secretary’s report

—and herewith report the following resolutions:

1. Resolved, That So much of the Said report as relates to Royal Arch Masonry in Texas, be referred to a Select committee of three.
2. That So much thereof as relates to State Grand Councils, and the conferring of the degrees of Royal and Select Masters, be referred to a Select committee of three.
3. That So much as relates to the Chapters in Madison and Brookville, in Indiana, and also to the reputed State Grand Chapter of Missouri, be referred to a Select committee of three.
4. That So much as relates to the difficulties in New Orleans, as touching the expulsion of Companions Henry and [Lehman?], and the authority of the State Grand Chapter of Louisiana, be referred to a Committee of Seven.
5. That So much as relates to the doings of the Subordinate Chapter at Jackson, Mississippi, and the expulsion of their High Priest, be referred to a Committee of three.

Resolved 2d, That the G. G. Secretary be requested, during the ensuing recess, to ascertain what Subordinate Chapters are legally acting under the authority of the G. G. Chapter; and that he make and report a register of the Same, with Such Suggestions as he may deem for the benefit of this General Grand Chapter; and moreover, that he be and hereby is authorized and empowered, in behalf of this body, to recall the outstanding Charters and dispensations, which have been forfeited to this General Grand Chapter.

Signed, C. W. Moore; H. Goodwin, 2d; W. B. Hubbard.

The following communication was received and read; and on motion, the G. G. Secretary was directed to inform the Said Committee of its reception, and that the officers and members—

Reader page 12 · 1844 — Connecticut hospitality and afternoon session

—of the General Grand Chapter accept, with pleasure, the tender of hospitality.

New Haven, Sept. 10th, 1844.
To the G. G. Secretary of the G. G. Chapter of the U. States.

M. E. Comp.—In pursuance of a resolution passed in the Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut, at their Session in May last, the undersigned, appointed a committee for that purpose, beg leave in behalf of Said Grand Lodge, to tender to the members of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, the hospitalities of the Grand Lodge, whom we have the honor to represent. And we most respectfully invite the G. G. Chapter to unite with us in the festivities of the occasion; and for this purpose, we propose that the G. G. Chapter meet our Grand Lodge, at the Hall of the Temple, on Wednesday the 11th inst. at 12 o’Clock, M.

Fraternally yours,
(Signed) Wm. H. Ellis; B. Beecher; W. H. Jones; Henry Peck; Wm. E. Sanford; A. C. Babcock; M. S. Mitchell.
Committee from the Gr. Lodge of the State of Connecticut.

Comp. E. A. Raymond offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That all Royal Arch Masons in good and regular Standing, have permission, and are invited, to take Seats as visitors in the G. G. Chapter during its present Session.

On motion of Comp. Moore, the G. G. Chapter was then adjourned until half past 3 o’Clock P. M.

Afternoon Session

The General Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order.

Present

- The M. E. Paul Dean, G. G. High Priest.
- The M. E. Joseph K. Stapleton, D. G. G. High Priest.
- The M. E. I. W. Crawford, G. G. King.

The attendance list continues on scan 13.

Reader page 13 · 1844 — further credentials and special committees

- The M. E. Ezra S. Barnum, G. G. Scribe.
- The M. E. Charles Gilman, G. G. Secretary.
- The M. E. Edward A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer.
- The M. E. Nathan B. Haswell, G. G. Marshal.
- The M. E. & Rev. Albert Case, as G. G. Chaplain.
- Comp. Isaac Tuttle, Sentinel.

And representatives as before.

The minutes of the proceedings of the morning were read and approved.

The Committee on Credentials made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee on Credentials further report the following members present, and that they are authorized to act in General Grand Chapter, viz:

- M. E. Ezra S. Barnum, G. G. Scribe.
- William Field, G. H. Priest, Rhode Island.
- Lucius Tyler, D. G. H. Priest, Connecticut.
- Benoni A. Shepherd, G. King, Connecticut.
- Benjamin Enos, G. H. Priest, New York.
- Robert R. Boyd, D. G. H. Priest, New York.
- Ebenr. Wadsworth, proxy for G. Scribe, New York.

The M. E. G. G. High Priest appointed the following Committees:

On the Subject of Royal Arch Masonry in Texas

- Companion Case, of South Carolina.
- Enos, of New York.
- Field, of Rhode Island.

On the Subject of Conferring the degrees of Royal and Select Masters

- Companion Crawford, of Connecticut.
- Haswell, of Vermont.
- Hubbard, of Ohio.

On the Subject of the Chapters at Madison and Brookville, in Indiana, and the reputed Grand Chapter of that State

Companion Boyd, of New York,—

The committee list continues on scan 14. This heading says “that State”; the referral on scan 11 names Missouri.

Reader page 14 · 1844 — committee appointments and money received

- Companion Moore, of Massachusetts.
- Field, of Rhode Island.

On the Subject of the appeal of D. C. [Lehman?], from the judgment of the So called Grand Chapter of Louisiana

- Companion Moore, of Massachusetts.
- Barnum, of New York.
- Raymond, of Massachusetts.
- Crawford, of Connecticut.
- Hammatt, of Massachusetts.
- Peters, of Maryland.
- Hubbard, of Ohio.

On the Subject of the doings of Jackson Chapter, in Mississippi, in expelling their High Priest

- Companion Hammatt, of Massachusetts.
- Goodwin, of Connecticut.
- Peters, of Maryland.

On Finance

- Companion Wadsworth, of New York.
- Baker, of Massachusetts.
- Boyd, of New York.

On the doings of the General Grand Officers

- Companion Hubbard, of Ohio.
- Haswell, of Vermont.
- Smith, of New Hampshire.

On Warrants

- Companion Enos, of New York.
- Field, of Rhode Island.
- Case, of South Carolina.

The G. G. Secretary made the following report, which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

The undersigned, as G. G. Secretary, reports to the G. G. Chapter, that Since the last triennial Session he has received the following Sums of money on account of the G. G. Chapter, amounting to fifteen hundred, forty eight dollars, and Seventy two Cents, ($1548.72,) which he has paid—

Reader page 15 · 1844 — Secretary’s receipts ledger

—over to the General Grand Treasurer.

Receipt	Gross / discount, where stated	Net received
Of Palmyra Chapter, No. 2, Missouri, for dues		$50.00
Of Columbus Chapter, No. 1, Miss., for dispensation and dues	$114; discount on funds sent $15.20	$98.80
Of Liberty Chapter, No. 3, Mo., for dispensation		$90.00
Of Comp. John W. Williams, for dues to Washington Chapter No. 1, D. C., a defunct Chapter		$2.25
Of Western Chapter, No. 4, Mo., for dispensation and dues	$90.00 + $22.00	$112.00
Of Lafayette Chapter, No. 5, Mo., for dispensation		$90.00
Of Comp. J. Lowrance, for dues to Washington Chapter No. 1, D. C., defunct		$7.50
Of Lafayette Ch. No. 3, Ind., for dispensation	$90.00; discount on payment $1.90	$88.10
Of Iowa Chapter, No. 1, I. T., for dispensation		$90.00
Of Franklin Ch. No. 3, Miss., for dispensation and dues	$90.00 + $42.00	$132.00
Of Washington Ch. No. 1, N. J., for dues	$36; discount 15 cents	$35.85
Of Milwaukie Chapter, No. 1, Wisc., for dispensation		$90.00
Of Monroe Chapter, No. 1, Mich., for dues		$22.00
Of Marion Chapter, No. 2, Ark., for dispensation	$90.00; discount on funds Sent $0.50	$89.50
Of Iowa City Ch. No. 2, I. T., for dispensation	$90.00; discount on funds Sent $0.80	$89.20
Of Iowa City Chapter, for dues	$14; discount 48 cents	$13.52
Of St. Joseph Valley Chapter, No. 2, Michigan, for dispensation		$90.00
Of Washington Chapter, No. 2, Wisc., for dispensation and dues	$90.00 + $22	$112.00
Of Lafayette Chapter No. 2, Ind., for dispensation and dues	$90 + $10	$100.00
Of Madison Chapter, No. 2, Ind., for dues		$20.00
Of King Solomon Chapter, Ind., for dues		$36.00
Of Logan Chapter No. 2, Ind., for dues		$6.00
Of Milton Chapter, Miss., for dues	$85; discount $1.00	$84.00
Total		$1,548.72

(Signed) Charles Gilman.

The ledger is arranged in columns for readability. Its chapter numbers and historical place-name spellings are retained as written.

Reader page 16 · 1844 — General Grand High Priest’s report

The M. E. G. G. High Priest made the following report, which was referred to the Committee on the doings of the G. G. Officers.

The undersigned as G. G. High Priest, respectfully reports to the G. G. Chapter, that on the 30th day of October, 1841, a petition, Signed by the requisite number of R. A. Masons, and properly vouched, praying for a Dispensation for a new Chapter to be located at Holy Springs, in the County of Marshall, and State of Mississippi, was presented to him, and on the Same day a Dispensation was granted for that purpose. A Chapter was accordingly organized; and from the returns of its officers, now in the hands of the G. G. Secretary, it will be Seen that Success and prosperity has attended the efforts of our Companions at that place.

During the vacation of the G. G. Chapter information has been received from time to time, from various Sources, that the Order is rapidly increasing, especially in the South and West, and that its pure principles, and benign influences, are producing a Salutary effect wherever disseminated and felt.

Respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) Paul Dean.
New Haven, 10th September, 1844.

The M. E. Deputy G. G. High Priest made the following report, which was referred to the Same Committee.

To the Most Excellent the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States.

The Deputy General Grand High Priest respectfully reports, that Since the last triennial meeting of the G. G. Chapter, the resolution on pages 15 and 16 of the printed proceedings of that Session, relative to the condition—

The Deputy’s report continues on scan 17.

Reader page 17 · 1844 Deputy’s report — District of Columbia and dispensations

—of Royal Arch Masonry in the District of Columbia, has been duly enforced, and confirmed by the Grand Chapter of Maryland; and that by virtue of the power therein given by the General Grand Chapter of the United States, Maryland has assumed, and now holds jurisdiction over that portion of the District of Columbia lying within the former limits of the State, and that at present Maryland has two Chapters at work therein—and further, that in the discharge of the duties of the D. G. G. High Priest, he has granted, Since the last meeting of the G. G. Chapter, the following Dispensations, viz:

Date	Petitioners / purpose	Location
1842, Feb. 7th	To Comp. Charles W. Allen and others	Columbus, Mississippi
1842, April 18th	To Comp. A. Lightburn and others	Liberty, Missouri
1843, Jan. 17th	To B. V. Teel and others	Weston, Missouri
1843, March 3d	To John Dade and others	Boonville, Missouri
1843, May 13th	To J. W. S. Mitchell and others	Fayette, Missouri
1843, Aug. 17th	To C. Deming and others	La Fayette, Indiana
1843, Aug. 24th	To Hiram C. Bennett and others	Burlington, Iowa

Date	Petitioners / purpose	Location
1843, Aug. 28th	To William Wing and others	Jackson, Miss.
1843, Sept. 3d	To members of Washington Chapter, No. 1, to resume labour	New Ark, New Jersey
1844, Feb. 16th	To A. D. Smith and others	Milwaukie, Wis. T.
1844, March 12th	To G. P. Lemmon and others	Little Rock, Arkansas
1844, March 19th	To J. R. Hartsock and others	Iowa City, Iowa Territory
1844, May 16th	To Jacob Glover and others	Niles, St. Joseph Valley, Michigan
1844, July 2d	To B. Kavanagh and others	Town of Plattville, Wisconsin Territory

The list continues on scan 18. Dates, spellings and territorial abbreviations are retained as written.

Reader page 18 · 1844 Deputy’s report concluded — General Grand King’s report

Date	Petitioners	Location
1844, July 2d	To U. P. Walker and others	Chicago, Illinois

Thus authorizing fourteen new Chapters to commence work and labour in the respective degrees appertaining to Royal Arch Masonry, and empowering one Chapter to resume labour, at New Ark, N. J.

The D. G. G. High Priest would further respectfully report, that Since the last triennial communication, a Severe and laborious duty has been necessarily thrown on Comp. Charles Gilman, the G. G. Secretary, in preparing the Several documents, and replying to the numerous correspondents officially connected with his office, and which I most respectfully recommend to the consideration of the G. G. Chapter. Since I have had the honour to hold office therein, I have no recollection of So much official labour devolving on the G. G. Secretary, as he has performed Since the meeting of the G. G. Chapter, at New York, in 1841.

All which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) Jos. K. Stapleton, D. G. G. H. Priest.
Baltimore, September 6th, 1844.

The M. E. G. G. King, and the M. E. G. G. Scribe, made their respective reports, as follows, which reports were referred to the Same Committee.

To the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, convened at New Haven, on the Second Tuesday of September, A. D. 1844.

The General Grand King respectfully reports, that Since the triennial meeting of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter, held at New York in September, A. D. 1841, he has granted no dispensations for any number of Royal Arch Masons to—

Reader page 19 · 1844 — reports of the General Grand King and Scribe

—organize for work. He has attended the meetings of the Grand Chapter, and of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, he has repeatedly visited Subordinate Chapters and Lodges in the Same State, and assisted them in their lectures and work. He has corresponded with enlightened and zealous members of the Craft in the east, in the west, and in the South; and from all these points he has received gratifying intelligence that the genius of our venerable institution has been gradually Surmounting the obstacles which lately impeded her onward progress; and that She is now marching, with a firm and Steady pace, to a lofty eminence of moral grandeur.

We may therefore congratulate ourselves that we have assembled under circumstances So auspicious to future improvement; and we may anticipate a Still brighter day of glory for the Institution which we have So long and So fondly cherished.

(Signed) Ingoldsby W. Crawford, G. G. King.

To the M. E. G. G. Chapter of the United States.

The undersigned, G. G. Scribe, respectfully reports, that he has issued no dispensations for new Chapters, Since the last Session; but from information derived from Sources to be relied on, he has the Satisfaction to learn that the present prospects for the future Success and influence of our Order has at no time been exceeded—that the dark mist, which an unprincipled party and unhallowed ambition, had cast around the purest motives of human ingenuity, is rapidly passing away, and its beautiful columns are again disclosed to the—

Reader page 20 · 1844 — General Grand Marshal’s report on Vermont

—cheered eye of the philanthropist; and that we have every reason to hope, that the evil which threatened the utter overthrow of our beloved institution, by purifying it of many of its worthless members, has but proved its ultimate good.

All which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) E. S. Barnum.
New Haven, 10th September, 1844.

The G. G. Treasurer presented his account, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

The M. E. G. G. Marshal made the following Statement, touching the present condition of Masonry in Vermont, which was referred to a Committee on the State of Masonry, consisting of Companions Hubbard, of Ohio, Case, of S. Carolina, and Moore, of Massachusetts.

To the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States.

At the last triennial meeting of your body in New York, I had the honour to present a communication giving an account of the State of Masonry in Vermont. In accordance with a duty I owe the fraternity, and on behalf of many good and true men belonging in my State, I have now further to report, that nothing has occurred Since that period to warrant the resuming of our Masonic labors.

In no State of our union has the anti-Masonic Spirit gained So Strong a foothold as in Vermont—Although She has been divested of the political power that formerly worked her cause, Still her old leaders continue artful and troublesome; and, under the abolition excitement which now pervades the State, they Still exert a Secret influence, hostile to our institution,—

The Marshal’s historical account continues on scan 21.

Reader page 21 · 1844 — Vermont report concluded and Niles warrant

—which time, patience, and perseverance can alone conquer.

Mortifying and unpleasant as it is to us, to be compelled by the continued force of circumstances to Suspend our Masonic labors, prudence dictates a course So important to the well being and future welfare of the whole fraternity; we look forward, however, to a period when we can peacefully resume them, and when public opinion Shall do us justice, and Sanction a course thus adopted—then Shall our obscure, but not lost Pleiad, again break forth, diffusing new light and heat in the Masonic constellation.

We now ask your fraternal advice in our difficult movements, and in behalf of the Companions and Brethren of Vermont, whose fidelity has never been Shaken, I Submit this report.

(Signed) Nathan B. Haswell, H. Priest and G. Master.

The Committee on Warrants made the following report in part, which was accepted, and the resolution adopted:

The Committee on Warrants have had under their consideration the Dispensation granted by the M. E. Joseph K. Stapleton, Deputy Gen. G. H. Priest, for the organization of a Royal Arch Chapter at Niles, Berrien County, State of Michigan. They have also examined a copy of the proceedings of Said Chapter, from its commencement to the 29th ult., together with the Rules and By-laws adopted by that body.

They believe the doings of the Chapter, as per report of its proceedings, to have been regular, and that the By-laws are in conformity—

Reader page 22 · 1844 — Joseph Valley Chapter charter and September 11 session

—with the General Grand Constitution and Regulations of Royal Arch Masonry. They therefore beg leave to offer the following resolution.

(Signed) Benjamin Enos; Albert Case; William Field.

Resolved, That this General Grand Chapter approve the action of the Dept. Gen. Grand High Priest, in granting a Dispensation to organize a Chapter at Niles, Berrien County, Michigan, to be known by the name of “Joseph Valley Chapter, No. 2,” and that a regular Charter be issued to Said Chapter.

On motion of Companion Hammatt, it was Ordered, That when this G. G. Chapter Shall adjourn, it adjourn to meet again to-morrow, at 12 o’Clock M.

The G. G. Chapter was then adjourned with prayer by the M. E. G. G. Chaplain.

Wednesday, September 11th

The G. G. Chapter was convened in pursuance of adjournment, and called to order.

The M. E. Paul Dean, G. G. High Priest, presiding.

The other officers and representatives as before.

On motion of Companion Raymond, the G. G. Chapter was called from labour, for the purpose of partaking of the hospitalities of the G. Lodge of Connecticut, in accordance with the invitation of yesterday.

After refreshment the G. G. Chapter resumed its labors.

The record of the proceedings of the last meeting was read and approved.

Companion Lucius Tyler, M. E. D. G. High Priest of—

Reader page 23 · 1844 — next meeting committee and Secretary’s note

—Connecticut, having retired from the G. G. Chapter, delegated Companion Wm. H. Ellis as his representative, who appeared and took his Seat as a member of the G. G. Chapter.

On motion of Companion Sanford, it was Ordered, That a Committee of five be appointed, to confer with a Committee of the G. G. Encampment for a Similar purpose, to designate a place for the next triennial meeting of the G. G. Chapter. Whereupon, the M. E. G. G. High Priest appointed the following named Companions as Said Committee: Ellis, of Connecticut, Case, of S. Carolina, Gilman, of Maryland, Raymond, of Massachusetts, and Enos, of New York.

The Committee on Warrants made an additional report, which was accepted.*

Comp. Boyd, of New York, presented the petition and appeal of George Fisher, late a member of San Filipe de Austin Chapter, at Galveston, in the Republic of Texas, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee having in charge the Subject matter of Royal Arch Masonry in Texas.

On motion of Companion Hammatt, it was Ordered, That when this General Grand Chapter Shall adjourn, it adjourn to meet again at 4 o’Clock in the afternoon of to-morrow, when it will go into the election of the G. G. Officers for the ensuing three years.

The G. G. Chapter was then adjourned, with prayer by the M. E. G. G. Chaplain.

*Note in the manuscript

This report, upon examination, was found to be So vague, and So full of errors, that it was thought best to omit it, as no useful information can be derived therefrom, except that the Committee intended to recommend Charters for all Such Chapters held under dispensations, as had complied with the provisions of the Constitutions; and that the Same privilege Should be extended to the others, upon compliance as aforesaid. G. G. Sec’y.

The starred note is part of the original record, rather than an editorial statement added to this transcription.

Reader page 24 · September 12, 1844 — report on the General Grand Officers

Thursday, September 12th

The G. G. Chapter was convened in pursuance of adjournment, and called to order.

The M. E. Paul Dean, G. G. High Priest, presiding.

The other officers and representatives as before.

The record of the proceedings of the last meeting was read and approved.

Companion Hubbard, from the Committee on the doings of the G. G. Officers, made the following report, which was accepted.

The Committee to whom were referred the doings of the General Grand Officers of the G. G. R. A. Chapter, have had the Same under consideration, and herewith Submit their report.

As the papers and their contents Submitted to your Committee will appear at length on the journal of the proceedings of this body, it is, on the part of your Committee, deemed unnecessary to embody a detail of their facts in this report; especially, as no portion of them, as thus referred, require the Special intervention or action of this Committee, other than what may pertain to a portion of the report of the D. G. G. H. Priest.

These official communications are, the reports of the M. E. & Rev. G. G. High Priest, the M. E. D. G. G. H. Priest, the G. G. King, and G. G. Scribe.

Your Committee, in examining these papers, find, in a word, every thing to approve, and nothing to condemn. It is apparent that the members of this exalted body, and the State authorities, whom they represent, have much cause to be gratified with the evidence of the distinguished ability with which the responsible duties of the Several G. G. Offices have been committed.

It furnishes a practical and Salutary comment upon the importance of Selecting for the highest responsible Masonic trusts, brethren of undoubted ability and moral Standing;—

Reader page 25 · 1844 officers' report — Secretary and Treasurer

—and then, whilst these qualifications continue unimpaired, to retain them in their Several Stations; and thus, on the part of this body and its Subordinates, receiving and enjoying the benefits of their experience and Masonic wisdom in the administration of their offices.

Although the communications of the G. G. Secretary and G. G. Treasurer are not referred to your Committee, yet as they are necessarily amongst the most important officers of this G. G. Chapter, in their official labours, as well as responsibilities to this Chapter and the Companions in general, we State, with much pleasure, that the official correspondence and labours of the G. G. Secretary are marked with the Stamp of intelligence, industry, and Masonic zeal; and that, in our G. G. Treasurer, we have full confidence in his ability and responsibility.

So much of the communication of our venerable D. G. G. H. Priest as has Special reference to the "Severe labours and duties" of the present G. G. Secretary, has engaged our attention as a Subject requiring the definite action of this Grand Body. We are duly informed, that the labours of the office have very materially and essentially increased, and are increasing. Occupying as he does the official relations of Grand Secretary to this body, his duties are not confined to merely keeping the journals of our proceedings, and the filling up of Dispensations and Charters, but from custom, in a great measure, and his bringing to that official Station distinguished ability, he has become the organ—

The report continues on scan 26.

Reader page 26 · 1844 — proposed annual compensation and election begins

—of communication between this General Grand Chapter, its Subordinates, and all other Masonic bodies, as well as individuals having business relations with this Chapter and its various proceedings, past and present. Your Committee, therefore, are duly impressed with the truth of the Statement above quoted from the official report of our venerable Companion, the D. G. G. High Priest, that his duties have become "Severe and laborious"; and looking to the continuance and increase of these labors, while the office is, as now, filled with intelligence, business habits, and industry, your Committee have adjudged it as more than right, nay, as a positive equity, that there Should be allowed him Some remuneration for his labors; and have therefore unanimously agreed upon, and recommend for adoption, the following resolution:

Resolved, That there be allowed to the G. G. Secretary, the Sum of one hundred dollars annually, exclusive of his cash outlays and expenses as Such Secretary, to be paid quarterly by the G. G. Treasurer, out of any monies in his hands not otherwise appropriated.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) W. B. Hubbard; Nathan B. Haswell; Robert Smith.

On motion of Comp. Boyd, the resolution accompanying Said report was laid upon the table, for the purpose of taking up the order of the day.

The G. G. Chapter then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, for the purpose of going into an election of officers for the ensuing three years. The M. E. Joseph K. Stapleton in the chair.

Reader page 27 · 1844 — officers elected and Constitution amendments

The Committee of the whole, having transacted the business assigned them, arose and reported that the following named Companions had been duly elected to the offices annexed to their respective names:

- The M. E. and Rev. Paul Dean, of Boston, Mass., G. G. High Priest.
- The M. E. Joseph K. Stapleton, of Baltimore, Md., D. G. G. High Priest.
- The M. E. Ingoldesby W. Crawford, of Union, Ct., G. G. King.
- The M. E. Ezra S. Barnum, of Utica, N. Y., G. G. Scribe.
- The M. E. Charles Gilman, of Baltimore, Md., G. G. Secretary.
- The M. E. Edwd. A. Raymond, of Boston, Mass., G. G. Treasurer.
- The M. E. & Rev. Robert Punshon, of Cincinnati, Ohio, G. G. Chaplain.
- The M. E. Nathan B. Haswell, of Burlington, Vt., G. G. Marshal.

Which report was accepted, and the Committee discharged.

The G. G. Secretary proposed the following alterations in the Constitution of the G. G. Chapter, which were adopted, whereupon it was Ordered, That he cause 500 copies of the Constitution, as amended, to be printed for the use of the G. G. Chapter; and that he have leave to draw on the G. G. Treasurer for the expense thereof.

Constitution — Article I

Section 3. The officers of the G. G. Chapter Shall consist of a General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, General Grand Scribe, General Grand Secretary, General Grand Treasurer, General Grand Chaplain, and General Grand Marshal; these together with the Past General Grand High Priest, Past Deputy General Grand High Priest, Past General Grand King, Past General Grand Scribe, the first four—

Reader page 28 · 1844 Constitution amendments — membership and dispensations

—officers of every State Grand Chapter under this jurisdiction, or the proxies of the first four General Grand Officers, and of the first four officers of each State Grand Chapter aforesaid, Shall compose the General Grand Chapter.

Provided, that any Chapter under this jurisdiction, in any State, District, or Territory, where there is no Grand Chapter duly established, Shall have a right to appear by its first three officers, or any one or two of them, which officers Shall, collectively, have one vote.

Section 6. The General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, and General Grand Scribe, Shall Severally have power and authority to grant Dispensations, for a limited length of time, for new Royal Arch Chapters and Lodges of the appendant orders, in any State, Country, republic, or territory, in which there is not a General Chapter regularly established, when, in their opinion, the good of the Craft may require the Same: this term of time Shall in no case extend beyond the time of the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter; but no new Chapter Shall be established in any State, Country, republic, or territory,

where there is a Chapter, within a reasonable distance, under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, without the approbation of the Chapter nearest to the place where Said new Chapter is proposed to be located; and in all cases of Such Dispensations, the officer who may grant the Same, Shall immediately notify the G. G. Secretary thereof, and make report of the Same at the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter, when the General Grand Chapter may grant the Said Chapter a Charter.

Section 7. (After the Semi-colon, Sec'y.) and no credit Shall be given for Dispensations, or Charters,—

The Constitution amendment continues on scan 29. "General Chapter" in section 6 is retained as written.

Reader page 29 · 1844 Constitution amendments — fees, legal chapters and terminology

—or for conferring the degrees in any Chapter or Lodge under this jurisdiction. And every Chapter holden by Dispensation or Charter under this jurisdiction, Shall pay into the treasury of the General Grand Chapter, the Sum of two dollars for each Companion therein exalted, until Such time as a Grand Chapter Shall be regularly established in the State, country, republic, or territory, in which Such Subordinate Chapter is located.

Article III

Section 1. Every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons throughout this jurisdiction Shall have a Dispensation, as is provided in Section 6th of the first article, or Section 4th of the Second article, of this Constitution, or a Charter from the General Grand Chapter, or from a Grand Chapter under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter; and no Chapter Shall be considered legal without Such Dispensation or Charter; and Masonic communication, both public and private, is hereby interdicted and forbidden between any Chapter or Lodge under this jurisdiction, or any member of either of them, and any Chapter, Lodge, or assembly that may be So illegally formed, opened or holden without Such Warrant, or any, or either of their members, or any person exalted or advanced in Such illegal Chapter or Lodge.

But nothing in this Section Shall be construed to affect any Chapter or Lodge which was established before the adoption of the Grand Royal Arch Constitution, at Hartford, on the 24th day of January, A. D. 1798.

In all cases where the words "Warrant" and "Charter" are used in this Constitution, as applicable to the act of a General Grand Officer of the General Grand Chapter, or a Grand Officer of a State Grand Chapter,—

The handwritten insertion naming a Grand Chapter under the General Grand Chapter's jurisdiction has been incorporated into section 1. The terminology provision continues on scan 30.

Reader page 30 · 1844 — terminology amendment, thanks and Texas report

—the word "Dispensation" Shall be Substituted therefor; and in all cases where the word "Warrant" is used, as applicable to the authority of a Chapter having been duly recognized by the General Grand Chapter, or a State Grand Chapter, the word "Charter" Shall be used.

The 6th Section of the 3d Article to constitute the 4th Section of the 4th Article.

Companion Case offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this General Grand Chapter be tendered to the M. W. Grand Lodge of A. F. M. of the State of Connecticut, for the cordial reception given us by that body, and

for the truly courteous and fraternal attention they have Shewn us during the Session of this General Grand Chapter.

Companion Case, from the Committee to whom was referred the matter of Royal Arch Masonry in Texas, Submitted the following report, which was accepted, and the accompanying resolution adopted:

To the M. E. General Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of the General Grand Chapter.

The Committee to whom was referred Sundry documents from certain Royal Arch Masons in the Republic of Texas, having given them careful consideration, respectfully report: That the General Grand Secretary be requested to write to the Said Companions, who have associated themselves under the name and Style of “The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Republic of Texas,” notifying them that this General Grand Royal Arch Chapter cannot recognize the legality of their present organization, and giving them Such fraternal advice and instruction as may aid them in retracing their Steps, and adopting—

Reader page 31 · 1844 — Galveston removal approved and further business

—Such measures as may be necessary and proper, and as are consistent with correct Masonic practice.

In respect to San Filipe de Austin Chapter, the Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the removal of Said Chapter, from San Filipe de Austin to Galveston, be approved and Sanctioned by this General Grand Chapter.

(Signed) Albert Case; Benjamin Enos; William Field.
New Haven, September 11th, 1844.

Companion Case, from the Committee on Warrants, moved for leave to return to the General Grand Chapter, the papers and documents on the Subject of the appeal of Geo. Fisher, which was granted; and the matter was committed to the Deputy General Grand High Priest and General Grand Secretary, with plenary power to adjudicate and determine the Same as to them Shall Seem right and proper.

The Committee on Warrants made an additional report, which was accepted, and the matter of Washington Chapter, at New Ark, N. J., was committed to the Special charge of the Deputy General Grand High Priest, with full power to act therein, as to him Shall Seem proper.

The General Grand Secretary informed the G. G. Chapter, that he had procured to be printed on parchment, 28 blank Charters for the use of the G. G. Chapter, which was approved, and the expense thereof ordered to be paid by the General Grand Treasurer.

Reader page 32 · 1844 — St. Lawrence Chapter and finance report

Companion Case offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That this General Grand Chapter having learned the history of the organization of a Chapter of R. A. Masons at St. Lawrence, [C. I.?], under the authority of the Grand Chapter of S. C., and aware that it was not legally instituted, will grant a Charter for the Same, and legalize its work, on condition that it makes its returns from the time of its organization, delivers a copy of its By-laws, and pays its constitutional dues.

Companion Boyd, from the Committee on Finance, made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee of Finance beg leave respectfully to report, That they have examined the accounts of the G. G. Treasurer, up to the commencement of the present Session, and find he had on hand, at the commencement of the Session held in New York, in September, 1841, $281.19.

Account	Amount
Balance on hand in September 1841	$281.19
He has received up to the commencement of the present Session	$1,521.66
Subtotal	$1,802.85
He has disbursed during the Same time, and has exhibited authority for So doing	$376.86
Leaving in his hands	$1,425.99

That he has received during the present Session, $661.72, making the available funds of this G. G. Chapter, at this time, $2,087.71, from which is to be deducted the expenses of the present Session.

The Committee recommend payment of the following officers of this General Grand Chapter, from the funds of the Same, the Sums Set against their respective names:

Officer	Amount
M. E. and Rev. Paul Dean	$50.00
Joseph K. Stapleton	$50.00

The abbreviation following St. Lawrence is uncertain. The finance report continues on scan 33.

Reader page 33 · 1844 — finance allowances and Madison Chapter report

Officer / expense, continued	Amount
M. E. Charles Gilman	$150.00
Same, for expenses as per bill rendered	$53.75
Edward A. Raymond	$50.00
Ezra S. Barnum	$30.00
Ingoldsby W. Crawford	$20.00
Nathan B. Haswell	$30.00
Comp. Isaac Tuttle	$15.00
Joseph K. Stapleton, D. G. G. High Priest, postage and other expenses during the recess	$23.84
Total, including allowances on scan 32	$472.59

(Signed) E. Wadsworth; Paul Baker; R. R. Boyd.
New Haven, September 12th, 1844.

Companion Boyd, from the Committee to whom was referred the matter of the Chapters at Madison and Brookville, in Indiana, and of the So called Grand Chapter of that State, Submitted the following report, which was accepted, and the resolutions adopted:

The Committee to whom was referred the memorial and other papers from Madison Chapter, No. 1, at Madison, Indiana, beg leave respectfully to report:

They have examined the papers placed in their hands, and find a full and clear Statement of facts from Comp. J. G. Norwood, Setting forth their present position and past doings; from which it appears a Dispensation was granted April 1st, 1819—that on the 15th May, 1823, three Chapters, Vincennes, Brookville, and Madison, met and formed a Grand Chapter, which Seems never afterwards to have assembled—that Madison Chapter, No. 1, continued its labors to 1829, when they Suspended their work, for various reasons, until 19th July, 1842, when 14 Royal Arch—

Reader page 34 · 1844 — Madison Chapter decisions

—Masons assembled, and proceeded to open the Chapter for business; all of which was illegal.

In 1843, our M. E. D. G. G. H. P. Comp. Stapleton, notified them of their irregularity, when they immediately ceased their labors, and made a full and clear Statement of all the facts, and now come, by petition, to the G. G. Chapter for advice, and your Committee recommend the following:

1. Resolved, 1st, That the doings of Madison Chapter, No. 1, at Madison, Indiana, were illegal, Subsequent to the first triennial meeting of the G. G. Chapter, after the granting of the Dispensation.
2. That there is no legally constituted Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the State of Indiana.
3. That this G. G. Chapter will legalize and confirm the doings of Madison Chapter, No. 1, on their healing the Companions who were exalted in Said Chapter, or So many of them as may appear in their Chapter for that purpose, and when So healed, they Shall be considered in good Standing.
4. That any Chapter, Subordinate to this G. G. Chapter, in good Standing, Shall be competent to heal any Companions exalted in Madison Chapter, No. 1, as aforesaid.
5. That a Warrant be granted to Madison Chapter, No. 1, on its complying with the requirements of the G. G. Officers, and they are hereby requested to take the whole Subject matter in charge.

All which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) R. R. Boyd; William Field; Charles W. Moore.
New Haven, September 12th, 1844.

The G. G. Secretary offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the dues of Madison Chapter, No. 1,—

Reader page 35 · 1844 — Louisiana appeal report begins

—up to 1842, be remitted, and that a Charter be granted to the Companions there, pursuant to the prayer of their petition.

Companion Moore, from the Committee to whom was referred the matter of the appeal of C. D. [Lehman?], of New Orleans, from a judgment of the So called Grand Chapter of Louisiana, made the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

To the M. E. General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States.

The Committee to whom was referred Sundry papers relating to certain difficulties which have arisen between a body Styling itself the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, and the officers and members of Holland Chapter, No. 9, in the city of New Orleans, having given the Subject careful consideration, respectfully report:

From documents before them, your Committee learn that a Grand Chapter of Louisiana was organized in 1813, by the Royal Lodges, “Concordia and Perseverance,” and Such officers and members of the Grand Lodge of the State, as were Royal Arch Masons.*

The Grand Chapter, formed in manner above Stated, was attached to, and made dependant—

***Note in the manuscript**

These Lodges were originally organized in the Island of St. Domingo, under Charters emanating from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, with powers to confer all the degrees from Entered Apprentice to Royal Arch inclusive. On the breaking out of the revolution in St. Domingo, a portion of the members made their escape to the Island of Cuba, from which they were Subsequently obliged to remove to the city of New Orleans; where, having preserved their Charters, they Soon afterwards opened their Lodges.

The starred historical note is part of the original record. This entry reverses the appellant’s initials to C. D.; earlier entries give D. C. The surname remains uncertain. The main report continues on scan 36.

Reader page 36 · 1844 Louisiana report — jurisdiction and inactivity

—on the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and the M. W. G. Master of that body was declared to be ex-officio and by inherent right, Grand High Priest of the new Grand Chapter.

Your Committee will not Stop to discuss the legality of these proceedings, for the question was foreclosed in 1829 by the admission of a representative from the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, in the person of Companion McConnell; on whose return to New Orleans, the Grand High Priest, Companion John Holland, convened the officers and members of the Grand Chapter, who, by an official act in general assembly, enrolled themselves under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, in the manner prescribed by the 13th Section of the 4th article of the General Grand Constitution; of which act, it notified all the Subordinate Chapters under its jurisdiction, and directed Similar action on their part, and enjoined a Strict observance of the provisions of the General Grand Constitution.

It is believed, that from this time, 1829, to 1831, the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana were conducted in good faith and allegiance to this General Grand Body. But it is in evidence, that from 1831 to April, 1839, “no meeting of the Grand Chapter was held for any purpose whatever.” All the Subordinate Chapters under its jurisdiction had ceased to exist, except Holland Chapter, No. 9, which continued its organization until its Charter was revoked in 1841, as hereinafter Stated.

In the year 1841, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, by direction of the Grand Master, issued notices to certain Royal Arch Masons in the city of New Orleans, to assemble and elect Grand Officers, with a—

Reader page 37 · 1844 Louisiana report — contested reorganization

—view to a reorganization of the Grand Chapter of the State. This meeting did not take place. Another, however, was Soon after called, of which the High Priest of Holland Chapter, and three of his Subordinate officers were notified.

At this meeting, the usual Grand officers were elected, and a body Styling itself the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, was organized. It is proper to State, that, from the testimony before your Committee, it appears that Comp. Henry, H. Priest of Holland Chapter, was not present at the election, which

took place as above mentioned; nor can your Committee ascertain that there was any Companion present, who was entitled to vote in an election of Grand Officers.

A few days Subsequent to this, Comp. Henry received official notice from Comp. [Duboyle?], as “Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana,” notifying Holland Chapter of the organization of Said body, and requiring its returns and dues from 1832 to 1838, inclusive. Against this demand, Holland Chapter protested, and asked for the evidence of the legality of the organization of the body making it. This was refused, and Holland Chapter declined to recognize its authority. On this State of the case, the body assuming to be a Grand Chapter, immediately proceeded to revoke the Charter of Holland Chapter, and to expel its High Priest, Comp. Cotton Henry, and its Secretary, Comp. C. D. [Lehman?].

Against this expulsion, Comp. [Lehman?] appealed to this General Grand Chapter, having, on the 24th July last, Served the reputed Grand Chapter with the usual notice of his intention. And it is in evidence, that on this notice—

The Secretary’s surname in the notice is uncertain. The report continues on scan 38.

Reader page 38 · 1844 Louisiana report — recognition and Holland Chapter

—being Served on the alleged Grand Chapter, the High Priest of that body, in his place in open Chapter, declared they did not acknowledge any other body, and were independent of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States.

Such is a brief Statement of the facts in the case, as they are presented to the Committee. It appears that the body formed in 1813, as a Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the State of Louisiana, voluntarily Surrendered its independent jurisdiction, if any it possessed, and enrolled itself under this General Grand Chapter. This body, So legalized, continued in existence until 1831; after which time, it having failed to hold any meeting, or to elect its officers, as required by the 2d Section of the 2d article of the General Grand Constitution, it ceased to exist. All its privileges and dignities came under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, which alone could legally exercise authority over the territory thus vacated, as provided by the 2d Section of the 1st article of the General Grand Constitution.

Your Committee are of opinion, that the deceased Grand Chapter could be revived only in the manner prescribed in the 4th Section of the 2d article of the General Grand Constitution. No Such revival has been authorized or Sanctioned; and this General Grand Chapter cannot recognize the right of any foreign body to interfere with its jurisdiction, or with the work or business of any Chapter acknowledging its authority.

Your Committee therefore recommend, that Holland Chapter, No. 9, in the city of New Orleans, be directed to resume its labors, under the direction of its former officers and members,—

The report continues on scan 43. Scans 39–42 repeat the manuscript leaves already shown on scans 35–38.

Reader page 39 · Duplicate manuscript leaf — same as reader page 35

Editorial description: This scan repeats the manuscript leaf shown on reader page 35. It is a separate scan with a different crop or exposure, rather than a new entry in the proceedings. The text is transcribed at reader page 35. The report resumes on reader page 43.

Reader page 40 · Duplicate manuscript leaf — same as reader page 36

Editorial description: This scan repeats the manuscript leaf shown on reader page 36. It is a separate scan with a different crop or exposure, rather than a new entry in the proceedings. The text is transcribed at reader page 36. The report resumes on reader page 43.

Reader page 41 · Duplicate manuscript leaf — same as reader page 37

Editorial description: This scan repeats the manuscript leaf shown on reader page 37. It is a separate scan with a different crop or exposure, rather than a new entry in the proceedings. The text is transcribed at reader page 37. The report resumes on reader page 43.

Reader page 42 · Duplicate manuscript leaf — same as reader page 38

Editorial description: This scan repeats the manuscript leaf shown on reader page 38. It is a separate scan with a different crop or exposure, rather than a new entry in the proceedings. The text is transcribed at reader page 38. The report resumes on reader page 43.

Reader page 43 · 1844 — Louisiana report concluded and next meeting in Columbus

—with power to fill existing vacancies; and that it be required to make its annual returns, and Settle its dues with the General Grand Secretary.

All which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) C. W. Moore; E. S. Barnum; W. B. Hubbard; E. A. Raymond; J. B. Hammatt; I. W. Crawford; C. S. Peters.

Companion Ellis, from the Committee appointed to designate a place for the next triennial meeting, reported the following resolution, which was adopted:

The Committee appointed to designate a place for the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter, beg leave to Submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, be held at the city of Columbus, in the State of Ohio, on the 2d Tuesday of September, 1847, at 10 o’Clock, A. M.

Respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) Wm. H. Ellis; Albert Case; Charles Gilman; Edwd. A. Raymond.

The G. G. Treasurer offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the G. G. Secretary be directed to notify all delinquent Chapters under this jurisdiction, that unless they make returns—

Reader page 44 · 1844 — delinquent chapters and Jackson Chapter decision

—and pay up their dues, previous to the next triennial meeting of this General Grand Chapter, their Charters will at that time be revoked.

Comp. Haswell, from the Committee to whom was referred the matter of the Royal and Select degrees, made a report, which was accepted.

Comp. Hammatt, from the Committee to whom was Submitted the matter of the expulsion of the acting High Priest of Jackson Chapter, at Jackson, Mississippi, made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee to whom was referred the Subject of Jackson Royal Arch Chapter, at Jackson, Mississippi, respectfully report, that they have had the Subject under consideration, and find their

proceedings towards C. R. Proziminski, their late High Priest, to be unprecedented and immature—the case Should have been reported to the General Grand Chapter for their consideration.

The Committee, however, are of opinion, that they were led into this error by their zeal for the Institution, and therefore recommend, on their making return of the Dispensation, and of a copy of their proceedings, and payment of all dues, that a Charter be granted them in the usual manner.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) J. B. Hammatt; H. Goodwin, 2d; C. S. Peters.

The G. G. Chapter was then adjourned to meet at 8 o'Clock to-morrow morning.

The Jackson High Priest is named here by the initials C. R.; scan 10 gives Charles R. The surname is read from the repeated entry here.

Reader page 45 · September 13, 1844 — Royal and Select Masters report

Friday Morning, Sept. 13th

The General Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order.

The M. E. Paul Dean presiding.

The other officers and members as before.

Prayer by the M. E. G. G. Chaplain.

The record of the proceedings of the last meeting was read and approved.

The vote accepting the report of the Committee on the Subject of the Royal and Select Masters degrees was reconsidered, and after amendment, was adopted, as follows:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

Your Committee appointed on So much of the communication of the General Grand Secretary as relates to State Grand Councils, and the Conferring of the degrees of Royal and Select Masters, report:

That it appears from documents referred to your Committee, there is not So much uniformity in conferring the degrees of Royal and Select Masters in the United States as would be desired by this General Body. Your Committee find that in Some States the degrees are conferred by Chapters, in other States they are conferred by authority of Grand Councils—they also find that individual Companions, claiming authority, Separate and aside from any regular constituted Masonic body, are conferring, in various directions, these important degrees. This latter course your Committee believe to be without correct, legitimate, Masonic authority, and Should receive the decided disapprobation of this General Grand Chapter. It is to be lamented that the authority to confer these degrees—

Reader page 46 · 1844 — 1829 Royal and Select Masters resolutions quoted

—Should be matter of disagreement between the Councils and Chapters. Your Committee find that the Subject came before this body at their communication at New York in 1829. A preamble and resolutions were then adopted, which are approved by your Committee, and which they recommend for the guidance of the Several Chapters under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, and which they beg leave to incorporate in this report; it is as follows:

Whereas, it is Satisfactorily proved to this General Grand Chapter, that the Constitution of Councils of Royal and Select Master Masons in different parts of the United States, by Sundry persons, has been without any legitimate authority; and whereas, these degrees are conferred in Some Chapters under the authority of the General Grand Chapter; and whereas, it was proved that it was the early and Sole intention of the Most Excellent Companions, from whom those degrees emanated, that they Should be conferred under the authority of Royal Arch Chapters; therefore,

Resolved, That this General Grand Chapter cordially recommend to the different Councils in the United States, to adopt measures to place the authority of conferring those degrees under the authority of the State Grand Chapters.

Resolved, That authority be, and is hereby granted to the Several Grand Chapters under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, to make Such arrangements as Shall be found necessary for conferring the degrees of Royal and Select Masters in Royal Arch Chapters under their jurisdiction. Provided, always, that no Grand Chapter within the limits—

The resolution continues on scan 47.

Reader page 47 · 1844 — order of degrees and visiting European Royal Arch Masons

—of which is a Grand Council, Shall authorize the Royal Arch Chapters under its jurisdiction to confer Such degrees without the consent of Such Grand Councils.

Your Committee learn there is Some discrepancy in the order in which the degrees of Royal and Select Masters are conferred in Some of the Chapters—inasmuch they are conferred previous to that of the Royal Arch degree, which your Committee consider wrong; and hence, to produce more uniformity in our work, they recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is the Sense of this General Grand Chapter, that the conferring of the degrees of Royal and Select Masters Should be Subsequent to that of the Royal Arch degree.

It appears by a communication received by the General Grand Secretary, from a worthy Companion in Illinois, that a Companion Royal Arch Mason from Europe, claimed admission, without ever having taken the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, as practised in the United States, and Sanctioned by this General Grand Chapter—the Companion Stated the manner of conferring the degrees in Great Britain to be as follows; First—Entered Apprentice. Second—Fellow Craft. Third—Master Mason. Fourth—Royal Arch degree. Making four degrees in all, and but three previous to that of the Royal Arch degree.

Your Committee being called upon to present their views in the case above referred to, recommend that the different Chapters under the jurisdiction of the General Grand—

Reader page 48 · 1844 — healing visitors, compensation and regalia

—Chapter adhere Strictly to the uniform manner, So long established, of keeping the Several degrees appertaining to the Chapter, Separate and distinct; but they recommend as a proper course, to meet the case Stated by our Illinois Companion, or any other of a Similar nature, that any worthy Companion, from without the jurisdiction of the United States, who may present himself as a Royal Arch Mason, and produce Satisfactory evidence of his having received that degree, that each and every Chapter under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter have liberty, and they are hereby authorized, to confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, on Such Companions, to the end that they may be healed, and thereby made regular Royal Arch Masons, free of charge. (See note in the printed copy.)

All which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) I. W. Crawford; N. B. Haswell; W. B. Hubbard.

On motion of Companion Ellis, the vote accepting the report of the Committee on Finance was reconsidered; and after amendment, by adding one hundred dollars to the compensation of the G. G. Secretary for past Services, the Same was accepted.

On motion of Companion Moore, it was Ordered, That the G. G. Secretary procure the requisite number of Jewels, Seals, and Aprons, for the use of the G. G. Chapter, at an expense not exceeding two hundred dollars.

The General Grand Officers present then renewed their Obligations, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

The parenthetical direction to the printed copy is part of the manuscript. No text from that separate printed note is supplied here.

Reader page 49 · 1844 meeting closes — Connecticut banquet and hospitality

The General Grand Chapter having finished its business, and the record of the proceedings being read and approved, the Same was closed with Solemn prayer by the G. G. Chaplain, and an eloquent address from the G. G. High Priest.

Charles Gilman, G. G. Secretary.

On the Second day of the Session, the Grand Lodge of Connecticut complimented the two G. G. Bodies, and other invited guests, with a banquet, Served up at the Tontine Hotel, in a Style that did great credit to its intelligent host, Bro. Ellis. Previous to Sitting down to the table, the officers and members of the Grand Lodge assembled in their beautiful Temple, where they were met by the officers and delegates of the G. G. Encampment and G. G. Chapter, and the exercises following were had—Prayer, by Rev. Bro. John Moore, G. Chaplain of the G. Lodge—Ode, by Bro. John H. [Proctor?]—Address and welcome, by Bro. Henry B. Flagg—and reply by the M. E. G. G. High Priest, the Rev. Paul Dean.

After which, a procession was formed and conducted through the principal Streets of the city, to the Tontine Hotel.

After dinner, the procession was again formed, and in like manner reconducted to the Temple. Here the G. Lodge was called to order by Bro. Henry Peck, of New Haven, the M. W. G. Master; whereupon Several addresses, from brethren from various parts of the country, were listened to with great Satisfaction.

The foregoing is intended as a mere memorandum of another of those triennial, heart-cheering occasions, when brethren from the east, the west, the north and the South, meeting together for the general good, are actuated with the courteous, open-handed welcome, which, to be fully understood, needs to be Seen and felt.

Our friends at New Haven having graven in our hearts a more enduring record of their kindness and hospitality.

The surname of the brother credited with the ode is uncertain.

Reader page 50 · Columbus, September 14, 1847 — triennial session

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

The triennial Session of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America, was held in the State house, in the city of Columbus and State of Ohio, on Tuesday the 14th day of September, Anno Domini 1847, at 10 o’Clock in the forenoon.

Present

- The M. E. Paul Dean, G. G. High Priest.
- The M. E. Joseph K. Stapleton, D. G. G. High Priest.
- The M. E. I. W. Crawford, G. G. King.
- The M. E. Ezra S. Barnum, G. G. Scribe.
- The M. E. Charles Gilman, G. G. Secretary.
- The M. E. Edward A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer.
- The M. E. and Rev. Anson Clark, as G. G. Chaplain.
- The M. E. Nathan B. Haswell, G. G. Marshal.
- Comp. James T. [Donaho?], Sentinel.

The M. E. General Grand High Priest announced that the venerable and Rev. Robert Punshon, the G. G. Chaplain, was confined to his bed with a most afflicting illness, and that he had temporarily filled the vacancy by the Rev. Anson Clark,—

The Sentinel’s surname is uncertain. The opening entry continues on scan 51.

Reader page 51 · 1847 opening — credentials and afternoon session

—then present. The General Grand Chapter was then opened. Prayer by the M. E. G. G. Chaplain.

On motion, it was Ordered, That the reading of the record of the proceedings of the last meeting be dispensed with, printed copies being in the hands of the members.

The M. E. General Grand High Priest then appointed the following named Companions a Committee on Credentials:

- Comp. Hammatt, from Massachusetts.
- Ball, from Maryland.
- Bell, from Ohio.

The General Grand Chapter was then adjourned to meet again at 2 o’Clock P. M.

Afternoon Session

The General Grand Chapter met agreeably to adjournment, and was called to order. The M. E. General Grand High Priest presiding.

The record of the proceedings of the last meeting was read and approved.

Comp. Hammatt, from the Committee on Credentials, made the following report, which was read and accepted:

The Committee on Credentials ask leave to report the following named Companions as members of the General Grand Chapter, and entitled to Seats therein.

From Maine

Freeman Bradford, G. H. Priest.

From Massachusetts

- Charles W. Moore, G. H. Priest.
- P. Baker, D. G. H. Priest.
- John B. Hammatt, proxy for the G. Scribe.

From New Hampshire

A. R. Young, proxy for G. King.

Reader page 52 · 1847 — state representatives and Holland Chapter

From Rhode Island

William Field, proxy for the G. H. P., G. K. & G. S.

From Connecticut

- William H. Ellis, proxy for the G. H. Priest.
- Wm. E. Sandford, D. G. H. Priest.

From New York

- Robert R. Boyd, D. G. H. Priest.
- Joel S. Candee, proxy for the G. King.
- L. C. Hoffman, G. Scribe.

From Maryland

- Walter Ball, D. G. H. Priest.
- E. S. Courtney, G. Scribe.

From Ohio

- William B. Hubbard, G. H. Priest.
- G. D. Hine, D. G. H. Priest.
- John Sayre, G. King.
- Thomas Bell, G. Scribe.

From Kentucky

- Willis Stewart, G. H. Priest.
- Philip Swigert, proxy for D. G. H. Priest.
- Dempsey Carroll, proxy for G. King.
- A. G. Hodges, proxy for G. Scribe.

From Indiana

- Abel C. Pepper, G. H. Priest.
- C. Moore, proxy for D. G. H. Priest.

From Tennessee

- Geo. Peal, D. G. H. Priest.
- [Initials unclear] Perkins, G. Scribe.

From Mississippi

Wm. P. Mellen, G. King.

From Georgia

Wm. T. Gould, G. H. Priest.

From Alabama

Sterling A. M. Wood, G. King.

From Holland Chapter, No. 9, Louisiana

Thomas H. Lewis, H. Priest.

All which is respectfully Submitted.

Reader page 53 · 1847 — General Grand Secretary’s digest begins

(Signed) John B. Hammatt; Walter Ball; Thomas Bell.

The General Secretary read the following paper, which was referred to a Special Committee of three, consisting of Companions Moore, from Massachusetts, Hubbard, from Ohio, and Pepper, from Indiana.

To the M. E. General Grand High Priest and other officers and members of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America.

In accordance with the requirements of the General Grand Chapter, the undersigned General Grand Secretary, Submits the following as a digest of Such matters as may require your consideration, which have come to his knowledge during the vacation.

Soon after the close of the Session of 1844, I transmitted to the High Priest of Holland Chapter No. 9 at New Orleans an authenticated copy of So much of the record of the proceedings of that Session, as relate to the difficulties between that Chapter and the So called Grand Chapter of Louisiana; and therewith an order to proceed with the regular business of his Chapter in accordance with the Decree of the General Grand Chapter. The order was readily complied with, and Since that time the Chapter has regularly made its returns and promptly paid its dues.

Within the Same time three other Chapters have been opened within that State, by Dispensations obtained from the M. E. D. General Grand High Priest, all of which have complied with the requirements of the Constitution, and now ask, at your hands,—

Reader page 54 · 1847 Secretary’s digest — Louisiana pamphlet and prior decision

—perpetual Charters. It will be recollected that upon the investigation of the matter of the complaint of Holland Chapter, in 1844 (p. 33 of the printed proceedings,) it was found that there was no Grand Chapter in Louisiana, constituted according to any laws known to, and acknowledged by the order, and that therefore the demand for a Surrender of the Charter of Holland Chapter to the So called Grand Chapter, and the attempt to expel from the rights of Masonry its officers for disobedience to that demand, were nullity, and not to be regarded by any regularly organized Masonic body.

I have received, through the Post office, Several copies of a pamphlet (No. 1) purporting to have been issued by this Same So called Grand Chapter, by which it appears, in the first place, that they deny that the General Grand Chapter had any power or authority, whatever, to interfere in the matter of Holland Chapter. And in the next place they aver, that no decree or order had been passed by the General Grand Chapter in the matter; but that I had issued the order by an assumption of power never intended to have been given to me!

Now the report of the Committee recommended that the act which has been done, Should be ordered by the General Grand Chapter; and the report was unanimously accepted.

The pamphlet, Somewhat more Subtle than profound, contends that the adoption of the report by the General Grand Chapter was not an adoption of its provisions by the members of that body! I am of a different opinion; nor has that opinion been Shaken by the argument in the pamphlet. The exception taken Seems to me to Savour more of—

Reader page 55 · 1847 Secretary’s digest — Virginia committee report

—a certain technical nicety, than of that Masonic Spirit that Should characterize all our proceedings.

From the printed minutes of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Virginia, in 1845, (No. 2,) it appears that a Committee of that body, has made the important discovery that the General Grand Chapter is not “a legal Masonic body”; Consequently, that it is clandestine, and all its acts, as well as those done by its authority, as those in a convention of its own body, are Masonically void! The discovery is important in more respects than one, besides the fact that the Rev. Chairman of the Committee was himself created a Royal Arch Mason under its authority, and doubtless took upon himself the obligations of allegiance as others.

It is important in that it has, as its acknowledged Subordinates, fifteen Grand Chapters, and at least thirty Chapters in States and Territories where there are no Grand Chapters. At least three quarters of all the Chapters in the country hold Charters immediately from the General Grand Chapter, and probably nine tenths of all the Royal Arch Masons now living in the United States were exalted to that degree in Such Chapters. Whether the distinguished author of the report, just permitting himself to be healed, will then obtain from the Grand Chapter of Virginia a dispensation as a missionary, and travel East, West and South for the purpose of healing others, remains to be Seen.

From the proceedings aforesaid, it does not appear that the Grand Chapter of Virginia took any action, whatever, upon the report of its Committee; but the fact of their allowing So extraordinary a document to go upon their records, much more to publish it among the proceedings—

Reader page 56 · 1847 Secretary’s digest — Florida and Georgia Grand Chapters

—of that highly intelligent and respectable body, as well men as Masons, is matter of Surprise and manifests an unfriendly Spirit toward the General Grand Chapter, much to be regretted. Whether this General Grand Chapter Should take any further notice of these proceedings is in my mind matter of doubt.

On the 11th day of January last, three Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in the State of Florida, by their delegates, met in Convention, and resolved to form a Grand Chapter for that State.—

They therefore proceeded to frame a Constitution, and enact by-laws; and on the 21st of the Same month, they elected officers and organized a Grand Chapter, and among their proceedings (No. 3) it will be found that they desire to place their Grand Chapter under your jurisdiction. On receipt of

the copy of their Constitution, and the letter accompanying it, I immediately acknowledged the Same, and requested their Grand Secretary to inform me from what Grand Chapter the Several Chapters in the State received their respective Charters and the time when each was instituted. To this letter as yet I have received no answer.

From the Free Masons magazine I Sometime Since learned that there was a Grand Chapter within and for the State of Georgia. But after a careful examination of the records, I found there was no evidence therein of Such a Grand Chapter having been represented in the G. G. Chapter, nor of the recognition of Such a body. Within the last few days, however, on examination of the old files of papers, I found a printed paper (No. 5) to which the name of one of the G. G. Secretaries is affixed, giving a list of the Grand Chapters under the jurisdiction of the General Grand—

Reader page 57 · 1847 Secretary’s digest — Georgia, Natchez and North Carolina

—Chapter, and therein appears the name of the Grand Chapter of Georgia.

It would Seem that this is good evidence of that Grand Chapter having been recognized and that if So, it Should be in Some way made to appear upon the record.

From a communication received from M. E. Charles A. Lacoste, High Priest of Natchez Chapter, (No. 8,) it appears that they have lost the Charter of their Chapter and now ask for another.

In the State of North Carolina there is no Grand Chapter. The time was when Such an institution existed there as a constituent of the General Grand Chapter, but it is believed that it ceased to exist about twenty years ago. There are Said to be Chapters at Halifax, Tarborough, Fayetteville and Wilmington; but they are not in correspondence with the General Grand Chapter, although Some of them, if not all, were instituted under its immediate jurisdiction. It is but recently that the foregoing facts in relation to these Chapters have come to my knowledge; Since which I have been attentive to, and occupied properly to investigate, the matter.*

In the month of November, 1846, I received notice of the formation of a Grand Chapter for the State of Missouri, purporting to be by authority from the General Grand Officers. (No. 7.) This however was an error, and on being informed by me—

*Note in the manuscript

Since the foregoing was written I have received a printed copy of the minutes of a convention of delegates from the Several Chapters, by which it appears that a G. Chapter has been organized for the State of North Carolina. (No. 6.) Whether this reorganization be in Strict compliance with the Constitution is not clear to me; indeed, it was the intention of the Chapters So to do, as the whole proceeding Seems to be with a view of regaining their former position in the confederation.

The starred note is part of the manuscript. The Missouri paragraph continues on scan 58.

Reader page 58 · 1847 Secretary’s digest — Missouri and unrecognized degrees

—that there had been no Such authority given, it is believed no further proceedings have been had in the matter.

It may be that the Chapters will make a representation of the matter to the G. G. Chapter, Setting forth the facts about which there is now So misunderstanding; in which case Such proceedings can be had as may Seem proper. Otherwise it Seems to me that it is not necessary for the General Grand Chapter to take action in the matter, as the Constitution provides for the organization of Grand Chapters without any Special action of the General Grand Chapter in Session.

By the 4th Sec. of the 1st Art. of the Constitution it is provided that, “No Royal Arch Mason within the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, Shall be permitted to confer any degree in Masonry not recognized as a Constitutional degree; nor establish any Society of Masons not recognized as a Constitutional body.” It is to be regretted this provision of the Constitution is Seemingly not better known, or, if known, that it is So little observed.

I have received information (No. 4) that Masons have So far departed from the orders and principles of the Order as to institute new degrees in what they miscall Masonry; and to confer them upon persons as inducements to them to enter the Masonic fraternity; to confer them, and others which they call honorary degrees, on women, and to induce them to walk in Masonic processions clothed in the insignia of the fraternity! These things are Sources of great grief to the orderly and well informed; and no doubt are a hindrance to the great objects of the institution.

In consequence of a difference of opinion as to what is the true construction of the Second paragraph of Art. 1st, Sec. 7, of the Constitution—

Reader page 59 · 1847 Secretary’s digest — fees and clergymen

—and that there may be uniformity of practice, it has become necessary that the General Grand Chapter express itself in the matter.

The Constitution provides that the fees for conferring the Several degrees therein mentioned to be charged by the Subordinate Chapters, Shall not be less than twenty dollars. Among the records of the proceedings of 1826, p. 66, is found the following resolution:

“Resolved, That it may be deemed regular for the Subordinate Chapters under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter to confer the degrees in Said Chapters on all regularly authorized officiating Clergymen without fees.”

The question is, whether the Constitution and the resolutions are in Conflict? If So, then the latter must give place to the former, until it be changed. In a large majority of the Grand Chapters and in many of the Subordinates immediately under the General Grand Chapter, the resolution is allowed to prevail.

Another question growing out of this is, if the Chapters are allowed to confer the degrees upon Clergymen without fees, Should the General Grand Secretary require of the Chapters the usual fee of $2.00 to the General Grand Chapter, for the exaltations of that class of persons?

By the 7th Section of the 1st article of the Constitution, it is provided that “the fees for instituting a new Royal Arch Chapter, with the Subordinate degrees, Shall be ninety dollars and no more”; and by the 4th Section of the 2nd article, it is also provided that, “the Same fees as are required by this Constitution Shall—

Reader page 60 · 1847 Secretary’s digest — jurisdiction, expulsions and Peoria petition

—be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Treasurer,” before a new Chapter can be established by a State Grand Chapter. It is nevertheless a well known fact, that Some State Grand Chapters institute new Chapters for a less Sum than ninety dollars.

Whether it be more expedient to enforce the provisions of the Constitution, or to amend it, is a question for the consideration of the General Grand Chapter.

The following are among the great number of questions that have been Submitted to me for opinions during the last vacation:

When a difference of opinion Shall arise between two Chapters Subordinate to the General Grand Chapter, respecting the territorial limits of the jurisdiction of each, what is the proper tribunal to which application Should be made to Settle the difficulty?

When a Royal Arch Mason who is a member of a Chapter, Shall be expelled from the rights and privileges of Masonry, by a Grand Lodge in the Same State, is he thereby expelled as a Royal Arch Mason? If So, and he Shall afterwards be restored by the Same power, does Such restoration necessarily reinstate him as a member of the Chapter? Or Should he be balloted for as a new applicant for membership?

Since my arrival in Columbus I have received a petition from Sundry Companions R. A. Masons, at Peoria in the State of Illinois, (No. 9,) praying for a Charter to empower them to open and hold a Chapter at that place, which is duly recommended by Springfield—

Reader page 61 · 1847 — Peoria petition, regalia and visitors

—Chapter of the Same State. The application Seems to be in proper form and is accompanied by the Constitutional fee.

(Signed) Charles Gilman.

The G. G. Treasurer made the following report, which was laid on the table:

The General Grand Treasurer having been charged with instructions to furnish Suitable regalia for the officers of the General Grand Chapter, would respectfully report, that he has procured Suitable and appropriate jewels, collars and aprons for all the officers of that body, and that in the discharge of this duty he has endeavored to have a due regard to the condition of the finances, as well as to the character and dignity of the General Grand Chapter.

The amount of money expended for this object is $162.50. He is prepared with the proper vouchers.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) Edward A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer.
Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 14th, 1847.

Companion Ellis, from Connecticut, offered the following resolution, which was passed:

Resolved, That all Royal Arch Masons in good and regular Standing, have permission, and are invited to take Seats as visitors in this General Grand Chapter during its present Session.

The M. E. General Grand High Priest, M. E. Deputy General Grand High Priest, M. E. General Grand King, and M. E. General Grand—

Reader page 62 · 1847 — General Grand High Priest’s report

—Scribe made their respective communications, which, on motion, were referred to the Committee on the doings of the General Grand Officers.

To the G. G. Royal Arch Chapter:

The G. G. High Priest reports, that nothing has occurred during the recess of the G. G. C. requiring his Special official action, nor has his correspondence presented any Subject to his notice, which demands the consideration of this body. But in the diligent Supervision he has exercised over the affairs of your extensive jurisdiction, he has been much gratified by the healthful and prosperous State of our excellent and benevolent Institution, evinced by the friendly feelings and harmony of

purpose and action exhibited by its members in the East and the West, the North and the South, and expressed by their published proceedings, in all parts of the country.

And he congratulates himself and you on the increasing Sympathy, respect and good will which So happily prevails among all the orders, degrees and associations of the fraternity, affording a most powerful incentive to moral and Social as well as Masonic improvement, in knowledge and virtue, union and happiness.

Fraternally Submitted,
(Signed) Paul Dean.
September 14th, 1847.

To the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States:

The undersigned Deputy General Grand High Priest, respectfully reports, that Since the triennial Session, in 1844, he has authorized Several distinguished members of the Order to act as his—

Reader page 63 · 1847 Deputy’s report — chapters consecrated and dispensations

—proxies in the Consecration of the Chapters, for which Charters had been granted by the General Grand Chapter, and in the installation of the officers thereof, viz:

- St. Joseph Valley Chapter at Niles, Michigan.
- Columbus Chapter at Columbus, Mississippi.
- Jackson Chapter at Jackson, Mississippi.
- Wilson Chapter at Holly Springs, Mississippi.
- Lafayette Chapter at Chicago, Illinois.
- Iowa Chapter at Burlington, Iowa.
- Iowa City Chapter at Iowa City, Iowa.
- Boonville Chapter at Boonville, Missouri.
- Washington Chapter at Plattville, Wisconsin.
- Union Chapter at Little Rock, Arkansas.

He has also issued Dispensations for the formation of twelve new Chapters, as follows, viz:

- Jacksonville Chapter, No. 3, at Jacksonville, Illinois.
- Shawneetown Chapter, No. 6, at Shawneetown, Illinois.
- Hannibal Chapter, No. 7, at Hannibal, Missouri.
- St. Louis Chapter, No. 8, at St. Louis, Missouri.
- Southport Chapter, No. 3, at Southport, Wisconsin.
- Du Buque Chapter at Du Buque, Iowa.
- Carrollton Chapter, No. 7, at Carrollton, Mississippi.
- Yazoo Chapter, No. 8, at Yazoo County, Mississippi.
- Jackson Chapter, No. 3, at Jackson, Michigan.
- New Era Chapter at New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Red River Chapter at Red River, Louisiana.
- East Feliciana Chapter at E. F., Louisiana.

And also a Dispensation to the members of Holland Chapter, at New Orleans, to continue work until the present time, they being forcibly deprived of their Charter. This Dispensation was issued April 7th, 1845, and it is recommended that a new Charter be drawn,—

Reader page 64 · 1847 Deputy’s report — Indiana, Mississippi and Secretary’s duties

—according to their petition.

He also reports, that in compliance with a petition from the Chapters in Indiana, on the 18th of November, 1845, he granted permission to Said Chapters to form a Grand Chapter for that State; and that on a like petition from the Chapters in Mississippi, on the 12th of March, 1846, he granted permission to those Chapters to form a Grand Chapter for that State; and in both instances he has been officially notified that Grand Chapters have been duly organized.

At the last triennial meeting the matter of Washington Chapter, at New Ark, New Jersey, was Specially committed to his charge, with power to act in the premises as to him might Seem proper.

Notice was given to the Companions of New Ark that Such Submission had been made, but the facts not having been laid before him, by those whose interests are most intimately involved, nothing has been done in the premises.

I cannot permit this report to close without again adverting to the great labor performed by our most efficient General Grand Secretary, being intimately connected with his official duties. I respectfully present his official labours to the consideration and remuneration of the General Grand Chapter; as few of its members can judge more correctly than myself, of the vast amount of time and labor additionally imposed on him by virtue of the resolution found on page 37 of the printed—

Reader page 65 · 1847 Deputy’s report — delinquent chapters and growth

—proceedings in the following words:

“Resolved, that the General Grand Secretary be directed to notify all delinquent Chapters under this jurisdiction, that unless they make return and pay up their dues previous to the next meeting of this General Grand Chapter, their Charters will at that time be revoked.”

By this resolution it became necessary to open a correspondence with the delinquent Chapters, and to adjust their Several accounts. This, in itself, is no Small matter—as it became his duty to extend his researches for a long period before he was installed into office; and the result of his exertions has been most Successful in recovering Some considerable amount of dues, which in a few more years would have been lost to the General Grand Treasury. His report will afford ample testimony to his untiring devotion to discharge his duty to this General Grand Chapter, in bringing up the delinquent Chapters to a discharge of their bounden duty under the General Grand Constitution.

The heart of the philanthropist has abundant reason to be cheered by the rapidly increasing interest that is felt in the progress of the Masonic Institution over the Western and Southwestern States. And if the principles of the order are regarded as it is hoped they are, among our new Companions, then those of us who are in the Autumn are richly repaid for whatever of toil we may have had in past and less auspicious days. To them we—

Reader page 66 · 1847 — Deputy’s report concluded and General Grand King

—now look for richer and more abundant fruits, in the broader field in which their lot is cast—and be theirs the reward of their early exertion to Spread wide, and lay deep the pure principles of virtue and universal benevolence, which it is the design of the Institution to foster and Support.

Respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) Jos. K. Stapleton.
Columbus, Sept. 14, 1847.

To the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, convened at Columbus, in Ohio, on the Second Tuesday of September, A. D. 1847:

The General Grand King respectfully reports, that Since the triennial meeting at New Haven in September, A. D. 1844, he has granted no dispensation for any number of Royal Arch Masons to organize for work, and has received no money for the use of the General Grand Chapter.

By communications addressed to him from different States, he learns with Satisfaction, that the pestilence of anti-Masonry has passed away, and that our venerated institution is now in a healthy and prosperous condition. He has been peculiarly gratified by authentic intelligence, that the Grand Lodge of Vermont, after a long and unavoidable Suspension, has at length resumed Masonic labor, with encouraging prospects of Success. The faithful in that State, have borne the Severest trials with heroic fortitude and patience, and they have had an ample reward in their own consciousness of integrity and in the Sympathy and con—

Reader page 67 · 1847 — General Grand Scribe’s report and standing committees

—fidence of their brethren.

(Signed) Ingoldsby W. Crawford.

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America:

I have the honor respectfully to report, that Since the last triennial meeting of this Chapter, I have granted the following Dispensations, viz: On the 10th March, 1846, I granted a Dispensation to Nelson D. Morse, High Priest, Joel Lee, King, and Caleb [Hunt?], Scribe, and a Constitutional number associated with them, to open a Chapter at Henderson, Illinois. On the 1st April, 1846, to Abraham Jones, C. E. Smith and H. E. [Cadey?], and their associates, to open a Chapter at Quincy, Illinois. That I have received the Constitutional fee for the Same and paid it over to the G. G. Secretary.

E. S. Barnum, G. G. Scribe.

The M. E. General Grand High Priest announced the following Standing Committees:

On the doings of the General Grand Officers

- Comp. Haswell, from Vermont.
- Field, from Rhode Island.
- Courtney, from Maryland.

On Finance

- Comp. Hubbard, from Ohio.
- Gould, from Georgia.
- Young, from New Hampshire.

On Dispensations and New Charters

- Comp. Condee, from New York.
- Moore, from Massachusetts.
- Mellen, from Mississippi.

Two surnames in the Scribe’s report are not securely legible and are marked as uncertain.

Reader page 68 · 1847 — next meeting committee and September 15 credentials

A Committee consisting of Comps. Stapleton, from Maryland, Hubbard, from Ohio, and Baker, from Massachusetts, was appointed to confer with any Committee which might be appointed for the Same purpose by the General Grand Encampment, for the purpose of designating a place for the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter.

Comp. Hodges, from Kentucky, moved that Comp. Swigart, from Kentucky, be added to the Committee, which motion was laid upon the table until to-morrow.

The General Grand Chapter was then adjourned until 8 o’Clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, 15th September

The General Grand Chapter met according to adjournment and was called to order.

The M. E. G. G. High Priest presiding.

Prayer by the M. E. and Rev. G. G. Chaplain.

The record of the proceedings of the last meeting was read and approved.

Companion Hammatt, from the Committee on Credentials, made the following additional report, which was accepted:

The undersigned Committee on Credentials ask leave further to report, that the following named Companions are in attendance as delegates, and entitled to Seats in this G. G. Chapter.

From New Hampshire

Charles Robbins, proxy for D. G. H. Priest.

From New York

R. R. Boyd, D. G. H. Priest.

From Indiana

Isaac Bartlett, G. Scribe.

Reader page 69 · 1847 — Referrals from the Secretary’s digest

(Signed) John B. Hammatt; Walter Ball; Thos. Bell.

Comp. C. W. Moore, from the Special Committee on the communication of the General Grand Secretary, made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee to whom was referred the communication of the General Grand Secretary, with instructions to report what disposition Should be made of the Several Subjects therein named, respectfully report:

1st. That So much as relates to Royal Arch Masonry in Louisiana be referred to a Committee of five.

2nd. That So much as relates to the Grand Chapter of Florida be referred to a Committee of three.

3rd. That So much as relates to the Grand Chapter of Georgia be referred to a Committee of three.

4th. That So much as relates to R. A. Masonry in North Carolina be referred to a Committee of three.

5th. That So much as relates to the conferring of degrees not recognized as regular by the 4th Section of the 1st Article of the Constitution of this General Grand Chapter be referred to a Committee of three.

6th. That So much as relates to the 7th Section of the 1st Article of the Constitution, and the resolution found in the proceedings of 1826 be referred to a Committee of three.

7th. That So much as relates to the organiza—

Reader page 70 · 1847 — Referrals continued; Louisiana, Florida and Georgia committees

—tion of the Grand Chapter of Missouri be referred to a Committee of three.

8th. That So much as relates to the petition for a Chapter at Peoria, Illinois, and for a new Charter for Natchez Chapter No. 1, be referred to the Committee on Dispensations and New Chapters.

Respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) Chas. W. Moore; W. B. Hubbard; J. C. Pepper.

The M. E. G. G. High Priest then announced the following Committees on the Subjects matters contained in the communication of the G. G. Secretary:

On So much as relates to Royal Arch Masonry in Louisiana

Comps. Moore from Massachusetts; Barnum from New York; Hammatt from Massachusetts; Raymond from Massachusetts; Crawford from Connecticut.

On So much as relates to the Grand Chapter of Florida

Comps. Bradford from Maine; Wood from Alabama; Sayre from Ohio.

On So much as relates to the Grand Chapter of Georgia

Comps. Ellis from Connecticut; Carroll from Ohio; Field from Rhode Island.

On So much as relates to R. A. Masonry in North Carolina

The North Carolina committee is listed on scan 71.

Reader page 71 · 1847 — Remaining committees and proposed amendments

Comps. Boyd from New York; Lewis from Louisiana; Swigart from Kentucky.

On So much as relates to the conferring of degrees not recognized by the Constitution

Comps. Sandford from Connecticut; Stewart from Kentucky; Moore from Indiana.

On So much as relates to the 7th Section of the 1st Article of the Constitution, and a resolution passed in 1826

Comps. Candee from New York; Hine from Ohio; Peal from Tennessee.

On So much as relates to the organization of a Grand Chapter in Missouri

Comps. Boyd from New York; Hodges from Kentucky; Perkins from Tennessee.

A letter from Comp. Samuel M. Williams of Texas was read and laid upon the table.

Comp. Swigart from Kentucky proposed the following amendment to the Constitution which was laid upon the table:

Resolved, That the 7th Section of 1st article of the Constitution of this G. Grand R. A. Chapter be So amended as to Strike out the word “ninety” in the Second line and insert “fifty.”

Comp. Mellen from Mississippi offered the following resolution which was laid upon the table:

Resolved, That a Chapter, after its Charter—

Reader page 72 · 1847 — Thursday session; report on clergymen’s fees

—has been granted and before its officers are duly installed is not entitled to be represented in a State Grand Chapter, nor to the rights and privileges growing out of that representation.

The General Grand Chapter was then adjourned until 9 o’Clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, 16th September

The General Grand Chapter met agreeably to adjournment and was called to order.

The M. E. G. G. High Priest presiding.

Prayer by the M. E. and Rev. G. G. Chaplain.

The record of the proceedings of the last meeting was read and approved.

Comp. Candee, from the Committee upon So much of the communication of the General Grand Secretary as relates to the 7th Section of the 1st Article of the Constitution, made the following report, which was accepted:

To the G. G. R. A. Chapter of the U. S. of America.

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of Section 7th of Article 1st of the Constitution, together with a resolution passed at the Convocation in 1826 and is as follows:

“Resolved That it may be deemed regular for the Subordinate Chapters under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, to confer the degrees in Said Chapters on regularly authorized Clergymen without fees”: have had the Same under consideration and report, That in their estimation, the—

Reader page 73 · 1847 — Fees report concludes; unrecognized degrees and processions

—resolution conflicts with the Constitution and is therefore void.

(Signed) Respectfully Submitted,
J. S. Candee; G. D. Hine; Geo. Peal.

Comp. Sandford, from the Committee on So much of the communication of the G. G. Secretary as relates to the conferring of degrees not recognized as Constitutional, made a report, which on motion of Comp. Hubbard was recommitted to the Same Committee for amendment, and afterwards it was reported back as follows, and laid upon the table:

The Committee to whom was referred So much of the General Grand Secretary’s communication as refers to conferring of the So called honorary degrees under the Sanction of Masonry, have

carefully examined Such documents as have come into their possession and have thereby become aware that great irregularities have Sprung up and are now alarmingly increasing from that practice. They find that in many places Masonic processions are held in which bodies the wives of Royal Arch Masons under various titles are allowed to march clothed in Masonic aprons and other Masonic badges; a practice which your Committee believe to be destructive to the best interests of Masonry itself and ultimately injurious to those whom it was intended to benefit: and would therefore recommend—

Reader page 74 · 1847 — Proposed degrees resolution; Georgia recognized

—the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That henceforth no legally constituted body of Royal Arch Masons Shall be authorized to confer on any one any degree other than those recognized or authorized by the General Grand Chapter; nor Shall any individual Royal Arch Mason be authorized or allowed to confer in the capacity of a Royal Arch Mason any honorary or extraneous degree whatever.

All which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) Wm. E. Sandford; Willis Stewart; C. Moore.
Columbus Ohio, Sept. 5, 1847.

Comp. Ellis, from the Committee on So much of the communication of the General Grand Secretary as relates to the Grand Chapter of Georgia, made the following report which was accepted:

General Grand Chapter of the United States — Triennial Session

Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 15, 1847.

The Committee to whom was referred that part of the report of the General Grand Secretary, relating to the Grand Chapter of the State of Georgia, respectfully report, that they find documentary evidence in the hands of the General Grand Secretary Sufficient to Show that the Grand Chapter of the State of Georgia is a constituent member of this Grand Body, although Said Grand Chapter of Georgia has not been represented or made returns to this General Grand Chapter Since the year 1822.

(Signed) Wm. H. Ellis; Pompey Carroll; Wm. Field.

Comp. Moore, from the Committee on So—

The date beneath the first report reads “Sept. 5, 1847” in the manuscript. The Georgia report is an inserted paper dated September 15. Both dates are retained as written.

Reader page 75 · 1847 — Committee report on Louisiana begins

—much of the communication of the General Grand Secretary as relates to the Royal Arch Masons in Louisiana, made the following report, which was accepted and the preamble and resolutions adopted:

The Committee to whom was referred the Subject of Royal Arch Masonry in Louisiana, have given to the matter all the consideration its importance demands, and respectfully Submit the following

Report

Among the documents placed in the hands of your Committee, is a pamphlet purporting to be the report of a Committee made on the 18th of March last, to a body in the City of New Orleans, Styling itself the Grand Chapter of Louisiana. The authors of this report assume to review and reprobate the proceedings of this General Grand Chapter, had at its triennial Session in 1844, in relation to the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in that State. Your Committee cannot Consent, nor would it comport with their views of propriety to engage in a controversy with the authors of this Singularly Specious and deceptive document. Nor is Such a course required either to vindicate the integrity of this General Grand body, or to protect the interests of Royal Arch Masonry under its jurisdiction.

The authors of the report Say that “it has generally been taken for granted by the—

Reader page 76 · 1847 Louisiana report — claims made in New Orleans

—Companions here”; (New Orleans,) “that this Grand Chapter had been declared by the General Grand Chapter, to be illegal and without authority to govern the Chapters of this State.” But your Committee “(they Continue,) having within the last few days procured a copy of those proceedings” (meaning the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter,) “they have discovered with pleasure, that the General Grand Chapter had not gone quite So far as was Supposed, and that no decree or declaration of that body, that this Grand Chapter had been legally dissolved, or that it was repudiated by that high Masonic authority, ever was made, or emanated from the Said General Grand Chapter.”

Resting on this false position, the Committee recommended and the constituent body adopted, a Series of resolutions, declaring 1st. That the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, established in 1813, and admitted in 1829, under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter is Still in lawful existence, and possesses all the powers, privileges and prerogatives accorded to a regular State Grand Chapter”; 2nd. “that it possesses the Sole and exclusive right to Constitute new Chapters within the State of Louisiana; and that the interference of any officer of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, with the powers and duties of this Grand Chapter, by granting dispensations to open new Chapters within the limits of this State, without the Sanction of this Grand Chapter, is a gross violation of the provisions of the General Grand Royal Arch Con—

The final lines are on an inserted strip of paper. The quoted resolution continues on scan 77.

Reader page 77 · 1847 Louisiana report — proposed preamble

—stitution, and that Such dispensations, or by whatever other name they may be known, can confer no power to open and hold Such Chapters”; and 3rd. that Masonic intercourse as well public as private, is hereby interdicted and forbidden between the Royal Arch Masons of this State and every Masonic body which has been or may be opened and held Contrary to the tenor of these resolutions.”

Such is the position which the body of Royal Arch Masons in the City of New Orleans, without authority Styling themselves a regular Grand Chapter, have assumed towards this General Grand Chapter.

Your Committee have not leisure to discuss the questions here raised; nor are they Convinced that any practical good would be likely to result from Such a Course. They therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, at its triennial communication in 1844, this General Grand Chapter after a patient and careful examination of all the facts in the premises, did unanimously declare that the body formerly known as the Grand Chapter of Louisiana had become extinct; and that authority over the territory thus vacated could be legally exercised only by this General Grand body; and Whereas the irregular association of individuals, then as now Styling themselves the “Sovereign Grand Royal Arch—

Reader page 78 · 1847 Louisiana report — resolutions on jurisdiction

—Chapter” of Louisiana, in defiance of the authority of this General Grand Chapter, Continue to hold their Sessions and keep up their organization, and for purposes of deception assume not to understand the action of this General Grand Body, had at its triennial communication aforesaid, as impeaching their legality as a Grand Royal Arch Chapter; but insist on the regularity of their organization and Contemptuously denounce the doings of the responsible officers of this Grand Body as arbitrary and “without warrant or authority”: Therefore that there may not hereafter be any room for misunderstanding in the Case, it is hereby unanimously

Resolved, That there is not at this time any Constitutional and legally authorized Grand Royal Arch Chapter in the State of Louisiana.

Resolved, That the association holding its meetings in the City of New Orleans, and assuming to exercise the functions and authority of a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons is an irregular and unauthorized Masonic body; and it is hereby disowned and repudiated as Spurious, clandestine, and illegal.

Resolved, “That Masonic intercourse as well public as private, is hereby interdicted and forbidden” between Royal Arch Masons and the Grand and Sub—

Reader page 79 · 1847 — Louisiana report concludes; Holland Chapter charter

—ordinate Chapters owning allegiance to and in correspondence with this General Grand Chapter, and the aforesaid Spurious association, its adjuncts, and all Royal Arch Masons acknowledging the authority of the Same.

Resolved, That the General Grand Secretary be instructed to forward an attested copy of the preceding preamble and resolutions to Mr. F. [Verrier?] the acting Secretary of the aforesaid illegal association of Masons at New Orleans.

Respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) Chas. W. Moore; W. B. Hubbard; Edward A. Raymond; John B. Hammatt; Ingoldsby W. Crawford.

Comp. Moore, from the Same Committee also made the following report which was accepted:

Report on Holland Chapter

The Committee on So much of the communication of the General Grand Secretary as relates to Holland Chapter in the City of New Orleans, find from the documents in their possession, that the Charter of Said Chapter has been either lost or Stolen; and that the dispensation under which it has been working for the past year, expires by the terms of its own limi—

Reader page 80 · 1847 — Holland Chapter replacement charter; Missouri report

—tation, with the present Session of this General Grand Chapter. They therefore respectfully recommend that the General Grand Secretary be authorized to execute a new Charter to take the place of that which has been lost, and that he make no other Charge for the Same than the usual fee of office.

(Signed) Chas. W. Moore; W. B. Hubbard; Edward A. Raymond; Ingoldsby W. Crawford; Jno. B. Hammatt.
Columbus Ohio, September 15, 1847.

Comp. Boyd, from the Committee on So much of the G. G. Secretary's communication as has reference to a G. Chapter in Missouri, made the following report which was accepted and the recommendation adopted:

The Committee to whom was referred the action of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, have had the Same under Consideration and respectfully report, That the Grand Chapter of Missouri was formed, as we think, by the Chapters thereof in good faith, believing that they were fully authorized to do So from Conversations and Correspondence with Comp. G. G. Secretary. Your Committee however believe that this organization was not Strictly in conformity with the Constitution of this—

Reader page 81 · 1847 — Missouri recognized; credentials and Treasurer's account

—General Grand Chapter. Therefore,

Resolved, That all irregularities be removed and that Said Grand Chapter of Missouri be fully recognized, and that its representatives be invited to Seats in this General Grand Chapter.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) R. R. Boyd; A. G. Hodges; P. G. [Master?] Perkins.

Comp. Candee, from the Committee on Dispensations and new Chapters, made a report, which was laid on the table.

Comp. Hammatt, from the Committee on Credentials, made the following additional report, which was accepted:

The Committee on Credentials make additional report, that Comp. A. Keyworth, G. King of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, is in attendance and entitled to a Seat in this G. G. Chapter.

(Signed) John B. Hammatt; Walter Ball.

The G. G. Treasurer presented his account of receipts and disbursements, as follows: which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Reader page 82 · 1847 — Treasurer’s receipts and disbursements

Dr. General Grand Chapter of the U. S. in account with E. A. Raymond, Treasurer. Cr.

Disbursements

Date	To cash paid / description	Amount
1844, Sept. 13	J. K. Stapleton	$73.84
″	E. S. Barnum	30.00
″	I. W. Crawford	20.00
″	Nathan B. Haswell	30.00
″	Charles Gilman	250.00
″	Charles Gilman	53.75
″	Paul Dean	50.00
″	G. G. Treasurer	50.00
″	Isaac Tuttle, for tiling	15.00
1847, Aug. 10	Bill for printing Constitution and proceedings	84.75
″ 30	For Regalia of G. G. Chapter	162.50
″ ″	For Valise for Regalia	8.50
	Balance	2486.42
	Total as written	3314.76

Receipts

Date	Description	Amount
1844, Sept. 10	By balance	$1356.29
″ ″	Cash received from J. K. Stapleton	90.00
	Cash received from Charles Gilman, G. G. Secretary	571.73
1847, June 3	Cash received from draft on G. G. Secretary, for $500 less exchange	498.75
Aug. 10	Cash received from draft on G. G. Secretary for $800 less exchange	798.00
	Total as written	$3314.76

August 30, 1847.

Description	Amount
Balance due	$2486.42
Received of Secretary	1421.12
Total	$3907.54

E. A. Raymond.

This ledger is sideways in the supplied scan. The amounts and totals are retained as written; the entries do not reconcile arithmetically.

Reader page 83 · 1847 — Secretary’s account, September 1844–September 1847

Dr. G. G. R. A. Chapter of U. S. in account with Charles Gilman, G. Secy. Sept. 1844 to Sept. 1847. Cr.

To cash paid

Description	Amount
For printing 2 qs. of Circulars	2.00
For printing 2 qs. of Dispensations	3.00
For blank book for accounts	1.50
For printing 2 qs. Notices for meeting at Columbus	1.50
For printing 24 Charters on parchment	24.00
For Letter Copying Press	26.60
For Stand for the Same	2.00
For advertising Triennial Meeting in Freemason’s Magazine	1.50
For Same in Post Folio	2.00
For Postage	21.85
For discount on uncurrent funds	12.68
For Stationery	6.00
For Transportation of Trunk	2.25
Balance paid G. G. Treasurer	2721.12

By cash received

Chapter and place	For	Amount
Union Chapter, Arkansas	dues	2.00
Milwaukee Chapter, Wisconsin	dues	24.00
Southport Chapter, Wisconsin	dispensations	90.00
Lafayette Chapter, Indiana	dues	26.00
King Solomon Chapter, Indiana	dues	14.00
Columbus Chapter, Mississippi	dues	64.00
Natchez Chapter, Mississippi	dues	420.00
Carrollton Chapter, Mississippi	dispensations and dues	130.00
Vernon Chapter, Mississippi	dues	25.00
Clinton Chapter, Mississippi	dues	12.00
Vicksburg Chapter, Mississippi	dues	148.00
Yazoo Chapter, Mississippi	dispensations	90.00
Jackson Chapter, Mississippi	dues	42.00
St. Joseph’s Valley Chapter, Michigan	dues	44.00
Monroe Chapter, Michigan	dues	50.00
Jackson Chapter, Michigan	dispensations	92.00
Iowa Chapter, Iowa	dues	12.00
Du Buque Chapter, Iowa	dispensations	90.00
Fayette Chapter, Missouri	dues	66.00
Boonville Chapter, Missouri	dues	56.00
Weston Chapter, Missouri	dues	2.00
Hannibal Chapter, Missouri	dispensations	90.00
Missouri Chapter, Missouri	dues	100.00
St. Louis Chapter, Missouri	dispensations	90.00

This ledger is sideways in the supplied scan. Its remaining receipts and totals continue on scan 84. Amounts are retained as written.

Reader page 84 · 1847 — Secretary’s account concludes; original correction

Secretary’s receipts continued

Chapter and place	For	Amount
Jacksonville Chapter, Illinois	dispensations and dues	162.00
Quincy Chapter, Illinois	dispensations	90.00
Springfield Chapter, Illinois	dues	130.00
Lafayette Chapter, Illinois	dues	52.00
Horeb Chapter, Illinois	dispensations and dues	108.00
Shawneetown Chapter, Illinois	dispensations and dues	104.00
Holland Chapter, Louisiana	dues	62.00
New Era Chapter, Louisiana	dispensations and dues	100.00
Red River Chapter, Louisiana	dispensations and dues	118.00
East Feliciana Chapter, Louisiana	dispensations and dues*	115.00
Jackson Chapter, Michigan	dues	12.00

Total on the receipts Side: $2828.00.
Total on the disbursements Side: $2828.00.

Charles Gilman, G. G. Secretary.

*Note in the manuscript

Error. It Should have been $112.

The starred correction refers to East Feliciana Chapter’s $115 entry. It is the manuscript’s own note. The ledger amounts and totals are retained as written, including discrepancies between the receipts and their stated total.

Reader page 85 · 1847 — Ohio memorial for Sir Knight Barney

Comp. Reid, from the G. Encampment of Ohio, by leave, read the following extracts from the records of that body, and asked that it be Spread upon the records of the G. G. Chapter, which was accordingly ordered:

Extract from the proceedings of the Grand Encampment of the Knights Templars of the State of Ohio, now in Session, to wit:

“Whereas in the dispensation of Divine Providence, our venerable and much beloved Companion, Sir Knight [Azin?] Barney, has ended his pilgrimage on earth, and having warred a good warfare, has gone to his rest in the asylum of Heaven; and whereas our deceased Companion was not only a virtuous, but an efficient Co-worker for many years with us in the promotion of the Sublime principles of universal benevolence. Therefore,

“Resolved, That in token of respect to the memory of Sir Knight [Azin?] Barney, the members of this Grand Encampment will wear Crape on the left arm for thirty days.

“Resolved, That the Recorder be instructed to forward certified Copies of the foregoing to the General Grand Encampment, the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and the Grand Council, and Grand Chapter and Grand Lodge of the State of Ohio, with a request that the Same be entered

upon their respective journals and that a certified copy be also forwarded by him to the family of the deceased.”

Reader page 86 · 1847 — Memorial certified; Secretary’s Texas correspondence

I certify that the foregoing is a true extract from the minutes of the proceedings of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templars of the State of Ohio.

In Testimony whereof I have affixed the Seal of Said Grand Encampment at Columbus, this 16th day of September A. D. 1847.
(L. S.)
(Signed) B. F. Smith, G. Recorder.

The General Grand Secretary made the following report:

To the General Grand Chapter of R. A. Masons, for the U. States

The undersigned General Grand Secretary reports: That on the 14th of October 1844, in pursuance of the requirements of the G. G. Chapter, he forwarded through the New Orleans post office, to the body of Masons Styling themselves the Grand Chapter of Texas, the original of which the accompanying paper marked 1, is a copy; and at the Same time a notice to San Felipe de Austin Chapter, that the G. G. Chapter had Sanctioned the act of their removal from the town of San Felipe de Austin to Galveston. Receiving no answer to the Same and doubting whether it had ever reached its intended destination, on the 12th of February 1846, he addressed a note to the High Priest of San Felipe de Austin Chapter, (a copy of which is herewith presented,) marked 2, accompanied by a note to the So called Grand Chapter, (a copy of which is also here—

Reader page 87 · 1847 Secretary’s report — Texas letters and delinquent Chapters

—with presented, marked 3,) and a duplicate of the Said Communication; and Subsequently he received a letter from Comp. Samuel M. Williams, (to whom the parcel was addressed,) Stating that he had placed the Communication in the hands of the proper persons. To this communication he has received no reply.

He also reports that he has Spent no little time in attempting to perform the duty assigned him as found in a resolution on page 37 of the printed copy of the record of the proceedings of the last triennial meeting, touching delinquent Chapters. His Course was to examine the records from the time of the first organization of the G. G. Chapter up to the Close of the Session of 1844, and to make a register of all the Charters that had been entered on the records. He however, from divers other Sources, learned that others Some twenty five to thirty years before had been known to exist. These also he registered. He then issued Circulars of inquiry, and obtained Such information as he was able, as to the existence of Such bodies. He then issued a Circular to Such Chapters as were found to be in existence, Communicating the requirements of the G. G. Chapter. And although he Cannot flatter himself that he has accomplished the full amount of the wishes of the G. G. Chapter, his account Current, herewith presented, will—

Reader page 88 · 1847 — Register of Chapters, printed proceedings and Texas referral

—Show that, So far as the collection of arrearages of dues is Concerned, his labors have not been entirely fruitless.

He also reports that he has prepared a register of all the Chapters, known by him to be in existence in States and Territories, where there are no acknowledged Grand Chapters. He would

respectfully Suggest that further effort be made to accomplish the object of the resolution and that no Charter be declared forfeit at this Session.

He also reports that directly after the close of the last triennial Session, he caused to be printed [300?] copies of the records of the proceedings and 500 copies of the revised Constitution, the former of which he has distributed among the fraternity; and of the latter he has Sent one or more copies to each of the Chapters and Grand Chapters under this jurisdiction, and also to all the General Grand officers and members who were in attendance at the last meeting, as also to all other Royal Arch Masons who have asked for them.

Respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) Charles Gilman.

The report having been read, So much thereof as relates to Royal Arch Masons in Texas was referred to a Special Committee of three, consisting of Comps. Ellis, from Connecticut; Mellen, from Mississippi; Bradford, from Maine.

Reader page 89 · 1847 — North Carolina recognition and constitutional changes

And the account Current was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Comp. Boyd, from the Committee on So much of the communication of the G. G. Secretary as relates to R. A. Masonry in North Carolina, made the following report which was accepted, and the recommendation adopted:

The Committee to whom was referred the present re-organization of the Grand Chapter of the State of North Carolina, beg leave respectfully to report: That they have had the Same under Consideration and find their proceedings to be regular. They assembled, as appears by their printed proceedings, on the 28th June 1847; three Chapters were represented; they proceeded to elect officers and adopt a Constitution; in which Constitution, however, your Committee would remark, there appears to be Several unconstitutional articles or Sections, and we would respectfully recommend, that the Grand Chapter of North Carolina be recognized as a legal Grand Chapter, on their altering and amending their Constitution, to conform to that of this G. G. Chapter in the following particulars noted by your Committee:

Art. 4. Mark Lodge.
Art. 5. Fee $50, Shall be $90.

Reader page 90 · 1847 — New Chapters report and by-laws reviewed

Art. 10. The ballot must be unanimous.
Art. 12. Should be Stricken out.
Art. 14. Should be amended.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) R. R. Boyd; Thos. H. Lewis; P. Swigart.

The report of the Committee on Dispensations and New Chapters was then taken up and recommitted with instructions as to Carrollton Chapter in Carrollton Chapter in Carrollton Mississippi, and the Committee immediately reported as follows:

The Committee on Dispensations and New Chapters respectfully report, That they have examined the by-laws of Jackson Chapter No. 3, held at Jackson, in the State of Michigan; Jacksonville Chapter No. 3, at Jacksonville; Horeb Chapter No. 4, at Henderson; Quincy Chapter No. 5 at Quincy; and Shawneetown Chapter No. 6, at Shawneetown, in the State of Illinois; New Era

Chapter, at New Orleans; East Feliciana Chapter, in the parish of East Feliciana; Red River Chapter, at Shreveport in the State of Louisiana; and with the exceptions noted in the Subjoined resolutions, found them correct:

The phrase “Chapter in Carrollton” is repeated in the manuscript’s introductory paragraph.

Reader page 91 · 1847 — Charters, Clinton name change and by-law corrections

And they recommend that Charters be issued to the aforesaid Chapters. In accordance with the desire of East Feliciana Chapter, your Committee recommend that the name of Said Chapter be changed to that of “Clinton,” to be held at the town of Clinton in Said parish.

Natchez Chapter No. 1, Mississippi, has asked for a duplicate Charter—the original having been lost for Several years.

The present General Grand officers not being the Same who held office at the time Said Charter was granted, your Committee advises that the G. G. Secretary furnish Said Chapter with a new Charter.

There are Several Chapters which have been working under dispensations that have as yet made no returns; they will form the Subjects of another report.

The Committee recommend the adoption of the Subjoined resolutions:

1. Resolved, That the G. G. Secretary instruct East Feliciana Chapter to Strike out of the By-laws of Said Chapter art. 6, Sec. 11, the Same being a violation of the ancient landmarks of the Order, and art. 1, Sec. 14 as Surplusage; and that he instruct Red River Chapter to Strike out of their By-laws art. 12, Sec. 2, for the reason last above mentioned.

2. Resolved, That Charters be issued—

Reader page 92 · 1847 — Charter resolutions adopted; election scheduled

—forthwith, upon the payment of the Constitutional dues and fees to the Chapters above mentioned, and that the name of East Feliciana Chapter be changed to that of Clinton, agreeably to their request.

3. Resolved, That a certified copy of the original Charter of Natchez Chapter No. 1, be furnished to Said Chapter, upon payment of the G. G. Secretary’s fee; and in case that cannot be done that he be, and is hereby, authorized to issue a new one by its original number.

In obedience to the instruction of the G. G. Chapter, they offer the following resolution:

4. Resolved, That the G. G. Secretary issue a Charter to Carrollton Chapter, at Carrollton, Mississippi.

Respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) J. S. Candee; Chas. W. Moore; Wm. P. Mellen.

Which report was accepted, and the resolutions adopted, except that in relation to Carrollton Chapter, which on motion of Comp. Mellen, was laid on the table.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the General Grand Chapter will proceed to the election of officers for the next three years, to-morrow at 10 o’—

Reader page 93 · 1847 — Installation charge proposed; Friday credentials

—Clock A. M.

Comp. Perkins, from Tennessee, offered the following resolution, which was laid upon the table:

Resolved, That the charge given to the High Priest of a Chapter at his installation, in the following words, “That you will never Suffer either more or less than three brethren to be exalted in your Chapter at one and the Same time,” Shall be literally Construed.

The General Grand Chapter was then adjourned until 9 o’Clock to morrow morning.

Friday, 17th September

The General Grand Chapter met pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order.

The M. E. G. G. High Priest presiding.

Prayer by the M. E. G. G. Chaplain.

The record of the proceedings of the last meeting was read and approved.

The Committee on Credentials made the following additional report which was accepted:

The Committee on Credentials further report, that Companion Blair is entitled to a Seat in this body as G. H. Priest of the G. Chapter; and also Comp. William Hubbard as proxy for Comp. Thomas Bell,—

Reader page 94 · 1847 — Robert P. Dunlap and other officers elected

—Grand Scribe of the G. Chapter of Ohio.

Which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) John B. Hammatt, for the Committee.

On motion the General Grand Chapter resolved itself into a Committee of the whole for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing three years.

The M. E. Wm. H. Ellis in the Chair.

After transacting the business assigned them, the Committee rose and reported that the following named Companions had been duly elected to the offices affixed to their respective names.

Companion	Residence	Office
Robert P. Dunlap	Brunswick, Maine	G. G. High Priest
Joseph K. Stapleton	Baltimore, Md.	D. G. G. High Priest
Willis Stewart	Louisville, Ky.	G. G. King
Ezra S. Barnum	Utica, N. Y.	G. G. Scribe
Charles Gilman	Baltimore, Md.	G. G. Secretary
Edward A. Raymond	Boston, Mass.	G. G. Treasurer
Rev. Anson Clark	Cincinnati, Ohio	G. G. Chaplain
Nathaniel B. Haswell	Bennington, Vt.	G. G. Marshall

Which report was accepted and the Committee discharged.

The G. G. Chapter was then adjourned until 3 o’Clock in the afternoon.

Afternoon Session

The General Grand Chapter met agreeably—

Reader page 95 · 1847 — Additional charters; review of General Grand Officers

—to adjournment and was called to order.

The M. E. G. G. High Priest presiding.

The Committee on Dispensations and New Chapters made a further report as follows which was adopted:

The Committee would further report that they have had under Consideration a petition in the usual form, duly recommended, for a Chapter to be located at Peoria, Illinois, and would recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

Your Committee have also examined the By-Laws, returns &c. of Southport Chapter No. 3, at Southport, Wisconsin; Du Buque Chapter No. 3 at Du Buque; and Iowa City Chapter at Iowa City, Iowa, and find them correct; and recommend that Charters be granted to the Same.

Respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) J. S. Candee; C. W. Moore; Wm. P. Mellen.

Comp. Haswell, from the Committee on the doings of the G. G. officers, made the following report, which was accepted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States

The Committee to whom was referred the doings of the General Grand officers—

Reader page 96 · 1847 — Officers’ report and Secretary’s arrears correspondence

—of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter have attended to the duties assigned them, and respectfully report: That in the examination of the reports of the General Grand officers, they find nothing requiring them to make an extended or elaborate report, as the Several matters therein named have been referred to appropriate Committees. The Several officers, they are pleased to learn, have discharged their duties with great fidelity, and with a Single eye to the advancement, honor and respectability of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the United States.

The Deputy General Grand High Priest alludes to the great and arduous duties of the General Grand Secretary, occasioned by the increased business of this Grand Body, which has in part grown out of a laborious and extended Correspondence, founded on a Resolution passed in 1844, and found in the proceedings of that year on page 37, requiring him to call on those delinquent Chapters that had ceased to be represented, to make returns and pay their dues. We learn by this report that a considerable Sum has been collected, which would otherwise have been lost to this General Grand Chapter. Your Committee, therefore, hope that the Companion who has So faithfully, and with undiminished ability, discharged the—

Reader page 97 · 1847 — Officers’ report concludes; Florida report begins

—trust reposed in him, will not go unrewarded.

Respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) Nathan B. Haswell; E. S. Courtney; Wm. Field.

Comp. Wood, from the Committee on So much of the communication of the G. G. Secretary, as relates to the Grand Chapter of Florida, made the following report which was accepted, and the resolutions adopted:

Your Committee appointed on So much of the Communication of the G. G. Secretary, as relates to the formation of a Grand Chapter in Florida, report, That it appears, from documents referred to your Committee, a Convention of delegates from the Royal Arch Chapters in the State of Florida, assembled in Tallahassee, in the month of January, 1847, at which time the following preamble and resolution were adopted; to wit:

Whereas at a Convention of Royal Arch Masons, held in Tallahassee on the 11th day of January 1847, A. I. 2847, there were present at Said Convention, the requisite number of Chapters represented, to form and organize a Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the State of Florida—Therefore be it

Resolved, That a Grand Chapter of—

Reader page 98 · 1847 Florida report — request for affiliation

—Royal Arch Masons for the State of Florida be organized, and that the Chairman appoint a Committee for the purpose of framing a Constitution for the government of Said Grand Chapter.

In the published proceedings of Said Grand Chapter, we find the adopted Constitution and also the following resolutions:

“Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of Florida, duly appreciating the advantages of a Masonic head and permanent authority, are disposed to Come under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.”

“Resolved, That the Grand Secretary Communicate the Same to the G. G. Secretary of the G. G. Chapter.”

It will be Seen, from the facts above Set forth, that our Companions in Florida evince that regard for our G. G. Constitution, which Should entitle them to respectful and Sedulous attention. It is to be regretted, that the G. Secretary of that G. Chapter did not furnish that precise information of the origin of the Several Chapters, which composed the Convention as would have enabled your Committee to report in Such a manner as to recommend to this G. G. Chapter, the reception of that G. Chapter under your jurisdiction at—

Reader page 99 · 1847 Florida report — charter fees and constitutional differences

—the present time. It is not known to your Committee, from what Source the Chapters of that State derived their Charters; nor Can they, from anything which is in their possession, decide whether they were legally Constituted or not. We presume they were; but believe that it would not be in accordance with the General Spirit of action of this G. G. Chapter, to incorporate the G. Chapter of Florida under its jurisdiction until Some further Steps are taken in regard to these facts.

Your Committee would further report that the 7th Section of the 1st Article of the Constitution of that Grand Chapter, which reads as follows to wit, “for every dispensation granted for the formation of a Chapter, there Shall be paid to the Grand Secretary five dollars for his fees: and for every Charter, there Shall be paid to the G. Secretary, for the use of the G. Chapter the Sum of fifty dollars, and the further Sum of five dollars as a fee to the G. Secretary; and no dispensation or Charter Shall be issued until the foregoing fees are paid,” is at variance with the 7th Section of the 1st Article and the 4th Section of the 2d Article of the Constitution of the G. G. Chapter. And

further, in the 7th Section of the 4th Article of the Constitution of the Said G. Chapter of Florida, ministers of the Gospel are excepted from the payment of twenty dollars fees for the—

Reader page 100 · 1847 Florida report — request for charter evidence and continuation

—R. A. degree, which is also at variance with the 7th Section of the 1st Article of the Constitution of the G. G. Chapter.

Believing that the Grand Chapter of Florida will amend their Constitution in these particulars, and for the purpose of facilitating its incorporation with this G. G. Chapter, and at the Same time doing no violence to its Constitution, they beg leave to offer the following preamble and resolutions, to wit:

Whereas information has been given to this G. G. Chapter of the formation of a G. R. A. Chapter, in the State of Florida, which Said Chapter has Signified, through its G. Secretary, a desire to Come under the jurisdiction of the G. G. Chapter of the United States; and whereas this G. G. Chapter is not informed of the legality of the Charters, under which the Chapters were Constituted which formed that G. Chapter—Therefore be it

Resolved, 1st. That the Grand Chapter of Florida, be and is hereby requested to furnish to the G. G. Council through the G. G. Secretary, or directly to each member of it, all the facts within their knowledge Connected with the establishment of R. A. Chapters in the State of Florida, especially with regard to the authority from which each of Said Subordinate Chapters derived its Charter.

Resolved, 2dly. That Should the G. G.—

This is the last scan in the supplied Volume C PDF. The Florida report and its second resolution continue beyond this file; their remaining text is not supplied on this scan.

1797 Volume D

Read the typed text of all 100 PDF scans, from the continuation of the Florida report at Columbus in 1847 through Boston in 1850 and the Lexington proceedings of September 1853. The file retains its library title “1797 Volume D.” Scan numbers match the PDF reader above.

This file begins with the Florida report continued from Volume C and ends with the 1853 High Priesthood committee report and resolutions being laid on the table. The 1853 session continues beyond this file. Uncertain readings, manuscript corrections, conflicting names or dates, and financial discrepancies are marked beside the relevant scans. Committee proposals and their recorded dispositions are distinguished.

Original source PDF · 100 source pages

Reader page 1 · 1847 Florida report continued — conditional affiliation

This scan continues the second Florida resolution at the end of Volume C, scan 100.

—Council be Satisfied from an examination of Such facts as the G. Chapter of Florida may Communicate to them, that the Royal Arch Chapters in that State have been legally Constituted; and Should the Said G. Chapter amend its Constitution So as to Conform to the Constitution of the G. G. Chapter, then and in that Case, the G. G. Council Shall immediately take Such Steps as will permit the G. R. A. Chapter of Florida to be incorporated under the jurisdiction of the G. G. Chapter of the U. S.

Resolved, 3dly. That the G. G. Secretary be required to Send to the G. Secretary and each one of the first four Grand officers of that Grand Chapter, a Copy of the proceedings of this triennial meeting of the G. G. Chapter.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) F. Bradford; Sterling A. M. Wood; John Sayre.

Comp. Mitchel, from Missouri offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolved, That the Chapters working by dispensation under this jurisdiction in Missouri be, and they are, required to pay dues to this General Grand Chapter—

Reader page 2 · 1847 — Missouri dues, Dunlap notification and refund applications

—up to the period when a Grand Chapter was organized in the Said State of Missouri, viz: October 1846.

Comp. Stapleton moved an amendment of the resolution requiring the Chapters in Missouri, to pay dues to G. G. Chapter up to the time of the recognition of the Grand Chapter in that State. Which proposed amendment was rejected. The resolution was then adopted.

On motion the M. E. G. G. High Priest appointed the following named Companions a Committee to notify the M. E. Robert P. Dunlap of his election to the office of General Grand High Priest, and to request him to accept the Same:

Comps. Raymond from Massachusetts; Barnum from New York; Bradford from Maine.

Whereupon, on motion, it was

Resolved, That the M. E. General Grand High Priest be added to the Committee, as the Chairman thereof, who was also requested to take the necessary Steps for his installation.

The General Grand Secretary laid before the G. G. Chapter, the applications of Natchez and Vicksburg Chapters for a return of dues paid; which were laid upon the table.

Comp. Peal from Tennessee offered—

Reader page 3 · 1847 — Proposed constitutional amendment rejected

—the following amendment to the Constitution, which was rejected:

Strike out the 4th Section of the 1st Article and Substitute the following in its Stead:

No Royal Arch Mason, within the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, Shall be permitted to confer any degree, as a Masonic degree, other than those recognized by the General Grand Chapter as Constitutional degrees, to wit:

Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, Royal Arch Mason, and Royal and Select Master; nor to establish or unite with any Society, as a Masonic Society or body, not recognized as a Constitutional Masonic body.

Comp. Mellen from Mississippi called up the resolution offered by him on Wednesday and laid on the table, and on motion, the Same was postponed indefinitely.

Comp. Perkins from Tennessee called up the resolution offered by him on Thursday, and the Same was rejected.

Comp. Candee, from the Committee on Dispensations and New Chapters, made the following additional report, which—

Reader page 4 · 1847 — Hannibal and St. Louis charters; Texas report begins

—was accepted:

The Committee on Dispensations and New Chapters would further report; That they recommend that Charters be issued to Hannibal Chapter, No. 7 at Hannibal, and St. Louis Chapter, No. 8 at St. Louis, Missouri.

Respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) J. S. Candee; C. W. Moore; Wm. P. Mellen.

Comp. Mellen, from the Committee on So much of the G. Grand Secretary’s report as relates to R. A. Masonry in Texas, made the following report which was accepted, and the resolutions adopted:

The Committee to whom was referred the Report and Correspondence of the General G. Secretary, relating to Royal Arch Masonry in the State of Texas, have Considered the Subject and are of the opinion that this General G. Chapter Cannot recognize the organization of the So Called Grand Chapter of Texas as legal, nor the Royal Arch Masons admitted under the authority of that body as regularly exalted. The Constituent Chapters of Said Grand Chapter were formed by a Convocation of individual Royal Arch Masons, and though residents of a State politically yet nomin—

Reader page 5 · 1847 Texas report — charter authority and prior correspondence

—ally foreign, it is not Conceived by the Committee, that Royal Arch Masons have a right to form Chapters without a dispensation or Charter, issuing from a Grand Chapter duly organized or one of its officers, if out of the jurisdiction of the General G. Chapter of the United States, or from this body or one of its officers. San Felipe de Austin Chapter, having received its Charter from this body, is the only Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Texas known to this body as having a legal existence.

The view which this General G. Chapter has heretofore taken of Royal Arch Masonry in Texas, which Corresponded with the above, has been very Clearly and ably presented by the G. G. Secretary, to the body Claiming the right to exercise Supreme power over Royal Arch Masonry in that State; but no notice, though a long time has elapsed, has been taken of his Communication. The Committee has no alternative to present for the further action of the General G. Chapter. There is but the one Course to pursue—the offending member must be Cut off, for the Sake of the other members and body, painful as the operation may be.

The Committee, therefore Submit the following resolutions for adoption.

Reader page 6 · 1847 — Texas resolutions adopted and further receipts reported

Resolved, That Royal Arch Masons under this jurisdiction are hereby forbidden to hold Masonic intercourse with the Said So-called G. Chapter of Texas, its Subordinates, and those acknowledging the authority of Said Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the G. G. Secretary Cause a Copy of foregoing resolution to be published in Some newspaper in the State of Texas.

Resolved, That the G. G. Secretary transmit a Copy of the first resolution to the So-called G. Chapter of Texas, and inform that body that it is with great regret that this G. G. Chapter finds itself Compelled to adopt this Course, and that entertaining none but the most fraternal feelings towards their Companions of Texas, would hail with Sincere pleasure an acknowledgment of their error and the retracing of those Steps which must inevitably lead to much discord, and do inconceivable injury to that Cause for which they as well as ourselves profess the warmest friendship.

Which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) Wm. H. Ellis; Wm. P. Mellen; F. Bradford.

The G. G. Secretary reported a further account of Cash received by him Since making up his account on Tuesday last,—as—

Reader page 7 · 1847 — Additional dues and proposed distributions

—follows:

Chapter	Amount
Of Yazoo Chapter, Mississippi	$16
Southport Chapter, Wisconsin	36
Du Buque Chapter, Iowa	40*
Iowa City Chapter, Iowa	70
Hannibal Chapter, Missouri	12

Comp. Field, from Rhode Island offered the following preamble and resolution and moved their adoption:

Whereas, There appears to be a fund of about $3021 in the hands of G. G. Treasurer, after defraying the expense of this Triennial Session; and whereas Several State Grand Chapters, here represented, are unable, from their own funds, to pay their representatives—Therefore,

Resolved, That the Several Grand Chapters here represented, whose representatives are not officers in this G. G. Chapter, be paid $50 each, from the funds of this G. Chapter, to assist in paying Such representatives.

To which Comp. Mitchell from Missouri offered the following amendment:

Strike out all after the word “resolved,” and insert, “That two thousand dollars be and the Same is hereby appropriated to the Several Grand and Subordinate Chapters—

*Note in the manuscript

This is an Error—the amount received for dues for $30.

The starred note belongs to the manuscript and corrects Du Buque Chapter’s $40 entry to $30. The proposed amendment continues on scan 8.

Reader page 8 · 1847 — Distributions rejected; Boston selected for 1850

—pro rata according to their respective numbers of members, to be held by them as a Charity fund.”

After discussion, the question being taken upon the proposed amendment, it was rejected; When, on motion, the original resolution was indefinitely postponed.

The resolution in relation to the granting of a Charter to Carrollton Chapter was Called up and adopted.

The Committee appointed to designate a place for the next triennial meeting, made the following report:

The Committee appointed to designate a Suitable place for holding the next Triennial Meeting of the General Grand Chapter report for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That the next Triennial Meeting of this General Grand Chapter, be held in the City of Boston, on the Second Tuesday of September, 1850.

Respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) J. K. Stapleton; W. B. Hubbard; Price Baker.

Comp. Mitchell, from Missouri, moved that the word “Boston” be Stricken out, and “St. Louis” inserted, which was rejected.

Reader page 9 · 1847 — Officers installed; tribute to retiring Paul Dean

The report of the Committee was then adopted.

Those of the General Grand Officers elect, who were present, viz: the D. G. G. High Priest, G. G. King, G. G. Scribe, G. G. Secretary, G. G. Treasurer, and G. G. Marshal, were then duly installed into their respective offices by the M. E. General Grand High Priest.

The Past General Grand High Priest having retired, the Deputy General Grand High Priest took the Chair. Whereupon,

Comp. Moore, from Massachusetts, offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Whereas the M. E. Companion, Rev. Paul Dean, has been pleased to decline a re-election to the office of G. G. H. Priest of this General G. Chapter, which office he has filled for nine years past, with honor to himself, and profit to the fraternity, and this General Grand Chapter Cannot allow

him to retire without an expression of the feelings of every member relative to the very high regard we entertain for him—

Reader page 10 · 1847 — Thanks and gold jewel for Paul Dean

—as a worthy and M. E. Companion, and as a long tried and faithful presiding officer—Therefore

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Grand Chapter be, and hereby are unanimously tendered to the Rev. Paul Dean, the late M. E. G. G. H. Priest—for the very Courteous and able manner in which he has presided over this G. G. Body for nine years past, and the high Satisfaction he has given in the discharge of all his official duties.

Resolved, That in retiring from the Chair of General Grand High Priest, the Rev. and M. E. Paul Dean bears with him the best wishes of the members of this General Grand Chapter, and their ardent prayers for his future usefulness and welfare.

Comp. Lewis, from Louisiana, offered the following additional resolution which was adopted:

Be it further and unanimously Resolved, That as a Slight testimonial of the regard we entertain for the distinguished Past G. G. High Priest, the Rev. and M. E. Paul Dean, a Committee of three be appointed, to procure a gold jewel, properly engraved, (at a Cost not exceeding $50,) and present the Same to him in the name of this G. G. Chapter.

Comps. Lewis, from Louisiana, Raymond,—

Reader page 11 · 1847 — Gould’s tribute to Crawford and thanks for hospitality

—from Massachusetts, and Ellis from Connecticut, were appointed a Committee to Carry into effect the last resolution.

Comp. Gould, from Georgia, offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this Body be tendered to the M. E. Ingoldsby W. Crawford, Past General Grand King, who has with ability and fidelity Served in this General Grand Chapter for fifteen years past, but has now declined a re-election; and that he Carries with him the best wishes of the members, for his health, usefulness and happiness.

Comp. Ellis from Connecticut offered the following resolutions which were adopted:

Resolved, That the Sincere thanks of this General Grand Chapter are due to the Masonic Fraternity of the State of Ohio, and of the adjoining States, for the warm and kind reception extended to its officers and members in their Collective and individual Capacity.

Resolved, That the Sum of twenty five dollars be appropriated and placed in the hands of Companion Wm. B. Hubbard, to pay any expenses that may have been incurred for the use of the room occupied—

Reader page 12 · 1847 — Saturday session, Natchez refund and proposed membership amendment

—or for other Contingencies incurred by this General Grand Chapter.

The G. G. Chapter was then adjourned to 9 o’Clock to morrow morning.

Saturday, 18th September

The General Grand Chapter met agreeably to adjournment and was Called to order.

The M. E. Deputy General Grand High Priest presiding.

Prayer by the Rev. Comp. Jas. T. Donahoo.

The record of the proceedings of the last meeting was read and approved.

Comp. Mellen, from Mississippi, Called up the application of Natchez Chapter, for a return of dues paid by them. Whereupon, it was

Ordered That Natchez Chapter have leave to draw on the G. G. Treasurer for the Sum of two hundred dollars.

Comp. Hammatt, from Massachusetts, offered the following amendment to the Constitution; After the words, “Past G. G. Scribe,” in first line, 4th page, add, “Past Grand High Priests of State Grand Chapters,” which was ordered to be filed, and to lay over until the next triennial meeting of the G. G. Chapter.

Comp. Hubbard, from the Committee—

Reader page 13 · 1847 — Finance report and correction of the printed balance

—on Finance made the following report, which was accepted and the recommendation adopted:

The Committee on Finance ask leave to Report:

That they have examined the accounts and vouchers of the General G. Treasurer and find them to be Correct.

That the balance of the old account is $1356.29.

This Sum is less than the recorded and printed balance by the Sum of $69.70.

That the printed balance is incorrect has been demonstrated to the Satisfaction of your Committee by examining and proving the account preceding.

Description	Amount
To the above Sum is to be added	$1958.47
Amount to the debit of the G. G. Treasurer up to, and not inclusive of, the first day of this Session	$3314.76
To which add amount received from the G. G. Secretary during this Session	$1421.12
Making a total of	$4735.88

Some final digits are faint in the shadow of the binding. The total is carried forward clearly on scan 14.

Reader page 14 · 1847 — Treasurer’s credits and recommended payments

Amount brought forward $4735.88.

The G. G. Treasurer is entitled to Credit for the following Sums paid out by order, and under authority of the General Grand Chapter, to wit:

Description	Amount
Exchange on Sums transferred from G. G. Secretary to the G. G. Treasurer	3.25
For bills per vouchers	828.34
Total credits	831.59

Description	Amount
Balance	$3904.29

Your Committee recommend the payment of the following Sums:

Payee and purpose	Amount
M. E. and Rev. Paul Dean, G. G. High Priest	110.00
M. E. J. K. Stapleton, D. G. G. H. P.	100.00
I. W. Crawford, G. G. K.	100.00
E. S. Barnum, G. G. Scribe	75.00
C. Gilman, G. G. Secretary	300.00
Same, Travelling expenses	100.00
E. A. Raymond, G. G. Tr.	100.00
N. B. Haswell, G. G. Marshall	100.00
A. Clark, G. G. Chaplain	50.00
S. Punshon, Sent.	20.00
M. E. J. Stapleton, D. G. G. H. P., for postage 1844, ’5, ’6 and ’7	8.76
E. S. Barnum, ditto	1.38
M. E. A. Case as Assistant Grand Secy.	20.00
Total as written	1055.14
Leaving a balance of	$2849.15

The listed payment amounts and the stated total are retained as written; their arithmetic does not agree.

Reader page 15 · 1847 — Further receipts, Burlington petition and Vicksburg refund

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
(Signed) W. B. Hubbard; Wm. Gould; Annis B. Young.

Note

The Committee further Report, that Since the examination of the accounts aforesaid, there has been reported to them by the General Grand Secretary, the Sum of $172, received by him Since the above Statement, leaving a balance in the hands of the G. G. Treasurer of $3021.15.

Comp. Haswell, from Vermont, presented the following petition, which being read, was granted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States

I am requested, as the last elected High Priest, to ask permission for Burlington Chapter, No. 12, in Vermont, to resume its labors under the old Charter, they making proper returns to this General Grand Chapter of their doings.

Nathan B. Haswell.

Comp. Perkins from Tennessee Called up the matter of the application of Vicksburg Chapter for a return of dues paid by them, and offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Sum of one hundred—

The note about the additional $172 is part of the manuscript’s Finance Committee report.

Reader page 16 · 1847 — Vicksburg remission, regalia approved and session closed

—dollars be remitted to Vicksburg Chapter at Vicksburg, in part of the amount of dues which had been placed in the hands of a Companion (now deceased) to be paid to the G. G. Chapter, but was lost in Consequence of the death of Said Companion.

The report of the General Grand Treasurer, in the matter of the jewels and Clothing, was Called up and his acts approved.

Whereupon

Comp. Moore from Massachusetts, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Grand Chapter be presented to the General Grand Treasurer for the very acceptable and tasteful manner in which he has discharged his duties as Committee for procuring a new Sett of regalia for this General Grand Chapter.

On motion, it was

Ordered, That the General Grand Secretary procure 500 Copies of the minutes of the proceedings, to be printed.

The General Grand Chapter was then Closed with prayer by Rev. Comp. James T. Donahoo.

Charles Gilman,
G. G. Secretary.

Reader page 17 · Boston, September 10, 1850 — triennial session opens

Proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America

The triennial Session of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States was held at the Masonic Temple in the City of Boston, and State of Massachusetts, on Tuesday, the 10th day of September, A. D. 1850, at 10 o’Clock in the morning.

The M. E. General Grand High Priest Stated that, agreeable to the summons, he was prepared to open the General Grand Chapter in ample form.

Whereupon on motion of Companion Gould, of Georgia, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the General Grand Chapter be opened in ample form.

The General Grand Chapter was then organized for the purpose of opening as follows:

M. E. Companion	Office
Robert P. Dunlap	G. G. High Priest
Joseph K. Stapleton	D. G. G. High Priest
Willis Stewart	G. G. King
Ezra S. Barnum	G. G. Scribe
Charles W. Moore	G. G. Secretary, p. t.
Edward A. Raymond	G. G. Treasurer

M. E. Companion	Office
Rev. Paul Dean	as G. G. Chaplain
N. B. Haswell	G. G. Marshall
John C. Humphries	as G. G. C. H.
Wm. Field	as G. G. R. A. C.
Charles B. Rogers	as G. G. P. S.
Stephen Lovell	as M. 3d V.

Reader page 18 · 1850 — Credentials and General Grand Secretary’s triennial report

Style	Companion	Office
The M. E.	Wm. R. Davis	as M. 2d V.
The M. E.	Geo. P. Kettell	as M. 1st V.
E. Comp.	Hugh H. Tuttle	as Tyler

The General Grand Chapter was then opened in ample form, and the usual proclamation was made.

On motion,

Resolved, That the reading of the record of the last Communication be dispensed with, printed Copies being in the hands of the members.

The M. E. G. G. High Priest announced the following Companions as the Committee on Credentials:

M. E. Benj. B. French, of the District of Columbia.
M. E. T. C. Tupper, of Mississippi.
M. E. Thomas Bell, of Ohio.

The following triennial report of the General Grand Secretary was presented and referred to a Committee Consisting of

M. E. Wm. T. Gould, of Georgia.
M. E. Wm. Field, of Rhode Island.
M. E. Thos. H. Lewis, of Louisiana.

To the M. E. General Grand High Priest, and other officers and members of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America:

The great distance between the place of my present residence and Boston, I hope will be deemed a Sufficient apology for my absence from the Session of the General Grand Chapter in September next.

Previous to my leaving Baltimore, I deposited the book of records, the Seal, my letter book, the files of letters received, and all other papers and matters of importance belonging to this General Grand Chapter, in a trunk, and left it in Charge of the M. E. Joseph K. Stapleton, the D. G. G. High Priest. I also obtained the promise of Comp. Benj. B. French, of Washington, D. C., to take Charge of the trunk and Contents, and, at the proper time, to repair to Boston and represent me in the G. G. Chapter, until my place Shall otherwise be filled.”

All money received by me Since the rendition of my account in 1847, has been expended or paid over to the General Grand—

Reader page 19 · 1850 Secretary’s report — Louisiana, Florida and Texas

—Treasurer, as will appear by my account herewith presented, and the vouchers among the papers above mentioned. Which account I pray may be examined, and recorded and published among the minutes of the proceedings, as heretofore, that those interested may See that I have accounted for all I had received.

From the fact that Since the early part of April 1849, I have been entirely withdrawn from all Correspondence with the Grand and Subordinate Chapters under your jurisdiction, and So far Separated from the field of their operations as to know little of what has occurred Since that time, I am unable to lay before you any important matter growing out of my own knowledge of passing events, as heretofore I have done under the requirement of your regulations.

In relation to my own official acts, I have to report, that, Soon after the adjournment of the Session of 1847, I transmitted to Mr. F. Verrier, of New Orleans, an attested Copy of the preamble and resolutions on pages 26 and 27 of the pamphlet Copy of the minutes of the proceedings of that Session, but received no reply thereto.

Also at the earliest possible day, I Complied with the requirements of the resolution passed at the top of page 23 of the Same pamphlet, relating to the Grand Chapter of Florida. And here I am under the necessity of Saying, that the whole Spirit and intention of the action of the General Grand Chapter in these premises, Seems to have been misconceived by the Grand Chapter of Florida. On receipt of a printed Copy of the minutes of the proceedings of that body, I attempted to Set the matter before them in its true light, but with what Success I am not advised. I respectfully refer you to the pamphlet Containing the minutes of the proceedings of that body, in 1848, and to the Copy of my letter in reply, both of which will be found among the papers and documents above mentioned.

I also Carried out the requirement of the resolutions on page 46 of the pamphlet Copy of your proceedings aforesaid, in the matter of Royal Arch Masonry in Texas, and have the Satisfaction to add, that the whole difficulty there has been amicably arranged and reconciled before I left Baltimore. It is probable that a more full account of this arrangement will be laid before you by another of the—

Reader page 20 · 1850 Secretary’s report — records, returns and California beginnings

—General Grand officers.

All other particular requirements of the General Grand Chapter, mentioned among the minutes of the proceedings of the last Session as devolving upon me, have been attended to. Charters were issued; Grand and Subordinate Chapters were notified of all Special requirements; and the appointed number of Copies of the minutes of the proceedings were published and Circulated. The records are fully written up, and all important letters received by me, and the Copies of my own in reply, will be found on file, and in the letter book aforesaid. It may be important to Submit those letters and Copies to a Committee for investigation, as it is now impossible for me to recall to any Considerable extent their Contents. I have forwarded notices of the time when and place where the triennial Session is to be held this year, to be published in the Freemason’s Magazine, the Masonic Review, and the Post Folio. The usual notices to the G. G. officers and Grand Chapters and to Subordinate Chapters under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, I Could not give. I am not without apprehension that Some inconvenience may have resulted from

my absence from my usual post, especially in the matter of the annual returns and the Collection of dues. To obviate these difficulties, as much as possible, I notified the Subordinate Chapters to make returns and pay dues directly to the General Grand Treasurer; and left with a friend in Baltimore instructions to open all letters from the Baltimore Post office, directed to me, and, upon inspection, to deliver to Comp. Stapleton all Such as Should be of a Masonic Character.

Though not a part of my official duty, it may not be uninteresting to you to be informed of the progress of the order on this Side of the Continent. In August last, the first meeting of members of the fraternity in California was held to deliberate upon the means whereby a Lodge of Freemasons might be organized and accommodated. A Charter was found in Charge of a brother, but no Suitable room Could, at that—

Reader page 21 · 1850 Secretary’s report — Freemasonry and relief in California

—time, be obtained. Subsequently, however, one was prepared and fitted up; and San Francisco Lodge, the first in California, was duly opened. Since then other Lodges have been opened under Charters and Dispensations from the States; and in April last, a Grand Lodge for the State of California was established, and Lodges under its jurisdiction are being organized and established in every town and village throughout the State. And the last mail brought a Dispensation from the D. G. G. High Priest, authorizing the opening and holding a Chapter of R. A. Masons under your jurisdiction. To Say that Freemasonry has done—is doing—and may hereafter be expected to accomplish more towards the great objects of its institution in California, than it has elsewhere done in a given period of time for Centuries past, is Claiming for it no more than its due. The hope of becoming Suddenly rich in this world’s wealth is uppermost in the minds of all men who Come to this Country. Hence the avenues to the finer Sensibilities of his heart are Closed up, and he forgets his humanity, and deserts his Sick and dying friend and Companion. Then it is that the principles of our institution have been Called into action; and I am happy and proud in being able to Say, that the Sick, and the destitute and the dying, have been nursed and protected, and Comforted by members of the fraternity. And this reflection is an ample Compensation for years of labor in an institution I have So much loved.

The Consciousness that at a time when you Shall be assembling in September next, while you are receiving the Cordial greetings one of another, I, for the first time on Such an occasion for eighteen years, must be absent far from you—that the whole breadth of the Continent lies out-Spread between us—that Some of you, perhaps all, with whom I have been So long associated, I must never again meet on earth—is a most painful idea. I pray you then think it not obtrusive, if I avail myself, as I now do, of this my last official Communication to your body, to express my ardent wishes for the Success and prosperity of the—

Reader page 22 · 1850 — Gilman’s farewell concludes; afternoon credentials

—Cause in which you are engaged, and to bid you a Cordial farewell.

Charles Gilman,
G. G. Secretary.
San Francisco, July 1st 1850.

The General Grand Chapter was then adjourned to 1 o’Clock.

Afternoon Session

The General Grand Chapter met according to adjournment, and was Called to order at one o’Clock.

The M. E. General Grand High Priest presiding.

Companion French, from the Committee on Credentials, Submitted the following report which was accepted:

The Committee on Credentials, having examined all the returns which have Come to their hands, report that the following Companions are members of the General Grand Chapter, and duly entitled to Seats therein:

From Maine

John C. Humphries, G. H. Priest.
John Williams, D. G. H. Priest.
Timothy Chase, G. King.
A. B. Thompson, G. Scribe.

From Massachusetts

Benj. Huntoon, G. H. Priest.
Charles W. Moore, proxy for G. King.

From New Hampshire

Daniel Balch, D. G. H. Priest.
Ebenezer Ginn, proxy for G. Scribe.

From Rhode Island

William Field, proxy for D. G. H. Priest.
N. [D.?] Gould, G. Scribe.

From Connecticut

Cyrus Goodell, proxy for G. H. Priest.
Horace Goodwin 2d, proxy for D. G. H. Priest.
E. G. Storer, proxy for G. King.

Reader page 23 · 1850 credentials — state representatives, including William Tracy Gould

From New York

Orville Hungerford, D. G. H. Priest.
John L. Lewis, Jr., G. King.

From Maryland

B. B. French, D. G. H. Priest.
E. S. Courtney, G. King.

From Ohio

Jacob Graff, G. H. Priest.
Kent Jarvis, proxy for D. G. H. Priest.
Thos. Bell, proxy for G. King & G. Scribe.

From Vermont

Philip C. Tucker, D. G. H. Priest.
Daniel S. Butler, G. King.
D. C. Stone, G. Scribe.

From Indiana

Abel C. Pepper, G. H. Priest.
James Brown, proxy for D. G. H. Priest.

From Tennessee

Charles A. Fuller, G. H. Priest.

From Mississippi

T. C. Tupper, G. H. Priest.

From Georgia

William Tracy Gould, G. H. Priest.
Jasn Burr, proxy for G. Scribe.

From Kentucky

D. S. Goodloe, proxy for G. H. P. & [G. G.?].

From Alabama

William Hendrix, G. H. Priest.

From Missouri

A. Patterson, proxy for G. H. P. & D. G. H. P.

From Illinois

N. Coffin, proxy for G. H. P.
James V. Z. Blaney, G. King.

From North Carolina

L. C. Stevenson, proxy for G. H. Priest.

“Daniel S. Butler” is written here. Later entries read “Samuel S. Butler” on scan 52 and “Samuel Butler” on scan 61; those forms are retained where they occur.

Reader page 24 · 1850 — Texas delegates, Michigan admission and constitutional amendment

From Louisiana

Thomas H. Lewis, G. H. Priest.

From San Felipe d’Austin Chapter No. 1, Texas

A. C. Crawford, Delegate.
Charles Daniel, Delegate.

From San Augustine Chapter No. 2, Texas

Otis M. Wheeler, Delegate.

From the State of Michigan, Companion E. Smith Lee, the Grand H. P., is present, but no Credentials or vouchers are in the hands of the Committee, and they Cannot therefore return him as officially entitled to a Seat, though they do not doubt that he is.

B. B. French; Tho. Bell; T. C. Tupper, Committee.
September 10th 1850.

On motion of Comp. Dean, the amendment of the Constitution, proposed at the last triennial Communication, and ordered to lay over to the present meeting, Constituting “Past Grand High Priests of State Grand Chapters” members of this General Grand Chapter, was taken from the files and adopted by a vote of 23 in the affirmative to two in the negative.*

On motion of Comp. Stevenson,

Resolved, That Comp. E. Smith Lee, of Michigan, be permitted to take a Seat as a member of this General Grand Chapter.

The M. E. G. G. High Priest announced the following Committees:

On the doings of the General Grand Officers

Comps. Benj. Huntoon, of Boston; E. S. Courtney, of Maryland; Wm. Field, of Rhode Island.

On Finance

Comps. O. Hungerford, of New York; W. B. Hubbard, of Ohio; A. Patterson, of Missouri.

The manuscript places a star after this vote. The amendment is reconsidered on scan 36, where a limitation to a consulting voice is added.

Reader page 25 · 1850 — Committee proposals on councils, appeals, fees and representation

On Dispensations

Comps. Thos. H. Lewis, of Louisiana; Willis Stewart, of Kentucky; Wm. Hendrix, of Alabama.

M. E. Comp. Goodwin, of Connecticut, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of forming a General Grand Council for the Royal and Select Masters Degrees in the United States.

M. E. Comp. Gould, of Georgia, offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to report to this body on the question, whether an appeal lies from the decision of the presiding officer, on a question of order, in any R. A. Masonic body?

Companions Hubbard, Bradford, and French, were appointed the Committee.

The following resolution, Submitted by M. E. Companion Tupper, of Mississippi, was received and adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to inquire into the expediency of repealing So much of the 7th Section, Article 1st, of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, as fixes the amount to be charged by Grand Chapters for issuing Charters to Subordinate Chapters, and the amount to be Charged by Subordinate Chapters for degrees Conferred by them; and also So much of Section 4, Article 1st as prohibits the Conferring of what are Called “honorary” or “Side degrees” by R. A. Masons, under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, and report their Conclusions to the General Grand Chapter.

Companions Tupper, of Mississippi; Thompson, of Maine; and Lewis, Jr., of New York, were appointed the Committee.

M. E. Comp. Blaney, of Illinois, Submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to inquire into, and report to this General Grand Chapter, at its present Session, upon the expediency of the establishment of a Re—

An underlined “presentative” also appears in the lower margin. The proposal continues on scan 26.

Reader page 26 · September 11, 1850 — Rules committee and further appointments

—presentative Fund for the payment of the necessary expenses of delegates to this General Grand Chapter.

On motion of Comp. Lewis, Jr., of New York, it was

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to prepare Rules and Orders for the Government of this General Grand Chapter.*

The M. E. G. G. High Priest announced Comps. Lewis, Jr., of New York, Goodwin, of Connecticut, and Raymond, of Massachusetts, as the above Committee.

The General Grand Chapter was then adjourned to morrow morning at 8½ o’Clock.

Wednesday, September 11th 1850

The General Grand Chapter met agreeably to adjournment and was Called to order.

The General Grand High Priest presiding.

Prayer by General Grand Chaplain.

The record of yesterday’s proceedings were read and approved.

The General Grand High Priest announced the following Committees, viz:

On the expediency of forming a G. G. Council of R. and S. Degrees

Comps. Goodwin, of Connecticut; Chase, of Maine; Stevenson, of North Carolina; Hammatt, of Massachusetts; Brown, of Indiana.

On the proposed amendment of the Constitution

Comps. Tupper, of Mississippi; Thompson, of Maine; Lewis, Jr., of New York; Prentiss, of New Hampshire.

On the Subject of a Representative Fund

Comps. Blaney, of Illinois; Barnum, of New York; Lee, of Michigan; Haswell, of Vermont; Stewart, of Kentucky.

Reader page 27 · 1850 — Gould’s report on the Secretary’s communication

M. E. Comp. Gould, of Georgia, Submitted the following report on the Communication of the G. G. Secretary, which was read, and together with the resolutions thereto appended, adopted:

General Grand Chapter of the United States,
Grand Communication, 1850.

The Committee, to whom was referred the Communication of the General Grand Secretary, beg leave to

Report

That they have Carefully examined that document, and Cannot refrain from expressing their regret, that it is probably the last of the kind which we Shall receive from that able and faithful officer. At the Same time it is matter of Congratulation that his Services are not lost to the Fraternity, though transferred to a new field of action; and your Committee would express the hope, that the Success which he reports our Order to have met with, in gaining a firm foothold in the western wilds of our Continent, may be but the dawning of a bright day of usefulness and prosperity.

With regard to the various matters of business referred to by the General Grand Secretary, your Committee Cannot make full reports, without interfering with the duties of others. The Standing Committees of this Body, to whom much of the business Connected with these Subjects will be referred, Can alone give them full and deliberate Consideration.

The receipts of money and everything relating to accounts and returns, Come within the duty of the Committee on Finance. And the Committee on the Doings of the Grand officers must necessarily Consider the report on the Subject of Louisiana, Texas, and Florida.

With regard to Louisiana, where difficulties have So long existed, your Committee are happy to State, on the personal knowledge of one of their own members who represents that State in this Body, that those difficulties are now all adjusted, and that the different Grand Bodies of that State in all the degrees of Masonry, are now united as one, in that harmony, without which our Order Cannot exist.

In Texas we are informed that a Similar result has been brought about, in a great measure through the efforts of—

Reader page 28 · 1850 — Referrals concerning Florida and Texas; Louisiana settlement

—a distinguished brother whose report on that Subject will doubtless furnish the particulars, and, if his modesty does not prevent his doing justice to himself, will Show how much our Fraternity is indebted to the prudence, energy, and zeal of his timely and Successful efforts.

Your Committee regret that a like favorable report Cannot be made as to the State of Florida. But here, too, we must dismiss fully the Subject referred to, because it falls more properly under the Consideration of another Committee.

Your Committee Consider it not within their province to add anything further to this report, beyond recommending the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. Resolved, That the accounts of the General Grand Secretary, together with the returns from Subordinate Chapters, be referred to the Committee on Finance.

2d. Resolved, That So much of Said Secretary’s Communication as relates to the Condition of Royal Arch Masonry in Florida, be referred to the Committee on the Doings of the General Grand officers.

3d. Resolved, That the Consideration of the Condition of Royal Arch Masonry in Texas, be postponed until the General Grand King presents his report.

4th. Resolved, That while the happy adjustment of all disputes in Louisiana renders any further action by this Body on that Subject unnecessary, we Cannot refrain from expressing our high Satisfaction at a result So auspicious to the Fraternity.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
Wm. T. Gould; Thos. H. Lewis; Wm. Field, Committee.

M. E. Comp. Lewis, of Louisiana, offered the following amendment to the Constitution, which was read, and ordered to be placed on file for future action:

Reader page 29 · 1850 — Membership amendment, Gedge memorial and uniform work committee

Amendment of Section 1 of Article 2d of the General Grand Constitution, proposed by Comp. Thomas H. Lewis, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana

Strike out of this Section after the word “preside” at the end of the Sixth line, the following words: “and of the Past Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings, and Scribes of the Several Grand Chapters.”

Comp. Lewis, of Louisiana, also offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the memorial of Comp. John Gedge, of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, found on page 13th and Seq. of the printed proceedings of the last Annual Communication of Said Grand Chapter, be referred to a Select Committee of five members of this Body.

M. E. Comps. Hubbard, of Ohio, Ellis, of Connecticut, Fuller, of Tennessee, Tucker, of Vermont, and Williams, of Maine, were appointed the Committee.

The M. E. General Grand High Priest, after Some appropriate remarks on the importance of the Subject, proposed that the matter of Work and Lectures, as practiced under the Sanction of this General Grand Chapter, Should be referred to a Committee of this Body, to Consider and report. Whereupon

M. E. Comp. Lee, of Michigan, offered the following resolution, which, after discussion, was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to inquire as to the policy of establishing a uniform mode of Work and Lectures for the Several Chapters of the United States.

M. E. Grand High Priest appointed the Committee as follows: M. E. Comps. Lee, of Michigan, Huntoon, of Massachusetts, Graff, of Ohio, Lewis, Jr., of New York, Coffin, of Illinois, Dean, of Massachusetts, Lewis, of Louisiana, Humphries, of Maine, Fuller, of Tennessee, Brown, of Indiana.

On motion of E. Comp. Barnum, the M. E. General Grand High Priest was added to the Committee.

E. Comp. Lovell, of Massachusetts, was Subsequently—

In the memorial resolution, “Gedge” is written above a struck-out surname. The corrected surname is transcribed.

Reader page 30 · 1850 — Additional credentials, appeals report and Deputy’s dispensations

—added as Chairman.

M. E. Comp. French, from the Committee on Credentials, reported the names of Comps. William H. Ellis, and Horace Goodwin, of Connecticut, John J. Prentiss, of New Hampshire, and Stephen Lovell and Henry Earl, of Massachusetts, as entitled to Seats in the General Grand Chapter.

M. E. Comp. Hubbard, of Ohio, from the Committee on the Subject of Appeals, Submitted a report, which, after debate was referred back to the Committee, with instructions to report in the form of resolution.

During the pendency of the above report, on motion of M. E. Comp. Tucker, of Vermont, it was

Ordered, That when the question is taken, it be taken by yeas and nays.

M. E. Comp. Lewis, Jr., of New York, from the Committee on Rules and Orders Submitted a report on that Subject which on motion of Comp. Tupper, was laid on the table.

Sundry petitions and returns were presented and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

The M. E. Deputy General Grand High Priest made the following report of his official doings Since the last Triennial Communication, which was accepted:

To the General Grand R. A. Chapter of the United States

The undersigned Deputy General Grand High Priest respectfully reports, that Since the Triennial Session, 1849, he has issued Dispensations for the formation of the following new Chapters:

Chapter	Place	Date
Union Chapter	Newark, N. J.	13th March, 1848
Newark Chapter	Newark, N. J.	20th March, 1849
Washington Chapter	Texas	5th May, 1848
Whitfield Chapter	Arkansas	27th May, 1848
Howard Chapter	Illinois	28th July, 1848
Stapleton Chapter	Illinois	28th June, 1849
El Dorado Chapter	California	9th May, 1850

Also, a Dispensation to Sundry Comps. of Vermont, to re—

The report reads “Triennial Session, 1849.” The preceding session recorded in this volume closed in 1847 on scan 16. The manuscript’s date is retained.

Reader page 31 · 1850 Deputy’s report — Vermont, Gilman’s departure and returns

—organize a Grand Chapter at Burlington, under the late Grand High Priest, Most Excellent N. B. Haswell, as will more fully appear by the documents on file. He would further report, that the Communications from the State Grand Chapters, present returns of increasing prosperity, unprecedented in the United States, which affords Sure evidence that the beneficial Character of the Masonic Fraternity is more widely Spreading its benign influence among all Classes of our fellow-Citizens.

I avail myself of the present occasion to State, that our worthy and well beloved Companion, Charles Gilman, Grand Secretary, left the City of Baltimore in April, 1849, for California, who, previous to his departure, placed the archives and property of this Grand Chapter in my Charge, and directed his friend and law representative to hand over to me all the Masonic documents received to his address, which from that time until the 9th of the present month, I have endeavored to answer in order as presented, which has engrossed much of my time and been attended with a labor and responsibility I much regret had not been confided to a younger and more Competent Companion than myself.

Seeing the necessity of Some one assuming an official discharge of the duty of the Grand Secretary, in giving the notices to the State Grand Chapters, as well as the Subordinate Chapters and those under Dispensation, I Consulted our Most Excellent General Grand High Priest on this Subject, who requested me to assume this duty on 22d June last: on 24th, following, I Sent

Circulars to the respective General Grand Chapters under our jurisdiction, requesting them to make returns by the 26th August last. Many promptly responded to the Call, while others were delayed until my arrival in Boston. All of which have been adjusted and placed in the hands of your Acting General Grand Secretary and our worthy General Grand Treasurer.

The annual Communications from Chapters are full of interest to this General Grand Chapter, and require, as they well—

Reader page 32 · 1850 — Deputy's report concludes; General Grand King's Texas dispensations

—deserve, a Careful examination and report from your Committee of Foreign Correspondence, for many of them Contain a desire and request, that this General Grand Body will not adjourn without Settling many important matters which has for years been deferred without the proper legislative action on the part of this General Grand Chapter, to which all Royal Arch Masons in your authority look up to for advice and Masonic instruction, and what they may justly Claim at your hands.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
Jos. K. Stapleton,
D. G. G. High Priest.
Boston, September 11th 1850.

On motion,

Resolved, That So much as relates to the finances of this Body be referred to the Committee on Finance, and the balance to the Committee on the Doings of the Grand officers.

The M. E. General Grand King also made a report, which was disposed of in the Same manner as the Deputy Grand High Priest's, and is as follows:

The undersigned reports that Since the last triennial Communication of this M. E. G. G. R. A. Chapter in 1847, that upon proper application and recommendation, he granted a Dispensation dated the 10th day of March, 1849, for a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, to be held at the town of Anderson, in the County of Grimes, in the State of Texas, to be known as Jerusalem Chapter No. 3, and appointed

Comps. Geo. M. Patrick, High Priest;
Saml. G. Devereux, King;
James [G.?] Green, Scribe.

Also, a Dispensation, dated the 14th day of March, 1849, for a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, to be held at the town of Crockett, in the County of Houston, in the State of Texas, to be known as Trinity Chapter No. 4, and appointed

Comps. James [Th.?] Hall, High Priest;
James Bracken, King;
Joseph C. Harrison, Scribe.

Reader page 33 · 1850 King's report — Brenham, Austin, San Jacinto and Rising Star Chapters

Also, a Dispensation, dated the 14th day of April, 1849, for a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, to be held at the town of Brenham, in the County of Washington, in the State of Texas, to be known as Brenham Chapter No. 5, and appointed

Comps. Quinney B. Rucker, High Priest;
John C. Barnes, King;
John D. Giddings, Scribe.

Also a Dispensation, dated the 14th day of April, 1849, for a Royal Arch Chapter, to be held at the town of Austin, in the County of Travis, in the State of Texas, to be known as Austin Chapter No. 6, and appointed

Comps. James Webb, High Priest;
B. Gillespie, King;
D. F. Brown, Scribe.

Also a Dispensation, dated the 22d day of January, 1850, for a Royal Arch Chapter, to be held at the town of Huntsville, in the County of Walker, in the State of Texas, to be known as San Jacinto Chapter No. 7, and appointed

Comps. Wm. M. Taylor, High Priest;
C. G. Keenan, King;
S. G. Sheppard, Scribe.

Also, a Dispensation, dated the [blank] day of [blank], 1850, for a Royal Arch Chapter, to be held at the town of Washington, in the County of Washington, in the State of Texas, to be known as Washington Chapter No. 8.*

Also, a Dispensation, dated the 2d day of February, 1850, for a Royal Arch Chapter, to be held at the town of San Augustine, in the County of San Augustine, and State of Texas, to be known as Rising Star Chapter No. 9, and appointed

Comps. Elijah Price, High Priest;
Humphrey Bates, King;
L. V. Greer, Scribe.

Also, a Dispensation, dated the 2d day of March, 1850,—

The day and month of Washington Chapter’s dispensation are left blank in the manuscript. Its star is retained.

Reader page 34 · 1850 King’s report — Reynolds Chapter and new state Grand Chapters

—for a Royal Arch Chapter, to be held in the town of Cambridge, in the County of Henry, in the State of Illinois, to be known as Reynolds Chapter No. —, and appointed

Comps. Harmon G. Reynolds, High Priest;
Michael Grant, King;
James Vaughn, Scribe.

And that in each Case he appointed P. High Priests to install the officers, organize the Chapters, and Set them to work, in accordance with the Constitution, rules and regulations of this M. E. General Grand Chapter.

He would further report that Comp. P. H. P. James R. Hartsock, of New Orleans, acted as his proxy in the installation of the officers of Red River Chapter No. 3, on the 15th day of March, and of Clinton Chapter No. 4, at Clinton, in the State of Louisiana, on the 28th day of March, 1848, and that Comp. P. H. P. Gurdon Gates acted as his proxy in the installation of the officers of Shawneetown Chapter, in the State of Illinois. He granted authority to Houston Chapter No. 2, and Austin Chapter No. 6, in the State of Texas, to Confer the degrees pertaining to the Chapter on a number of worthy M. M’s, without their petitions having laid over the usual time, the peculiar Circumstances of each Case Seeming to him to justify a Course.

He, also, authorized Holland Chapter No. 1, New Era Chapter No. 2, Red River Chapter No. 3, Clinton Chapter No. 4, in the State of Louisiana, to organize and establish a Grand Chapter for that State, which they did in the City of New Orleans, on the 1st day of May, 1848. He also granted authority to the Seven Chapters in the State of Illinois, working under Charters, to organize and establish a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for that State. Six of the number were represented and participated in the organization on the [blank] day of April, 1850.

It is with peculiar pleasure that reference is made to the amicable adjustment of all differences with our Companions—

The number of Reynolds Chapter and the day in April for the Illinois organization are not filled in on this scan.

Reader page 35 · 1850 — Texas reconciliation, proposed refunds and King’s report concludes

—of Texas. For the Sake of Peace and Harmony, they have, in a Spirit worthy of all Commendation, deferred their independent organization, and there is now no less than nine Chapters working under authority from this M. E. General Grand Chapter. The undersigned, from personal observation, bears testimony to the zeal, fidelity and ability with which they discharge their Masonic duties. Perhaps there is no State in the Union where the benign influences of our much loved institution have been more extensively felt, and the genuine principles of the Order more faithfully Carried out in practice.

The undersigned most respectfully Suggest the propriety of refunding the fees received for all Dispensations for Chapters at places where Chapters existed under authority from the late Grand Chapter of Texas.

In the West and Southwest generally, Masonry has never known a brighter or more auspicious day than the present. Everywhere prosperous, there Seems to be no Contention, except that noble Contention, or rather emulation, of who Can best work and best agree. And thus may it remain, Circumscribing our desires, keeping our passions within due bounds, Correcting our morals, expanding our hearts with true benevolence towards all mankind, until that glorious day when the lion and the lamb Shall lie down in peace together, and there Shall be no longer any necessity for its Continuance.

The undersigned presents the annexed Statement of moneys received and paid by him, and asks its reference to the Committee on Accounts.

All of which is most respectfully Submitted.
Willis Stewart,
G. K. G. G. C.

M. E. Comp. Huntoon was excused from Serving on the Committee on the Doings of the Grand officers, and M. E. Comp. Dean was Substituted in his place.

The M. E. General Grand Scribe made a report which was read, and is as follows:

Reader page 36 · 1850 — Scribe’s report; Past Grand High Priests’ consulting voice

The undersigned respectfully reports, that Since the last Triennial Meeting of this General Grand Chapter, he has, on proper application, granted permission to organize a Grand Chapter in the State of Michigan, January, A. D., 1848.

In February, A. D., 1848, granted Dispensation to renew Lincoln Chapter, No. 2, in the State of Vermont, without Charge.

August 1st A. D., 1849, granted a Dispensation to James W. Gilmore and others, to open a Chapter of R. A. Masons at Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, for which I received $90, and have paid the Same over to the General Grand Treasurer.

All papers relating to the above accompany this report, except Such as have been Sent to the General Grand Secretary before he left Baltimore.

E. S. Barnum,
G. G. Scribe.

A Communication relative to Brazos Chapter, Texas, from Comp. Wm. T. Austin, of Texas, was received and laid on the table.

M. E. Comp. Tupper, of Mississippi, moved for a reconsideration of the vote by which the General Grand Constitution was So amended as to make “Past Grand High Priests of State Grand Chapters” members of this General Grand Body; which, after discussion, was Carried.

The original proposition was then, on motion of Companion Lewis, of Louisiana, amended by adding the following words, viz: “Provided, That Said Past Grand High Priests Shall have no vote, but only a Consulting voice in this Body.”

The proposition as amended, was then adopted.

On motion of M. E. Comp. Stewart, of Kentucky, it was

Resolved, That a Committee on Grievances be appointed.

M. E. General Grand High Priest appointed the following Companions on this Committee, viz:

Comps. Hendrix, of Alabama;
Lewis, of Louisiana;
Storer, of Connecticut;
Bradford, of Maine;
Balch, of New Hampshire.

Reader page 37 · 1850 — Salaries, next meeting, Carrollton refund and Kentucky invitation

A Communication from Lafayette Chapter at East Berkshire, Vermont, was received and referred to the Committee on Finance.

M. E. Comp. Hendrix, of Alabama, offered the following resolution, which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the General Grand Chapter proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing three years, to-morrow at 9 o’Clock in the morning.

M. E. Comp. Hungerford, of New York offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a Representative Fund, be instructed to report permanent Salaries and mileage to Such General Grand officers as Shall be entitled to the Same.

M. E. Comp. Storer, of Connecticut, offered the following resolution, which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to designate the place of meeting for the next Triennial Communication of this General Grand Chapter.

M. E. Comp. Tupper, of Mississippi, Submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee of Finance, viz:

Resolved, That the Sum of ninety dollars, the Sum which was paid for a Dispensation by Carrollton Chapter, in the State of Mississippi, be refunded and paid to the Grand Chapter of the State of Mississippi.

M. E. Comp. Stewart Communicated the following resolution adopted by the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, on the 29th of August, 1850, which was received and referred to the Committee on the next Place of Meeting:

Resolved, That the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America, be respectfully invited to hold their meeting in 1853, in the City of Frankfort, Kentucky.

M. E. Comp. Graff Submitted the following inquiry, which was received and referred to Comps. Goodell, of Connecticut—

Reader page 38 · 1850 — Appeals, further petitions and election reconsidered

—cut, Tucker, of Vermont, Butler of Vermont.

Is it Competent for a R. A. Chapter to Confer the Chapter degrees on a Master Mason who has but one arm?

M. E. Comp. Barnum, of New York, presented an appeal and accompanying documents from Comp. O. Alexander, which were referred to the Committee on Grievances.

An Appeal from Comp. P. G. Van Houten and others, was also presented and referred to the Same Committee.

On motion, it was,

Resolved, That the exemplification of the work of the General Grand Chapter be had to-morrow morning at 9 o’Clock.

The General Grand Chapter was then adjourned until 4 o’Clock, this afternoon.

Wednesday, Sept. 11, P. M.

The General Grand Chapter met agreeably to adjournment, at 4 o’Clock, P. M., and was Called to order.

The M. E. General Grand High Priest presiding.

Comp. James Hutchinson was recognized as proxy for Comp. N. D. Gould, Grand Scribe of the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island.

M. E. Comp. Stevenson, of North Carolina, was added to the Committee on Amendment of the Constitution.

A petition Signed by Comp. George Fisher, of Houston, Texas, was received and referred to the Committee on Grievances.

M. E. Comp. Stewart, of Kentucky, Submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the General Grand Secretary be instructed to have the Constitution of this General Grand Chapter printed with the proceedings of the present Session, and distribute the Same to each State Grand Chapter owning allegiance hereto, and to each of their Subordinates So far as he Can ascertain the Same.

On motion of M. E. Comp. Gould, of Georgia, the vote designating 9 o’Clock to-morrow morning, as the hour for the—

Reader page 39 · September 12, 1850 — Election progress and new charter report

—election of officers, was reconsidered.

The original motion was then amended, by Striking out the words “to-morrow morning at 9 o’Clock,” and inserting the word “forthwith,” and was adopted.

The M. E. General Grand Chapter then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, for the election of officers, M. E. Comp. Lewis, of Louisiana, in the Chair.

Comps. Courtney, of Maryland, and Lewis, Jr., of New York, were appointed tellers.

The Committee, on motion of Comp. Gould, rose, reported progress, and had leave to Sit again.

The General Grand Chapter was then adjourned to to-morrow morning at 9 o’Clock.

Thursday, September 12, 1850

The General Grand Chapter met agreeably to adjournment, and was Called to order at 9 o’Clock.

The M. E. G. G. High Priest presiding.

Prayer by the G. G. Chaplain.

The record of yesterday’s proceedings was read, amended, and approved.

M. E. Comp. Lewis, of Louisiana, Submitted the following report from the Committee on Dispensations which was adopted:

The Committee on Dispensations and New Chapters, respectfully report, that they have examined the work, returns, &c., of Newark Royal Arch Chapter No. 2 held at Newark in the State of New Jersey; of Brenham Chapter No. 5, held at the town of Brenham, in the State of Texas; of Austin Chapter No. 6, held at Austin, in the State of Texas; of Union Chapter No. 1, in the City of Newark, in the State of New Jersey; and find Said work of Said Chapters Correct, and your Committee recommend that Charters be granted to the Said Chapters.

Reader page 40 · 1850 — Lone Star name change and Van Houten appeal report

Austin Chapter No. 6, has petitioned to have its name Changed to that of “Lone Star Chapter No. 6,” to which there Can be no reasonable objection.

Your Committee Submit for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That Charters be issued forthwith to the above named Chapters, on payment of the Constitutional dues and fees; and that the name of Austin Chapter be Changed to that of Lone Star.

Respectfully Submitted.
Thos. H. Lewis; Willis Stewart; Wm. Hendrix.

Comp. Lewis of Louisiana, also Submitted the report of the Committee on Grievances, which was laid on the table:

To the M. E. General Grand Chapter of the United States

The Committee on Grievances respectfully report, that they have had under Consideration the appeal taken by Philip S. Van Houten and others from the action of the M. E. Grand Chapter of the State of New York; and after as mature investigation as the time allowed them would permit, a majority of them have arrived at the Conclusion that that there is no error Contained in the resolutions of Grand Chapter, from which this appeal has been taken, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the appeal brought up from the action of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York by Philip S. Van Houten and others be, and the Same is hereby, dismissed.

By order of the Committee,
Thos. H. Lewis, Chairman.

Comp. Jarvis, of Ohio, had leave of absence.

M. E. Comps. Brown and Humphries having left the City, the M. E. G. G. High Priest appointed as their Substitutes on the Committee on Work, M. E. Comps. Stevenson, of North—

The name is written “Philip S. Van Houten” here; the earlier referral on scan 38 uses different initials. The repeated “that” in the Committee’s conclusion is retained.

Reader page 41 · 1850 — Carrollton finance report and further credentials

—Carolina, and Field, of Rhode Island.

M. E. Comp. Hungerford, of New York, Submitted the following report from the Committee on Finance, which was adopted:

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the application of the Grand Chapter of Mississippi for the payment to Said Chapter of ninety dollars, being the amount paid to the General Grand Chapter by Carrollton Chapter in Said State, for a Dispensation or Charter, report—

That it appears by the proceedings of Mississippi Grand Chapter, that an officer of this General Grand Chapter, in the year 1845, granted a Dispensation to Carrollton Chapter, to Continue until the triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter in 1847, when a Charter was granted; that Subsequently to the granting Said Dispensation, and prior to the meeting of the General Grand Chapter, a Grand Chapter was formed in Said State, and they now Claim that the fees for a Dispensation Should be paid to Said Grand Chapter.

The Committee do not discover any thing in this Case essentially varying from ordinary Cases of granting Dispensations in States where no Grand Chapter has been formed, and therefore ask to be discharged from the further Consideration of the Same.

O. Hungerford, Chairman.

M. E. Comp. French, of the Committee on Credentials, reported the names of M. E. Comp. Whitaker, G. High Priest, and M. E. Comp. C. B. Manchester, G. King, of the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island, as entitled to Seats in this body.

Returns and petitions from Brazos Chapter, Washington, Texas, and a petition from Reynolds Chapter, Cambridge, Illinois, were presented and referred to the Committee on Dispensations.

M. E. Comp. Hendrix, of Alabama, of the Committee on Grievances, Submitted the following report, which was re—

Reader page 42 · 1850 — Alexander petition and George Fisher’s restoration

—ceived and laid upon the table:

To the M. E. General Grand Chapter of the United States

Your Committee on Grievances would further report that a document in the form of a petition, Signed C. Alexander, Washington, D. C., was referred to them, in which the petitioner States that he has been unjustly expelled from the rights of R. A. Masonry by Milwaukee Chapter No. 1, in the State of Wisconsin. Your Committee are of opinion that the General Grand Chapter Cannot act upon a Case of this kind, unless it Comes in the form of an appeal, in which Case all the proceedings had in the Subordinate Chapter Should be Sent up. Your Committee therefore would respectfully ask leave to be discharged from the further Consideration of this matter.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
William Hendrix; Thos. H. Lewis; E. G. Storer; Daniel Balch; F. Bradford.

The Same Committee also Submitted the following report, which was read, and the resolution appended thereto adopted:

To the M. E. General Grand Chapter of the United States

Your Committee on Grievances to whom was referred an appeal taken by George Fisher from the action of San Felipe de Austin Chapter No. 1, at Galveston, in the State of Texas, would respectfully report, that they have had the Same under Consideration, and after an examination of the proceedings of Said Chapter in the Case before alluded to, and Such other evidence as was furnished us, would respectfully offer the following resolution, and ask its adoption by the General Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That George Fisher be and is hereby restored to all the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry.

Reader page 43 · 1850 — Election proceedings approved; appeals report resumes

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
Wm. Hendrix; Thos. H. Lewis; E. G. Storer; Daniel Balch; F. Bradford.

M. E. Comp. Hungerford, of New York, of the Committee on Finance, Submitted an adverse report from that Committee on the petition of Lafayette Chapter in Vermont; which, after discussion, was recommitted to the Same Committee, with instructions to report in accordance with the prayer of the petitioners.

M. E. Comp. Tupper, of Mississippi, had leave of absence after to-day.

M. E. Comp. French, of the District of Columbia, Submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Whereas, it has been doubted by many of the members of this General Grand Chapter, whether the proceedings of yesterday, in reconsidering the vote fixing the time for the election of officers and proceeding to that election in advance of the time fixed in full Chapter yesterday morning, were regular—Therefore,

Resolved, That those proceedings be and hereby are approved, and the officers yesterday elected, be Considered duly and legally elected to the Several places they occupy. Provided, That this proceeding Shall never hereafter be Construed as a precedent for a like proceeding.

M. E. Comp. Hubbard, of Ohio, from the Committee on Appeals, Submitted the following report, which was laid on the table:

The Committee to whom was referred the question, whether in any Royal Arch Masonic Body, a member of Such body had a right to an appeal from the decision of its presiding officer on a question of order, have had the Same under Consideration, and herewith report: That, in—

Reader page 44 · 1850 — Appeals resolution and officers elected

—their opinion, and according to the usages of Masonry from time immemorial, no appeal Can of right be had, and accompany their report with the following resolution.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
W. B. Hubbard; Freeman Bradford; B. B. French.

Resolved, That according to the usages of Masonry from time immemorial, on a question of order, no appeal Can of right be taken from the decision of the presiding officer, in any Royal Arch Chapter, to the body over which he presides.

The General Grand Chapter then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the Choice of officers.

M. E. Comp. Lewis, of Louisiana, in the Chair.

Comp. Barnum declined being a Candidate for re-election.

The Committee having Completed the business before them rose, and reported that they had made Choice of the following officers for the General Grand Chapter for the ensuing three years, viz:

M. E. Companion	State	Office
Robert P. Dunlap	Maine	G. G. High Priest
Jos. K. Stapleton	Maryland	D. G. G. High Priest
Willis Stewart	Kentucky	G. G. King
Thos. H. Lewis	Louisiana	G. G. Scribe
Benj. B. French	Dist. Col.	G. G. Secretary
Edwd. A. Raymond	Mass.	G. G. Treasurer
Rev. Paul Dean	Mass.	G. G. Chaplain
N. B. Haswell	Vermont	G. G. Marshal

On motion, the report was accepted, and the Said Companions declared duly elected to the Several offices designated.

M. E. Comp. Tupper, of Mississippi, offered the following resolution, which was laid on the table:

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to designate the place for holding the next Triennial Meeting of the General Grand Chapter, be and they are hereby instructed to inquire—

Reader page 45 · 1850 — Proposed general convention, fees amendment and work exemplification

—and report as to the propriety and expediency of abolishing this General Grand Chapter, and of recommending the adoption of the Same Course by all other General Grand Bodies in the United States, with the view of establishing in their place a General Convention of Masonic Delegates, representing all State Grand Bodies, to meet annually or triennially, at Some Central location, for the purpose of exercising a general legislative jurisdiction over all Masonic Bodies in the United States.

Comp. Tupper, of Mississippi, also offered the following report from the Committee on Amendment of the Constitution, which was laid on the table:

The Committee to whom was referred a proposed amendment of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, respectfully report: That having had the Subject under Consideration, they recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter be amended, by adding in the fourth line of the the Seventh Section of the first article thereof, after the word “jurisdiction,” the words “provided, that each State Grand Chapter may, in their discretion, increase or diminish the fees for Dispensations and Charters of Chapters under their respective jurisdiction.”

T. C. Tupper; John L. Lewis, Jr.; L. C. Stevenson; J. J. Prentiss; A. B. Thompson, Committee.

M. E. Comp. Graff, of Ohio, had leave of absence after to-day.

At 11¼ o’Clock, the General Grand Chapter was Called from labor, for the purpose of witnessing an exemplification of the work by St. Paul’s Chapter, of Boston.

At 2¼ o’Clock, the General Grand Chapter was Called to labor.

The M. E. General Grand High Priest announced M. E. Comps. Storer, of Connecticut, Courtney, of Maryland, and Lewis, of Louisiana, as the Committee on the next Place of—

Reader page 46 · 1850 — Finance report, receipts and custody of funds

—Meeting.

The Committee of Finance, through their Chairman, Submitted the following report, which was accepted: The blanks in the Several resolutions having been filled with the Sum of $3,000, the report and resolutions were laid on the table:

The Committee on Finance beg leave to report, that they have examined the account of the General Grand Treasurer which is hereunto attached, and find the Same in all respects Correct. It Shows a balance in his hands of $4,854.26.

The accounts rendered by the Deputy General Grand High Priest, and General Grand Scribe, have not been placed in the hands of this Committee.

The accounts of the General Grand King and General Grand Secretary, have been examined, and appear to be Correct.

A letter has been placed in the hands of the Committee, from the Secretary of Jacksonville Chapter, No. 3, Illinois, to the General Grand Secretary, which States that the Exaltation fees due from that Chapter to the General Grand Chapter, have been forwarded, but the Treasurer informs the Committee he has not received them.

In examining the accounts of the Several General Grand officers the Committee notice that the practice has been, to retain money in their hands for Some length of time, instead of paying the Same immediately to the General Grand Treasurer, as required by the Constitution. The Treasurer is the only legitimate depository of the funds of the Chapter, and the Committee respectfully recommend that the requirements of the Constitution be Complied with hereafter.

Connected with their duty, the Committee Conceive, is the Safe keeping of the funds of the Institution, and they recommend, with the entire approbation of the present incumbent, that the Treasurer be required to give Security for the faithful discharge of his duty.

The Committee are also of opinion that a portion of the—

The Treasurer’s ledger is inserted on scan 47; the Finance Committee’s report continues after it.

Reader page 47 · 1850 — Treasurer’s ledger, 1847–1850

Dr. General Grand Chapter of the United States in account with Edw’d A. Raymond, Treas’r. Cr.

To cash paid

Date	Payee or purpose	Amount
1847, Sept. 17	Paul Dean, for attendance on G. G. Chapter, Columbus, Ohio	110.00
″	A. Clark	20.00
″	Albert Clark	20.00
″	I. W. Crawford	100.00
″	James T. Donahoo	20.00
″	E. S. Barnum	76.38
″	N. B. Haswell	100.00
″	Charles Gilman	400.00
″	E. A. Raymond	100.00
″	Joseph K. Stapleton	108.75
″	W. B. Hubbard	20.00
Nov. 9	Draft from Natchez Royal Arch Chapter, as per vote	200.00
″ 22	Draft in favor of Vicksburg R. Arch Chapter, No. 3	100.00
1848, Jan. 26	For present to Rev. Paul Dean	55.50
1850, Sept. 9	For postage to date	4.62
	Balance	4,854.26
	Total as written	6,289.51

By cash received

Date	Source	Amount
1847, Aug. 30	By balance	2,486.42
Sept. 17	Cash received of C. Gilman, G. G. Sec.	1,593.12
1849, Sept. 6	Cash received of Lafayette Chapter, Chicago, Illinois, from August 1848 to August 1849	18.00
	Cash received from Howard Royal Arch Chapter, Alton, Illinois	20.00
	Cash received of Willis Stewart	602.69
	Cash received of Charles Gilman	933.14
	Cash received of Lafayette Chapter, Chicago, Illinois	6.00
	Cash received of Joseph K. Stapleton	622.14
	Total as written	6,281.51

E. A. Raymond, General Treasurer.

This ledger is sideways in the supplied scan. Its debit and credit sides have different stated totals; the entries and totals are retained as written.

Reader page 48 · 1850 — Treasury resolutions, Lafayette refund and Gedge report begins

—funds of the Chapter Should be invested in Some manner to be accumulating interest, and therefore offer the following resolutions.

O. Hungerford, Chairman.

Resolved, That the General Grand Treasurer be required to give Security for the faithful discharge of his duty, to Robert P. Dunlap, in trust, for the General Grand Chapter, and Such as Shall be approved of by the General Grand Council.

Resolved, That the General Grand Treasurer be directed to invest $3,000 of the funds of this General Grand Chapter in Such manner as he Shall deem for the interest of the Chapter.

Comp. Hungerford, from the Same Committee, offered the following report, which was adopted, the blank having been filled with the Sum of ninety four dollars:

In Compliance with instructions the Committee on Finance report the following resolution:

Resolved, That ninety four dollars be refunded to Lafayette Chapter, of Vermont.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That to-morrow, 12 o’Clock, be assigned as the hour for witnessing a further exemplification of the Work, by St. Paul’s Royal Arch Chapter.

Comp. Hungerford, of New York, had leave of absence after to-day.

M. E. Comp. Hubbard, of Ohio, Submitted the following report on the memorial of Comp. John Gedge, which was read and laid on the table:

The Committee to whom was referred the resolution on the Subject of the memorial of Companion John Gedge, to the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, have had the Same under Consideration and herewith Submit the following

Reader page 49 · 1850 Gedge report — English Royal Arch Masons and prior decision

Report

That in the opinion of your Committee, the facts and reasonings embodied in the memorial under Consideration are entitled to great weight, and would incline your Committee, if, as they Conceive, they were not Committed and bound by their relations to Royal Arch Masonry in the United States to the Contrary, to recommend a Compliance with the request of the memorialist, So far at least as to admit to fellowship in Chapters and otherwise as Royal Arch Masons, only, those who had been duly exalted to that degree according to the rules of the Order in England, and who were otherwise in good Standing as Royal Arch Masons, though not possessed of the “intercalary” degrees of Mark, Past and Most Excellent Master. But your Committee do not Consider this an open question. They Suppose that under the Constitutions of this Grand Body and of all the Subordinates, by reason of the manner in which each Royal Arch Mason received that degree, he is estopped and precluded from aiding in forming or holding a Royal Arch Chapter, except with the requisite number of Companions, who have received the Several preceding degrees of En. Ap., Fellow Craft, M. M., Mark, Past and M. Excellent Master.

Your Committee would also advert to the fact, that at a previous Session (1844) of this General Grand Body, this Same question received a thorough examination at the hands of an experienced Committee, whose report unanimously approved by this body, was in accordance with the Conclusions herein before Stated by this, your Committee. Your Committee therefore Consider the question no longer an open one, legislatively or Constitutionally. It Should be Considered as a matter *Res Adjudicata*.

In order, however, to remedy the existing difficulties, at least as far as is in the power, of this General Grand Body, your Committee herewith recommend for adoption the following resolution:

Reader page 50 · 1850 — Proposed healing provisions; Friday session opens

Resolved, That the Constitution of this General Grand Body be amended by the adoption of the following as Sections 6 and 7 of the 3d Article, to wit:

That any worthy Companion, from without the jurisdiction of the United States, who may present himself as a Royal Arch Mason, and produce Satisfactory evidence of his having received that degree, that each and every Chapter under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter have liberty, and they are hereby authorized, to Confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, on Such Companions (who have not heretofore received them,) to the end that they may be healed and thereby become regular Royal Arch Masons, free of Charge.

Sec. 2. That the Subordinate Chapter So Conferring Said degrees, Shall be exempt from paying any dues therefor.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
W. B. Hubbard; Philip C. Tucker; John Williams; Wm. H. Ellis.

Comp. Manchester, of Rhode Island, had leave of absence.

The General Grand Chapter was then adjourned to to-morrow morning at 8½ o’Clock.

Friday, Sept. 13th 1850

The General Grand Chapter met agreeably to adjournment, and was Called to order at 10 o’Clock.

M. E. General Grand High Priest in the Chair.

Prayer by Rev. Benj. Huntoon.

The record of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

Comp. Tucker, of Vermont, from the Committee on the inquiry Submitted by Comp. Graff, of Ohio, offered the follow—

Reader page 51 · 1850 — Committee report on a candidate with one arm

—ing report, which, on his motion, was laid upon the table:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States

The undersigned Committee to which was referred a resolution of inquiry as to whether “it is Competent for a Royal Arch Chapter to Confer the Chapter degrees on a Master Mason who has but one arm,” respectfully report, that So far as the precise question referred to them is Concerned, they are not aware of the existence of any Masonic authority by which the Subject has been Considered. Without, therefore, Claiming to present the question on the ground of authority, they Can only Consider it in view of general Masonic polity. It has long been a question in the blue Lodges, whether any maimed person is admissible to the three first degrees; and the question has been Settled differently in different Grand Lodges. As an original rule, Considered in view of the ancient operative Character of Masonry, doubtless no maimed brother was admissible; but in view of the modern Speculative Character of the Order only, doubtless this rule has been Strongly modified in practice. Although Some Grand Lodges Still adhere to the ancient rule, others have remitted it by holding, that if the Candidate be not So far maimed as to disable him from Complying physically with the forms and Ceremonies of the Order, he ought not to be excluded. As a mere moral question, doubtless the Order in general are inclined to modify this ancient practice. As a question of Masonic law, your Committee do not believe that the old rule Can be Considered as an ancient and essential landmark which is to be treated as immutable forever. On the Contrary, they Consider it a mere question of Convenience and policy, which may be properly modified by Competent Masonic authority.

With these views as to the question Considered relatively to the blue Lodges, your Committee necessarily Conclude that the whole Subject is one fairly open to Masonic regulation as to the Chapter degrees.

Confining themselves to the naked question referred to them, they recommend the adoption by this Body, of the fol—

Reader page 52 · 1850 — Proposed answer on one-arm candidates; Brazos charter

—lowing resolution:

Resolved, That hereafter it Shall be Considered incompetent for a Royal Arch Chapter to Confer the Chapter degrees on a Master Mason who has but one arm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cyrus Goodell; Philip C. Tucker; Samuel S. Butler, Committee.
Boston, September 13th, 1850.

M. E. Comp. French, from the Committee on Credentials, Submitted the following additional report, which was adopted:

The Committee on Credentials report, that Scott J. Tallman is entitled to a Seat in this General Grand Chapter, as proxy for J. C. Humphreys, G. H. P. of the Grand Chapter of Maine, M. E. Comp. Humphreys having been present and having left the City.

B. B. French, for the Committee.
Sept. 13th, 1850.

M. E. Comp. Lewis, in behalf of the Committee on Dispensations, Submitted the following additional report, which was adopted:

The Committee on Dispensations and New Chapters have examined the By-Laws, returns, &c., of Brazos Chapter, No. 8, held in the town of Washington, State of Texas, find the Same Correct, and recommend that a Charter be granted to Said Chapter, and for that purpose, offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That a Charter be granted to Brazos Chapter, No. 8, at Washington, State of Texas, on payment of the usual fees and dues.

Respectfully Submitted,
Thos. H. Lewis; Wm. Hendrix; Willis Stewart.

Reader page 53 · 1850 — Washington Chapter charter and public installation arranged

To the M. E. General Grand Chapter of the United States

Your Committee on Dispensations and new Chapters, beg leave to report, that they have examined the By-Laws, work, and returns of Washington Chapter, No. 2, at Houston, Texas, and approve of the Same as Correct, and in accordance with the request of that Chapter, recommend that a Charter be granted on payment of the usual fees.

Respectfully Submitted,
Thos. H. Lewis; Willis Stewart; Wm. Hendrix.
Sept. 12th, 1850.

Comps. Fuller and Lee, of Michigan, had leave of absence.

M. E. General Grand High Priest appointed M. E. Comp. Whitaker, of Rhode Island, on the Committee on Work in the place of Comp. Fuller, who left the City.

M. E. Comp. Stapleton, Submitted a report of his doings as General Grand Secretary, pro tem, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

M. E. Comp. French offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the installation of the officers of this General Grand Chapter, be performed in public, on Monday next, at Such hour as the M. E. Grand High Priest may determine.

M. E. Comp. French was added to the Committee on Finance in the place of Comp. Hungerford, who had obtained leave of absence.

The report of the Committee on Appeals, was taken from the table and adopted. (See page 31.)

M. E. Comp. Stapleton Submitted Sundry papers in relation to Whitfield Chapter, in the State of Arkansas, which were refer—

The manuscript’s “See page 31” reference is retained. The appeals report is transcribed on scans 43–44 of this PDF.

Reader page 54 · 1850 — Meeting location, Van Houten decision and lodge suspensions

—red to the Committee on Dispensations.

M. E. Comp. Hubbard Submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on fixing a time for the next meeting of this General Grand Chapter, be and they are hereby authorized to Confer with a Committee appointed by the General Grand Encampment for the purpose of fixing upon a place for the permanent Sessions of that Body, and with power to agree upon a place for the permanent meetings of this Grand Body.

The report of the Committee on Appeals, in the Case of Comp. Van Houten and others, was taken from the table and adopted. (See page 27.)

M. E. Comp. Lewis, of New York, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this General Grand Chapter, all persons who have been expelled or Suspended for unmasonic Conduct by any regular Lodge or Grand Lodge of Competent jurisdiction, from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, Should be forbidden to visit or Sit in any Grand or Subordinate Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in this jurisdiction or in the General Grand Chapter; and that it is the duty of Royal Arch Masons to abstain from all Masonic Communication with persons So expelled or Suspended, until they Shall be duly restored to their rights and privileges.

M. E. Comp. Blaney was appointed on the Committee on Work, in place of Comp. Lee, who had obtained leave of absence.

Comps. Goodloe, of Kentucky, and Butler, of Vermont, had leave of absence after to-day.

M. E. Comp. Courtney, from the Committee on Doings of Grand officers, offered the following report, which was adopted:

The Committee to whom was referred the doings of the General Grand officers, beg leave to report—

The manuscript’s “See page 27” reference is retained. The Van Houten report appears on scan 40 of this PDF.

Reader page 55 · 1850 — Officers’ report, finance adopted and relief for chapters under dispensation

That they have examined the reports of the Several General Grand officers Submitted to them, and take pleasure in reporting that their Services are for the good of the Order, highly Commendable, and have been Strictly in Conformity with the Constitution and usages of this General Grand Body.

Respectfully,
Paul Dean; Wm. Field; E. S. Courtney.
Masonic Temple, September 13th, 1850.

The resolution in relation to Royal Arch Masonry in Florida, was reported back by the above Committee and laid on the table.

The report of the Committee of Finance, was taken from the table, and during its pendency the General Grand Chapter was Called from labor for the purpose of witnessing the further exemplification of the work by the Companions of Boston.

Friday — Continued

The General Grand Chapter having attended to an exemplification of the work, was Called to order at 2 o’Clock, and the Consideration of the report of the Committee of Finance was resumed; when the report and resolutions were adopted.

M. E. Comp. Lewis, of the Committee on Dispensations, Submitted the following additional report, which, together with the resolutions, was adopted:

The Committee on Dispensations and New Chapters, respectfully report—

That a number of Chapters working under Dispensation, have made application for Charters, but have failed to Send up the record of their proceedings, So that your Committee are unable to Say whether their doings have been regular or not.

Your Committee, nevertheless, are of opinion that these Chapters ought not to be dissolved, but that they are entitled to Such relief as this General Grand Body Can afford them.

Reader page 56 · 1850 — Dispensations continued; Gedge report adopted; Saturday session

They therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

1. Resolved, That the Dispensations heretofore granted to Reynolds Chapter, in Cambridge, State of Illinois; Stapleton Chapter in Rushville, State of Illinois; Springfield Chapter, in Springfield, State of Illinois; Quincy Chapter, in Quincy, State of Illinois; Friendship Chapter, in El Dorado, State of Arkansas; be Continued in force until the next Triennial Meeting of this General Grand Chapter, unless Sooner revoked by lawful authority.

2. Resolved, That the General Grand High Priest be authorized, in his discretion, to grant Charters to Such of Said Chapters as Shall furnish him with the Constitutional evidence of their being worthy and entitled to the Same.

Respectfully Submitted.
Thos. H. Lewis; Wm. Hendrix; Willis Stewart.

The report of the Committee on the Memorial of Comp. John Gedge, was taken from the table, and with the resolution adopted.

The General Grand Chapter was then adjourned to to-morrow morning, at 8½ o’Clock.

Saturday, September 14th, 1850

The General Grand Chapter met by adjournment and was Called to order at 8½ o’Clock.

The G. G. High Priest in the Chair.

Prayer by the G. G. Chaplain.

The record of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

Comp. Stewart was excused from Serving on the Committee appointed to fix Some Compensation for G. G. officers, and Comp. Storer, of Connecticut, was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Comp. Lewis, of Louisiana, offered the following—

Reader page 57 · 1850 — Rising Star and Whitfield; Texas dispensations; Lexington proposed

—report from the Committee on Dispensations, which, with the resolution appended, was adopted:

The Committee on Dispensations and New Chapters, respectfully report—

That they have examined the returns, &c., from Rising Star Chapter, held in San Augustine, State of Texas, and recommend that a Charter be granted to Said Chapter.

Whitfield Chapter, working under Dispensation, in Camden, State of Arkansas, has also applied for a Charter, but has Sent up neither by-laws nor record of proceedings.

They therefore recommend that the Dispensation to Said Chapter be Continued in force until the next triennial meeting of this General Grand Chapter, unless Sooner revoked by lawful authority.

Thos. H. Lewis; Wm. Hendrix; Willis Stewart.

Comp. Lewis of Louisiana, also offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Dispensations granted to San Jacinto, Jerusalem and Trinity Chapters, in Texas, be Continued, and they authorized to Surrender them, and take out Charters from the Grand Chapter of that State, if one be organized previous to the next meeting of the General Grand Chapter.

Comp. Storer, of Connecticut, from the Committee on the next place of meeting, Submitted the following report, which, with the first resolution, was adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States

The Committee appointed to designate a place for the next triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, have attended to the duty assigned to them, and would Submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the next triennial Convocation of this General Grand Chapter be held in the City of Lexington,—

Reader page 58 · 1850 — Permanent location proposed; fees amendment rejected; further finance

—in the State of Kentucky.

The Committee also beg leave to Submit a resolution for an amendment of the Constitution, to be laid over for Consideration at the next triennial Convocation:

Resolved, That the 1st Section of the 1st Article of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, be So amended as to fix the permanent location of the General Grand Chapter at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
E. G. Storer; Thos. H. Lewis; E. S. Courtney.

The Second resolution of the preceding report was ordered to lie over until the next triennial Session of the General Grand Chapter.

Comp. Balch, of New Hampshire, had leave of absence.

On motion of Comp. Lewis, Jr., of New York, the report of the Committee on Rules and Orders was taken up, and, after discussion, was again laid upon the table.

On motion of Comp. Stevenson, of North Carolina, the report of the Committee on amending the Constitution, Submitted on Tuesday, was taken from the table, and

On motion of Comp. Lewis, of Louisiana, it was rejected. (See page 32.)

M. E. Comp. Hubbard, of the Committee on Finance, Submitted the following report, which was adopted:

The Committee on Finance beg leave to make this their further report—

That they have examined the report and accounts of the M. E. Dep. G. G. High Priest, and find Said account Correct, and that he had received of moneys belonging to this G. G. Chapter, in the whole, $645.66.

The amendment report referred to as “See page 32” appears on scan 45 of this PDF. The amount at the bottom of this scan reads $645.66; the ledger on scan 59 states $645.65.

Reader page 59 · 1850 — Stapleton’s account as Deputy and acting Secretary

Dr. The General Grand Chapter of the United States in account Current with J. K. Stapleton. Cr.

Disbursements, 1848–1850

Year	For	Amount
1848	For postage	3.40
1849	Postage	4.31
1850	Stationery	0.75
	Printing Circulars	2.00
	Advertising in Intelligencer (Washington)	2.25
	Advertising in Union (will make no Charge)	—
	Advertising in Mackay’s Magazine (bill not rendered)	—
	Cash paid H. Dunbar for repairs of letter press	0.75
	Postage up to 9th September	4.99
	Transportation per Adam’s express	1.25
	Box	0.50
	Stationery purchased at Boston for use of Grand Chapter	1.31
	Advertising in Moore’s Magazine	2.00
	Cash paid G. G. Treasurer	622.14
	Total	$645.65

By amount received

Source and purpose	Amount
Washington Chapter, No. 2, Texas, dues	18.00
Springfield Chapter, dues	12.00
Stapleton Chapter, Illinois, for Dispensation and fee	100.00
Quincy Chapter, No. 5, Illinois, for dues	36.00
Lafayette Chapter, Vermont, for dues	16.00
Washington Chapter, No. 2, Texas, $20, [rate unclear] per cent discount	19.85
A. J. Ruthven, on account of Dispensation granted G. G. King	83.80
C. Gilman, for Dispensation for San Francisco Chapter	90.00
Brenham Chapter, Texas, for dues	26.00
Stapleton Chapter, Illinois, for dues	28.00
Milwaukee Chapter, No. 1, Wisconsin, for dues	40.00
Washington Chapter, No. 2, Wisconsin, for dues	26.00
Southport Chapter, No. 3, Wisconsin, for dues	62.00
Burlington Chapter, Vermont, for dues	28.00
Friendship Chapter, Arkansas, for dues	60.00
Total	$645.65

J. K. Stapleton, D. G. G. H. P.,
and Secretary, pro tem.

This ledger is sideways in the supplied scan. The discount rate in Washington Chapter’s entry is unclear; the gross $20 and net $19.85 are legible. The ledger’s stated total is $645.65.

Reader page 60 · 1850 — Finance allowances and standing committees

Description	Amount
That he has paid over to the G. G. Treasurer	$622.14
Retained for items of expenses, postage, &c.	23.15
Total as written	$645.65

Your Committee recommend the payment of the following Sums to the following Companions:

Companion / office	Amount
M. E. G. G. High Priest	55.00
M. E. D. G. G. High Priest, J. K. Stapleton	100.00
M. E. G. G. King, W. Stewart	120.00
M. E. G. G. Scribe, E. S. Barnum	25.00
M. E. G. G. Secretary, C. W. Moore, pro temp	25.00

Companion / office	Amount
M. E. G. G. Marshal, N. B. Haswell	45.00
M. E. Balch, Assisting Marshal	10.00
M. E. G. G. Tyler, H. H. Tuttle	25.00
Total	$405.00

All of which is respectfully Submitted,
Wm. B. Hubbard; A. Patterson; B. B. French.

M. E. Comp. Stewart, of Kentucky, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That on the first day of each Session of this M. E. General Grand Chapter, there Shall be appointed the following Committees:

On Credentials;
On Returns;
On Grievances;
On Finances;
On Foreign Communications;
On Masonic Jurisprudence.

The report of the Committee on the inquiry Submitted by Comp. Graff, of Ohio, was taken up, and after discussion, was—

The expense figure at the top reads $23.15, while the listed expenses on scan 59 total $23.51. Both readings and the stated total are retained.

Reader page 61 · 1850 — Further inquiry on physical qualifications; thanks to Gilman; work report

—again laid on the table.

Comp. Tallman, of Maine, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to report at the next Triennial Meeting, whether any of the Chapter degrees may be Conferred on persons maimed or otherwise imperfect in body.

The M. E. General Grand High Priest appointed the following Companions to Compose the Committee Contemplated by the preceding resolution, viz: Tucker, of Vermont, Gould, of Georgia, and Tallman, of Maine.

Comp. Philip C. Tucker, Jr., was, on the report of the Committee on Credentials, recognized as proxy for Comp. Samuel Butler, G. K. of the Grand Chapter of Vermont, who had obtained leave of absence.

M. E. Comp. Haswell, of Vermont, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, be transmitted by the present General Grand Secretary, to Companion Charles Gilman, of California, for the able and Satisfactory manner in which he has heretofore discharged the duties of General Grand Secretary of this Grand Body, as well as for the Masonic zeal he Still manifests in the Cause of Masonry upon the Shores of the Pacific, and that a Suitable jewel be presented to him by this General Grand Body, to be procured by the General Grand Treasurer.

M. E. Comp. Williams, of Maine, was appointed by the M. E. G. G. High Priest to fill the vacancy in the Committee on Work, occasioned by the absence of Comp. Lee, of Michigan.

M. E. Comp. Lewis, Jr., of New York, Submitted the written report of the Committee on Work, which was amended and adopted as follows:

Reader page 62 · 1850 — Committee on Works and Lectures, uniformity of action

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States

The undersigned, the Committee on Works and Lectures, have endeavored to discharge the very important and responsible duties devolved upon us, by a Close and attentive Consideration of and application to the Subject matter Confided to us. We are deeply Sensible of the importance and necessity of uniformity in the Work of Arch Masonry in the United States, not only as a question of Convenience and expediency, but as a matter of grave principle.

The manner in which the Work was exemplified is already known to this General Grand Chapter, and we Cannot forbear expressing our deep Sense of obligation to the officers and Companions of St. Paul’s Chapter, of Boston, for their prompt and ready Compliance with the wishes of this General Grand Chapter in exemplifying the Work of the Chapter Degrees in their presence, and at great inconvenience to the much esteemed Companions of that Chapter, and their accomplished presiding officer, M. E. Comp. Stephen Lovell. Perhaps we Could not have more deeply expressed our gratification than by doing as we have done—making it the basis upon which to act, and to which we have added, varied, and modified as we deem Consistent with the ancient landmarks of Royal Arch Masonry.

We have already Said that we have regarded uniformity as necessary and vitally important; and we wish to propose Such plan as Shall not only promote, but insure it. But by uniformity, we do not wish to be understood as perfect Sameness of phraseology; we have avoided verbal Criticism, and the fixing modes of expression, aiming only at uniformity of action, and have only retained peculiar words and phrases where they were necessary to elucidate or give force to Some principle.

The Committee were gratified on assembling to find that—

Reader page 63 · 1850 work report — language, principles and dissemination

—although representing every Section of the Union, there was So little essential difference in the mode and manner of the Work; and all Such essential differences we have aimed to reconcile and remove. The Slight variances even in the mode of expression was remarkable, when we Consider the peculiarities of the vernacular tongue in different Sections of the United States.

The Committee will add another remark, that while we do regard unity and even identity of language as desirable, yet we perceive that it is neither attainable or practicable, nor do we regard it as necessary, except in the Cases above Cited. The object of all language is to express ideas of which words are but the arbitrary Symbols; and as in Masonry Certain great moral as well as religious truths are developed and illustrated, valuable to man both here and hereafter, and teaching him his duty to his Maker, his Country, his Social Circle, and to himself, and especially to the great family of man. If those truths are but Conveyed to the mind intelligibly, forcibly, truthfully, and yet So agreeably, as to bring the mind to love that truth, then the great end and object of our institution has been answered.

We herewith Submit our verbal report of the Conclusions to which the Committee have arrived, and to which we invite your Careful Consideration and attention.

But the Committee feel that they have not fully discharged their duty without adverting to Some plan to make the result of their labors available. This has been with us a Subject of anxious Care and thought. We have already Showed that uniformity and the preservation of the great principles and landmarks of Royal Arch Masonry has been the object Sought by us.

As Some time will elapse before the System here agreed on Can be disseminated, and as we have not professed to perfect all the details of the System, we recommend the adop—

Reader page 64 · 1850 — Work resolutions, committee signatures and verbal exemplification

—tion of the following resolutions.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
Robert P. Dunlap; Thos. H. Lewis; Paul Dean; Nath'l Coffin; Benjamin Huntoon; Thos. Whitaker; L. C. Stevenson; J. L. Lewis, Jr.; Stephen Lovell; James V. Z. Blaney.

Resolved, That in all things not decided upon at this meeting of the General Grand Chapter, as a System of work to be observed in Chapters under this jurisdiction, the Work and Lectures remain as they were or may be instituted under the Supervision and direction of the presiding officers of the Several Chapters and Grand Chapters under this jurisdiction, until otherwise further directed by the General Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That for the purpose of introducing the modes of Work and Lectures now agreed upon, the four first officers of this General Grand Chapter be requested to take Such measures as they may think best, for diffusing as extensively as may be, the knowledge of the Same to the Several Chapters under this jurisdiction.

M. E. Comp. Goodell, of Connecticut, had leave of absence, and M. E. Comp. Francis Turner, of Connecticut, was recognized as his proxy.

M. E. Comp. Lewis, Jr., of New York, assisted by M. E. Comp. Lovell, of Massachusetts, presented the verbal report of the Committee on Work, which, after Careful Consideration and discussion, was unanimously adopted as the work Sanc—

Reader page 65 · 1850 — Representative fund and officers' compensation report postponed

—tioned by this General Grand Chapter, for the use of the Chapters under its jurisdiction.

M. E. Comp. Field, of Rhode Island, had leave of absence until Monday.

M. E. Comp. Blaney Submitted a report from the Committee on the establishment of a Representative Fund, and Compensation to the Grand officers, which was read and laid on the table.

M. E. Comp. Lewis, Jr., of New York, had leave of absence.

The General Grand Chapter was then adjourned to 4½ o'Clock P. M.

Afternoon Session

The General Grand Chapter met agreeably to adjournment and was Called to order at 4½ o'Clock.

The M. E. General Grand High Priest in the Chair.

The report of the Committee on the Creation of a Representative Fund and Compensation to General Grand officers, was taken from the table.

M. E. Comp. Lewis, of Louisiana, Submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on the Creation of a Representative Fund and a fixed Compensation to the General Grand officers be postponed until the next triennial Communication of this General Grand Chapter; and that the State Grand Chapters be requested to express their opinion on this Subject.

Said report is as follows:

To the M. E. General Grand Chapter of the United States of America

The Committee appointed to inquire into the expediency of the establishment of a Representative Fund for the payment of the necessary expenses of Delegates to this General Grand Chapter, and to report permanent Salaries for the General Grand officers, would beg leave respectfully to report, that they have had the Subject under Consideration, and would offer the following as the result of their—

Reader page 66 · 1850 — Unequal costs of representation and the proposed fund

—deliberation:

Your committee presume that it will be generally conceded, that it is highly desirable in all representative bodies that the expenses of representation should fall as equally as possible upon all the subordinates entitled to Such representation.

Such, however, is far from being the case under the present regulations of this General Grand Chapter. No provision has as yet been made for defraying the expenses of Delegates or even Grand Officers. Each Grand Chapter and Subordinate Chapter is obliged to pay the expenses of its own Delegates, or the Delegate is obliged to pay his own expenses. It is consequently the case that as the General Grand Chapter mostly holds its meetings in the Eastern or central cities of the United States, the Grand Chapters in the South, Southwest, West, and Northwest, are obliged to bear much heavier expense in Securing their representation than the more fortunate Grand Chapters of the Eastern and Middle States, and are also deprived of the pleasure and instruction they might receive from Social and Masonic intercourse with the General Grand officers, and Delegates from other sections of the Union.

Unfortunately, those very Grand Chapters and Chapters upon whom these expenses fall the most heavily, are the very ones which, from their youth, their location in more recently Settled and less wealthy sections of the Union, and in regions most afflicted with fatal epidemic diseases and consequently destitution among their members, are the least able to Spare the cost of representation in this Grand body from funds meagre in themselves, and much required for charitable purposes.

This evil will be increased should the General Grand Chapter at any time conclude to locate itself permanently. The Grand Chapters in the vicinity of Such location would then be at no expense for representation, while those which are far removed would feel the burthen heavily and constantly. In con—

Reader page 67 · 1850 — Representative fund report: equal representation and taxation

—sequence of this, a much larger representation is to be expected at all meetings of the General Grand Chapter from Grand Chapters located near the permanent place of meeting, than from those which are far distant, thus giving a controlling influence to a particular section of the Union over others having an equal right in the deliberations and decisions of this General Grand body. This is an evil which past experience abundantly proves to be pregnant with bickerings and divisions, and may, unless remedied, one day be the means of dividing, if not of dissolving this General Grand Chapter.

The committee are of opinion that these considerations show defects in the regulations of this General Grand body, which should Speedily be remedied. The remedy, they think, measurably if not entirely, is to be found in the establishment of a Representative Fund, from which the actual expenses of Delegates shall be paid.

The plan which your committee would propose for the establishment and permanent existence of a Representative Fund, will be found in certain resolutions appended to this report.

In the plan proposed, it will be observed that the committee recommend the usual unpopular means of direct taxation of the bodies entitled to representation, as the only mode apparent to them of equalizing the expenses of all the Grand Chapters. Your committee are aware that direct taxation has never been resorted to by this General Grand Chapter, its funds having heretofore been derived from the fees for granting Dispensations and Charters to, and dues from, Subordinate Chapters and Territories in which there is no Grand Chapter; but the time must Shortly arrive when these Sources will be cut off by the constitution of Grand Chapters in all the States and Territories of the Union. Direct taxation of Grand Chapters must then be resorted to; and if then, why should it be objectionable now when a great injustice and inequality requires—

Reader page 68 · 1850 — Proposed officers’ expenses and representative fund resolutions

—it for its remedy.

The greatest difficulty which the committee have found consists in fixing a sum necessary to be assessed upon each Grand Chapter to establish a Representative Fund sufficient to meet, without materially exceeding the expenses of Delegates. The sum mentioned in the appended resolutions has Seemed to them to answer all requirements.

As regards the expediency of fixing permanent Salaries for General Grand Officers which has also been referred to the committee for consideration, they are of opinion that the honors of the Office should and doubtless always will be deemed by the incumbent sufficient compensation for the services to be performed, excepting the Office of General Grand Secretary, whose arduous duties obviously require pecuniary remuneration. They also doubt if the payment of Salaries, as Such, be in accordance with Masonic usage or propriety. They, however, deem it but just that the actual outlay of the General Grand Officers in going to and returning from the place appointed for the meeting of the General Grand Chapter, their expenses while in attendance upon the Same, and all expenses incurred for postage, Stationary and all other things necessary to the performance of their respective duties, should be refunded to them. In accordance with this opinion, your committee append resolution No. 4, and recommend its adoption.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
James V. Z. Blaney,
John Williams,
E. G. Storer.

The following are the resolutions referred to in the body of this report:

Whereas, it is highly desirable that the cost of representation in this General Grand Chapter should fall equally upon—

Reader page 69 · 1850 — Proposed assessments, delegates' mileage and officers' allowances

—all the Grand Chapters entitled to representation therein; therefore,

1. Resolved, That a Representative Fund be established by an equal assessment upon each and every Grand Chapter entitled to representation in this General Grand Chapter; which fund Shall be applied Solely and exclusively to the payment of mileage and per diem to delegates of Grand Chapters, as provided for in the following resolutions:

2. Resolved, That to establish a Representative Fund, an assessment be and is hereby made upon each and every Grand Chapter under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, of the sum of $50, Said sum to be paid to the General Grand Secretary on or before the first day of August, 1853; and that a like assessment be made at each and every meeting, whether triennial or Special, of this General Grand Chapter of an assessment Sufficient to defray the mileage and per diem of representatives, as provided for in resolution No. 3, to the next meeting of the Same.

3. Resolved, That each and every Grand Chapter which Shall be represented at any meeting of this General Grand Chapter Shall be entitled to be paid, from the Representative Fund three cents per mile, for each and every mile, from the residence of the delegate to the place of meeting, going and returning, (the distance to be computed by the nearest usually travelled route,) and $1.50 per diem, for each and every day which Said delegate Shall actually be in attendance on the General Grand Chapter; Provided, That no Grand Chapter Shall be entitled to draw mileage and per diem for more than one delegate, at each and every meeting of this Grand Chapter.

4. Resolved, That each and every elected officer of this General Grand Chapter Shall be entitled, at each meeting of the Same, to receive five cents per mile, going and returning, for every mile from his residence to the place of meeting, (the distance to be computed by the nearest usually travelled route) and $2 per diem for—

Editorial note: These are the committee's proposed resolutions. The report was postponed to the next triennial meeting, as recorded on scan 65.

Reader page 70 · 1850 — Council proposal, additional allowance and degrees resolution

—every day which he Shall actually be present, and in performance of his duties in the General Grand Chapter; also, that all actual expenses incurred by him in the performance of his official duties during the term of his office Shall be refunded, his account for the Same having been presented to the General Grand Chapter at a regular meeting, and audited by the Committee on Finance; Provided, That all the Sums contemplated to be paid by this resolution be paid from the General Fund of the General Grand Chapter, and not from the Representative Fund.

Comp. Goodwin had leave of absence.

Comp. Stevenson, of North Carolina, from the Committee on the R. and S. M. degrees, reported verbally, that in the opinion of the Committee, it is inexpedient for this General Grand Chapter to take any action on the Subject of forming a General Grand Council of R. and S. Masters; which report was adopted.

Comp. French, in behalf of the Committee on Finance, offered the following additional report, which was adopted:

The Committee to which was referred the matter of compensation to the Grand Officers, report, in addition to their former report, that there be allowed to Comp. C. W. Moore, in addition to what has been already allowed, twenty-five dollars, for the performance of his duties as Grand Secretary pro temp.

B. B. French,
A. Patterson,
W. B. Hubbard.

September 14th, 1850.

Comp. Lewis, Jr., of New York, offered the following resolution, which was indefinitely postponed:

Whereas, the 9th Section of the 1st article of the Constitution of this General Grand Chapter forbids the conferring of any degrees in Masonry not recognized as a constitutional degree, and doubt exists as to what are “constitutional—

Reader page 71 · 1850 — Degrees proposal concluded; Monday thanks and installation arrangements

—degrees,” as there referred to; therefore

Resolved, That in the opinion of this General Grand Chapter, those are constitutional Masonic degrees only which are conferred in regular Blue Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Encampments of Knight Templars, and the appendant Orders, Councils of Royal and Select Masters, and Supreme Councils of the “Ancient and Accepted Rite,” and their inferior jurisdictions.

The General Grand Chapter was then adjourned to nine o’Clock on Monday next.

Monday, September 16th, 1850

The General Grand Chapter met agreeably to adjournment and was Called to order at 9 o’Clock.

The G. G. High Priest in the Chair.

Prayer by the M. E. G. G. Chaplain.

The record of the proceedings of yesterday was read, and approved.

M. E. Comp. Lewis, Sr., of Louisiana, presented the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Grand Chapter, and of its members individually, be tendered to the Grand Masonic Bodies of Massachusetts for the use of their elegant and convenient apartments in the Masonic Temple, and for the fraternal kindness which have been so freely and generously extended to them.

The G. G. Secretary presented the returns, with the dues of Springfield Chapter, No. 1, of Springfield, Illinois, which were passed over to the General Grand Treasurer.

The General Grand Chapter was then adjourned to three o’Clock P. M., for the installation of officers.

Monday, Sept. 16 — 3 P. M.

The General Grand Chapter met according to adjournment.

Editorial note: The recognized-degrees resolution continued at the top of this scan was indefinitely postponed, as stated on scan 70.

Reader page 72 · 1850 — Installation, closing and French’s San Francisco charter note

A procession was formed, and the G. Grand Chapter proceeded to the public lecture-room in the Masonic Temple, where it was welcomed in the most eloquent and appropriate manner by the M. E. and Rev. Benjamin Huntoon, High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, to which the M. E. G. G. H. P. appropriately replied.

The M. E. G. G. High Priest, Hon. Robert P. Dunlap, was duly installed by M. E. and Rev. Paul Dean, P. G. G. H. P., after which the G. G. H. P. proceeded to install the other G. G. Officers elect.

The Grand Chapter then returned to the hall, and was closed in ancient and ample form, to meet at Lexington in the State of Kentucky, on the second Tuesday in September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three.

B. B. French,
General Grand Secretary.

Secretary’s note — October 24, 1850

Note. By reference to page 15, it will be seen that Comp. Stapleton has reported among the Dispensations granted by him, one to “El Dorado Chapter, California.” He does not report a Dispensation on San Francisco Chapter; neither does he report one to Friendship Chapter, El Dorado, Arkansas. He granted Dispensations for both these Chapters, and has evidently confounded both in his report, as above mentioned.

The name of San Francisco Chapter is not mentioned in the proceedings of the G. G. Chapter; still it is perfectly within my recollection that there was a general conversation among the G. G. officers, as to the manner of issuing the Charter to that Chapter, Companion Gilman having desired that it might be issued prior to the election of officers, that he might sign it as G. G. Secretary, and the M. E. G. G. High Priest specially directed me so to issue it. The papers being all on file, on the 13th of September I issued the Charter, signed by the old officers, and sent the Same to Companion Gilman at San Francisco. There is no doubt in my mind, that the error in Companion Stapleton’s report was the cause of the omission of the name of San Francisco Chapter in the proceedings; and that it was supposed by all no order for issuing that Charter passed. Under these circumstances there can be no doubt that the Charter to that Chapter rightly issued.

B. B. French,
G. G. Secretary.

October 24, 1850.

Editorial note: The note’s reference to “page 15” is to the earlier manuscript pagination; the dispensation list is PDF scan 30.

Reader page 73 · 1853 — Lexington triennial session opens; officers and credentials committee

Proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America

The triennial session of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America, was held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Lexington, in the State of Kentucky, on Tuesday, the 13th day of September, A. D. 1853.

Present

- The M. E. Robert P. Dunlap — G. G. High Priest.
- The M. E. Willis Stewart — G. G. King.

- The M. E. Chas. Gilman — as G. G. Scribe.
- The M. E. Benj. B. French — G. G. Secretary.
- The M. E. Edward A. Raymond — G. G. Treasurer.
- The M. E. Rev. Wm. H. Forsyth — as G. G. Chaplain.
- The M. E. Nathan B. Haswell — G. G. Marshal.
- Companion D. D. Richardson — as G. G. Tyler.

The G. Chapter was opened by the M. E. G. G. High Priest, and after prayer by the M. E. and Rev. G. G. Chaplain, the usual proclamation was made by the G. G. Marshal.

The G. G. High Priest then addressed the Grand Chapter in some appropriate remarks, in which he alluded in a most feeling and eloquent manner, to the death of M. E. Jos. K. Stapleton, G. G. High Priest. The G. G. High Priest appointed the following Companions a committee on Credentials, viz:

- Companion P. C. Tucker of Vermont.
- Companion P. Swigert of Kentucky.

Editorial note: The manuscript calls Stapleton "G. G. High Priest" here. He appears as Deputy General Grand High Priest in the preceding session; the wording of this scan is retained.

Reader page 74 · 1853 — Credentials committee continued; Secretary on Newark and Hiram Chapters

- Companion J. B. Brown, of Ohio.
- Companion Thornton Grimsley, of Missouri.
- Companion E. S. Barnum, of New York.

The Genl. Grand Secretary made the following report, which was read, and referred to a Select committee, consisting of

- Companion Chas. Gilman, of Maryland.
- Companion F. H. C. Melody, of Missouri.
- Companion J. L. Lewis, Jr., of New York.

G. G. Secretary's Report

In compliance with the following resolution of the G. G. Chapter, adopted in 1847, viz:

Resolved, That the G. G. Secretary be directed to prepare and present, on the first day of each triennial session, hereafter, a digest of the communications received by him, requiring the action of this G. G. Chapter.

I have the honor to report as follows:

In accordance with the order of the G. G. Chapter of Sept. 12, 1850 (see p. 27 printed proceedings), I issued a Charter to Newark Chapter No. 2, Newark, N. J.

On the 23d of November, I rec'd from Deputy G. G. High Priest, M. E. J. K. Stapleton, a letter from Ira Merchant, High Priest of Newark Chap., to him, stating the loss of the Charter of Said Chapter, which letter was endorsed by Companion Stapleton, advising the issue of a Dispensation, enabling the Chapter to continue its work; which dispensation was issued by the G. G. High Priest. As no notice has ever reached me that the Charter has been found, Some action of the G. G. Chapter will be necessary at this session to enable said Chapter to proceed legally with its work. The letter of Companion Merchant accompanies this communication.

I rec'd a letter from J. L. Lewis, Jr., G. High Priest of the G. Chapter of New York, dated July [unclear], 1853, stating an application of Hiram Chapter No. [unclear], then under the jurisdiction of the G. Chapter of New York, praying to be acknowledged, and taken under the special care and direction of the General Grand Chapter; which application the—

Reader page 75 · 1853 — Hiram transfer, Ancient Chapter appeal and regalia question

—G. Chapter of New York, referred to the G. Council with powers to act finally. The G. Council granted permission to Hiram Chapter to transfer its allegiance to this Genl. Grand Chapter, and to make their returns to it. No communication has been received by me from Hiram Chapter, and its position is of such an anomalous character, as to require Some action of this Grand Body, in relation to it.

In the same letter Companion Lewis mentions to me "as a matter of General interest" a custom of the Chapters of Canada, of exalting Master Masons from the jurisdiction of the Chapters of the U. S., for little over one third of the sum charged in the Chapters of the U. S., and he accompanied his letter with a copy of a letter from the Provincial Grand Master at Quebec on the Subject. Companion Lewis' letter and the copy accompany this report.

On the 18th of July, 1851, I rec'd from the officers of Ancient Chapter No. 1, city of New York, a formal statement of what they deem their grievances, in consequence of the action of the G. Chapter of N. Y. in relation to Orient Chapter, in which they make an appeal to this G. G. Chapter. All the papers relating to this most unfortunate difficulty are herewith submitted.

I have also rec'd a memorial from Weston Chapter R. A. Chapter, No. 4, of Missouri, and under the jurisdiction of the G. Chapter of that State, stating "that there appears confusion among us, by the introduction of various colors, inasmuch as Royal Arch Masons appear among and amongst us in black regalia, claiming the privilege as having Council Degrees, which said degrees, if at all belonging to the Order, are subordinate, &c.," and asking this G. G. Body "to designate the legitimate color of the Order." This memorial bears date July 18, 1853, and is herewith submitted.

By reference to the printed proceedings of the last triennial meeting of this G. G. Chapter, it will be Seen that an appeal was presented by Companion Barnum, from C. Alexan—

Reader page 76 · 1853 — Secretary's review of Orlando Alexander's Wisconsin case

—der, and referred to the Committee on Grievances, which committee reported that "a document, in the form of a petition, signed O. Alexander, Washington, D. C., was referred to them, in which the petitioner states that he has been unjustly expelled from the rights of R. A. Masonry, by Milwaukie Chapter No. 1, in the State of Wisconsin;" And the Committee came to the conclusion that no action could be had by the G. G. Chapter in this case, unless it came in the form of an appeal, in which case all the proceedings had in the subordinate Chapter should be Sent up. Whereon the Committee was discharged.

The papers relating to this matter came into my possession as Genl. Grand Secretary, and would have been filed among the finished business, had not Companion Alexander addressed me a letter, dated Jany. 6, 1851, asking in the most emphatic manner, further action in relation to his case. I addressed a letter to Companion [D.?] F. Lawton, High Priest of Milwaukie Chapter, on the Subject, and rec'd a reply giving very fully the proceedings of Milwaukie Chapter, on the Subject. By reference to the the printed proceedings of the G. Chapter of Wisconsin, in February last, it will be Seen that Companion Alexander addressed a petition to that Body which was referred to a committee — that committee reported in favor of the restoration of Companion Alexander, afterwards on the same day, a resolution was adopted as follows: "Resolved, That all the papers

and reports, in the case of Orlando Alexander, on his petition be withdrawn from the secretary's table, the minutes in relation to the Same be omitted in the journal of proceedings."

In consequence of the new matter presented to me during the recess, and of the very peculiar proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin, on the Subject, which leaves it very doubtful in my mind where Companion Alexander Stands, — The Grand Chapter having neither confirmed his expulsion by Milwaukie Chapter, nor having restored him except by implication — I have deemed proper to mention the case in this report, and Sub—

Editorial note: The quoted petition gives the initial "O."; scan 75 calls him "C. Alexander." This scan later gives the full name Orlando Alexander. The duplicated "the" before "printed proceedings" is in the manuscript.

Reader page 77 · 1853 — Secretary explains San Francisco and Friendship charter records

—mit the papers in my possession, for the consideration of the Genl. Grand Chapter.

It will be Seen by reference to the published proceedings of the last triennial meeting of this General Grand Chapter, in the report of our M. E. Companion Chas. Gilman, then G. G. Secretary, written at San Francisco, Cal., that our late M. E. D. G. G. High Priest J. K. Stapleton, issued a dispensation, authorizing the establishment of San Francisco Royal Arch Chapter. And it will be remembered by many then present, that Companion Stapleton particularly requested that the Charter to that Chapter might bear date prior to the election of officers, so that Companion Gilman could sign it as G. G. Secretary. The papers being all regular, and on file, I issued the Charter on the 13th day of Sept. 1850, and Sent it by mail to Companion Gilman.

On my return to Washington, upon preparing the journal of the G. G. Chapter for the press, I found no mention of any dispensation to "San Francisco Chapter," but did find that Companion Stapleton had reported a dispensation issued by him to "El Dorado Chapter, California," and upon further examination, I found a dispensation issued by him to "Friendship Chapter, El Dorado, Ark.," upon which the committee on dispensations recommended that a Charter should issue upon certain conditions being complied with. They were complied with, and a Charter was issued Dec. 11, 1850.

There being no mention of San Francisco Chapter in the proceedings, but a Charter having been issued by special order of the D. G. G. High Priest, I did all in my power to cure the defect of the record, by stating in a note appended to p. 59 of the printed proceedings all the facts. There can be no doubt that the Charter was properly issued; but in consequence of confounding the Arkansas Chapter, with the California Chap., the record was not perfected. I have thought it proper to bring the matter before this G. G. Body, that if further action is deemed necessary in the premises, it may take place. I have given all the attention in—

Reader page 78 · 1853 — Secretary concludes report; requested address and admission of visitors

—my power to the reports received by me, in printed form, from the State Grand Chapters, of which there are now twenty-four, acknowledging the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter. Very many of them contain the discussion of subjects important to the well-being of Royal Arch Masonry. It is presumed, however, that those Companions who represent State Grand Chapters here, will themselves bring such matters as require the attention of this General Grand Body, forward.

I will mention, as one subject that has met with almost universal attention — that of Royal and Select Master's degrees, and the Grand Chapter of Md., of which I have the honor to be Grand High Priest, has given Special instructions to its representative or representatives in this General Grand Chapter to urge some definite action here upon that subject. The legitimate powers and

duties of a Council of High Priests is another matter of importance which has been considerably discussed, and the discussion has arisen from the action of the Grand Chapter of [unclear] upon that Subject. It is also one, which has been placed Specially in charge of the representative of that Grand Chapter.

I have caused all the reports rec'd from the several Grand Chapters, for 1850, 51, & 52, to be bound in volumes, and they are here, and may be referred to by any of the companions, who desire so to do. Several of the State Grand Chapters, it is proper to Say, have failed to furnish me with their printed reports.

All of which is respectfully submitted.
B. B. French,
General Grand Secretary.

Lexington, Kentucky, Sept. 13, 1853.

Companion Swigert of Kent. offered the following resolution, which was considered and unanimously adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the M. E. G. G. High Priest be requested to furnish a copy of his address for publication in the proceedings.*

On motion of Companion Swigert,

Resolved, That all R. A. Masons in good standing be admitted as visitors during the present meeting.

The G. G. Chapter was then called off, until half past four, p. m.

* The G. G. High Priest's address was not furnished, although officially applied for by the G. G. Secretary.

Reader page 79 · 1853 — Credentials: Alabama through Missouri

Tuesday, Sept. 13 — Afternoon

The General Grand Chapter was called to labor by the M. E. G. G. High Priest at 4½ o'Clock. Companion Tucker from the Committee on Credentials, made the following report which was accepted:

The committee on Credentials having examined all the documents presented to them, report the following Companions as entitled to seats, as members of the G. G. Chapter at the present meeting, viz:

From Alabama

- A. P. Pfister, proxy for D. G. H. Priest.

From Connecticut

- Cyrus Goodell, G. H. Priest.
- Asa Smith, proxy for D. G. H. Priest.
- E. G. Storer, proxy for G. G.
- David Clark, G. Scribe.
- Wm. H. Ellis, P. G. High Priest.

From Illinois

- Levi Lusk, G. H. Priest.

From Indiana

- Isaac Bartlett, G. H. Priest.
- H. C. Lawrence, proxy for D. G. H. & G. Scribe.
- Jas. Elliott, proxy for G. King.

From Kentucky

- Phillip Swigert, proxy for G. H. P. & D. G. H. Priest.
- Isaac Cunningham, proxy for G. King.
- J. I. Allen, proxy for G. Scribe.

From Maine

- A. B. Thompson, D. G. H. Priest.

From Maryland

- Chas. Gilman, proxy for D. G. H. Priest.

From Massachusetts

- Stephen Lovell, G. H. Priest.

From Michigan

- M. Shoemaker, G. H. Priest.
- Ezra Platt, D. G. H. Priest.

From Mississippi

- A. V. Rowe, G. H. Priest.
- W. R. Lackey, G. King.

From Missouri

- Thornton Grimsley, G. H. Priest.
- J. Foster, proxy for D. G. H. Priest.

Editorial note: Storer’s proxy designation is written “G. G.” in the manuscript and is retained.

Reader page 80 · 1853 — Credentials continued; proposed membership and proxy amendments

From Missouri, continued

- A. O’Sullivan, G. King.
- G. H. C. Melody, proxy for G. Scribe.

From New York

- J. L. Lewis, G. H. Priest.
- T. C. Edwards, proxy for G. King.

From New Hampshire

- C. W. Moore, proxy for G. King.

From Ohio

- J. B. Brown, G. H. Priest.
- B. F. Martin, proxy for D. G. H. P.
- W. B. Dodds, proxy for G. King.
- A. C. Davis, proxy for G. Scribe.

From Rhode Island

- J. A. D. Goslin, proxy for G. H. Priest.
- Wm. Field, proxy for G. King.
- S. W. Robinson, proxy for D. G. H. Priest.

From South Carolina

- A. G. Mackay, D. G. H. Priest.

From Texas

- Jas. W. Hall, proxy for G. Scribe.

From Vermont

- P. C. Tucker, G. H. P. & proxy for D. G. H. P. & Scribe.

From San Francisco Chapter, No. 1, California

- Chas. Gilman.

All of which is respectfully submitted.
Phillip C. Tucker,
P. Swigert,
J. B. Brown,
T. Grimsley,
E. S. Barnum.

Companion French offered the following proposition of amendment to the G. G. Constitution, which was read and laid on the table:

Art. 1. Sec. 3. Insert after the word “Scribe,” in the 8th line, the words “Past General Grand Secretaries, and Treasurers.” Same Art., strike out, “And no G. G. officer Shall be allowed to take a seat in the G. G. Chapter, as the Representative of any State Grand Chapter.” Add to Same Article, “And no companion Shall be admitted as a proxy for any other Companion, who is not a resident within the jurisdiction of the Chapter which he represents as Such.”

Provided, That this amendment Shall not go into effect, until—

Editorial note: This roster writes Melody’s first initial as “G.”; the committee list on scan 74 writes “F.” Both readings are retained.

Reader page 81 · 1853 — Standing committees and Simon Greenleaf’s Washington lodge letter

—the next meeting of this G. G. Chapter.

The G. G. Chapter was then called off until 8 a. m., tomorrow.

Wednesday, Sept. 14, 1853

The G. G. Chapter met, and was called to labor by the M. E. G. G. High Priest. The G. G. H. Priest announced the following Standing Committees:

On Returns

- Comp. Lewis, of New York.
- Sullivan, Missouri.
- Field, Rhode Island.
- Martin, Ohio.
- Bartlett, Indiana.

On Finance

- Comp. Hubbard, Ohio.
- Pfister, Alabama.
- Barnum, New York.
- Thompson, Maine.
- Hall, Texas.

On Grievances

- Comp. Lewis of Louisiana.
- Raymond, Massachusetts.
- Shoemaker, Michigan.
- Lawrence, Indiana.
- Smith, Connecticut.

On Foreign Correspondence

- Comp. Rowe, Mississippi.
- Platt, Michigan.
- Clark, Connecticut.
- Lusk, Illinois.
- Robinson, Massachusetts.

On Masonic Jurisprudence

- Comp. Stewart, Kentucky.
- Storer, Connecticut.
- Dodds, Ohio.
- Haswell, Vermont.
- Edwards, New York.

On the Doings of the Grand Officers

- Comp. Moore, Massachusetts.
- Mackay, South Carolina.
- Gilman, Maryland.

- Tucker, Vermont.
- Allen of Kentucky.

On Charters and Dispensations

- Comp. Gould, Georgia.
- Comp. Goodell, Connecticut.
- Lovell, Mass.
- Lackey, Mississippi.
- Foster, Missouri.

The G. G. High Priest laid before the Grand Chapter the following letter from Simon Greenleaf, Esq., viz:

Cambridge, June 24, 1852

Hon. R. P. Dunlap, G. G. High Priest of the G. G. Chapter of the U. S.

Dear Sir and Companion; You are already aware that during the war of the Revolution, there was a Lodge of Free Masons in the Main Army, called Washington Lodge, of which my father the late Capt. Moses Greenleaf, of the 21st Massachusetts Regt., was Master. I have often heard him mention the visits of the Commander in Chief, to this Lodge, and the high gratification they afforded to the officers, and members,—

Reader page 82 · 1853 — Greenleaf letter referred; Secretary’s subjects assigned to committees

—especially as he came without ceremony, as a private brother. It has occurred to me that the records of this Lodge may yet be in existence, and that if so, they ought to be recovered and deposited for safe keeping in the archives of the Craft. Permit me, then, to invite your attention to the Subject, as I know of no member of the Fraternity whose position affords equal facilities for the accomplishment of this desirable object. Believe me, Sir, with great regard,

Faithfully y’rs, Simon Greenleaf.

Which being read, was referred to a committee consisting of Comp. French, D. C.; Moore, Massachusetts; Lewis, N. Y.

The G. G. King presented the petition of Companions J. W. Morris, & others residing in N. J., recommended by the G. Chapter at N. Y., praying for a dispensation to form a new chapter at Eaton Town, in that State; the reading of which being dispensed with, it was referred to the Committee on Dispensations.

Companion Mackay, S. C., submitted the following amendment to the Constitution, which was read: “That a committee be appointed to report as to the expediency of reducing the fees, for warrants to Subordinate Chapters.”

Ordered, That it be referred to a committee, consisting of Companions Mackay, S. C., Hubbard, Ohio, & Gilman, Md.

The proposed amendments to the Constitution, submitted yesterday by Companion French, D. C., and laid upon the table, were taken up, and referred to the Same committee.

Comp. Gilman from the committee to which was referred the communication of the General Grand Secretary, made the following report:

The Committee to whom was referred the communication of the Genl. Grand Secretary, ask leave to

Report

That they recommend that so much of Said report as has reference to Newark Chap. No. 2, Newark, N. J., of Hiram Chap., in the Same State, and of San Francisco Chapter, California, be referred to the Standing Committee on Dispensations and New Chapters. That so much as has reference to the memorial of Weston Chap., No. 4, Missouri, not being, in the opinion of your committee, a proper matter for the consideration of this body, be dismissed without further consideration. That so much thereof as has reference to the reported custom in Canada, and the correspondence growing out of the Same, be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

That so much thereof as has reference to the ap—

Reader page 83 · 1853 — Subject committees, fair invitation and New York resolutions

—peal of Ancient Chapter No. 1, be referred to the Committee on Grievances; and so much thereof as has reference to the communication of O. Alexander, be referred to the Same committee. That so much thereof as has reference to the Royal and Select Masters' Degrees, be referred to a Select Committee of Five. And that so much thereof as has reference to Councils of High Priests, be referred to a Select Committee of Five High Priests, or past High Priests.

All of which is respectfully submitted.
Chas. Gilman,
G. H. C. Melody,
John L. Lewis, Jr.

Sept. 14, 1853.

Which report was concurred in, and the following committees appointed in conformity therewith:

On Royal & Select Masters' Degrees

- Comp. Lewis, Jr., of N. Y.
- Raymond, of Mass.
- Shoemaker, of Mich.
- Joslin, of R. I.
- Schley, of Geo.

On Councils of High Priests

- Comp. Mackay, S. C.
- Fields, R. I.
- Stewart, Kent.
- Melody, Mo.
- Cunningham, Ken.

The G. G. High Priest laid before the G. G. Chapter, the following invitation from B. Gratz, Esq., which was read as follows,

To the G. High Priest of the G. Chapter of the U. S. of America.

Dear Sir: You, and the officers and members of your Body Body, are respectfully invited to attend our fair. Seats will be provided for you inside of the circle, at any time you may make it convenient to attend, on any day during the continuance of the fair.

Yours &c., B. Gratz,
Pres't.

Lexington, Sept. 14, 1853.

It was resolved that Said invitation be accepted.

Comp. Lewis, of N. Y., submitted the following resolutions from the Grand Chapter of N. Y.:

1. Resolved, That this G. Chapter recommend the adoption by the G. G. Chapter of the resolution proposed by a committee of that body at its last session (that of 1850) on the Subject of establishing a representative fund.

2. Resolved, That we do not believe that Chapters have a right to confer the degrees upon Master Masons who have lost an arm, or who are under any disability, either to re—

Editorial note: "Body Body" is duplicated in the invitation. The New York resolutions here are submitted to the General Grand Chapter; they are not recorded as adopted by it on this scan.

Reader page 84 · 1853 — New York resolutions concluded; General Grand King's report

—ceive the degrees in Masonry, impart them, or be recognized as a regular made Companion.

3. Resolved, That Chapters have not exclusive jurisdiction over the past masters' degree; and that when the Same is conferred on Masters elect by a Past Master according to ancient usage, it is not un-masonic & [unclear].

4th. Resolved, That a High Priest may be installed, and enter upon the duties of his office, before receiving the degrees of High Priesthood.

5. Resolved, That the representatives of this G. Chapter to the G. G. Chapter of the U. S. of America, be, and they are hereby directed to present to that body, for consideration and definitive action, at its meeting in September next, the several matters and resolutions contained in this report — requesting Said G. G. Chapter not to delay the Settlement of the Same any longer.

Which being read, On motion, the Same were referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

The M. E. G. G. King Submitted a report of his doings since the last meeting; which being read, was referred to Committee on the Doings of the Genl. Grand Officers. It was as follows:

Report

The undersigned respectfully begs leave to report, that immediately after the close of the session of the G. G. Chapter in 1850, that he granted authority to the seven Chartered Chapters in Texas to form a Grand Chapter for that State. And in January 1851 he granted authority to Far West Chapter No. 1, Fayetteville; Union Chapter No. 2, Little Rock; and Friendship Chapter No. 3, at Eldorado, to form a Grand Chapter for the State of Arkansas, and has been informed that G. Chapters have been organized in those States.

In October 1850, the undersigned enclosed to Companion G. G. Treasurer the sum of $36, being the amount which he received from Shawneetown Chapter, in the State of Illinois, for eighteen exaltations, previous to the formation of a G. Chapter in that State; and it is the only money which he has rec'd on acc't of this G. Chapter Since Sept. 1850.

The undersigned tenders his acknowledgments to those officers who have kindly furnished him with the proceedings of their respective G.—

Reader page 85 · 1853 — Work exemplification, powers inquiry and Webb Encampment invitation

—Chapters, a careful examination of which furnishes evidence of general prosperity and peace throughout the widespread jurisdiction of this G. G. Chapter. In those portions of it, where antimasonry a few years since seemed likely to have swept our time honored Institution out of existence, those who have remained true and faithful have rekindled the fires upon their altars, and they burn brightly as of old. Thrice honored be these illustrious worthies who Stood firm and unshaken in those days of trial and persecution.

Willis Stewart,
G. G. K. G. G. C. U. S.

Comp. Edwards, of N. Y., Submitted the following resolution, which being read was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the representatives and visitors to this G. G. Chapter be, and are hereby, requested to furnish the G. G. Secretary with their Post office address, and that the G. G. Secretary be requested to have the list So furnished published with the proceedings of this Grand Body.

Comp. Brown of Ohio submitted the following resolution, which was read, viz:

Resolved, That the four first officers of this G. Grand Body be requested to cause the work of R. A. Masonry, as sanctioned by the G. G. Chapter at its last triennial meeting, to be exemplified during the present meeting.

Comp. Mackay proposed to add, “And when exemplified, that the Same be open for discussion;” which amendment was disagreed to, and the resolution adopted.

Comp. Lewis of N. Y., Submitted the following resolution, which was read and adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence be respectfully requested to enquire and report, whether, in their opinion, a Grand High Priest possesses, and may exercise any powers or prerogatives, as Such, by prescription, custom, or otherwise, except those which are expressly given him in the Constitution, General Regulations, or other written authority of the Grand Chapter, over which he presides, or of the G. G. Chapter.

The M. E. G. G. High Priest Submitted the following communication, which was read, viz:

To the G. G. High Priest of the G. G. R. A. Chapter of the U. S.:

Hon. R. P. Dunlap: The undersigned committee of Webb Encampment, of this city, respectfully invite you, and through you the officers and members of the G. G. Chapter of the U. S., to an entertainment at the Phoenix Hotel, tomorrow evening at 7 o’Clock.

D. Warner,—

Reader page 86 · 1853 — Unfinished-business committee and Georgia credentials

Jas. L. Allen,
Jno. McCracken,
E. J. Saunders.

Lexington, (Ky.) Sept. 14, 1853.

Resolved, That Said invitation be accepted.

Companions G. G. Secretary and G. G. Treasurer Submitted their accounts, which were severally referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion of Comp. Lovell, of Mass., a committee on unfinished business was appointed, consisting of

- Comp. Lovell, Mass.
- Mackay, S. C.
- Gilman, Md.
- Lewis, N. Y.
- Comp. Gould, of Geo.
- Brown, Ohio.
- Bartlett, Ind.
- Clark, Conn.
- Foster, Mo.

The G. G. Chapter was then called from labor until 2 o'Clock p. m.

Sept. 14, 1853 — 2 o'Clock P. M.

The G. G. Chapter was called to labor.

Comp. Tucker, of Vt., made a further report, from the Committee on Credentials, which, being read, was concurred in. The Committee on Credentials, would beg leave to make a further report: They have examined the credentials of M. E. Wm. T. Gould, as G. H. P., of the G. Chap. of Georgia, Phillip T. Schley, as D. G. H. P., and Thos. Ward, P. G. H. P., of the Chapter of Kent., and report them as entitled to seats in this General Grand Chapter.

P. C. Tucker,
J. B. Brown,
P. Swigert.

Present

From Georgia
W. T. Gould, G. H. P.
P. T. Schley, D. G. H. P.

From Kentucky
Thos. Ward, P. G. H. P.

Comp. G. Grand Secretary Submitted documents from Ancient Chapter No. 1, N. Y., and from Comp. Jenkinson, a member of that Chapter, which on motion was referred to the Committee on Grievances. On motion of Comp. Haswell, he was discharged from service on the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, and Comp. Tucker, of Vt., was substituted.

Comp. Rowe, of Miss., presented resolutions of the G. Chapter of Mississippi, which were referred to the Committee on R. & S. Degrees. Comps. Storer, of Conn.; Tucker, of Vt.;—

Reader page 87 · 1853 — State resolutions, proposed limits on degrees and additional credentials

—Gould, of Geo.; Lusk, of Ill.; severally presented resolutions adopted by their respective Grand Chapters, which being read, were referred to the Committee on Unfinished Business.

Comp. Gilman presented resolutions of the G. C. of Md., which were read and referred to the committees to which they appropriately belong.

Comp. Gilman presented certain resolutions of San Francisco Chap., Cal., which being read, were referred to the Committee of Unfinished Business.

On motion of Comp. Lewis, of N. Y., the committee to which was referred resolutions from the G. C. of N. Y., this morning, was discharged from the first of Said resolutions, and it was referred to the Committee on Unfinished Business.

Comp. Mackay, of S. C., submitted the following resolutions, which being read, was referred to the Committee on R. & S. Degrees.

“Whereas, the members of this G. G. Chapter, have received the degrees of Mark, Past and Most Excellent Master and the Holy Royal Arch only, and in that order, in the several Chapters in which they were exalted, and have not as Royal Arch Masons, been instructed in any other, and intermediate degrees: therefore

Resolved, That this G. G. Chapter will not Sanction the conferring of any other than the above degrees in the Chapters working under its jurisdiction.”

Comp. Tucker, of Vt., from the Committee on Credentials, made a further report, which being read, was concurred in, viz:

The Committee on Credentials, would ask leave to make a further report: They have examined the credentials of E. Com. H. W. Heath, G. K. of G. C. of Md., and of E. Comp. Chas. Koppert, D. G. H. P. of the G. C. of Miss., and as proxy for Luther Goble, H. P. of Union R. A. Chap., of N. J., and find them entitled to seats in this G. G. Chapter.

P. C. Tucker,
J. B. Brown,
P. Swigert.

Representative from Mississippi

Chas. Koppert, D. G. H. P. of G. C. of Miss., and proxy of H. P. of Union Chap. No. 1, of New Jersey.

Maryland

H. W. Heath, G. K.

Reader page 88 · 1853 — Canadian correspondence: recognized chapters and exaltation rules

Comp. G. G. Secretary presented the dispensation issued by the G. G. H. Priest, in consequence of the loss of their Charter by Newark Chapter, which was referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

Comp. Lewis, of N. Y., Submitted a communication from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada; so much of which as relates to Royal Arch Masonry, (on motion of Comp. Tucker, of Vt.,) was ordered to be printed, and is as follows:

Quebec, Canada, June 13, 185[3?]

Your communications relating to R. A. matters, dated the 1st inst., I duly rec'd, and would have replied to it before, but as the parties of whom you with Such good reason complain are not within my jurisdiction, I delayed until I could transfer your letter to the P. G. Superintendent of Montreal, (the Hon. Wm. Badgley,) now in this city, but busily occupied by Parliamentary duties. I Saw him yesterday, and he at once declared that he would Suspend the parties from their Masonic privileges. I have therefore to beg you to address any further information relating to this business, directed to him, at Montreal.

In the meantime you have my authority for proclaiming all Companions professing to hold R. A. Chapters in Lower or Canada East as irregular, and their proceedings illegal, Such bodies being clandestine, with the following exceptions, viz:

- Quebec — St. John's R. A. Chap. No. 214, reg. of Eng.
- Montreal — St. Paul's, No. 514, reg. of Eng.
- Montreal — Victoria, No. 643, reg. of Eng.
- Montreal — St. George's, No. 731, reg. of Eng.

Individually, some of the brethren on the frontier at Caldwell's Manor &c., may have been exalted under Charters that have expired many years ago; but of this you will of course demand strict and undoubted proof, should any offer themselves as visitors. As to Encampments, there certainly is not at present nor do I think there ever has been, a legally constituted one in Canada, East or West. You will be therefore justified in causing your Encampments to decline recognition of any So called Knights hailing from Spurious bodies; and also of any companions of recent exaltation unless they hail from the Chapters quoted. English R. A. Chapters are governed by the following regulations, as regards exaltation.

1. No restriction as to the no. who may be exalted at—

Editorial note: The final digit of the letter's year is obscured by the binding shadow; the uncertain reading is marked.

Reader page 89 · 1853 — Canadian rules concluded; unfinished business and Friday work arranged

—one meeting.

2. Candidate must be duly proposed, approved, and ballotted for; he Shall not be exalted if more than two negatives.

3d. Candidate Shall not be exalted unless a Master Mason of twelve months standing, of which fact satisfactory proof Shall be given.

4. No person Shall be exalted under any pretence, for a less sum than three guineas Sterling; say $16 to $20, according to By Laws.

5. Register fee, and for certificate, must be transmitted to the G. Chapter of England.

6. Chapters liable to erasure, (after notice) for not meeting for two years. Neglect of making returns, Neglect in registering names of all Companions exalted, and of joining members.

7. Returns to embrace name, age, profession, date of exaltation, No. of Lodge candidates belonging to, and fees. Names, &c., of joining members, and of their membership. Same fees to be paid for foreign Companions joining, as for newly exalted Companions.

The foregoing is a synopsis, but you will understand it.

In conclusion I beg to thank you, for the very kind and courteous letter addressed by you, and assure you of the great regret I entertain on account of the invasion of your authority, and the unmasonic and inexcusable irregularities of which you so justly complain, and of my readiness at all times to co-operate with you for the purpose of Still further cementing that cordial feeling you so fraternally urge. In conveying this assurance I know that I am at the same time making known to you, the feelings and Sentiments of Companion and Bro. Badgley, who is a very old and experienced member of our most glorious Order.

Yours very respectfully,
T. Douglass Harrington,
P. G. Supt. & P. G. M.

M. E. Comp. Hon. J. L. Lewis, Jr.,
G. H. P. &c., G. R. A. C. N. Y.

The M. E. G. G. H. P. appointed the following Committee on Unfinished Business.

- Comp. Storer, Conn.
- Heath, Md.
- Comp. Schley, Georgia.
- Thompson, Maine.
- Grimsley, Mo.

On motion Comp. Koppert,

Resolved, That the work in the several degrees, conferred in Chapters, be exemplified on Friday morn—

Reader page 90 · 1853 — September 15 election and constitutional-degrees committee

—ing, at 9 o’Clock.

And then the G. G. Chapter was called from labor until 3 o’Clock, tomorrow evening.

Thursday, Sept. 15, 1853

The G. G. Chapter was called to labor by the Most Excellent General Grand High Priest.

Comp. Tucker, from the Committee on Credentials made a further report: That Comp. A. C. Hodges was entitled to a Seat in the G. G. Chapter, as proxy for the G. Scribe of the G. Chapter of Kentucky, and that: Comp. J. D. Merrick, G. H. Priest of the Grand Chapter, of Arkansas, was present.

Comp. Shoemaker was, in consequence of indisposition, excused from Serving on the Committee on Grievances, and Comp. Pfister of Ala., was appointed in his place.

M. E. G. G. Scribe, Comp. Lewis, having been appointed on the Committee on Grievances, and not being present, Comp. Stewart, of Kent., was appointed in his place.

On motion of Comp. Raymond, a committee to designate the next place of meeting was appointed, consisting of Comps. Raymond, Hubbard, Lusk, & Rowe.

The G. G. Chapter then proceeded to the election of officers. The G. G. High Priest called M. E. Comp. W. T. Gould, of Geo., to the chair, and Comps. Moore, of Mass., and Schley, of Geo., were appointed tellers.

The G. G. Officers were then Severally ballotted for, and the result, as reported by the tellers, was as follows:

- M. E. Robert P. Dunlap, Maine — G. G. High Priest.
- M. E. Willis Stewart, Kentucky — D. G. G. High Priest.
- M. E. Chas. Gilman, Maryland — G. G. King.
- M. E. Abner V. Rowe, Missouri — G. G. Scribe.
- M. E. B. B. French, D. Columbia — G. G. Secretary.
- M. E. Edwd. A. Raymond, Mass. — G. G. Treas.

On motion of Comp. Mackay, of South Carolina, the further election was postponed until the Committee on the Amendments of the Constitution Should have time to report.

A committee was appointed to take into consideration the question, “What are the degrees referred to as Constitutional Degrees in the 9th Sec. of article 1, in the G. G. Constitution?” Consisting of Comps. Swigert, Koppert, Joslin, Elliott, and [McCormick?].

And then the G. G. Chapter was called off until tomorrow at 9 o’Clock, A. M.

Editorial note: Rowe’s State is written “Missouri” in this election list. The credentials on scan 79 list A. V. Rowe under Mississippi; both source readings are retained.

Reader page 91 · 1853 — Committee report on candidates with physical impairments begins

Friday, Sept. 16, 1853

The G. G. Chapter was called to labor by the G. G. High Priest.

Comp. Tucker from the committee appointed at the last triennial meeting, to consider the resolution relative to maimed candidates, made a report which was read, and is as follows:

To the G. G. Chapter of the U. S., to be holden at Frankfort, in the State of Kentucky, on the 13th day of September, A. D., 1853.

At the triennial communication of your honorable Grand Body, holden at Boston, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on the 10th of Sept., A. D., 1850, the following resolution was introduced by Comp. Tallman, of the G. C. of the State of Maine, and referred to the undersigned, as a committee, to report thereon at the present meeting of your honorable Body. “Resolved, That a committee be appointed, to report at the next triennial meeting, whether any of the Chapter degrees may be conferred on persons maimed or otherwise imperfect in body.”

Your committee having attended to the business thus assigned them, now respectfully report:

That they have investigated the Subject with Such masonic light and information as they have been able to command, and now present to this G. G. Body the reasoning which has proved Satisfactory to themselves, and the results to which these led them.

It appeared to your committee necessary to settle in their own minds at the outset, whether in relation to the Subject they were considering, the degrees which are arranged in the U. S., under the control of the R. A. Branch of the Order, and those which remain Subject to the government of the Blue or Master Lodges, are to be understood as Standing upon the Same ground. They arrived at the conclusion that there was no good reason for making any distinction between them, in the application of any general rule which might be found, either by authority or policy, legitimately applicable to the Subject.

The Masonry of the Blue Lodges is the basis of that which follows it. Master Masonry is the basis on which R. A. Masonry is erected. It is its ancestor, or perhaps more accurately considered, it may be more rationally called, its elder brother, What is required therefore for Blue Masonry, the jurisdiction which controls the first entrance to the Masonic Temple, Seems naturally to furnish the rule for the degrees which follow beyond it; and your committee entertain the opinion that if a Sound and proper rule may be established in relation to the Blue Lodges, it will be found to be the one which R. A. Masonry would have neither interest nor—

Editorial note: The report addresses a meeting at “Frankfort.” The session heading on scan 73 places the meeting in Lexington. Both manuscript locations are retained.

Reader page 92 · 1853 — Report distinguishes constitutional law from discretionary policy

—wish to disregard or Subvert; or in other words, that if Such a rule can be established in Sound force, and equally binding upon both members of the Masonic family. Those two branches are perfectly harmonious on every other Subject, and your committee doubt not that they should be So in this. General principles properly applicable to the one, have always been considered as adapted to both. If Blue Masonry has a landmark, on this or any other subject, which it is a violation of Masonic principle to remove, R. A. Masonry would hardly take the responsibility of disturbing it. “Remove not the old landmarks, which your fathers have Sett,” was a part of the religion of the nation whence our rites were derived; it is at least, a portion of our own morals.

Your committee have naturally been led to the enquiry, whether the Subject Submitted to their consideration, is one which rests Masonically on constitutional law, or is one of those general matters which is open to the ordinary regulations of Masonic policy. If, upon investigation, it is found to fall under the former, then it is beyond the exercise of a general discretion, which is paramount to all questions of policy, and absolutely and positively removes any consideration of it, in that view. If, however, it is found to fall under the latter description, it Stands open for regulation on any state of existing circumstances, upon the judgement of those, who in Such a State of things, have the right to control it, for the best interests of the Order.

We have all been taught, and it is the teaching which comes to us from ancient days, that “it is not in the power of any man or body of men, to make innovations in the body of Masonry.” We have been taught also, that “we are only to Submit to the awards and resolutions of our brethren, when conveyed, when they are consistent with the Constitutions of the Order;” and further we are not even bound to conform with to the edicts of the G. Lodge itself, if they are “Subversive of the principles, and ground work of Masonry.”

Your committee then feel the full force of the appropriate inquiries, in pursuing this question. What is the “body of Masonry”; the “Constitutions of the Order”; “the principles and ground work of Masonry”; and do they, or either of them contain any authority upon the Subject now under investigation? To approach the Subject intelligently, it Seems necessary to advert to a portion of our history. The Masonic Order after one of those eclipses in her prosperity, to which all human institutions are Subject, was revived in England at the meeting of four Lodges in London in February, A. D., 1717. These were—

Reader page 93 · 1853 — Committee’s historical account of constitutions and ancient charges

—the only Lodges then existing in the South part of that Kingdom, and they formed themselves into a Grand Lodge, for which they elected a Grand Master at the following festival of the anniversary of St. John the Baptist.

When this Grand Lodge was formed, “the original constitutions were established as the basis of all future Masonic jurisdiction in the South of England and their ancient landmarks, or the boundaries Set up as checks to innovation, were carefully Secured against the attacks of future invaders.” “It was then established also, as an unerring rule, at every installation, public and private, for many years afterwards, to make the G. Master, and the Master and Wardens of every lodge engage to Support the ancient constitutions, to the observance of which, also, every Mason was bound at his initiation.” The next year Geo. Payne was chosen G. Master of this G. Lodge. During his official term, he “earnestly desired that the brethren would bring to the G. Lodge, any old writings or records, concerning the fraternity, to Show the usages of ancient times. In consequence of this invitation Several old copies of the Gothic constitutions were produced, arranged, and digested.”

Your committee deem it important to remark, as to this G. Lodge, that it did not assume to do more than to preserve intact the Masonic institution, as it found it, as to all its peculiar practices, and the principles which had governed it from early times. It recognized the ancient G. Lodge at the city of York, and considered itself bound by the ancient Masonic charges, acknowledged as authority in that Grand Body. The old Grand Lodge at York, as is well known to all familiar with Masonic history, was established in June, A. D. 926, under the patronage of Edwin, brother of Athelstan, the then reigning monarch of England. Those Masonic charges did not originate at York, but were Simply put into form there, the materials being derived from records of an older date.

The historical account is in these words: Prince Edwin Summoned all Masons in the realm to meet him in the congregation at York, in June Anno Domini, 926, who came and composed a General or Grand Lodge, of which he was the Grand Master. And having brought with them all the old writings and records, Some in Greek, Some in Latin, Some in French, and in other languages from the contents thereof they, that assembly framed the constitutions and charges of an English lodge, made a law to preserve and observe the Same, in all time coming, and ordained good pay for the working Masons.

In the new English Grand Lodge formed by the four Lodges at London in 1717, we find the course taken to collect the ancient Charges and constitutions of the Order, as had been previously taken at York, in the year 926. In 1721, the Duke of Montague,—

Editorial note: This is the committee’s historical argument as written in 1853; the historical accounts and dates are transcribed from the manuscript.

Reader page 94 · 1853 — Report on Anderson’s constitutions and the binding force of landmarks

—was chosen G. Master of this English Grand Lodge. Soon after his election he directed Doctor Desaguliers and Jas. Anderson, A. M., to “revise, arrange, and digest the Gothic constitutions, old charges and general regulations.” At the communication of this G. Lodge on the festival of St. John the Evangelist, in that year, these brethren had performed the duty assigned them, and presented their labor for approval. A committee of fourteen learned brethren was then appointed to examine their manuscript, and report. At a communication holden on the 25th of March, A. D. 1722, this committee reported, that they had “perused the manuscript containing the history, charges, regulations, &c., of Masonry, and after Some amendments, had approved thereof.” The G. Lodge ordered the whole to be prepared for the press, and printed; and within two years (A. D. 1732.) the book of constitutions appeared in print. Here, then, we have the first printed book of constitutions, compiled with care by learned Masons, Sanctioned by the authority of a Grand Lodge, from which it is our pride to have descended, and professing to place us in possession of the “history, charges, and regulations” of our ancient Masonic brethren.

Your committee are not aware of the existence of any book of general Masonic authority, or of any other authority, at other Sources carrying with it an equally clear and well defined Masonic Sanction. If this book, then, contains a rule upon the Subject under consideration, and if the constitutions and charges which it transmits to us, are of binding Masonic force, it appears to your committee that all Masons are bound to defer to its authority. It is the first printed collection of our laws; our highest and oldest printed statute book; it contains matter irrepealable by any Masonic; the embodiment of our unchangeable landmarks. No modern power ever possessed competent power to alter or vary them. If Such power were once acknowledged, the Specific identity of Masonry would be gone for ever.

It Seems very clear to your committee, that what is meant to be expressed peculiarly by the “Ancient Constitutions of Masonry” is not the mere regulations of any Lodge or Grand Lodge, ancient or modern, whether contained in what have been Sometimes called constitutions, or in general regulations or by laws. All these have no higher authority than Masonic legislative enactments, amendable or alterable from time to time, keeping within that code to which we refer (with unerring understanding, perhaps,) as containing our ancient landmarks. That vital “body of Masonry” to which we thus refer, is evidently—

Editorial note: The year is written “1732” after “within two years.” This chronological discrepancy is retained from the manuscript.

Reader page 95 · 1853 — Report defines ancient constitutions and considers Dermott’s authority

—anterior, both as to time, and binding power, to all merely Masonic legislation. It had its origin in our earliest days, and we are bound to preserve it inviolate for all time.

Your committee cannot better define what they understand by the term “ancient constitutions” than by adopting the definition given by Comp. J. W. Mitchell of Montgomery, Ala. That Companion defines them to be: “Those immemorial laws which have been handed down from age to age, and from generation to generation no one knowing whence they originated, and no one having the right to alter them, but in all being equally bound by a fair and liberal interpretation of them.” These, he considers as our “ANCIENT LANDMARKS,” which are “not only fundamental but unalterable,” and he understands them to be collected in that portion of Anderson’s book which gives the “old charges of the FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS.” “These old charges” he informs us, “have never been altered or changed. They Stand in the G. Lodge of England, at this day, clothed in the Same language, without a word being Stricken out or added to. No G. Lodge in the world has attempted to alter or change the wording of this old code of laws; and although they have been inculcated again and again, generally through ignorance, no Masonic body has ever republished an amended copy of them, or in any way altered their meaning, except the illegal G. Lodge of London calling itself the G. Lodge of Ancient Masons, generally known as the Athol Lodge.”

Of this So-called Athol G. Lodge, Lawrence Dermott was G. Secretary, and Subsequently Deputy G. Master, and published his “Ahiman Rezon,” (which professed to contain the ancient constitutions of the Order,) by its order or permission, in 1772. This book has met with better Success in the U. S. than the constitutions of Anderson, having been Several times reprinted, and adopted as a text book, by Several State Grand Lodges. It is, however, in the opinion of your committee, never to be regarded as Masonic authority when conflicting with the constitutions of Anderson.

Your committee have thus attempted to ascertain what is the true Source of Masonic authority, which embraces what is emphatically distinguished as our ancient landmarks, have proceeded to enquire whether, among those ancient landmarks, the particular Subject Submitted to them has a

place, and if so, what are the provisions relating to it? In examining the authority which they deem paramount to all others, they find the following provisions,—

Reader page 96 · 1853 — Committee concludes that physical capacity to perform the degrees governs admission

“No Master Should take an apprentice unless he has Sufficient employment for him, and unless he be a perfect youth, having no maim or defect about his body that may render him incapable of learning the art, of Serving his Master’s Lord, and of being made a Brother, and then a fellow craft in due time.”

Your committee have not been able to procure an original copy of Anderson. They feel confident, however, that the clause cited above is literally correct. It is precisely as it Stands in the reprint in Comp. Mitchell’s Masonic Signet, confirmed by a copy from the original copy of Anderson, in possession of Comp. Moore, of Boston, and agrees verbatim with a copy of the “charges” in possession of your committee published at Edinburgh, in 1761, during the G. Mastership of David, Earl of Leven, over the G. Lodge of Scotland.

The provision does not describe a man wholly and entirely perfect as to physical qualities. It is plainly limited in its character. It Supposes, upon its face, that a man may have imperfections of body which do not amount to disqualification. If they are not Such as to render him “incapable of learning the art,” then beyond all question, he is eligible to be made a brother.

Your committee, then, having treated the question as one resting upon constitutional paramount authority, and not upon mere regulation; having investigated the authority, which in their opinion, Should govern the decision upon it, and having Satisfied themselves, that the Subject matter is not a question of mere policy, but one that involves an “ancient landmark” of the Order, have reached the unavoidable conclusion, that it is competent and Masonically lawful for Royal Arch Chapters, as well as Blue Lodges, to confer the respective degrees of Masonry, properly conferrable by each, upon all candidates whose defects of bodily qualifications are not Such as to prevent them from conforming literally to what the Several degrees respectively requires of them. If their physical capacities enable them to do this they are admissible, and can comply with every requisition of the Order.

Your committee are perfectly aware that the Ahiman Rezon contains a different rule, and requires a candidate to be perfect in every bodily qualification; but they have already said that they do not acknowledge that work as authority when it conflicts with the constitutions of Anderson.

All of which is—

Editorial note: This is the committee’s 1853 recommendation. Its report is recorded as laid on the table on scan 97; this scan does not itself record adoption.

Reader page 97 · 1853 — Report tabled, work exemplified and Royal and Select Masters report begun

—respectfully Submitted.
Philip C. Tucker,
Scott G. Tallman,
Wm. T. Gould.

Lexington (Ky.) Sept. 13, 1853.

The report was then laid upon the Table.

Comp. Mackay moved that the exemplification of the work Set for this time, as a specified order, be postponed to 7 o'Clock this evening; which was disagreed to.

The G. G. H. Priest then announced as the order of the day, the exemplification of R. A. work. Comp. Tucker moved that the whole Subject be indefinitely postponed, which was decided in the negative. Comp. Lovell then proceeded to exemplify the work in the degrees of Mark, Past, and M. E. Master, when the further exemplification of the work, for the present was postponed.

Leave of absence was granted to Comps. Martin of O. & Lawrence of Ind.

Comp. Lewis, of N. Y., from the committee on R. & S. Masters' degrees made the following report:

To the M. E. G. G. C. of the U. S.

The undersigned, a Special committee, to whom was referred the Subject of the Degrees of Royal & Select Master, commonly called [words struck out] degrees, respectfully report: That they have examined the Several very able reports and resolutions, which have been made on the Subject of these degrees, in various State jurisdictions, and attentively considered the positions taken by them, and have availed themselves of the light and information which they Shed upon the history, character, and value of them. The Subject is one which has claimed a large Share of the attention of the fraternity, for many years, and loud calls are made upon this G. G. Body to Settle definitively the various questions which have grown out of the discussion. We have regarded these demands as rightly and properly urged, and have aimed to arrive at Such conclusions as are just, as well as Satisfactory; and although we cannot flatter ourselves that we have entirely Succeeded, yet, as a reflection of the views of Companions, we think it will meet the just expectations of the larger number, and give offence to none.

The important question is that of jurisdiction, and to that Single point we have directed attention. We have not aimed to reconcile conflicting claims, as, from the conclusion to which we have arrived it is not necessary. We regret to State that past action and past legislation on the part of this M. E. Body has given rise to many misconceptions, and induced the belief that the Royal & Select Master's Degrees were within the pale of the jurisdiction of R. A. Masonry, and hence looking at this Body—

Reader page 98 · 1853 — Royal and Select Masters: report and proposed jurisdiction resolutions

—as the common head, G. Chapters and Subordinates of this body have come to the conclusion that they were under their control where Councils did not exist. But when we come to trace the common Source of title, we are unable to discover how this Body has or ever had any rightful jurisdiction over them, and it must be borne in mind, that it is incumbent on this Body to prove title affirmatively, and conclusively, and not rely upon the weakness of the title of any other claimant.

We think there will be found an utter failure of proof on this point; and when we examine the G. Constitution, and find no allusion to these degrees, and on the contrary a distinct recognition of the four degrees conferred in R. A. Chapters, and none above, and that Companions R. A. Masons are affiliated with us throughout the land, without reference to their possession of them, we are irresistibly led to the conclusion that no governmental jurisdiction in R. A. Masonry has any control over them. And if this Strong position needed any confirmation in the existing State of things, in the Fraternity, we Should find that in those States where they are cultivated to any considerable extent; they are under the government of Councils where these degrees and no others are conferred, and there we are content to leave them.

The conclusion then to which we have arrived will render it unnecessary for us to examine any of the other questions which have grown out of the discussions relative to those degrees; for if we

have no jurisdiction, we have no right to pass upon them, and we do not here assume to State who has jurisdiction, but only to State in our judgement, we have not.

The Subject has been examined So thoroughly and elaborately; the features of it have been So fully canvassed by the whole Fraternity, that we have not deemed it expedient to recapitulate any of the various positions which have been taken, and to defend or deny them.

We trust this M. E. Body will concur with us in opinion that the demands of justice, and claims of expediency both require a Settlement of the whole, and that it be hereafter excluded from the consideration of R. A. Masons, as Such. We Subjoin the following resolutions, expressive of our conclusions, for the consideration of the G. G. Chapter:

Resolved, That this G. G. Chapter, and the governing bodies of R. A. Masonry, affiliated with, and holding jurisdiction under it, have no rightful jurisdiction or control over the Degrees of Royal & Select Master.

Resolved, That this G. G. Chapter will hereafter entertain no question or matter growing out of the government or work—

Reader page 99 · 1853 — Jurisdiction resolutions adopted; High Priesthood report begins

—ing of those degrees while in their present position.

Respectfully and fraternally Submitted.
John L. Lewis, Jr.,
Edward A. Raymond,
J. A. D. Joslin,
Philip Schley,
A. P. Pfister.

Lexington, Sept. 16, 1853.

The question was Stated on agreeing to Said resolution, when Comp. Gilman, of Md., moved that they be laid upon the table; which motion was disagreed to.

The resolutions were considered, and agreed to.

Comp. Mackey, from the committee to which was referred the resolution of the G. Chapter of Md., relative to the Order of High Priesthood, made the following report:

The committee on Councils of High Priests, to whom were referred the accompanying questions, propounded to this G. G. Chapter by the G. Chapter of Md., to wit:

“The legitimate duties and powers of a Council of High Priests, and whether it is proper that any H. Priest Should be installed, and placed at the head of a chapter before being duly anointed a H. Priest by a regular Council of H. Priests?” Respectfully report as follows:

The paragraph which becomes the Subject matter of this report, embraces two distinct questions — first, as to the duties and powers of a Council of High Priests, and Secondly, as to the necessity of anointment into that order before the assumption of the duties and privileges of High Priest of a Chapter. Your committee have met with no difficulty in responding to the former of these questions. The degrees, or as it is more commonly called, the order of High Priesthood includes a system of initiation, above & beyond the degrees of the Royal Arch. A very large number of R. A. Masons, a numerous portion of the members of our State G. Chapters, and many, even, of the constituents of this exalted body, are not in possession of its mysteries.

With these facts before them, it is impossible that your committee can come to any other conclusion than that legislation on the Subject of the order of H. Priesthood, is beyond, and out of the jurisdiction of your exalted body. The “legitimate duties and powers of a Council of High Priests” cannot, therefore, be defined by this body, in its collective capacity; but must be left to the decision of those who are in possession of the Order. This G. G. Chapter has no more authority to enter upon the investigation of this question, than it has to inquire into the “legiti—

Editorial note: The Royal and Select Masters resolutions continued at the top of this scan are expressly agreed to. The following High Priesthood committee report is a separate item and continues on scan 100.

Reader page 100 · 1853 — High Priesthood report concluded and laid on the table

—mate duties and powers” of a Council of Red Cross Knights.

In relation to the second question, “whether it is proper that any High Priest Should be installed and placed at the head of a Chapter before being duly anointed a High Priest by a regular Council of High Priests,” your committee reply that, in their opinion, the order of High Priesthood is an honorarium or reward conferred by his companions of the Priesthood on the newly elected High Priest of a Chapter, and as Such Should be gratefully received by every one who has been chosen to preside over his companions.

But to admit that the reception of Such an honorarium or reward was essentially necessary to qualify a High Priest for the due discharge of his duties, to the performance of which he has been called by the voice of his Chapter, would be to take the control of the affairs of a Chapter out of the Chapter itself, where it has been rightly deposited by our constitutions, and place it in the hands of an extraneous and irresponsible body, who, as a Self constituted council of H. Priests, might by refusing to confer the order on a candidate, presenting the necessary credentials, be pronouncing an effective and remediless veto, on the choice made by the members of a Chapter, of their presiding officer. An election held under these circumstances would be rather the nomination by the Chapter to Some council of High Priests, at the time existing only in futuro, of the Companion whom they desired for their presiding officer, and which nomination the Said council, whenever it was called into temporary existence, might or might not approve and confirm.

With these views your committee recommend the following resolutions for adoption by your M. E. body:

Resolved, That it is not within the power or control of this G. G. Chapter, or of any State G. Chapter to define the duties or powers of a Council of H. Priests.

Resolved, That while in deference to the long established usages of R. A. Masonry in this country, it is recommended that every newly elected High Priest Should as Soon as convenient, receive the order of High Priesthood; his anointment as Such is not necessary to his installation, or to the full and entire discharge of all his powers and duties as the Presiding officer of his Chapter.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
Albert G. Mackay,
Willis Stewart,
Wm. Field,
G. H. C. Melody,
Isaac Cunningham.

Which report and resolutions were laid on the table.

Editorial note: This is the final scan supplied in Volume D. The 1853 session continues beyond this file. The High Priesthood report and resolutions end here with an express motion to lay them on the table; their later disposition is not recorded in this volume.

1797 Volume E

Read the typed text of all 29 PDF scans, completing the Lexington proceedings of September 1853, followed by the Treasurer’s ledger and undated chapter-register supplements. The file retains its library title “1797 Volume E.” Scan numbers match the PDF reader above.

The supplied sequence breaks between scans 2 and 3: part of the jurisprudence report and the opening of Thomas H. Lewis’s letter are absent. The repeated “16th” amendment entry on scan 15 is identified. The session closes on scan 26; the ledger and registers follow on scans 27–29. Uncertain readings, conflicting manuscript figures or initials, and the struck-out Georgia register entry are marked. Proposed resolutions are distinguished from their recorded outcomes.

Original source PDF · 29 source pages

Reader page 1 · 1853 — Work completed; Saturday charter and dispensation report

Comp. Stewart, of Ken., was, at his own request, excused from further Service on the Committee on Grievances, and Comp. Mackey, of S. C., was appointed in his place. And then the G. G. Chapter was called off, until 7 o’Clock, this evening.

Evening, 7 o’Clock

The G. G. Chapter was called to labor by the G. G. High Priest, and Comp. Lovell proceeded to exemplify the work in the R. A. Degree, and finished it.

Comp. Gilman asked leave of absence for Comp. Heath, of Md., and Comp. Platt asked leave of absence for Comp. Shoemaker, which was granted. Leave of absence was also granted to Comp. Grimsley.

Comps. Lackey & Robinson were appointed members of the Committee on Unfinished Business, in place of Comps. Heath, & Grimsley, who have leave of absence.

On motion of Comp. Pfister,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Constitution of the G. G. Chapter be instructed to take into consideration the Subject of embodying in the Same an article whereby the jurisdictions of the State Grand Chapters may be held inviolable.

And the G. G. Chapter was called off until tomorrow morning at 9 o’Clock.

Saturday, Sept. 17, 1853

The G. G. Chapter was called to labor by the M. E. G. G. H. P.

Comp. Gould, from the Committee on Dispensations and New Chapters, made the following report, which was read and laid on the table:

The Committee on Dispensations, and New Chapters beg leave to

Report

1st. That they have examined the By-Laws and work of Sacramento Chapter, at Sacramento City, Cal., and Washington Chapter, at Muscatine, Iowa, and finding them in conformity to the G. G. Constitution, recommend that they receive Charters.

2d. Sonora Chap., at Sonora, Cal., have Sent up their work, but not their by-laws. In consideration of their distance, the committee recommend that a Charter issue, whenever they obtain a certificate from any one of the four principal G. Officers approving of their By-Laws.

3d. The Dispensation to Newark Chap., N. J., has been referred to your committee. This body having been merged in Union Chap., no further action is required.

4th. Your committee have also examined the work & By Laws—

Editorial note: This file continues the 1853 session immediately after the material in Volume D.

Reader page 2 · 1853 — Charters report continued; Masonic jurisprudence recommendations

—of Barrett Chap., at Rock Island, Ill. The fourth Section of the third article of the By-Laws assumes jurisdiction over the Royal and Select Degrees, and must be Stricken out So far as relates to that Subject. With this qualification, your committee recommend the granting of a Charter.

5th. A number of Companions at St. Paul's, Minnesota have petitioned the G. G. King for a dispensation, and paid the fees, but not in time for one to issue and be returned to this convocation. Your committee deem it inexpedient to issue Charters without the usual probation, and therefore recommend that the present D. G. G. H. P., to whom the petition was addressed, be advised to issue a Dispensation.

6th. San Francisco Chapter, at San Francisco, Cal., has received a Charter Since the last meeting of this Body, but there was Some confusion or error in the proceedings. A dispensation was regularly obtained, and the returns have been regularly made. Your committee have examined the work and By-Laws, and find them correct, and they recommend that the present Charter be ratified and approved.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
Wm. T. Gould,
Stephen Lovell,
Jas. Foster,
Cyrus Goodell,
W. R. Lackey.
Committee.

Comp. Stewart, from the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following report, (Comp. S. dissenting from a portion of the Same), which was read and laid on the table.

Report

The undersigned, a majority of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, beg leave to Submit the following resolutions as their report on the 2d, 3d, and 4th resolutions, passed by the G. Chapter of N. Y. at their meeting in February, 1853, to be found on p. 91, of their proceedings; and the resolution of Comp. J. L. Lewis in relation to the powers of the Officers of S. G. Chapters:

1st. Resolved, That it is masonically illegal for Royal Arch Chapters to confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, M. E. Master, & R. Arch Master, on a brother Master Mason who has lost a leg or an arm.

2d. Resolved, That it is legal & Masonic for the requisite number of Past Masters who have themselves been duly qualified to preside over a lodge to confer the degree of Past Master, according to the ancient usage on the Master elect of the Lodge.

Editorial note: These are the committee's recommendations; the report is laid on the table at this point.

Reader page 3 · 1853 — Lewis’s letter concluded; minority report on the work

Editorial note: The supplied sequence breaks between scans 2 and 3. Scan 2 ends during the jurisprudence resolutions; this scan begins partway through a letter from Thomas H. Lewis. The intervening text and the letter’s opening are not present in this sequence.

—to me, in a satisfactory and efficient manner. I have not been able to procure the Services of competent Companions to travel in some of the other Southern States, and my private relations in life have put it out of my power to do so in person. I am pleased to hear of the general prosperity of our beloved Order throughout the length and breadth of our extensive and happy country, and trust that her light may continue to Shine brighter and brighter to the end of time.

It is with the deepest regret that I find myself obliged to announce the impossibility of my personally participating in the deliberations of our approaching Session at Lexington, Kentucky.

I pray you, my Companions, be assured that nothing but imperious and paramount duty could deprive me of the pleasure of greeting you in our Sacred temple, and that my prayers Shall be daily offered up to the Supreme Grand High Priest of the Universe for your Success in your noble mission, and that the doings of your approaching convocation may greatly promote the prosperity of R. A. Masonry, and the pure principles of brotherly love among the fraternity everywhere. I trust the G. G. R. A. Chapter of the U. S. may long continue to diffuse light and truth throughout our beloved country, and be and remain a Strong bond of union, holding us together as one in feeling, as we are in interest; and, Should a kind Providence prolong my days, I hope at the next meeting to greet many with whom it has been my happiness to Sit in council. Till then, farewell.

Thos. H. Lewis,
G. G. Scribe.

Opelousas, La., Aug. 28, 1853.

It was then referred to the Committee on the Doings of the G. G. Officers.

Comp. Schley was appointed a member of the Comm. on Grievances, in place of Comp. Smith, who has leave of absence.

Comp. Gould, from the Committee on Work, made a verbal report.

Comp. Mackey, from the Same committee Submitted the following as the views of the minority of Said Committee:

The minority of the Committee, to whom was referred the exemplification of the work, adopted by the G. G. Chapter at its Session in 1850, and exemplified at this Session, respectfully report:

That in their opinion, the Said work, more especially So far as respects the R. A. Degree, is So contrary to, and Subversive of the landmarks of Free Masonry, that they cannot, consistently with their obligations as R. A. Masons, recommend the Same for adoption. All which is respectfully Submitted.

Reader page 4 · 1853 — Work report division, 38–42 vote and finance report begins

Albert G. Mackey,
Delegate from S. C.

Jas. Foster,
Delegate from Missouri.

The G. G. Chapter proceeded to the consideration of the Said report, the question being on agreeing to the report Submitted by Comp. Gould. Comp. Mackey moved his report be Substituted

for the report of the majority, and called for a division of the question, So as to take it first on Striking out; and then it was So divided.

1st. Shall the report of the majority be Stricken out?

And the question being taken by ayes and noes, resulted as follows, viz:

Ayes

Officer or chapter	Votes
W. Stewart, G. G. K.	1
G. Chapter of Connecticut	4
Ohio	2
Kentucky	4
S. Carolina	4
Georgia	2
Mississippi	4
Missouri	4
Michigan	4
Arkansas	4
Texas	4
Union Chap., Newark, N. J.	1
Ayes	38

Noes

Officer or chapter	Votes
R. P. Dunlap, G. G. H. P.	1
B. B. French, G. G. Sec.	1
N. B. Haswell, G. G. M.	1
E. S. Barnum, P. G. G. S.	1
G. Chapter of Maine	4
N. Hamps.	4
Vermont	4
Mass.	4
Rhode I.	4
N. York	2
Ohio	2
Georgia	2
Alabama	4
Indiana	4
Illinois	4
Noes	42

So the G. G. Chapter refused to Strike out the Report.

Comp. Raymond was, at his own request, excused from voting. The question recurring on agreeing to the report of the committee, On motion of Comp. Gould the whole Subject was laid on the table by unanimous vote.

Comp. Hubbard, from the Committee on Finance made the following Report:

The Committee on Finance ask leave to report:

That they have attended to all the business that came before them, and find, from an examination of the G. G. Treasurer’s account (marked A,) as rendered, that the Same is correct. This account commences Sept. 9th, 1850, and closes Sept. 15th, 1853. The balance in his hands at the date first above named, was $4,850.26.

Amount from all sources rec’d up to Sept. 1, 1853: 1,578.88—

Reader page 5 · 1853 — Finance report: balances, Secretary’s receipts and invested funds

Treasurer’s account continued

Item	Amount
Making a total of	6,433.14
From which deduct payments of all kinds per vouchers up to Sept. 1st, 1853	774.18
Leaving as bal. in the Treas. on that day	$5,658.96

Your committee approve of the practice in this dept. of having a Specific time as the close of its fiscal period, and, by resolution appended, Submit the principle in form for the action of this Honorable Body. Adopting the principle, all receipts and expenditures after Such fiscal period, will be found in the new or next account current.

Your committee have also examined the account current of your G. G. Secretary (marked B,) and find the Same correct. From this it will be found that the amount rec'd by him up to Aug. 30, 1853 is $572.52, the whole of which has been (including last payment under date of Sept. 13, 1853,) paid to the G. G. Treasurer in part and the residue paid for necessary expenses of the office, for all which Satisfactory vouchers appear. No accounts have been Submitted to your committee from the G. G. H. P., King, or Scribe.

Looking to the policy adopted by your Honorable Body at its last Session, and highly approving the Same, of causing your Surplus funds to be made productive by investment at interest, your committee would recommend a continuance of the Same. As your main if not only dependence for the receipt of funds into your treasury is from the granting of dispensations to, and the collecting of dues from, Subordinate Chapters, and not from S. G. Chapters and their Subordinates; and inasmuch as the unassociated Subordinates are rapidly becoming incorporated into State G. Chapters, it is evident that the time may come, and that at no distant period, when the present Sources of Supply for Sustaining the expenses of your Honorable body, will cease. It may, therefore be deemed provident, at the present time to adopt measures for husbanding your present and future means, that by judicious investments an income may be obtained, Sufficient to Sustain your G. G. Chapter, by this means, as to its current and legitimate expenses.

For this purpose your committee have matured and herewith Submit for your consideration, resolution No. 2 accompanying this report.

Without any account or claim being laid before the committee, in form, yet their attention has been called to the fact, that no provision has been heretofore made for the clerical and official Services of our M. E. Chas. Gilman, P. G. G. Secretary, as they were rendered from the time of your Session in 1847, until his leaving his Balto. res—

Editorial note: The preceding scan gives the opening balance as $4,850.26 and receipts as $1,578.88, which total $6,429.14. This scan instead writes $6,433.14 and a closing balance of $5,658.96. The manuscript's figures are retained.

Reader page 6 · 1853 — Gilman allowance and proposed fiscal accounting reforms

—idence for Cal., — a period of about eighteen months, and embracing the most laborious part of the G. G. Secretary's Services for that term of time ending in Sept. 1850.

Your committee have examined the report of his Services thus rendered, which may be found at p. 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8, of the proceedings of your last Session, and by comparing the Same with former allowances for Services of the kind, are well Satisfied that he is justly entitled to be paid the sum of one hundred & twenty-five dollars, and accordingly Submit, for that purpose and for your consideration, Resolution No. 3.

Under the present practice, not Saying System, of collecting, receiving, and paying over the Moneys of this G. G. Chapter, a departure from the usage of Masonry exists — an unnecessary number of accounting officers are made to act, and it is not made the duty of any one to collect together the various accounts, State them in one, and charge your General G. Treasurer in a general account current. Consequently, and if left as it is, the whole receipts and expenditures must be Sought after from Six different Sources, and the whole Stated in the new, by a committee

of your body; or have no Such general account current, with Suitable checks upon the Secretary or the multiple paymasters, but take as for granted the Statement of your G. G. Treasurer, of the amounts he has received.

Your committee are of the opinion that all moneys and from whatever Sources, belonging to this G. G. Body, Should be paid directly to the G. G. Secretary, and of all Such moneys he Should be the Sole collector, & receiver; and that he Should with as little delay as possible, pay the Same over, to the G. G. Treasurer, as from time to time rec'd. Your committee also entertain the opinion, that the G. G. Secretary Should use none of the funds So rec'd, for even current and necessary expenses of his office, but check upon the G. G. Treas. for the Same, (under authority of your honorable Body,) with the bill for the Same attached.

To the end of thus having a full acct. of all the funds whatever that have been rec'd by the G. G. Treasurer upon the G. G. Secretary's books; and as connected with these fiscal forms and duties, your committee would recommend that the G. G. Secretary be instructed to render an account to the G. G. Treasurer, as often as once a year, of his receipts and pay'ts over of moneys during that, then, preceding year. The forego—

Reader page 7 · 1853 — Six finance resolutions adopted

—ing views of your committee are embodied in Resolutions Nos. 4, 5, and 6, which accompany this report.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
W. B. Hubbard,
E. S. Barnum,
J. M. Hall,
A. B. Thompson,
A. P. Pfister.

Said report was accompanied by the following resolutions, which were considered and agreed to, viz:

1. Resolved, That hereafter the G. G. Treasurer's account current Shall triennially be made up to the first day of the month in which the G. G. Chapter is held.

2. Resolved, That the G. G. Treasurer is authorized and requested to invest, from time to time, all Such moneys of this G. G. Chapter as may come into his hands Subject to prompt payment, on call, or thirty days notice, as in his judgement and discretion will be Safely for the interest of this G. G. Chapter; Provided, That in making any Such investment he Shall not reduce the cash funds of the Treasury below the Sum of $500; and that of his doings under this resolution, he make a full report at the next Triennial meeting of this body.

3. Resolved, That there be allowed and paid to Comp. Gilman the Sum of $125, in full for his past Services as G. G. Secretary, and not heretofore provided for.

4. Resolved, That all dispensations, fees, dues, or moneys of any kind accruing or becoming payable to this G. G. Chapter, Shall be collected and received by the G. G. Secretary, and an account of the Same, from what Source arising, and from whom received, Shall be kept by him.

5. Resolved, That it Shall be the duty of the G. G. Secretary forthwith, or as Soon as it is reasonably in his power, to pay over to the G. G. Treasurer all moneys, whatever he may from time to time receive, as contemplated in the foregoing Resolution No. 4, taking proper vouchers therefor, with

power and authority from time to time, and for the reasonable and necessary current expenses of his office to check, with proper voucher attached thereto, upon the G. G. Treasurer therefor.

6th. Resolved, That it Shall be the duty of the G. G. Secretary annually to make out and State in his book, an account current with the G. G. Treas., and a copy of the Same to the G. G. H. Priest, & another to the G. G. Treasurer; and also, at the first of each Triennial G. G. Session he Shall make out, and Submit to—

Reader page 8 · 1853 — High Priesthood resolutions adopted; Past Master jurisdiction amendment

—the G. G. Chapter, a general account current of all moneys by him received and paid over during the preceding three years.

On motion of Comp. Mackey,

The G. G. Chapter proceeded to consider the report and resolutions, presented by him, in reference to councils of High Priests, when the first of Said resolutions was agreed to.

The Second of Said resolutions being under consideration, Comp. Brown moved to amend the Same, by Striking out all after the word “resolved,” and inserting — “That while in deference to the G. G. R. A. Constitutions, and the long established usages of R. A. Masonry, it is considered necessary that every newly elected H. Priest Should, as Soon as it is convenient, receive the order of High Priesthood, his anointment is not indispensably necessary to the full and entire discharge of all his powers and duties as the presiding officer of his Chapter.”

Comp. French moved to amend the amendment by Striking out all thereof after the word “that,” and inserting “it is not necessary that a High Priest elect Should receive the Order of High Priesthood before he can be installed to preside over the Chapter by which he has been elected.”

Which amendment was disagreed to.

The question recurred to the amendment proposed by Comp. Brown, and being put the Same was disagreed to.

The question then recurred on the 2d resolution reported by the committee, and being put, the Same was agreed to.

And then the G. G. Chapter was called off until this evening at 7 o’Clock.

Saturday Evening, Sept. 17, 1853

The G. G. Chapter was called to labor by the M. E. G. G. H. P.

At the request of Comp. Lovell, of Mass., he was granted leave of absence.

On motion of Comp. Stewart, the report made by him this morning, from the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence was taken up.

The 1st resolution reported by Said committee was read and laid upon the table. The Second resolution was then read, & Comp. Mackey moved to amend it by Striking out all after the word “resolved” and inserting “That this body does not claim jurisdiction over the degree of Past Master, when about to be conferred on a Master elect of a Symbolic Lodge,” which amendment was considered and agreed to. The resolution as amended was then agreed to.

The 3d resolution was then read, and, the Subject already hav—

Editorial note: The first and second High Priesthood resolutions are those transcribed in Volume D, scan 100. Both are agreed to here; the Brown and French amendments are rejected.

Reader page 9 · 1853 — Physical-qualification resolution amended and adopted; charters approved

—ing been already enacted upon was indefinitely postponed.

The 4th resolution was then read, considered, and agreed to.

The G. G. Chapter then proceeded to the Special order, which was Set for this evening, being the report of the Committee appointed at the last triennial meeting, on maimed candidates.

Comp. Tucker offered the following resolution in relation to this Subject, viz:

“Resolved, That it is competent, and masonically lawful for R. A. Chapters to confer the respective degrees of masonry, within their jurisdiction, upon all candidates whose defects of bodily qualifications are not Such as to prevent them from conforming literally to what Said degrees respectively required, if in other respects, worthy.”

Comp. Mackey moved to amend the Same by Striking out all after the word resolved and inserting,

“That no R. A. Chapter Should take a candidate unless he be a perfect man, having no maim or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the art.”

Comp. Gilman moved to amend the amendment by Striking out all after the word “that,” and inserting, “it is incompetent for R. A. Chapters to confer the respective degrees of masonry upon candidates whose physical defects are Such as to prevent them from conforming literally to all requirements of those degrees;” which amendment was agreed to. The amendment as amended was then agreed to, and the resolution as amended was agreed to.

On motion of Comp. Gould, the report from the Committee on Dispensations and New Chapters, this day made, was taken up, and the 1st, 2d, 3d, 5th, & 6th recommendations of Said Committee were adopted.

The 4th recommendation, relative to Barett Chapter, Ill., was read, when Comp. Lusk offered the following amendment:

Strike out all of Said recommendation, and insert, “The Dispensation of Barett Chapter, Rock Island, having been renewed Subsequently to the organization of the G. Chapter of Ill., your committee recommend the following resolution.

Resolved, That the dispensation be referred to the G. C. of Ill., & that the fees of ten dollars for Charter, and $8, exaltation fees paid to this G. G. Chapter, be refunded to Barett Chapter;” which resolution was rejected. The question was then taken on agreeing to Said 4th recommendation, and was decided in the affirmative. So the whole report, as made, was agreed to.

Comp. Lewis, from the Committee on Returns, made the following report:

Editorial note: The final adopted physical-qualification wording is Gilman’s amendment, beginning “it is incompetent” and conditioned on inability to conform literally to the degrees’ requirements. The Rock Island chapter’s name is written “Barett” here; scan 2 reads “Barrett.”

Reader page 10 · 1853 — Committee on Returns report

To the M. E. General Grand Chapter of the U. S.

The Committee on Returns have examined the various documents Submitted to them from the Several Chapters under our immediate jurisdiction, and respectfully report:

That they have found them correct, except in the instances Specially noted, but in very few cases have found them complete. The regulations require that there Should be an annual returns of

officers & members, of the work done, together with payment of dues, and also an abstract of their proceedings, and their by laws; and upon the expiration of their dispensation it Should be returned. But two or three of the Subordinates have fully complied with these regulations, and we Should have deemed it our duty to have recommended Some regulations on the Subject, were it not that the time is rapidly drawing near when there will be none left to whom it can apply. The G. Chapters of Wisconsin, Miss., Conn., and Ark., have alone notified the G. G. Chapter of the election of officers.

We find, also, the names of officers Sometimes incorrectly given as Recorder, for Secretary; and the rank of Capt. of the Host, in repeated instances, is placed next before the Tyler & Secretary before Treasurer. We find also, in the abstract of proceedings Such improper phrases as “adjournment,” &c.

One Chapter has not paid its dues, but as we think there is an explanation to the apparent default, we forbear to give the name.

These matters are all that we have deemed worthy of observation, and we have not thought it necessary to enter minutely into detail. The Committee beg to be pardoned for the remark, That we cannot conceive it necessary for the accomplishment of any good object that there Should be a committee on Returns.

Either the Committee on Charters and Dispensations must wait for this committee to report, before they can act understandingly, and thus delay the business of the whole body, or they must do, what they in fact have done at this communication, anticipate its action, examine for themselves, and act upon their own information So acquired, thus rendering our labors useless.

Respectfully Submitted.
John L. Lewis, Jr.,
Wm. Field,
Isaac Bartlett,
A. O’Sullivan.

Lexington, Sept. 17, 1853.

Said report was accompanied by the following resolution, which was read and agreed to:

Reader page 11 · 1853 — Returns committee rescinded; Stapleton memorial; constitutional amendments begin

“Resolved, That So much of the Standing resolution of this G. G. Chapter, as provides for a Committee on Returns, be and hereby is rescinded.”

On motion Comp. Koppert,

Resolved, That the thanks of this G. G. Chapter are and are hereby tendered to M. E. Comp. Lovell, of Mass., for the important Services rendered by his able exemplification of the work in the Several Chapter degrees, before this body.

On motion of Comp. Rowe,

Resolved, unanimously, That So much of the address of the M. E. G. G. H. P., as relates to the death of our M. E. lamented Comp. Jos. K. Stapleton, late D. G. G. H. P. of this G. G. C., be referred to a Special Committee, to report resolutions expressive of the feelings of this G. G. Chapter.

Companions Gilman, Gould, Moore and Rowe were appointed the Committee.

On motion Comp. Rowe,

Resolved, That the dues received from Barrett Chapter, at Rock Island, Ill., which have accrued Since the formation of the G. Chapter of that State, be paid over to that Grand Chapter.

And then the G. G. C. was called off until Monday next, at 10 o'Clock in the forenoon.

Monday, Sept. 19, 1853

The G. G. Chapter was called to labor by the M. E. G. G. H. P.

Comp. Mackey, from the committee on Amendments to the Constitution, made the following report, which was read.

The Committee on Amendments to the Constitution respectfully report the following amendments, and recommend their adoption by the G. G. Chapter.

1st Amendment — Art. I

Sec. 1. Add: That the G. G. Chapter, at any regular meeting, may change the time for the next Succeeding meeting; and if, in the opinion of a majority of the G. G. Council, there [may?] be danger to life or health, from disease or other local cause, by any meeting being held at the time appointed, they may change the time of the particular meeting to Some Subsequent time; and in event of Such change being made, they Shall immediately notify the G. G. Secretary thereof, who Shall forthwith notify the other officers and members in Such manner as he may deem best calculated to effect the desired—

Reader page 12 · 1853 — Proposed constitutional amendments 2 through 11

—object.

2d Amendment

Sec. 3. Transpose the offices G. G. Secretary and G. G. Treasurer, and Strike out the words "G. G. Chaplain and G. G. Marshall," and in their Stead insert "G. G. Capt. of the Host, G. G. Prin. Sojourner, G. G. R. A. Captain, and three G. G. Masters of the Veils." Also after the words "Past G. G. Scribes" insert "P. G. G. Treasurers, P. G. G. Secretaries." Also Strike out all after the words "G. G. Chapter" in the last line but one.

3d Amendment

Sec. 5. Add "Special" between "a" & "meeting," in the Second line.

4th Amendment

Sec. 7. In the 2d paragraph, Strike out all after the words "twenty dollars."

5th Amendment

Sec. 9. Strike out the whole article, and instead thereof insert: "The only degrees recognized by this G. G. Chapter, to be conferred in Chapters under its jurisdiction are Mark Master, Past Master, M. E. Master and R. A. Mason; and no R. A. Mason, who Shall have regularly received Said degrees, Shall be excluded from the rights of Such by reason of his not being in possession of any other, So called, degrees."

6th Amendment

Sec. 10. Strike out all after the words "decline in favor of," and insert "a past High Priest."

7th Amendment — Art. II

Sec. 1. Make the officers in the State G. Chapters conform with those of the G. G. Chapter. After the words “respectively preside” Strike out and down to the words “and to establish” and insert “and of the Past G. High Priests, Past D. G. H. Priests, Past G. Kings, and P. G. Scribes of the Said G. Chapters, and the Said G. Chapters, Shall have power and authority to elect or appoint Such other officers for the management of their Secular affairs.”

8th Amendment

Sec. 4. In the Second proviso, Strike out the word “Treasurer” and insert “Secretary.”

9th Amendment

Sec. 6. Strike out the words “into the Treasury” and insert “over to the G. Secretary.”

10th Amendment

Sec. 10. Strike out the words “or Lodge.”

11th Amendment

Art. III. In the title of the article, Strike out the words “or Lodge.”

Editorial note: These are proposed amendments in the committee report. Their consideration and any changes are recorded on the following scans.

Reader page 13 · 1853 — Proposed amendments 12–16; first amendment adopted and second divided

12th Amendment

Sec. 1. Strike out the word “Lodge” and “or Lodge” wherever they occur.

13th Amendment

Sec. 4. Strike out the whole article.

14th Amendment

Sec. 5. Strike out the words “or Lodge” wherever found.

15th Amendment — Art. IV

Sec. 1. Page 86, Strike out lines 20 to 26, inclusive, commencing with the words “all the all the Companions” and ending with the words “as follows” and insert: “The High Priest is then Solemnly bound to the performance of his duties, and the G. H. P. addresses him as follows.” In line 30, Same page, Strike out the words “and anointed.”

16th Amendment

Sec. 3. Strike out the words “and Lodges.”

4. Strike out all after the words “this Constitution” and insert “Shall not be altered or amended unless Such alteration or amendment be proposed in writing, at one regular meeting of the G. G. Chapter, published among the minutes of proceedings, and at the next regular meeting receive the approval of two thirds of the members then present.”

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
Albert G. Mackey,
Chas. Gilman.

The first amendment was considered.

Comp. Tucker moved to amend the Same by So changing it as to read “and if in the opinion of the G. G. H. Priest, or in case of his death or absence of the Senior G. G. officer;” which amendment was agreed to.

The Said amendment as amended was then agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

The 2d amendment was then considered.

The amendment was divided, and votes taken,

1st. On Striking out the G. G. Chaplain which was not agreed to.

2d. On Striking out the G. G. Marshall, which was agreed to two thirds voting therefor.

3d. On inserting G. G. Capt. of the Host, which was agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

4. On inserting G. G. P. S., which was disagreed to.

Editorial note: The proposed amendment’s reference to page 86 is to the document being amended, not this PDF’s scan numbering. “All the” appears duplicated in the quoted words to be struck out.

Reader page 14 · 1853 — Officer and membership amendments; recognized degrees adopted

5th. On inserting G. G. R. A. Capt., which was agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

6th. On making Past G. G. Treasurers & P. G. G. Secretaries, Past G. Officers.

Comp. Lewis moved to amend the amendment So as to make all the past G. G. Officers members, which was disagreed to.

The question then recurring to the 6th division of the 2d Amendment, which was rejected.

Comp. Schley moved to Strike out all Past G. G. Officers of the G. G. C., which was agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

7th. On making past G. H. Priests of State Grand Chapters voters in the G. G. Chapter.

Comp. Schley moved to amend the amendment by Striking out the entire clause of the Constitution relating to P. G. H. P. of State G. Chapters, which was agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

Comp. Koppert offered the following resolution, which was considered, and agreed to by a vote of two-thirds.

Resolved, That the G. G. Chaplain be appointed by the M. E. G. G. H. P. at the commencement of each convocation of the G. G. Chapter.

3d Amendment of Committee to insert “Special” in Art. 1st, Sec. 5th, which was agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

4th. To Strike out of 7th Sec., Art. 1st, all after the words “twenty dollars,” which was considered and agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

5th. Strike out Sec. 9th, Art. 1st and insert what is recommended by the Committee.

A division of the question was called for, and it was divided So as to take the question first, “Shall the Section be Stricken out?” and decided in the affirmative, two thirds voting therefor.

Second. Shall the proposition of the committee be inserted; and the Same was agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

6th Amendment of Committee. Sec. 10, Art. 1. Amend So as to make it obligatory that a past H. P. only can preside in the absence of the regular officers, which was considered and agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

7th. Art. 2. Sec. 1. Make the officers of a State G. Chap.—

Reader page 15 · 1853 — Remaining constitutional amendment votes and duplicated minute entry

—ter the Same as those of the G. G. Chapter, which was rejected.

Comp. Schley moved that the word “Marshal” be Stricken out of Said Section, and the words “G. Capt. of the Host & G. R. A. Capt.” be inserted.

A division of the question was called for, and it was divided, and the question was taken, 1st, on Striking out, and it was carried in the affirmative, two-thirds voting therefor; 2d, on inserting, which was carried in the affirmative, two-thirds voting therefor. The other amendments proposed by the committee to Said Section were negatived.

8th. Sec. 4, Art. 2. Strike out Treasurer and insert Secretary, which was agreed to, two-thirds voting therefor.

9th. Sec. 6, Same Art. Strike out “into the Treasury,” and insert “over to the G. Secretary,” which was agreed to, two-thirds voting therefor.

10th. Third line, Sec. 10. Strike out “or Lodge,” which was agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

11th. Art. 3. Strike out of heading “and Lodges,” which was agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

12th. Sec. 1, Art. 3. Strike out Lodge or Lodges, wherever these words occur, which was agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

13th. Sec. 4, Art. 3. Strike out the entire Section, which was adopted, two thirds voting therefor.

14th. Sec. 5, Art. 3. Strike out “Lodge or Lodges,” wherever they occur, which was agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

15th. Art. 4, Sec. 1. The committee propose to Strike out lines 20 to 26 inclusive, &c., and in line 30 the words “and anointed” but before any question was taken on this amendment

On motion of Comp. Gould the entire Section was Stricken out, two thirds voting therefor.

16th. Sec. 3d of Same Art. Strike out the words “and Lodge” and the words “and Lodges,” which was agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

16th. Sec. 3, Same Art. Strike out the words “and Lodge” and the words “and Lodges,” which was agreed to, two thirds voting therefor.

17th. Sec. 4, Same Art. Strike out all after the words “this Constitution” and insert what the committee propose which was decided in the affirmative by a vote of two thirds.

The amendments proposed by the Committee having been disposed of

Comp. Pfister offered the following amend—

Editorial note: The “16th” amendment vote on Section 3 is entered twice on this manuscript leaf. Both entries are retained; this is not a repeated PDF scan.

Reader page 16 · 1853 — Jurisdiction amendment and amended constitution adopted; officers' report

—ment to the G. G. Constitution, which was considered and agreed to, two thirds voting therefor, viz:

It Shall not be deemed regular for any Chapter to confer the degrees of the Chapter upon any person, whose fixed place of abode is within any State in which there is a Chapter regularly established, except by consent of the Chapter nearest the place of residence of Said applicant.

Comp. O'Sullivan moved to amend the 2d Sec., Art. 1, "and Shall have authority to Suspend the proceedings of Such G. Chapter," which was rejected.

The question was then taken on adopting this Constitution as amended, and it was unanimously amended to take effect immediately after the close of this Session.

Comp. Gilman from the Committee on the Doings of the G. G. Officers, made the following report, which was read and agreed to, viz:

The Committee on the Doings of the G. G. Officers ask leave to report;

That they have attended to the duties assigned them, and have the Satisfaction to report, that the various and Sometimes delicate duties devolving upon those M. E. Companions appear to have been faithfully, promptly, and efficiently fulfilled. The Subject matter by them reported to the G. G. Chapter, having been already referred to the appropriate committees, your committee have nothing further to recommend for action. All of which is respectfully Submitted.

C. W. Moore, for the Comm.

Comp. French presented his 2d account current with the G. G. Chapter, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

The G. G. Chapter was then called off until 4 o'Clock this afternoon.

Afternoon, 4 o'Clock

The G. G. Chapter was called to labor by the G. G. H. P.

On motion of Comp. Swigert, from the committee to which was referred the question, "What are the constitutional degrees?" that committee was discharged from the further consideration thereof, the constitution having been So amended as to preclude the necessity of any report thereon.

The G. G. Chapter then proceeded to the further election—

Editorial note: The manuscript says the constitution was "unanimously amended" after putting the question on adoption. That wording is retained.

Reader page 17 · 1853 — Remaining officers elected; Ancient Chapter appeal and jurisdiction report

—of G. G. Officers, Comps. Gould & Tucker having been appointed tellers, and completed the Same by the election of;

- M. E. Nathan B. Haswell, of Vt. — G. G. C. H.
- M. E. F. H. C. Melody, of Mo. — G. G. R. A. C.

Comp. Mackey, from the committee on Grievances, made the following report:

The Committee on Grievances, to whom was referred the appeal of Ancient Chapter No. 1, from the action of the G. G. Chapter of the State of N. Y., in relation to the Said Chapter, respectfully report, as follows: The right of a Subordinate Chapter to appeal to this G. G. Chapter from the decisions of its G. Chapter is a right for the declaration of which, your committee have in vain Searched in the constitution of this G. G. Chapter — it is a right, for the admission of which, they cannot find a precedent in the proceedings of this body — and the acknowledgement of which on the present occasion would be furnishing a precedent that your committee believe would be productive of many & important and almost fatal evils in the legislation of R. A. Masonry.

The phrase in the 2d Section of the first article of the constitution, which grants to the G. G. Chapter the power “to Settle all difficulties which may arise,” Seems to your committee to refer to difficulties which may arise between State G. Chapters, and not to those occurring between those bodies, and their Subordinates. And your committee are led to this conclusion, because in a preceding part of the Same Section it is asserted that this General G. Body Shall have and maintain jurisdiction over all State G. Chapters, and over Chapters in those States, Districts, Republics, or Territories, which recognize this jurisdiction, and where there is no Grand Chapter regularly established agreeably to the provisions of this constitution — thus clearly confining the jurisdiction over Subordinate Chapters to those existing in States where there are no G. Chapters.

These expressions are So clear, that where there is a G. Chapter in a State, this general body can have no jurisdiction over its Subordinates except So far as acquired through the G. Chapter. But if there be no immediate jurisdiction, there can be no immediate right of appeal, for the right of appeal involves of necessity the fact of jurisdiction. Believing therefore that Ancient Chapter No. 1 has no right to appeal from the action of the G. Chapter of N. Y. to this body, your committee have not felt—

Editorial note: The committee’s reference to “the G. G. Chapter of the State of N. Y.” is retained as written.

Reader page 18 · 1853 — Grievances report: Orient Chapter and New York proceedings

—themselves authorized to inquire into the merits of the questions pending between the G. Chapter of N. Y. and one of its Subordinates, and ask therefore to be discharged from the further consideration of this Subject.

But in the course of the investigations which have led to this conclusion, your committee have had brought to their view, certain proceedings of the G. Chapter of N. Y. in relation to other matters which they think imperatively require your consideration and jurisdiction, and which proceedings they will now briefly detail.

In the year 1850, and for Some years previously, there was and had been existing in the State of N. Y. a body of Spurious R. A. Masons, calling itself “Orient Chapter,” and which was working without legal warrant, but deriving its authority from a clandestine Mason in that State, named Henry C. Atwood. The members consisted of persons acknowledging allegiance to the body Styled the “St. John’s Grand Lodge” which has been pronounced clandestine by all the lodges of the world.

In 1851, a Masonic union was effected between the St. John’s G. Lodge and the regularly constituted G. Lodge of N. Y., and all its adherents were declared to be Master Masons in good Standing. In the Same year, the G. Chapter of N. Y. rec’d a memorial from Orient Chapter, the clandestine body, to which reference has already been made, praying for a warrant of constitution. The memorial was referred to a committee, who reported a resolution declaring, that the R. A. Masons who were, or had been, officers or members of Orient Chapter, Should be “fully and entirely restored and healed, collectively and individually,” and entitled to all the rights and

privileges of R. A. Masons, and that their past officers Should be entitled to rank as Such in the fraternity. A warrant of constitution was at the Same time ordered to be issued to Said Chapter.

It is due in justice to the representative of N. Y. now in this G. G. Chapter, and who was chairman of the committee that recommended the action, to Say, that as reported by him, they contemplated the issuing of the warrant “on the Same terms on which warrants are issued to new Chapters,” which of course must have included the payment of fees and a recommendation of the nearest Chapter. But this part of the report was Subsequently modified, and on motion of another comp., a warrant was issued free of charge.

Editorial note: The descriptions of the nineteenth-century bodies and persons here are the committee’s historical statements, transcribed as written.

Reader page 19 · 1853 — Ancient Chapter appeal dismissed; divided vote on Orient resolution begins

The warrant was accordingly issued, and Orient Chapter is now recognized on the registry of N. Y. as a regular Chapter in good Standing. The irregularities of which the G. Chapter of N. Y. has been guilty, appear then to be these:

It has by a mere resolution, collectively admitted and healed, (or we Should Say more properly declared to be healed, Since we deny this Summary mode of healing,) a body of clandestinely made Masons; recognized all their acts & doings when clandestine, as regular, and granted them a warrant of constitution free of all charge, and without the recommendation of the nearest Chapter, in direct contravention of the Constitutions of this G. G. Body, and all the principles of R. A. Masonry. We will not comment on these irregularities because they must appear evident to every companion who Shall hear a Statement of the facts above detailed. But we cannot refrain from expressing the hope, that the G. Chapter of N. Y. will respect the opinions and feelings of its Companions throughout the U. S., who must necessarily censure these proceedings, and atone for the error which is inadvertently committed by magnanimous acknowledgement, and by prompt redress.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
Albert G. Mackey,
Edward A. Raymond,
E. G. Storer,
Philip R. Schley.

Which report was accompanied by the following resolutions.

Resolved, That the appeal of Ancient Chapter No. 1, be dismissed.

Resolved, That the G. Chapter of N. Y. be directed to retrace its Steps in the case of Orient Chapter.

The first of Said resolutions was read, considered and agreed to.

The G. G. Chapter then proceeded to the consideration of the Second resolution, and the question on agreeing to the Same, being taken by ayes and nays, resulted as follows:

Ayes — continued on scan 20

Officer or chapter	Votes
G. G. Treas., E. A. Raymond	1
G. G. Marshal, N. B. Haswell	1
G. Chapter of Vt.	4
Kent’y	4
S. Carolina	4
Georgia	2

Noes — continued on scan 20

Officer or chapter	Votes
G. G. H. P., Robt. P. Dunlap	1
G. G. King, Willis Stewart	1
G. G. Sec., B. B. French	1
G. Chapter of Maine	4
Mass.	4
Conn.	4

Editorial note: Schley’s middle initial is written “R.” in these signatures; other scans give “T.” The source reading is retained.

Reader page 20 · 1853 — Orient vote concluded; revised healing resolution adopted; foreign report

Ayes — continued from scan 19

Chapter	Votes
G. Chapter of Miss.	4
Mo.	4
Total	24

Noes — continued from scan 19

Chapter	Votes
G. Chapter of Ohio	4
Georgia	2
Ind.	4
Ill.	4
Mich.	4
Total	33

So Said resolution was rejected.

Comp. Lewis moved that Said report be recommitted, with instructions to Strike therefrom all that censures the G. Chapter of N. Y., which was decided in the negative.

The report was then recommitted without instructions.

Comp. Mackey, from Said committee, forthwith reported back the following resolution which was considered and agreed to, viz:

Resolved, That the G. Chapter of N. Y. cause all the R. A. Masons made illegally by Orient Chapter, to be healed, and that they issue a new warrant to Said Chapter, with the recommendation of the nearest Chapters, and the payment of the usual fees.

Comp. Rowe from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which was agreed to.

To the M. E. G. G. Chapter of the U. S.

The undersigned, appointed at the opening of the G. G. Chapter a Committee on Foreign Correspondence, respectfully report that they have called upon the M. E. G. G. Secretary for Such documents and papers as Should rightly come before them, and having been informed that he had nothing in his possession demanding their attention.

They therefore respectfully ask to be discharged.
A. V. Rowe,
David Clarke,
L. Lusk,
S. W. Robinson,
Ezra Platt.

Sept. 18th, 1853.

Leave of absence was asked and granted for Companions Lusk, Hall, Lewis, Edwards, and Dodds.

And then the G. G. Chapter was called off until tomorrow at 9 o’Clock A. M.

Editorial note: The broad direction to “retrace its Steps” is rejected, 24–33. The later, specific healing-and-warrant resolution on this scan is agreed to.

Reader page 21 · 1853 — September 20: representative fund committee report

Tuesday, Sept. 20, 1853

The G. G. Chapter met, and was called to labor by the M. E. G. G. H. P.

Prayer by the Rev. G. G. Chaplain, pro tem.

Comp. Schley from the Committee on Unfinished Business, made the following report:

The Committee on Unfinished Business, report —

That the action of this G. G. Body upon Several of the Subjects, rightly came in their proper places before them now, but two, upon which to express their views, viz: “A representative fund, and the permanent location of this G. G. Chapter.

Concurring in the opinion as to the representative fund of Several State G. Chapters, as also the committee of this body at its last convocation, your committee believe a representative fund necessary; and to make its burthens and benefits equal upon all, they deem a per capita tax of ten cents upon each member under the jurisdiction of the respective Grand and Subordinate Chapters, the fairest, most equal & most efficient mode of raising Said fund. They believe that the money

arising from Said fund, Should be transmitted every year in which this G. G. Body Sits, at least one month before the day of its commencing by each and every Secretary of the State G. & Subordinate Chapters, to the G. G. Secretary, and become an integral part of the G. G. Treasury.

Your committee are of opinion, that the G. G. Officers, and representatives of G. and Subordinate Chapters in this body, Should be paid out of the G. G. Treasury, their, and each of their, actual, necessary travelling, and other expenses, to, at, and returning home from the Sessions of this G. G. Body.

The accounts to be made out by each officer and delegate on the faith of a R. A. Mason, &, and be paid by the G. G. Treasurer, a receipt for which, Shall be a Sufficient voucher to that officer.

Philip T. Schley,
S. W. Robinson,
A. B. Thompson,
E. G. Storer,
W. R. Lackey.

Which report was accompanied by the following resolutions:

Reader page 22 · 1853 — Representative fund tax amended, then rejected 17–46

Resolved, That a representative fund be and is hereby established, by this G. G. Chapter, to be raised by the Several State G. Chapters, and Subordinate Chapters under their jurisdiction, by a per capita tax of ten cents, (.10) upon each and every member, returned to and under the jurisdiction of Said Chapters; and that the Said tax be remitted to the G. G. Secretary, by each and every Secretary of Said Chapters, at least one month before the day of the triennial meeting of this G. G. Chapter.

Resolved, That Said tax, when So rec’d by the G. G. Secretary, Shall be paid over by him to the G. G. Treasurer, and become an integral part of the G. G. Treasury.

Resolved, That the G. G. Officers, and representatives of G. Chapters, and Subordinate ones, in this G. G. Chapter Shall be paid their, and each of their necessary, actual expenses incurred in coming to, remaining at, and returning home from the triennial meetings of this G. G. Chapter, calculating their travelling expenses as by the nearest practicable travelling route, coming and returning.

Resolved, That the account of Said expenses made out by the officer or delegate, on the faith of a R. A. Mason, and receipted to by him, Shall be a Sufficient voucher to the G. G. Treasury, for Such payment.

The 1st of Said resolutions was amended by Striking out “ten” and inserting “twenty.”

The question then recurred on the adoption of Said resolutions, and was decided in the negative, ayes — 17, noes — 46.

The yeas and nays being called, were as follows:

Ayes

Officer or chapter	Votes
G. G. H. P.	1
G. G. Secretary	1
G. G. Marshall	1
P. G. G. Scribe	1
G. Chapter of Maine	4
Md.	4
Georgia	4
San Francisco Chap.	1
Total	17

Nays

Officer or chapter	Votes
G. G. King	1
G. G. Treasurer	1
G. Chapter of N. H.	4
R. I.	4
Conn.	4
Kent.	4
S. C.	4
Ala.	4
Ind.	4
Ill.	4
Miss.	4
Mo.	4
Mich.	4
Total	46

Editorial note: The change from ten to twenty cents is accepted as an amendment to the proposal. The resulting fund resolutions are then rejected, 17–46.

Reader page 23 · 1853 — Permanent location postponed; Hartford 1856 selected; additional finance

Comp. Schley, of Geo., from the committee appointed to consider the permanent location of the Sessions of the G. G. Chapter, reported that —

The permanent location of the Sessions of this G. G. Body, is a Subject So fraught with difficulties, that at this late period of this Session your committee deem any action upon it, would be quite

unsatisfactory to many State G. Chapters & therefore recommend that the Same be indefinitely postponed. Which report was agreed to, and the Subject indefinitely postponed.

Comp. Raymond from the committee to which was referred the Subject of the next place of meeting, made the following report, viz:

The Committee to whom was referred the next place of meeting for this G. G. Chapter, respectfully recommend that the next triennial communication of the G. G. Chapter of the U. S. be held in the City of Hartford, in the State of Connecticut, in September 1856.

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
Edward A. Raymond,
W. B. Hubbard,
Nathan B. Haswell,
L. Lusk,
A. V. Rowe.

Which report was considered and agreed to.

Comp. Hubbard from the Committee on Finance made the following report which was read, considered and agreed to, viz:

The Committee on Finance ask leave to make this, their additional report —

That Since their last report, there has been referred to them the acct. of the G. G. Secretary, commencing on the 13th inst. & ending the 14th inclusive, as follows:

Additional Secretary’s account

Item	Amount
Total amount of moneys rec’d	$115.00
Amt. paid for Stationary	.77
C. W. Moore (advertising)	$2.00
Masonic Union	1.50
G. G. Treasurer	110.73
Total payments	$115.00

For all which correct vouchers accompany Said Statement which acct. accompanies this report, marked A.

Reader page 24 · 1853 — Officers’ allowances and proposed Baltimore work convention

Your Committee have also had under consideration the Subject matter of allowances to the G. G. Officers, of Suitable Sums to cover expenses attending the Session, and have agreed to recommend for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid to

Recommended allowances

Officer or payee	Amount
R. P. Dunlap, M. E. G. G. H. Priest, and inclusive of postage accounts	$125.00
Willis Stewart, M. E. G. G. King	25.00
B. B. French, M. E. G. G. Secretary, inclusive of hall expenses for this Session	250.00
E. A. Raymond, M. E. G. G. Treasurer	50.00
N. B. Haswell, M. E. G. G. Marshall	100.00
Wm. H. Forsyth, M. E. G. G. Priest pro tem.	15.00
P. Swigert, ass’t to G. G. Secretary	15.00
Administrator of estate of M. E. Jos. K. Stapleton, late D. G. G. H. P., for back expenses	7.50
D. D. Richardson, G. G. Guard	20.00
Ass’t Marshall	10.00

All of which is respectfully Submitted.
W. B. Hubbard,
E. S. Barnum,
A. B. Thompson,
A. P. Pfister.

On motion of Comp. Cunningham,

Resolved, That in addition to the above allowance already made to our M. E. G. G. Priest pro tem., Forsyth, the Sum of ten dollars be made, So that the whole Sum allowed him be twenty-five dollars.

Comp. Koppert offered the following resolution:

Whereas, this G. G. Chapter have been unable to adopt any particular mode of work on the Several Chapter Degrees, for the purpose of promoting uniformity of work in all the Chapters under this jurisdiction, therefore,

Resolved, That the G. Chapters under this jurisdiction be Severally requested to appoint a delegate to meet in convention, on the 2d Monday of May, 1855, in the City of Baltimore, for the purpose of revising and agreeing upon a mode of work, to be recommended to each of the G. Chapters under this jurisdiction, to be by them considered, and if approved, adopted as the work of their respective Chapters, and by that means obtain a uniform mode—

Reader page 25 · 1853 — Work proposal tabled; installation; Stapleton memorial adopted

—of work in all the Chapters under this jurisdiction; and that Said G. Chapters express their Sentiments on this Subject at the next triennial communication of this G. G. Chapter, through their representatives.

Which resolution was laid on the Table.

On motion Comp. Stewart.

Resolved, That the thanks of this G. G. Chapter be given to Webb Encampment, No. 1, of K. T., for the kindness and courtesy extended to the officers and members of this Body, by inviting them to their Elegant Entertainment.

On motion the G. G. Chapter then proceeded to the installation of the G. G. Officers elect.

The M. E. & Hon. Robt. P. Dunlap was installed by the M. E. Willis Stewart, D. G. G. H. Priest.

The other officers were then installed by the G. G. H. P., and proclamation was made by the G. G. C. H. according to ancient form.

On motion Comp. Gilman,

Resolved, That the G. G. Treasurer be authorized and directed to procure Suitable collars and jewels for those of the G. G. Officers, for whom none have been procured.

Comp. Gilman, from the committee to which was referred So much of the address of the M. E. G. G. H. Priest, as alludes to the death of our late M. E. Comp. Jos. K. Stapleton, made the following report, accompanied by a resolution, which was read, considered, and unanimously agreed to, viz:

The committee, to whom was referred the Subject of the death of our late M. E. Comp. Jos. K. Stapleton, beg leave to report the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this G. G. Body has learnt, with deep regret, that our M. E. Comp. Jos. K. Stapleton, late D. G. G. H. P., has Since our last communication, departed this life. In this dispensation of Providence, our Order has lost one of its firmest friends, most zealous Supporters, and most tried and faithful Servants.

Resolved, That this Body Sincerely Sympathize with the family of our departed Companion, in his afflictions, & that an engrossed copy of these resolutions, under the Seal of this body, be transmitted to them by the G. G. Secretary.

Chas. Gilman,
Wm. T. Gould,
Chas. W. Moore,
A. V. Rowe.
Comm.

Editorial note: The proposed Baltimore convention resolution is laid on the table. The memorial resolutions and their historical transmission instruction are transcribed as part of the minutes.

Reader page 26 · 1853 — Thanks to Dunlap and session closed until Hartford in 1856

On motion of Comp. Mackey, Resolved unanimously, that the thanks of this G. G. Chapter be returned to M. E. Comp. R. P. Dunlap, G. G. H. Priest for the ability and urbanity with which he has discharged the duties of a presiding officer, during the present Session of this Body.

The G. G. H. P. then rose and addressed the G. G. Chapter in a most eloquent and feeling manner.

On motion of Comp. O’Sullivan, the Free Mason’s farewell was then Sung by the Companions present, & the General Grand Chapter of the United States, was closed in harmony, to assemble again at Hartford, in the State of Connecticut, on the Second Tuesday of September, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six.

Attest,
B. B. French,
G. G. Secretary.

Reader page 27 · Appendix — Treasurer’s ledger, 1850–1853

Dr. — General Grand Chapter in account with Edward A. Raymond, Treasurer — Cr.

Dr. — payments and balance

Date	Entry	Amount
1850, Sept. 14	To cash paid R. P. Dunlap	55.00
Sept. 14	J. K. Stapleton	100.00
Sept. 14	W. Stewart	120.00
Sept. 14	E. S. Barnum	25.00
Sept. 14	C. W. Moore	25.00
Sept. 14	N. B. Haswell	45.00
Sept. 14	Danl. Balch	10.00
Sept. 14	H. H. Tuttle	25.00
Sept. 14	La Fayette Chap., Vt., as per voucher 36	94.00
Sept. 21	Exchange on uncurrent money	3.63
—	J. T. Towers’ bill printing proceedings, &c.	220.50
—	Peck & Beach’s bill	36.18
—	Telegraph despatch to [W. J. H.?]	3.18
—	Postage to date	4.69
—	For Trunk	7.00
—	To balance	5,658.96
—	Total as written	6,433.14

Cr. — receipts and balance

Date	Entry	Amount
1850, Sept. 9	By balance	$4,854.26
Sept. 10	By cash rec’d of San Felipe De Austin Chap., Galveston	58.00
Sept. 10	Howard R. A. Chap., Upper Alton, Ill.	8.00
Sept. 11	E. S. Barnum, Dispensation to Cal. & Ill.	90.00
Sept. 11	W. Stewart, on acc’t	99.55
Sept. 11	Union Chap. No. 1, Newark, N. J.	32.00
Sept. 11	Newark Chap., N. Jersey, U. D.	28.00
Sept. 11	Union Chap., Newark, N. J., G. Sec’s fees	10.00
Sept. 12	Union Chap. No. 1, G. Sec’s fees	10.00
Sept. 13	Jacksonville Chap., Ill.	52.00
Sept. 16	Jerusalem Chap., Vergennes, Vt.	10.00
Sept. 18	Jerusalem Chap. No. 3, Anderson, Texas	20.00
Sept. 18	San Jacinto Chap. No. 7, Huntsville, Tx.	34.00
Sept. 19	Springfield Chap. No. 1, Ill.	14.00
Oct. 26	Shawneetown Chap. for Exaltations	36.00
Oct. 29	By cash received of J. K. Stapleton, Supposed to have been rec’d from Edwards Chapter, Arks., less collection	98.00
1852, Mar. 31	B. B. French, on account	175.00
1853, Mar. 18	J. K. Stapleton, for two Dispensations issued by him, one at Fairfield, Iowa	190.00
June 3	B. B. French, G. G. Secretary	150.88
Sept. 1	By interest on money loaned with collateral Security, from Jan. 15, 1851, to date	472.50
—	Total as written	$6,433.14
—	By Balance	$5,658.96

Editorial note: The manuscript ledger is sideways in the supplied scan. Its two sides are presented separately here. A dash marks a date not entered for that row. The payments total $774.18; adding the stated closing balance gives the written total of $6,433.14. The separately listed credit amounts, including the opening balance and interest, total $6,442.19, $9.05 above that written total. The $99.55 Stewart entry was checked in an enlarged view and is retained. The opening balance here is $4,854.26, while scan 4 writes $4,850.26. No figures have been silently corrected.

Reader page 28 · Appendix — Register of subordinate chapters, Missouri through Louisiana

Register of Subordinate Chapters

Missouri

Chapter	No.	Location
Missouri	1	St. Louis
Palmyra	2	Palmyra
Liberty	3	Liberty
Weston	4	Weston
Boonville	5	Boonville
Fayette	6	Fayette
Hannibal	7	Hannibal
St. Louis	8	St. Louis

Illinois

Chapter	No.	Location
Springfield	1	Springfield
La Fayette	2	Chicago
Jacksonville	3	Jacksonville
Horeb	4	Henderson
Quincy	5	Quincy
Shawneetown	6	Shawneetown

Michigan

Chapter	No.	Location
Monroe	1	Detroit
St. Joseph Valley	2	Niles
Jackson	3	Jackson

Iowa

Chapter	No.	Location
Iowa	1	Burlington
Iowa City	2	Iowa City
Du Buque	3	Du Buque

Wisconsin

Chapter	No.	Location
Milwaukee	1	Milwaukee
Washington	2	Platteville
Southport	3	Southport

Arkansas

Chapter	No.	Location
Far West	1	Fayetteville
Union	2	Little Rock

Louisiana

Chapter	No.	Location
Holland	9	New Orleans
New Era	—	New Orleans
Red River	—	Shreveport
(E. F.) Clinton	—	East Feliciana Parish

Editorial note: This undated register is appended after the closing minutes. It is transcribed as a historical list, without assuming that it is a complete list for 1853. The Louisiana entry for Holland is written “No. 9”; numbers are not entered for the following three chapters, represented here by dashes. Ditto marks for locations and repeated column labels are expanded.

Reader page 29 · Appendix — Texas, struck-out Georgia entry and North Carolina register

Register continued — Texas

Texas

Chapter	No.	Location
San Felipe de Austin	1	Galveston

Struck-out entry: Georgia — Constantine, at Macon.

North Carolina

North Carolina

Chapter	No.	Location
Phoenix	—	Fayetteville
Concord	—	Wilmington

Editorial note: The Georgia heading, chapter name, and Macon location are crossed out in the manuscript. No chapter numbers are entered for the North Carolina names. Most of the remaining leaf is blank; faint show-through is not transcribed as new text. This is the final scan supplied in the 29-scan Volume E file. The 1853 session closes on scan 26, followed by the ledger and register supplements.

1856 Volume 2A

Read the typed text of all 100 PDF scans, covering the Hartford proceedings of September 1856, financial accounts and attendance lists, followed by the opening Chicago proceedings of September 1859. The file retains its library title “1856 Volume 2A.” Scan numbers match the PDF reader above.

The 1856 session closes on scan 78; accounts and attendance lists follow on scans 79–86, then a blank leaf. The 1859 Chicago session begins on scan 88, and the supplied file ends during its credentials report on scan 100. Uncertain names in binding shadows, conflicting written dates or financial totals, and variations in chapter names or numbers are marked. Proposed amendments and their recorded dispositions are distinguished.

Original source PDF · 100 source pages

Reader page 1 · Volume 2 cover

Records of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

Vol. 2.

Editorial note: Red cloth cover with gilt lettering; its surface is worn.

Reader page 2 · Blank supplied PDF page

Editorial note: This supplied PDF page is blank and contains no text to transcribe.

Reader page 3 · Blank preliminary manuscript leaf

Editorial note: A ruled preliminary leaf with no substantive writing visible. Faint show-through is not transcribed as new text.

Reader page 4 · 1856 — Hartford triennial session opens; officers and chaplain

Proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America

1856 : 2390.

The Triennial Session of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States was held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Hartford, in the State of Connecticut, on Tuesday, the [9th?] day of September, A. D., 1856.

Present

- M. E. Charles Gilman, G. G. K. — as G. G. High Priest.
- M. E. David Clark — as G. G. King.
- M. E. Albert G. Mackey — as G. G. Scribe.
- M. E. Edward A. Raymond — G. G. Treas.
- M. E. Benjamin B. French — G. G. Secretary.
- M. E. George M. Lamb — as G. G. C. of the H.
- M. E. [E.?] H. C. Melody — G. G. R. A. C.

The G. G. Chapter was Opened in form by the G. G. King, as High Priest, assisted by the other officers.

The G. G. H. P. pro tem. then announced the appointment of the Rev. Comp. G. M. Willey, of Connecticut, as Chaplain for this Triennial Session, in conformity with the Constitution.

Editorial note: The day of the month is obscured by the binding shadow; its uncertain reading is marked. The secondary year “2390” is transcribed as written, without alteration.

Reader page 5 · 1856 — Prayer, Stewart’s absence, credentials committee and publication of proceedings

The G. G. Chaplain was conducted to the Altar, and offered up a fervent prayer to the Most High.

Comp. French, G. G. Secretary, presented a letter from M. E. Willis Stewart, Deputy G. G. H. P., expressing his regret at being unable to attend this Triennial meeting in consequence of indisposition; which letter was read, and it was Ordered, That it be placed on file and be printed with the proceedings.

The Presiding Officer announced the following Companions as the Committee on Credentials, viz:

Companions Moore, of Massachusetts; Thrall, of Ohio; Tucker, Jr., of Texas; Schley, of Georgia; and Sanford, of Connecticut.

On motion of Comp. Mackey,

Resolved, That all Royal Arch Masons in good Standing be admitted as visitors to this G. G. Chapter during the Triennial Session.

Comp. Mackey moved, That Comp. Rob. Morris, of Kentucky, have liberty to furnish to Some newspaper in the City of Hartford, Such of the Proceedings of this G. G. Body, for publication, as he may deem proper.

Comp. Koppel moved that the motion of Comp. Mackey do lie on the table until tomorrow; which was decided in the negative.

Comp. Murphy moved, That the proceedings to be furnished, be first Submitted for inspection to the G. G. H. P.; which motion was lost.

Comp. Mackey’s motion was then agreed to.

The G. G. Chapter was then called from labor until this—

Reader page 6 · 1856 — September 9 afternoon; Dunlap takes the chair and credentials begin

—afternoon at 3 o’Clock.

September 9, 1856 — 3 o’Clock P. M.

The G. G. Chapter met.

The M. E. and Hon. Robert P. Dunlap, G. G. H. P., appeared, took the Chair, and called the G. G. Chapter to labor.

Comp. Tucker, of Texas, from the Committee on Credentials, made the following report, which was read and accepted, viz:

The Committee on Credentials having examined all the documents presented to them, report the following Companions as entitled to Seats as members of the G. G. Chapter, viz:

From Maine

- A. B. Thompson, G. H. P.

- Stephen Webber, G. K.

New Hampshire

- John Christie, G. H. P.
- Moses Paul, G. K.
- Horace Chase, proxy for G. Scribe.

Vermont

- Philip C. Tucker, Sr., G. H. P.
- Daniel L. Potter, proxy for D. G. H. P.
- Thomas H. Campbell, G. King.
- John B. Hollenbeck, proxy for G. Scribe.

Massachusetts

- John McClellan, proxy for G. H. P., G. K., and G. S.

Reader page 7 · 1856 credentials — Rhode Island through South Carolina

Rhode Island

- James Salsbury, proxy for G. H. P.
- John Eldred, D. G. H. P.
- Joseph Belcher, G. K.

Connecticut

- Isaac N. Coe, G. H. P.
- David Clark, D. G. H. P.
- Samuel Trip, G. King.
- J. C. Blackman, G. Scribe.

New York

- Charles L. Church, G. H. P.
- Peter P. Murphy, D. G. H. P.
- James M. Austin, proxy for G. S.

Maryland and District of Columbia

- Enoch S. Courtney, G. H. P.
- George M. Lamb, proxy for G. K.

Ohio

- Horace M. Stokes, G. H. P.
- William B. Thrall, proxy for D. G. H. P.
- Platt Benedict, G. King.
- Benjamin F. Smith, proxy for G. S.

Kentucky

- Rob. Morris, proxy for G. Scribe.

North Carolina

- Peter Custis, G. H. P.

South Carolina

- Albert G. Mackey, G. H. P.
- Theodore S. Gourdin, G. King.
- Henry Buist, G. Scribe.

Reader page 8 · 1856 credentials — Georgia through Texas

Georgia

- Philip T. Schley, G. H. P.

Alabama

- William A. Ferill, G. H. P.
- Thos. C. Hartwell, D. G. H. P.
- R. P. Watson, G. King.

Indiana

- William Hacker, G. H. P.
- James R. Mendenhall, G. K.
- George W. Porter, G. Scribe.

Illinois

- Ira A. W. Buck, G. H. P.
- M. J. Noyes, proxy for G. Scribe.

Mississippi

- Charles Koppel, proxy for G. H. P.
- Charles Scott, proxy for D. G. H. P.

Louisiana

- Amos Adams, G. H. P.
- J. Q. A. Fellows, D. G. H. P.
- Albert Pike, proxy for G. King.

Missouri

- A. O’Sullivan, proxy for G. H. P. and D. G. H. P.
- John D. Daggett, proxy for G. K. and G. S.

Texas

- James L. Green, G. H. P.
- Philip C. Tucker, Jr., proxy for D. G. H. P.

- Andrew Neill, G. King.
- James Sorley, proxy for G. Scribe.

Reader page 9 · Credentials concluded; General Grand Secretary’s report begins

Michigan

- Frederick Booher, G. Scribe.

Arkansas

- Luke E. Barber, G. H. P.

Wisconsin

- Rufus Delos Pulford, G. H. P.

Iowa

- James R. Hartsock, G. H. P.
- Theodore S. Parvin, proxy for G. King and G. S.

California

- O. H. Dibble, G. H. P.

Hiram Chapter, No. 4, Eatontown, N. J.

- George A. Tator, High Priest.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Philip C. Tucker, Jr.
Wm. B. Thrall.
Wm. E. Sanford.
Philip T. Schley.

Comp. French, G. G. Secretary, made the following report, which was read.

The General Grand Secretary’s Report

The General Grand Secretary, in accordance with a standing order of the G. G. Chapter, adopted in [1841?], directing that officer to present a report on the first day of each Triennial Session, reports as follows:

In compliance with the directions of this Body at its last Triennial Convocation, I caused the resolutions, expressive of the sympathy of the G. G. Chapter with the family of our late D. G. H. P., Joseph—

Editorial note: The year of the standing order is difficult to distinguish in the manuscript. The sentence continues on reader page 10.

Reader page 10 · Secretary’s report — correspondence and Hiram Chapter petition

R. Stapleton, in consequence of his decease, to be elegantly engrossed and framed and presented to the family of the deceased.

My correspondence, as G. G. Secretary, has been considerable during the three years’ recess, but generally of a nature not to require special attention here. Such of it as I deem of sufficient importance to be called specially to the attention of this G. G. Body, I will now proceed to mention.

Upon examining the papers which came into my possession at our last Triennial meeting, after its adjournment I found amongst them a petition from the officers and members of Hiram Chapter, No. 4, Eatontown, New Jersey, directed to the G. G. Chapter, dated February 3d, 1852, setting forth that that Chapter was, many years before, chartered by the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, and continued to work under said Charter as long as that Grand Chapter was in existence. That it was then “taken under the fostering care of the Grand Chapter of New York, to which it had ever since been subservient,” and praying to be acknowledged and registered as one of the subordinates of this G. G. Chapter.

To this petition was appended full power from the Grand Chapter of New York to the petitioners to transfer their allegiance from the G. Chapter of New York to this G. G. Chapter.

That petition seems, from the endorsement upon it, in the handwriting of Comp. [Forget?], who dated—

Editorial note: The surname in the final line is uncertain. The report continues on reader page 11.

Reader page 11 · Secretary’s report — Hiram Chapter registered; Fairfield correspondence

as my assistant, to have been referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

It is not, however, mentioned in the proceedings, and probably, by some oversight, never went to the proper Committee.

In July, 1854, I received a letter from the High Priest of Hiram Chapter, inquiring what had been done in relation to the petition of that Chapter, to which I replied, stating the facts as they stood, and advising him to correspond with the G. G. High Priest, which he did, and, on the 14th of November, I received from M. E. G. G. H. Priest, Wm. B. P. Dunlap, a letter dated the 7th of that month, directing me to register Hiram Chapter on the roll of Chapters subordinate to this G. G. Chapter and receive the returns, which I did on that day, and notified the High Priest, M. E. Comp. George Finch, thereof, and said Chapter has made regular returns to me, and acted in all respects as a subordinate to this G. G. Chapter ever since.

I presume that a Charter will be ordered to issue to Hiram Chapter, in the same manner as if it had been regularly under a Dispensation from our G. G. High Priest.

The papers relative to this transaction accompany this report, marked A.

In October, 1853, I received a letter from Comp. Charles Gilman, administrator of the estate of Joseph K. Stapleton, accompanied by a letter from William E. Sargent, Secretary of McCord Chapter of R. A. Masons, U. D., at Fairfield, Iowa, addressed to Comp. Staple—

Reader page 12 · Secretary’s report — McCord Chapter and a returned charter fee

ton, from which it appeared that Comp. Stapleton had issued his Dispensation authorizing said Chapter, and that it had worked under said Dispensation and desired a Charter; a ten dollar note was enclosed in said letter to pay for the same.

No notice having been given to me of the issuing of said Dispensation, it was not officially known at our G. G. Meeting, in September, 1853, that such a Chapter was in existence. There was, it is true, a credit in the G. G. Treasurer’s accounts to Comp. Stapleton, under date of March 18th, 1853 (only thirteen days prior to Comp. Stapleton’s decease), for $190, for two Dispensations issued by him, “one at Fairfield, Iowa.”

But no official notice being given to the G. G. Chapter, of course nothing was done in relation to a Charter, and on the 27th of November I addressed Comp. Sargent officially, in reply to a letter

from him, informing him of all the circumstances, and suggesting that, as the Dispensation was dead, and a Grand Chapter formed in Iowa, that the Companions there had better apply directly to that Grand Chapter for a Charter, which, I presume, was done, as McCord Chapter, No. 5, appears amongst the registered Chapters of that State. I enclosed in my letter the identical ten dollar note received from Comp. Gilman.

I mention this matter particularly, more for the purpose of putting the circumstances on record, it being a money transaction where one of the parties is dead,—

Reader page 13 · Secretary's report — Vera Cruz dispensation refund request

than from any particular interest that now attaches to it.

In May, 1854, I received from Comp. John E. Cleland, H. P. of Indianola Chapter, Texas, a letter, dated April 2d, 1854, stating that a number of Royal Arch Masons had applied to Comp. Gilman, during the Mexican war, for a Dispensation to open a Chapter at Vera Cruz, in Mexico, and had forwarded to him one hundred dollars to pay for the same. That the Dispensation was issued and sent to him (Comp. Cleland), but was not received until after the treaty of peace was concluded, and it became a nullity.

The Companion then proceeds—

> "The object of this communication is to request of you to return to me immediately the amount of one hundred dollars paid to the G. G. Secretary, Comp. Gilman, for said Dispensation, which has never been used, nor any Chapter opened under its authority. A portion of the amount aforesaid was advanced by myself, and a portion by other Companions who hold me responsible for their respective subscriptions. I trust, therefore, that you will meet out to myself and the other Companions strict Masonic justice, and return to me the amount of one hundred dollars, advanced as aforesaid."

The following postscript was added:

> "P. S.—I trust you will answer this communication satisfactorily; otherwise I must have recourse to the General Grand Chapter."

To this letter I made reply, of which the following—

Reader page 14 · French's reply to John E. Cleland — May 26, 1854

is a copy:

> "Office of the General Grand Secretary of the
> G. G. Royal Arch Chapter of the U. S.
> City of Washington, May 26, 1854.
>
> Companion John E. Cleland, M. E. H. P.,
> Indianola Chapter, Texas.
>
> Most Excellent Sir: I have received your letter of April 2, 1854, requesting me to return to you the sum of one hundred dollars, paid to Comp. Charles Gilman for a Dispensation to open a R. A. Chapter under the G. G. Chapter of the U. S., in the city of Vera Cruz, Mexico, while he was G. Grand Secretary—the Dispensation having been issued but being of no avail, in consequence of not having been received prior to the treaty of peace.

I should suppose, from your high position as a Royal Arch Mason, that it would have occurred to you that any money paid a G. G. Secretary, so long ago as that was, had long since gone into the funds of the G. G. Chapter, and that Body alone has power to refund it to you.

You must be aware that no Secretary, Grand Secretary, or G. G. Secretary has any power whatever over any funds of the Body of which he is Secretary, but is, by his obligation, bound to pay over to the Treasurer, taking his receipt therefor.

Therefore, if anyone has the power to refund the one hundred dollars paid by you, it is the G. G.—

Reader page 15 · Secretary's report — refund referral and Pennsylvania jurisdiction

Treasurer, and not the G. G. Secretary.

But the G. G. Chapter alone has the power, and, at its next meeting, in September, 1856, if I am alive and present, I shall lay your letter before that Body and see that some action is had upon it.

Fraternally yours,
B. B. French, G. G. Secretary.

P. S. Since writing the foregoing it occurs to me that if you sent one hundred dollars, ten of it was for a Charter when granted, and that sum ($10) is in Companion Charles Gilman's hands, who will doubtless refund it to you on demand.

B. B. F."

In conformity with my promise, made in the foregoing letter, I now submit herewith the letter of Comp. Cleland, marked B, for such action as this G. G. Chapter may deem proper.

In July and August, 1854, I had a correspondence with Comp. S. Hayden, of Athens, Bradford County, Pennsylvania, and Comp. G. B. Musser, of Washington, Pennsylvania, relative to the establishing of Chapters in that State, under the authority of this G. G. Chapter.

I replied to Comp. Hayden very briefly that the G. G. Chapter, in my opinion, had no authority to do so.

To Comp. Musser I wrote, at considerable length, giving my views why it could not, and ought not to be done.

Reader page 16 · Secretary's report — preliminary degrees for Canadian visitors

As this correspondence is, in my view, of considerable importance, I submit it, herewith, marked C, and respectfully suggest that the subject is highly worthy of the consideration of a special committee.

On the 7th of July, 1855, I received a letter from Comp. F. G. Tisdall, of the city of New York, Representative of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada to the G. Lodge of New York, dated July 3d, informing me that he had received a letter from the Provincial Grand Master of Quebec, requesting him to procure authority from the G. High Priest of New York to confer the degrees of Mark, Past, and M. E. Master in Canada, for the reason that they were not necessary under the English Constitution, but to enter an American Chapter they were imperative.

Comp. Tisdall, himself aware that no right existed in the G. H. P. of New York to grant such authority, asked my opinion whether, inasmuch as authority was given by our G. G. Constitution to Subordinate Chapters to confer those degrees free of charge, on English R. A. Masons, power

could not be granted in some way to enable a properly qualified R. A. Mason in Canada to confer them there.

I replied that in my opinion the G. G. High Priest of this G. G. Chapter had power to authorize, by Dispensation, the conferring of those degrees in Canada, by which R. A. Masons in that Province would be enabled to visit our Royal Arch Chapters in the United States.

Reader page 17 · Secretary’s report — dispensations for new chapters

Comp. Tisdall’s letter, marked D, accompanies this report.

There have been issued, within my knowledge, six Dispensations for new Chapters by the G. G. Officers since our last Triennial meeting.

Comp. D. G. G. H. P. Willis Stewart issued his Dispensation for a new Chapter to certain Companions of St. Paul, Minnesota, establishing Minnesota Chapter at that place, by special direction of this G. G. Body. See proceedings of the last Triennial meeting, page 40.

Comp. Stewart did not give me official information of the issuing of said Dispensation, but the Chapter has made a regular return, and I have entered it upon my Register.

On the 12th of January, 1854, a Dispensation was issued by Comp. Charles Gilman, G. G. King, to certain Companions at Diamond Springs, California, to establish El Dorado Chapter, No. 4, at that place.

On the 18th of March, 1854, a Dispensation from the same G. G. Officer was issued to certain Companions of San Francisco, California, to establish California Chapter, No. 5, at San Francisco.

On the 23d of September, 1854, a Dispensation was issued by the same G. G. Officer to certain Companions at Jersey City, New Jersey, establishing Enterprise Chapter, No. 2, at that place.

On the 3d day of May, 1856, a Dispensation was issued by the same G. G. Officer to certain Companions at Salem, Oregon, establishing Multnomah Chapter—

Reader page 18 · Secretary’s report — jurisdictions and subordinate chapters

at that place.

On the 23d day of February, 1856, a Dispensation was issued by the G. G. High Priest, Comp. Robt. P. Dunlap, to certain Companions at Burlington, New Jersey, establishing Boudinot Chapter, No. 3, at that place.

There are now twenty-six Grand Royal Arch Chapters which acknowledge the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter in the United States, viz.:

- Maine.
- New Hampshire.
- Vermont.
- Massachusetts.
- Rhode Island.
- Connecticut.
- New York.
- Maryland and Dist. of Col.
- Ohio.

- Kentucky.
- North Carolina.
- South Carolina.
- Georgia.
- Alabama.
- Tennessee.
- Indiana.
- Illinois.
- Mississippi.
- Louisiana.
- Missouri.
- Michigan.
- Arkansas.
- Wisconsin.
- Texas.
- Iowa.
- California.

There are three which do not acknowledge that jurisdiction, viz.: in Pennsylvania, Virginia and Florida.

The only States in which there are no Grand Chapters are New Jersey and Delaware.

Union Chapter, No. 1, Newark, New Jersey, is the only regularly chartered Chapter now imme—

Reader page 19 · Secretary’s report — chapters under dispensation and declining revenue

diately subordinate to this G. G. Chapter.

The following Chapters have been working under Dispensations from the G. G. Officers, from the dates of their Dispensations to this time, viz.:

- St. Paul Chapter, No. 1, St. Paul, Minnesota.
- El Dorado Chapter, No. 4, Diamond Springs, Cala.
- California Chapter, No. 5, San Francisco, Cal.
- Enterprise Chapter, No. 2, Jersey City, New Jersey.
- Boudinot Chapter, No. 5, Burlington, New Jersey.
- Multonomah Chapter, No. 1, Salem, Oregon; and
- Hiram Chapter, No. 4, Eatontown, New Jersey, having been recognized by the G. G. H. P. as heretofore stated, now stands a regular Subordinate on the Register of this G. G. Chapter.

Unless some good reason should appear to the contrary, it is presumed that Charters will be issued to the several Chapters last named as under Dispensation. There being, however, a Grand Chapter in California, as soon as Charters are issued to the two new Chapters, now U. D. there, they will become subordinate to the Grand Chapter of that State, and only six Chapters, immediately subordinate to the G. G. Chapter, will remain.

Under these circumstances, as the entire revenue of this G. G. Body is derivable from such Subordinate Chapters, and as this reduction of Subordinates must necessarily reduce the income, so that it will be entirely inadequate to meet the necessary current expenses of the G. G. Chapter, it seems to me—

Editorial note: Boudinot Chapter is numbered 5 on this leaf, although reader page 18 records No. 3. "Multonomah" follows the spelling on this leaf. These source variations have been retained.

Reader page 20 · Secretary's report — grand chapter returns and published proceedings

that the expediency of devising some other mode of raising a sufficient revenue is worthy of serious consideration.

Every Grand Chapter in the United States, under the jurisdiction of this G. G. Body, has made regular returns, either by sending its printed proceedings, or, where they were not printed, sending a written return.

The printed proceedings have all been got up in good style, and most of them contain, besides their [technical?] proceedings, addresses by those who preside over the Grand Chapters, reports of Committees on Foreign Correspondence, and other reports on matters touching our Royal Craft; written with great ability, eloquent in language, containing information, and expressive of views and opinions of deep interest to Royal Arch Masons.

Should an attempt be made to particularize, this report would be swelled to a volume, and, as the Representatives of the Grand Chapters will probably bring before this G. G. Body all subjects which their respective Grand Chapters have deemed of sufficient importance to demand the attention of the G. G. Chapter, I shall not attempt to make particular reference to those documents.

As, however, it must be of great interest to every Royal Arch Mason in the United States to know the numerical strength of our Order, I have compiled from the returns and proceed—

Reader page 21 · 1856 officers and membership table

ings the number of Royal Arch Masons within our Royal Arch jurisdiction.

I have taken the returns of 1856, where I have them. But as some of the Grand Chapters hold their annual meetings later in the year than the G. G. Chapter, or so late that there is not time to make the returns, I have in such cases taken the last return made. And it is due to the accomplished Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Maine to say that in making up the following table, I have freely consulted the very full and accurate table attached to the printed proceedings of that Grand Chapter for 1856.

Editorial note: The printed table is presented in separate officer and membership tables for readability. Blank cells reproduce blank entries in the source; figures have not been silently reconciled.

Grand Chapter officers

Grand Chapter	Date	Grand High Priest	Residence	Grand Secretary	Residence
Maine	1856	Abner B. Thompson	Brunswick	Ira Berry	Portland
New Hampshire	1856	John Christie	Portsmouth	Horace Chase	Hopkinton
Vermont	1856	Philip C. Tucker	Vergennes	John B. Hollenbeck	Burlington
Massachusetts	1856	Daniel Harwood	Boston	Thomas Waterman	Boston
Rhode Island	1856	Samuel Lewis	Providence	William C. Barker	Providence
Connecticut	1856	Isaac H. Coe	Killingly	E. G. Storer	New Haven
New York	1856	Charles L. Church	New York	John O. Cole	Albany
Maryland and District of Columbia	Oct. 1855	Enoch S. Courtney	Baltimore	Joseph Robinson	Baltimore
Ohio	1855	Horace M. Stokes	Lebanon	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati
Kentucky	1855	Harvey T. Wilson	Shelburne	J. M. S. McCorkle	Greensburg
North Carolina	1856	Peter Custis	Newbern	T. B. Carr	Wilmington
South Carolina	1856	Albert G. Mackey	Charleston	Ebenezer Thayer	Charleston
Georgia	1856	Philip T. Schley	Columbus	B. B. Russell	Augusta
Alabama	Dec. 1855	William A. Ferrall	Hollow Square	Amand P. Pfister	Montgomery
Tennessee	Oct. 1855	S. W. Cochran	Troy	Charles A. Fuller	Nashville
Indiana	1856	William Hacker	Shelbyville	Francis King	Indianapolis
Illinois	Sep. 1855	Ira A. W. Buck	Aurora	H. G. Reynolds	Knoxville
Mississippi	1856	William Cothran	Carrollton	R. W. T. Daniel	Vicksburg
Louisiana	1856	Amos Adams	Baton Rouge	Samuel G. Risk	New Orleans
Missouri	1856	John W. Chenoweth	Springfield	A. O’Sullivan	St. Louis
Michigan	1856	Michael Shoemaker		E. S. Cheney	
Arkansas	1856	Luke E. Barber	Little Rock	A. S. Huey	
Wisconsin	1856	Rufus Delos Pulford	Mineral Point	William R. Smith	Mineral Point
Texas	1856	James L. Greene	Crockett	James M. Hall	Crockett
Iowa	1856	J. R. Hartsock	Iowa City	T. S. Parvin	Muscatine
California	1856	O. H. Dibble	Nevada	T. A. Thomas	Sacramento

Grand Chapter membership

Grand Chapter	No. of Chapters	No. of Members	Remarks
Maine	10	518	
New Hampshire	5	276	
Vermont	11	850	
Massachusetts	14	700	
Rhode Island	4	222	
Connecticut	19	1,067	
New York	75	5,500	
Maryland and District of Columbia	7	239	
Ohio	61	1,779	
Kentucky	55	1,448	
North Carolina	27	700	
South Carolina	15	600	Number does not appear, estimated.
Georgia	41	1,468	
Alabama	50	1,456	
Tennessee	40	1,300	In 1851 there were 30 Chapters and 1,058 members; 10 Chapters have been added and the added number is estimated pro rata.
Indiana	35	1,103	
Illinois	26	768	
Mississippi	61	2,126	
Louisiana	20	601	
Missouri	23	645	
Michigan	13	429	
Arkansas	10	283	
Wisconsin	11	859	
Texas	47	1,524	
Iowa	13	886	
California	16	469	
Printed total	715	26,310	

Subordinate Chapter officers

Subordinate Chapter	Date	High Priest	Residence	Secretary	Residence
Union, No. 1, Newark, N. J.					
Enterprise, No. 2, U. D., Jersey City, N. J.		A. O. Fairchild			
Hiram, No. 4, Eaton Town, N. J.	1856	George A. Tator	Long Branch	Francis Corleis	Eaton Town
Boudinot, No. 5, U. D., Burlington, N. J.		Ellwood Conner	Burlington		
Minnesota, No. 1, U. D., St. Paul, Minnesota		A. T. C. Pierson	St. Paul		
Multonomah, No. 1, U. D., Salem, Oregon		F. Farnsworth	Salem	N. Huber	Salem
Eldorado, No. 4, U. D., Diamond Springs, Cal.					
California, No. 5, U. D., San Francisco, Cal.		P. A. Brinsmade	San Francisco		

Subordinate Chapter membership

Subordinate Chapter	No. of Chapters	No. of Members
Union, No. 1, Newark, N. J.	1	
Enterprise, No. 2, U. D., Jersey City, N. J.	1	
Hiram, No. 4, Eaton Town, N. J.	1	23
Boudinot, No. 5, U. D., Burlington, N. J.	1	56
Minnesota, No. 1, U. D., St. Paul, Minnesota	1	
Multonomah, No. 1, U. D., Salem, Oregon	1	22
Eldorado, No. 4, U. D., Diamond Springs, Cal.	1	
California, No. 5, U. D., San Francisco, Cal.	1	
Printed combined total	723	26,411

Editorial note: The printed totals are retained as printed. The transcribed Grand Chapter rows add to 709 Chapters and 27,816 members, differing from the printed 715 and 26,310. The combined printed total adds the eight subordinate Chapters and the 101 members entered for Hiram, Boudinot and Multonomah.

Reader page 22 · Secretary’s report — estimated strength of Royal Arch Masonry

From the foregoing table it will be seen that there are 26,411 affiliated Royal Arch Masons belonging to Chapters acknowledging the jurisdiction of this G. G. Chapter.

In 1855, there were in Virginia 32 Chapters, containing 939 R. A. Masons.

In Florida there are 11 Chapters containing [418?] Royal Arch Masons.

I have never seen a copy of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, and have no means of ascertaining the number of Royal Arch Masons in that State, but have no doubt, judging

from the Freemasons I saw there assembled at the dedication of the magnificent Masonic Temple recently erected in Philadelphia, they number by thousands.

The undoubted statistics that I have examined show that there are more than 30,000 affiliated R. A. Masons in the United States.

To these may be added those affiliated in Pennsylvania, and a large number in all parts of the United States who are not affiliated, which would certainly swell our numbers to “at least forty thousand,” and—to use my own language upon another occasion—“when it is considered that these must all be men of good standing and character in the communities where they dwell, what an all-powerful moral influence must they exert over their—

Editorial note: Florida’s membership figure is partly obscured by the binding shadow and is marked uncertain. The report’s numerical claims are transcribed as written.

Reader page 23 · Secretary’s report referred; installation committee; September 10

fellow men.”

All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. B. French,
G. G. Secretary.

On motion of Comp. Murphy,

Ordered, That said report be referred to a select Committee.

Comps. Tucker, of Vermont, Courtney and Murphy were appointed the said Committee.

On motion of Comp. Mackey,

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed, to whom shall be referred the duty of preparing a formula for the installation of the officers of Grand Chapters under the jurisdiction of the G. G. Chapter.

Companions Mackey, Moore, Pike, Church & Schley were appointed.

And then the G. G. Chapter was called from labor until tomorrow at 9 o’clock A. M.

Wednesday, September 10, 1856

The G. G. Chapter met and was called to labor by the G. G. H. P.

Prayer by the Rev. Comp. G. G. Chaplain.

Comp. Tucker, Jr., from the Committee on Credentials, reported that they have examined other credentials presented since their original report, and report the following Companions as entitled to seats as representatives in this—

Reader page 24 · Additional credentials; standing committees on finance and correspondence

General Grand Body:

Rhode Island

- William C. Barker, proxy for G. Scribe.

Michigan

- Michael Shoemaker, G. H. P., proxy for D. G. H. P. & G. K.

Maine

- G. E. Stevens, D. G. H. P.

Louisiana

- Frederick N. Knapp, proxy for G. Scribe.

Philip C. Tucker, Jr.
W. B. Thrall,
for the Committee.

Hartford, Sept. 10, 1856.

Which report was accepted.

The following standing Committees were announced by the G. G. H. P.

On Finance

- Comp. Hubbard, of Ohio.
- Farrell, of Ala.
- Thompson, of Maine.
- Pulford, of Wisconsin.
- Hacker, of Indiana.

On Foreign Correspondence

- Comp. Gilman, of Maryland.
- Pike, of Louisiana.
- Dibble, of California.
- Custis, of North Carolina.
- Murphy, of New York.

On Masonic Jurisprudence

- Comp. Parvin, of Iowa,—

Reader page 25 · Standing committees concluded; financial accounts referred

- Comp. Salsbury, Rhode Island.
- Courtney, Maryland.
- Chase, New Hampshire.
- Koppel, Mississippi.

On Grievances

- Comp. Raymond, Massachusetts.
- Thrall, Ohio.
- Morris, Kentucky.
- Church, New York.
- Neill, Texas.

On Doings of G. G. Officers

- Comp. Moore, Massachusetts.
- Mackey, South Carolina.
- Buck, Illinois.
- Tucker, Vermont.
- Barber, Arkansas.

On Charters and Dispensations

- Comp. French, District of Columbia.
- Christie, New Hampshire.
- Clark, Connecticut.
- Green, Texas.
- Booher, Michigan.

Comp. French, G. G. Secretary, presented his account current with the G. G. Chapter, for the past three years, and the same was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Comp. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer, also submitted his account current for the same term, and it was referred to the same Committee.

Reader page 26 · Past Master degree question; address; General Grand King’s report

The proceedings of several of the Grand Chapters relative to the degree of Past Master as a Chapter degree were presented by the representatives of those Chapters, and were referred to the Committee of Masonic Jurisprudence.

Comp. Thompson presented a printed communication from the G. Chapter of Maine, in which the Grand Encampment of that State concurred, in relation to the opening of a correspondence with Foreign Masonic Bodies, which was read and laid upon the table for the present.

The M. E. G. G. H. P. then rose and delivered an eloquent and interesting address, the delivery of which occupied about one hour.

The address having been completed, it was

Ordered Unanimously, That the G. G. H. P. be requested to furnish a copy of his address for publication, and that it be appended to the printed proceedings of this meeting.

Comp. Gilman submitted the following

Report

The undersigned G. G. King respectfully reports the following official acts done by him since the last Triennial meeting of the G. G. C.:

January 1st, 1854, being temporarily in California, I called a meeting of the members composing Sacramento Chapter, No. 3, constituted the Chapter and installed the officers elect.

January 12th, 1854, granted a Dispensa—

Reader page 27 · General Grand King’s report — California, Oregon and Pennsylvania

tion for a new Chapter, at Diamond Springs, in El Dorado County, State of California, by the name of El Dorado.

March 18th, 1854, granted a Dispensation for a new Chapter at San Francisco, California, by the name of California Chapter.

September 23d, 1854, granted a Dispensation for a new Chapter at Jersey City, New Jersey, by the name of Enterprise Chapter.

May 3d, 1856, granted a Dispensation for a new Chapter, at Salem, Oregon Territory, by the name of Multnomah Chapter.

In all these cases the constitutional fees were forwarded with the petitions, and immediately transmitted to the G. G. Secretary.

April 1st, 1854, upon the application of the three Chapters in California, regularly chartered, viz.: San Francisco, No. 1, Sonora, No. 2, and Sacramento, No. 3, I granted them my approbation to form a Grand Chapter for that State.

I have since received information that the Grand Chapter was accordingly organized, and is in successful operation.

In the month of March, 1854, I received a petition from sundry R. A. Masons, citizens of the State of Pennsylvania, praying for a Dispensation enabling them to open and hold a new Chapter of such in that State, under jurisdic—

Reader page 28 · General Grand King’s report concluded; California grievance; election ordered

tion of the G. G. Chapter. This I declined to do, or grant, and returned them their petition with my objections: that there being a Grand Chapter within the State, the G. G. Chapter would not establish new Chapters within her territorial limits.

To the foregoing official acts might be added many others, running along through the vacation; but, being such as require no further action, and not important as precedents, they are omitted in this report.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Charles Gilman.

Hartford, Sept. 9, 1856.

Said report was read and referred to the Committee on the Doings of the G. G. Officers.

Comp. Dibble presented a petition of California Chapter, U. D., stating sundry grievances in consequence of the action of the Grand Chapter of California, and asking the consideration of this G. G. Chapter, which was referred to the Committee on Grievances.

It was then

Ordered, That the election of officers take place tomorrow at ten o’clock, A. M.

And then the General Grand Chapter was called from labor until tomorrow at 9 o’clock, A. M.

Reader page 29 · September 11 opening; report on the secretary’s communication

Thursday, September 11, 1856

The G. G. Chapter was called to labor by the G. G. H. P., at the hour assigned.

Prayer was offered at the altar, by the Rev. and Venerable Salem Town, in the most solemn and impressive manner.

On motion of Comp. Raymond, a committee was appointed to recommend to the G. G. Chapter the next place of meeting, consisting of Comps. Raymond, O'Sullivan and Hartsock.

On motion of Comp. Thompson, the resolution of the G. Chapter of Maine, in relation to the international correspondence, was taken up and referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Comp. Tucker, Sr., from the Committee to which was referred the report of the G. G. Secretary, made the following report—

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States, now in session:

Your committee to which was referred the communication of the G. G. Secretary, beg leave to report:

That so much of said communication as refers to the subject of Hiram Chapter, No. 4, at Eatontown, N. J., and also as much thereof as relates to dispensations issued by the General Grand Officers, be referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

That so much thereof as relates to the corres—

Reader page 30 · Secretary's communication apportioned among committees

pondence with John E. Cleland, and also so much thereof as relates to the question of providing for the future revenue of the General Grand Chapter, be referred to the Committee on Finance.

That so much thereof as relates to the correspondence with S. Hayden and [G.?] B. Musser, of Pennsylvania, be referred to a special committee.

That so much thereof as relates to the correspondence with F. G. Tisdall be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

There are several other subjects embraced in the General Grand Secretary's report, of living interest to the G. G. Chapter, but which call for no specific action at the present time, and to which therefore we do not further allude, than to approve of the very able manner in which they are brought forward, and to commend them to the attention of our Companions of this Grand Body.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Philip C. Tucker.
E. S. Courtney.
Peter P. Murphy.

Hartford, September 11, 1856.

Comps. Scott, Hollenbeck and Gourdin were appointed the select committee under the recommendation in the report.

Comp. French, from the Committee on Charters and Dispensations, made the following report, which was read, accepted, the resolutions agreed—

Reader page 31 · Charters and Dispensations report — chapters entitled to charters

to, and the Charters issued accordingly.

The Committee on Charters and Dispensations have examined the papers on file with the G. G. Secretary and find that the following Chapters, now under Dispensation, have made their regular returns, paid all their dues, and are entitled to Charters, viz.:

- Minnesota Chapter, at St. Paul, Minnesota.

- California Chapter, San Francisco, California.
- Enterprise Chapter, at Jersey City, New Jersey.
- Boudinot Chapter, Burlington, New Jersey.
- Multnomah Chapter, Salem, Oregon.

They find on the Register of Chapters under the jurisdiction of the G. G. Chapter, Hiram Chapter, No. 4, at Eatontown, New Jersey.

This Chapter was organized many years ago under a Charter from the Grand Chapter of New Jersey. When that G. Chapter became extinct, Hiram Chapter was received as a subordinate of the Grand Chapter of New York, and so remained until November 14, 1854, when, at the request of the Companions belonging to it, and with the approbation of the Grand Chapter of New York, the said Hiram Chapter was recognized by our M. E. G. G. High Priest, as one of the subordinates of the G. G. Chapter, and admitted to Register on the rolls of this G. G. Chapter.

In view of all the facts, your committee are of opinion that a Charter ought to issue to that Chapter, on the payment of the usual Charter fee of ten dollars.

Reader page 32 · Charters ordered; voting ruling; Connecticut banquet invitation

They respectfully report the following resolution:

Resolved, That the G. G. Secretary issue Charters, forthwith, to Minnesota Chapter, at St. Paul, Minnesota; California Chapter, at San Francisco, California; Enterprise Chapter, Jersey City, New Jersey; Boudinot Chapter, Burlington, New Jersey; Multnomah Chapter, Salem, Oregon; and Hiram Chapter, No. 4, Eatontown, New Jersey.

B. B. French.
F. Booher.
John Christie.
D. Clark.
Jas. L. Greene.

Committee.

Comp. O’Sullivan offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the officers of the several Chapters to which Charters have just been ordered have a right to seats in this G. G. Chapter, and a right to vote.

The G. G. H. Priest declared the resolution out of order.

Comp. Deming, on behalf of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, gave an invitation to the G. G. Chapter to attend a Banquet at the United States Hotel this evening at 9 o’clock, to be given by the Grand Encampment and Grand Chapter of Connecticut.

Which invitation was unanimously accepted.

On motion of Comp. Stokes, it was—

Reader page 33 · Work exemplification; Florida inquiry; charter fees; election begins

Resolved, That the work of Royal Arch Masonry and the Chapter Degrees be exemplified by the G. G. Chapter, at 7 o’clock tomorrow evening.

Comp. Coe presented a resolution of the G. Chapter of Connecticut, relative to the position occupied by the Grand Chapter of Florida.

Comp. Neill offered the following resolution, on the same subject:

Resolved, That it be referred to a special committee of three to inquire into the matters of dispute between this G. G. Chapter and the G. Chapter of Florida, which have caused that G. Chapter to remain unconnected with the National Organization, and that such committee report what action, if any, it is proper for this General Grand Chapter to take in the premises.

Which was adopted, and Comps. Gilman, Pike and Coe were appointed the Committee, and it was ordered that the resolution presented by Comp. Coe be presented to the same committee.

Comp. Coe presented a resolution of the G. Chapter of Connecticut, instructing their delegation in this G. G. Body to use their influence in favor of allowing each Grand Chapter to determine for itself the fee to be required for the issuing of a charter.

Which was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

The hour fixed for the election of officers having arrived, the G. G. Chapter proceeded thereto.

Comps. Gourdin, of South Carolina, McClellan—

Reader page 34 · Election of General Grand officers

of Massachusetts, and Mendenhall, of Indiana, were appointed tellers.

The G. G. Chapter then proceeded to ballot for G. G. Officers, and

- M. E. Charles Gilman, of Maryland, was elected General Grand High Priest.
- M. E. Philip C. Tucker, of Vermont, was elected G. G. D. H. Priest.
- M. E. Amos Adams, of Louisiana, was elected G. G. King.
- M. E. John L. Lewis, Jr., of N. York, was elected G. Grand Scribe.
- M. E. Edward A. Raymond, of Massachusetts, was elected G. G. Treasurer.
- M. E. Benjamin B. French, of Dist. Colum., was elected G. G. Secretary.

At this stage of the proceedings the G. G. Chapter was called from labor until nine o’clock A. M., tomorrow.

Reader page 35 · September 12 — committee substitutions, chapter returns and credentials

Friday, Sept. 12, 1856

The G. G. Chapter was called to labor by the M. E. G. G. H. P.

Prayer by the Rev. Comp. G. G. Chaplain.

The G. G. H. P. announced the appointment of Comp. Stokes, in place of Comp. Hubbard, who declined acting on the Committee on Finance, and of Comp. Dame, in place of Comp. Moore, who declined acting on the Committee on Doings of the G. G. Officers.

Comp. French, G. G. Secretary, made a report stating that:

Union Chapter, No. 1, Newark, N. J., had made its returns but had paid no dues; and that Eldorado Chapter, U. D., at Diamond Springs, California, had made no return.

Which was referred to the Committee on the Doings of the G. G. Officers.

Comp. Tucker, Jr., from the Committee on Credentials, made the following report:

To the M. E. G. G. Chapter of the U. S.:

The Committee on Credentials report the following companions as entitled to seats as representatives in this G. G. Body, in addition to those heretofore reported:

New York

- S. Gilbert, G. King.

Massachusetts

- Chas. W. Moore, proxy for D. G. H. P.
- A. A. Dame, Grand Scribe.

Reader page 36 · Abner V. Rowe’s report — constitution of the Grand Chapter of Iowa

Respectfully submitted.

Philip C. Tucker, Jr.
Philip T. Schley.
For Committee.

September 12, 1856.

The G. G. Secretary presented the following letter from M. E. Abner V. Rowe, G. G. Scribe, which was read and referred to the Committee on the Doings of the G. G. Officers.

> Lexington, Mississippi,
> September 1st, 1856.
>
> To the M. E. G. G. Chapter of the U. S.:
>
> M. E. and E. Companions: With much regret, I am constrained to announce to you that my private engagements preclude me from attending your approaching convocation.
>
> Though the great gratification is denied me, of meeting you as I had anticipated, and participating in your deliberations, I deem it my duty to communicate with you and to report to you my official acts since the last triennial convocation.
>
> Upon application to me I issued the necessary authority on the 21st day of March, 1854, for the formation of a Grand Chapter in the State of Iowa, and from the report of the M. E. D. C. McNeil, who had been specially deputized for that purpose, I was informed that the G. Chapter of Iowa was duly constituted on the 8th day of June, 1854.
>
> The printed proceedings at the several annual convocations of this young Grand Chapter have—

Reader page 37 · Rowe’s report — uniformity of work and national jurisdiction

> been examined with much interest and great satisfaction.
>
> The action of the General Grand Chapter, at its last triennial session, on the subject of uniformity of work as presented in the reports of the majority and minority of the committee, has been subjected to different constructions in different portions of this country, and consequently but little has been done, so far as my knowledge extends, to diffuse the work agreed upon in Boston, in 1850.
>
> It is to be hoped that more time and patient deliberation may be devoted to this embarrassing subject, so that by close investigation and mutual concessions, a system of work may be settled, which may prove acceptable to every portion of your widely extended jurisdiction.

The approaching session of your G. G. Body has been looked to with great interest, and I trust that as a supreme legislature for Royal Arch Masonry, it may prove equal to all emergencies, and conduce a firm bond of union, satisfactory to all its constituent members, and winning over to its jurisdiction those State Grand Chapters not yet acknowledging its supremacy.

My prayer is that the Supreme Architect of the Universe may preside over you for good, and that all your efforts to promote the prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry may be attended by harmony and brotherly love, and crowned with—

Reader page 38 · Election completed; installation formula; Ancient Chapter complaint

complete success.

A. V. Rowe,
General Grand Scribe.

The G. G. Chapter then proceeded to the further election of its officers, and completed the same by the election of—

- M. E. James R. Hartsock, of Iowa, G. G. C. of the Host.
- M. E. Henry C. Deming, of Connecticut, G. G. R. A. Capt.

Comp. Mackey, from the Committee on the subject of a formula of installation, reported the same, which was read, adopted, and ordered to be printed with the proceedings.

On motion of Comp. Gourdin—

Resolved unanimously, That Comp. Deming be respectfully requested to furnish the G. G. Secretary of this G. G. Chapter with a copy of his chaste and eloquent address of welcome to the representatives of this body, pronounced by him upon the evening of the 11th instant, and that the same be embodied by said Secretary in the published proceedings of this Body.

Comp. Tucker rose to present the proceedings of a body of persons calling itself “Ancient Chapter, No. 1,” in the city of New York, complaining of the action of the G. Chapter of that State, when, on motion of Comp. Mackey, it was

Resolved, That this G. G. Chapter cannot receive any document purporting to be a complaint against a Grand Chapter.

Comp. Pike offered the following resolutions, which—

Reader page 39 · Pike’s proposed declarations of powers and chapter status

were read, viz.:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this G. G. Chapter, and it is declared to be the law of Royal Arch Masonry, and of its own powers and prerogatives—

1st. That the G. G. R. A. Chapter derives all its powers by grant and delegation from the respective G. R. A. Chapters which created it, and are its constituents; and it is therefore hereby solemnly declared that it can never exercise or assume any other or greater powers than such as have been or may be delegated to and conferred upon it by such G. R. A. Chapters; nor can claim nor exercise any doubtful powers, or powers by implication merely; and that any future constitution of the G. G. R. A. Chapter, and any future additions to, or changes in, the present, or any such future constitution, can become operative and be in force only when they shall have been formally approved by two thirds, at least, of the G. R. A. Chapters under the jurisdiction of the G. G. R. A.

Chapter, and when such approval shall be formally promulgated by proclamation of the G. G. High Priest.

2d. That an appeal does lie in all cases from the decision of the G. G. High Priest to the G. G. Chapter, which alone can, in the last resort, by vote of a majority of the members, determine what is the Masonic law and custom.

3d. That when a charter is granted to a subordinate Chapter, until then under dispensation, it at once ceases to be a Chapter under dispensation, and becomes a chartered Chapter; and does not cease to be a Chap—

Reader page 40 · Pike’s declarations continued; motion to table rejected, 25–75

ter, in the intermediate time between the grant of a charter and the installation of its new officers, subsequent to be elected.

4th. That the officers of such Chapter, while under dispensation, are recognized and continued by the charter, as the officers of such chartered Chapter, need no installation, and serve by virtue of their original appointment, until their successors are elected and installed.

Comp. Neill moved that the resolutions do lie upon the table.

Which was decided in the negative—ayes 25; noes 75.

The yeas and nays were demanded by Comp. Koppel, and being taken, were as follows, viz.:

Yeas

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. H. P.	1
G. C. of Maine	4
G. C. of N. Y.	4
G. C. of Md. & D. C.	4
G. C. of Ohio	4
G. C. of Keny.	4
G. C. of Ill.	4
Total	25

Nays

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. T.	1
G. G. S.	1
G. G. R. A. C.	1
G. C. of N. Hamp.	4
G. C. of Vermont	4
G. C. of Mass.	4
G. C. of R. I.	4
G. C. of Conn.	4
G. C. of N. Carolina	4
G. C. of S. Carolina	4
G. C. of Georgia	4
G. C. of Ala.	4
G. C. of Ind.	4
G. C. of Miss.	4
G. C. of La.	4
G. C. of Mo.	4
G. C. of Ark.	4
G. C. of Wis.	4
G. C. of Texas	4
G. C. of Iowa	4
G. C. of Cal.	4
Total	75

Editorial note: This vote rejected the motion to table the resolutions; it was not a vote adopting all four declarations.

Reader page 41 · Pike declarations postponed; Colt armory invitation; address printing

So the resolution was not laid on the table.

The question was then stated on the adoption of the first resolution, and after debate—

On motion of Comp. Neill, the resolutions were postponed, and made the order of the day for nine o’clock A. M. tomorrow.

Comp. Deming presented to the G. G. Chapter an invitation from the superintendent of Colt’s armory, in behalf of Col. Samuel Colt, now absent, to the G. G. Chapter to visit the armory, which was unanimously accepted.

On motion of Comp. Mackey, it was ordered that the G. G. H. P. cause his address, at the opening of this session, to be printed wherever he may think proper, in the same form in which the

proceedings of this G. G. Chapter are usually printed; and that one thousand copies thereof be furnished to the G. G. Secretary, without covers, to be appended to the proceedings of this meeting; and that the G. G. Treasurer pay for the printing and transmitting of the same to the G. G. Secretary.

Comp. Koppel offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to examine and report whether the action of this Body in 1850, in regard to the work and lectures in the Chapter Degrees, is now in force.

Pending the question on which the G. G. Chapter was called from labor by the M. E. G. G. H. P. until this evening at 7 o'clock.

Reader page 42 · Work exemplified; September 13; Chicago selected for next meeting

Friday Evening, 7 o'clock

The G. G. Chapter was called to labor by the G. G. H. P.

The G. G. C. proceeded to exemplify the work from the Mark Master up to and including the Royal Arch Degree.

And then the G. G. Chapter adjourned, until tomorrow at nine o'clock, A. M.

Saturday, September 13, 1856

The G. Grand Chapter was called to labor by the G. G. H. P.

Prayer was offered up by the G. G. Chaplain.

Comp. Marcus M. Tyler, D. G. H. P. of G. C. of Kentucky, and Comp. Kent Jarvis, D. G. H. P. of G. C. of O., appeared, presented their credentials and it was

Ordered, That they be admitted to their seats.

Comp. Raymond, from the Committee on designating the next place of meeting, reported that the Committee had directed him to designate the city of Chicago, Illinois, as the place of the next meeting.

The question was stated on adopting the report of the Committee, when Comp. Schley moved that Chicago, Illinois, be stricken out and Augusta, Georgia, inserted; which was disagreed to.

Comp. Austin made a like motion, substituting Buffalo, New York, for Chicago, Illinois; which was decided in the negative.

The report of the Committee was then agreed to; and it was

Resolved, That the G. G. Chapter will hold its next triennial meeting at the city of Chicago, in the—

Reader page 43 · Printing authorized; further proxies; Pike declarations resumed

State of Illinois.

On motion of Comp. Mackey, it was

Resolved, That this G. G. Chapter will adjourn *sine die*, on Tuesday next, immediately after the installation of the General Grand Officers.

Comp. French offered the following resolution, which was read, considered and agreed to.

Resolved, That the G. G. Secretary cause one thousand copies of the proceedings of this meeting to be printed in the usual manner, and distributed; and that if, in his opinion, economy, expedition and superior workmanship can be effected by the printing in Baltimore, New York or Boston, that he be authorized to repair to either of said places, for which his expenses shall be paid, provided they do not exceed twenty dollars; and he is hereby authorized to draw upon the G. G. Treasurer for all the expenses of the printing and distribution, as well as his own expenses, within that limit.

Comp. Horace Goodwin presented a proxy for the G. H. P. of the G. C. of Connecticut, and Comp. Horace S. Roberts presented a proxy from the Grand Scribe of the G. C. of Michigan, and were both admitted to seats as proxies.

The G. Grand Chapter then proceeded to the order of the day, being the resolutions offered yesterday, by Comp. Pike.

The first of the series of resolutions being under consideration,—

Reader page 44 · Motion to postpone Pike’s declarations rejected, 42–51

Comp. Jarvis moved to refer the whole subject to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Comp. Koppel moved to amend the motion, by postponing the whole subject to the next triennial meeting, having the resolutions printed in the proceedings, and referred for action to the several Grand Chapters and Subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction, for their consideration.

Comp. Clark moved to postpone the whole subject to the next triennial session, and print the resolutions in the proceedings.

And the question on this resolution, being taken by yeas and nays, was decided in the negative.

Yeas

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. H. P.	1
G. G. King	1
G. C. of Maine	4
G. C. of N. Hamp.	4
G. C. of Vermont	4
G. C. of Mass.	4
G. C. of Conn.	3
G. C. of New York	4
G. C. of Mary. & D. C.	4
G. C. of Ohio	1
G. C. of Illinois	2
G. C. of Miss.	4
G. C. of La.	3
G. C. of Texas	3
Total	42

Nays

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. T.	1
G. G. S.	1
G. G. R. A. C.	1
G. C. of Conn.	1
G. C. of Ohio	3
G. C. of Kentucky	4
G. C. of North Car.	4
G. C. of S. Carolina	4
G. C. of Georgia	4
G. C. of Alabama	4
G. C. of Indiana	4
G. C. of Illinois	2
G. C. of Louisiana	1
G. C. of Missouri	4
G. C. of Arkansas	4
G. C. of Texas	1
G. C. of Iowa	4
G. C. of California	4
Total	51

Reader page 45 · Koppel amendment rejected, 19–70; first declaration amended

The question recurred on the adoption of the amendment proposed by Comp. Koppel, and being taken by yeas and nays, was decided in the negative.

Yeas

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. H. P.	1
G. C. of N. Y.	4
G. C. of Miss.	4
G. C. of Louisiana	3
G. C. of Texas	4
G. C. of Connecticut	3
Total	19

Nays

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. K.	1
G. G. T.	1
G. G. S.	1
G. G. R. A. C.	1
G. C. of Maine	4
G. C. of New Ham.	4
G. C. of Vermont	4
G. C. of Mass.	4
G. C. of Md. & D. C.	4
G. C. of Ohio	4
G. C. of Kentucky	4
G. C. of N. Carolina	4
G. C. of S. Carolina	4
G. C. of Georgia	4
G. C. of Alabama	4
G. C. of Indiana	4
G. C. of Louisiana	1
G. C. of Missouri	4
G. C. of Arkansas	4
G. C. of Iowa	4
G. C. of California	4
G. C. of Connecticut	1
Total	70

The question recurred on the motion of Comp. Jarvis, that the whole subject be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and was decided in the negative.

The question then recurred on the adoption of the first resolution, when, on motion of Comp. Fellows, the same was amended by striking out the words—“created it and.”

Comp. Stokes moved further to amend the same, by striking out—“which are its constituents, and it is therefore hereby solemnly declared that it can never exercise or assume any other or greater powers than such as have been or may be delegated to and con—

Reader page 46 · Public institutions visit; evening session; proposed compendium

ferred upon it by such Grand Royal Arch Chapters; nor can claim or exercise any doubtful powers, or powers by implication merely.”

Pending the motion of which Comp. Clark, by unanimous consent, extended to the G. G. Chapter an invitation to visit the public institutions of the city, and the prostrate charter oak, stating that carriages would be at the door of the Hall, to convey such as may desire to go at two o'clock, P. M., this day.

Which invitation was accepted.

And then the G. G. Chapter was called from labor until seven o'clock this evening.

Saturday Evening, 7 o'clock
September 13th, 1856

The G. G. Chapter met and was called to labor by the G. G. High Priest.

Comp. Mackey, chairman of the Committee on Doings of the G. G. Officers, was excused from further service on said Committee, and Comp. Fellows was appointed to fill the vacancy.

On motion of Comp. Austin:

Resolved, That for the remainder of this session no member be permitted to speak more than [ten?] minutes upon the same question.

On motion of Comp. Fellows:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a compendium of the proceedings of this General Grand Chapter from its—

Editorial note: The speaking-time figure is partly obscured in the binding shadow.

Reader page 47 · Compendium authorized; first Masonic Jurisprudence report begins

first organization to the present convocation, and that the same be published under the superintendence of the G. G. High Priest and the G. G. Secretary, and sold at the lowest remunerative price.

Comps. Gilman, French, and Courtney were appointed the Committee.

Comp. Parvin, from the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made three separate reports, which were read and laid upon the table until Monday.

They are as follows:

First Report

To the M. E. G. Grand Chapter:

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence have considered the several subjects referred to them, and respectfully submit the following report.

The first item reviewed is presented in the following resolution, viz.:

> "Resolved, That the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence be instructed to inquire into the expediency of omitting, from the list of constitutional degrees, under the jurisdiction of this G. Chapter, the degree of Past Master, and to report such measures in relation thereto as they may deem advisable."

This subject was agitated at the last session of this body, and since by several of the G. Chapters, and various opinions are held upon the question of right and expediency by the most intelligent Companions in the land.

Reader page 48 · Jurisprudence report — Past Master degree and candidate objections

Your committee do not consider it within the province of this G. G. Chapter constitutionally to do away with this degree, and, if it were, that it would be inexpedient to do so, as it would be distasteful to a large number of Companions and jurisdictions.

To this opinion of the majority, the chairman, Comp. Parvin, dissents, and as the committee are averse to the presentation of a minority report, he must be content therewith.

The Committee have also considered the following questions:

1st. When an unanimous ballot has been given in favor of a candidate for the Chapter degrees—should a member who was not present when the ballot was taken come in before the degrees are conferred and object to the character of the applicant—is it proper to recommit the case to a committee for a new investigation?

2d. When the committee make their report, will it be necessary to have the case decided by an unanimous ballot; or can the vote of a majority give him the degrees, while a minority consider him unworthy.

It is the solemn duty of every Chapter to scrutinize well the character of every applicant for his degrees, that the unworthy may not be admitted, and there is no better settled question of Masonic law than that the ballots shall in all cases be unanimous.

Reader page 49 · First jurisprudence report concluded; international correspondence report

Your committee are then of opinion that in the case presented, it is proper to commit, for the purpose of hearing the objections and investigating their truth or falsity, and that upon the report of the committee, a further and unanimous ballot must be had before the degrees can be conferred.

The committee submit the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to omit from the list of constitutional degrees conferred under this jurisdiction, the degree of Past Master.

T. S. Parvin.
Horace Chase.
James Salsbury.
E. S. Courtney.
Chas. Koppel.

Committee.

Second Report

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to which was referred the joint memorial of the G. Chapter and G. Encampment of the State of Maine, upon the subject of “International Masonic Correspondence,” have given the subject such consideration as their limited time would permit; and are constrained to report that, in their opinion, the proposition does not come within the proper sphere of action prescribed by the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and the purposes for which it has been continued in being. There is, in—

Reader page 50 · International correspondence report — concerns about centralization

the opinion of many in this, as well as all other G. bodies, a tendency to centralization, whereby powers, privileges and prerogatives are silently but constantly assumed, until the watchful jealousies of our subordinates are aroused, and instead of quieting those fears, the proposed measure would only tend to strengthen them, as this Grand body would, in carrying out the proposed measure, become the sole channel of communication with the Masonic world, and thus [take lessons itself?] upon the accomplishment upon a grand and public scale of what very many of the Grand Chapters are doing in a quiet and unostentatious way.

Again, there is, we fear, a disposition abroad in the land to place our Masonic governing bodies too prominently before the public and the world. Our actions and our usefulness, like our charities, should be felt rather than seen and read of all men. The State Grand Chapters are competent to manage all the affairs legitimate to Masonry, within their respective jurisdictions, and the objects of our organization is, we opine, more to settle all conflicting claims and views among them, than by mark out a new course and then pursue it without their knowledge or approbation. We think, therefore, that the subject should be laid over until our next triennial session, that the several Grand Chapters may review, and express their views upon the subject-mat—

Editorial note: The bracketed phrase in the first paragraph is unclear in the manuscript. Awkward grammar elsewhere follows the source rather than supplying an unrecorded correction.

Reader page 51 · Third jurisprudence report — local control of charter fees

ter so ably set forth by the committee of the Grand Bodies in Maine.

Respectfully submitted.

T. S. Parvin.
Horace Chase.
Jas. Salsbury.
E. S. Courtney.
Chas. Koppel.

Committee.

Third Report

The resolution of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut praying that each Grand Chapter be permitted to establish the rate of fees for Charters and Dispensations in their respective jurisdictions has been referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

Upon which we report that we fully concur with our Companions in Connecticut that each G. Chapter should regulate this matter for themselves.

The object of the present law was, undoubtedly, to secure uniformity and mete out justice alike to all petitioners under the jurisdiction of the G. G. Chapter, and this law worked well enough when the unoccupied territory was large, but now G. Chapters exist in all the States but two, in one of which (New Jersey) there are more than enough subordinates to organize a Grand Chapter, and in the other (Delaware) there is little probability of—

Reader page 52 · Charter-fee amendment recommended; California grievance report begins

further application for years to come.

The rate of fees for Dispensations for Lodges and Chapters in the several States presents too great a difference. The average for the former is, perhaps, $30, while the rate established for the latter is more than three times that sum.

Moreover, it seems to your committee to be entirely a subject of local legislation, and, therefore, belongs to the province of the several Grand Chapters to establish the same upon such terms as their wisdom shall dictate.

Your committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following amendment to the G. G. Constitution, Art. II, Sec. 4:

Strike out the proviso commencing on the twelfth line, in the following words, viz.:

> "And provided further, That the same fees be required by this Constitution for Charters, shall be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Secretary."

T. S. Parvin.
Horace Chase.
Jas. Salsbury.
E. S. Courtney.
Chas. Koppel.

Committee.

Comp. Thrall, from the Committee on Grievances, to which was referred the matter of difficulties relative to California Chapter, at San Francisco, California, made a report thereon, accom—

Reader page 53 · First declaration reduced to delegation of powers and adopted, 53–30

panied by a series of resolutions.

Which was laid upon the table to be taken up and considered on Monday next.

The G. G. Chapter proceeded to the consideration of the resolutions offered by Comp. Pike, and pending when the Chapter was called off this morning.

The question being on the amendment proposed by Comp. Stokes, which amendment was agreed to.

The first resolution was then modified by leave of the G. G. Chapter, so as to read:

> "Resolved, That the G. G. R. A. Chapter derives all its powers by grant and delegation from the respective G. R. A. Chapters."

And, after discussion, the question was taken on the said resolution as recited above, when the same was adopted.

The yeas and nays, being demanded, were as follows:

Yeas

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. C. of Host	1
G. C. of Ohio	4
G. C. of Ken.	4
G. C. of Ala.	4
G. C. of N. C.	4
G. C. of S. C.	4
G. C. of Ind.	4
G. C. of Illinois	4
G. C. of Louisiana	4
G. C. of Missouri	4
G. C. of Michigan	4
G. C. of Arkansas	4
G. C. of Iowa	4
G. C. of California	4
Total	53

Nays — continued on reader page 54

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. H. P.	1
G. G. King	1
G. C. of Maine	4
G. C. of N. Ham.	4

Reader page 54 · Appeal declaration amended to require two thirds and adopted

Nays — continued from reader page 53

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. C. of Conn.	4
G. C. of N. Y.	4
G. C. of Md. & D. C.	4
G. C. of Georgia	4
G. C. of Texas	4
Total nays	30

The second resolution was then considered, and

On motion of Comp. Schley, amended, by striking out the words “a majority,” and inserting “two thirds.”

Comp. Neill moved to amend the same, by adding the following proviso:

> “Provided, That this resolution, as a rule operating in the decisions of this G. G. Body, shall only operate and have effect in this body; and shall not be considered as operating, or of having any effect, in State Grand Chapters, or subordinates.”

Which amendment was agreed to.

The question was then taken on the adoption of the second resolution, as amended, and it was adopted.

The yeas and nays being demanded, were as follows:

Yeas — continued on reader page 55

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. C. of H.	1
G. C. of Maine	4
G. C. of N. H.	4
G. C. of Conn.	4
G. C. of Ohio	4
G. C. of Ken.	4
G. C. of N. Car.	4
G. C. of S. Car.	4
G. C. of Geo.	4
G. C. of Ala.	4
G. C. of Ind.	4
G. C. of Ill.	4
G. C. of La.	4
G. C. of Mo.	4
G. C. of Mich.	4
G. C. of Ark.	4

Reader page 55 · Final adopted declarations; third and fourth declarations rejected

Yeas — continued from reader page 54

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. C. of Texas	1
G. C. of Iowa	2
G. C. of Cala.	4
Total yeas	68

Nays

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. H. P.	1
G. C. of N. Y.	4
G. C. of Maryland and District of Columbia	4
G. C. of Texas	3
G. C. of Iowa	2
Total nays	14

Comp. Mackey moved that the vote agreeing to said resolution be reconsidered; which motion was, on motion of Comp. Watson, laid on the table.

The question was then put, severally, on the third and fourth resolutions of the series and they were disagreed to.

The resolutions, as adopted by the G. G. Chapter, are as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter derives all its powers by grant and delegation from the respective Grand Royal Arch Chapters.

Resolved, That an appeal does lie in all cases from the decision of the G. G. High Priest to the G. G. Chapter, which alone can, in the last resort, by vote of two-thirds of the members present determine what is the Masonic law or custom.

Provided, That this resolution, as a rule operating in the decisions of this G. G. Body, shall only operate and have effect in this Body, and shall not be considered as operating, or having effect in any State Grand Chapters or Subordinate.

The G. G. C. was called from labor by the G. G. H. P. until Monday next at nine o’clock, A. M.

Reader page 56 · September 15 — Past Master report recommitted; correspondence report adopted

Monday, September 15, 1856

The G. G. Chapter was called to labor by the G. G. H. P.

Prayer by the G. G. Chaplain.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made by Comp. Parvin, on Saturday, relative to the “Past Master’s degree,” and to “an unanimous ballot,” was agreed to by the G. G. Chapter.

The question being on the resolution appended to said report, viz.:

> “Resolved, That it is inexpedient to omit from the list of constitutional degrees conferred under this jurisdiction, the degree of Past Master”—

it was laid on the table.

On motion of Comp. Mackey, so much of the report as relates to that degree was recommitted, with instructions to the committee to report a resolution, recommending to the several Grand Chapters to confine the ceremonies of the degree of P. M. within the narrowest limits, divesting it

of all ceremonies, and restricting it to a simple induction into the chair and the communication of its modes of recognition.

The report of the same committee on the joint memorial of the Grand Chapter and Grand Encampment of Maine, on the subject of International Correspondence, was then taken up, considered, and adopted by the G. G. Chapter.

The report of the same committee on—

Reader page 57 · Charter-fee proposal laid over; Pennsylvania jurisdiction report

the resolutions of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut relative to fees, was taken up and considered.

The views of the committee were adopted by the G. G. Chapter, and the proposed amendments of the G. G. Constitution were laid over, under the Constitution, to the next Triennial meeting.

Comp. Gourdin made the following report:

The select committee, to which was referred so much of the report of the G. G. Secretary as relates to his correspondence with S. Hayden and G. B. Musser of Pennsylvania, among which report that certain individuals in Pennsylvania, among whom we may name S. Hayden and G. B. Musser, desire your Body should establish a Chapter or Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in that State, but that your G. G. Body can lawfully claim no jurisdiction whatever over Royal Arch Masonry in Pennsylvania, there being a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in that State which does not recognize this jurisdiction.

Your committee therefore beg leave to submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the G. G. Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the U. S. of America hath no jurisdiction whatever over Royal Arch Masonry in the State of Pennsylvania.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Theodore S. Gourdin.
John B. Hollenbeck.
J. Q. A. Fellows; Comm.

Reader page 58 · Pennsylvania resolution adopted; report on General Grand officers

Which resolution was considered and agreed to.

On motion of Comp. Murphy,

Ordered, That the G. G. Secretary append to the journal of proceedings of this meeting, a list of members of this G. G. Chapter and the representatives, at this meeting, with their places of residence.

The report of the Committee on Grievances, made by Comp. Thrall on Saturday, relative to California Chapter, at San Francisco, was taken up, considered, and recommitted to the said committee.

Comp. Fellows, from the Committee on the Doings of the G. G. Officers, made the following report, which was read and adopted:

Your committee to whom was referred the doings of the G. G. Officers, respectfully report that in their examination of the documents submitted to them they find nothing requiring special mention, as the several matters therein contained have been referred to appropriate committees. They are pleased to learn that the several officers have discharged their respective duties with great

fidelity, and with an eye single to the advancement and honor of the G. Chapter, and to the prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry in the United States.

Respectfully submitted.

J. Q. A. Fellows.
L. E. Barber.
Ira A. W. Buck.

Committee.

Reader page 59 · Finance report — secretary's receipts and treasurer's opening account

Comp. Ferrell, from the Committee on Finance, to which was referred the accounts of the G. G. Treasurer and G. G. Secretary, made the following report, which was considered, adopted, and the 1st and 2d resolutions appended thereto agreed to. The 3d resolution was recommitted.

The Committee on Finance ask leave to report that they have examined the account current of the G. G. Secretary, made out to the first day of the present session, from which it will appear that the amounts received by him from all sources up to the 9th September, 1856, is—

Secretary's account	Amount
Received from all sources	$838.00
Paid to the G. G. Treasurer	$795.25
For necessary expenses of office	$42.75
Total	$838.00

Your committee find that the G. G. Secretary has charged himself with eighteen dollars twice, dues received from Sacramento Chapter. Your committee would therefore recommend the adoption of resolution No. 1.

Your committee have also examined the account current of the G. G. Treasurer, and find his accounts are made up to the first of the present month, as per resolution (on page 49, of the printed proceedings of the last Triennial Convocation).

Treasurer's account	Amount
There was on hand at the close of your last G. G. Convocation, as per account exhibited	$5,658.96
Received since of G. G. Secretary	$645.93
Interest on money loaned	$540.00
Total	$6,844.89

Reader page 60 · Finance report — account dates reconciled and balance brought forward

Treasurer's account, continued	Amount
Paid out, as per vouchers	$630.50
Leaving a balance in the G. G. Treasury of	$6,214.39

Your committee find a discrepancy between the accounts of the G. G. Secretary and G. G. Treasurer of $415.25, to which the committee wish to call the attention of the G. G. Chapter: the G. G. Secretary, acting under resolution No. 6 (to be found on pages 49 and 50), passed at your last

Triennial Convocation, made his accounts up to the first day of the present session, and has charged the G. G. Treasurer accordingly; while the G. G. Treasurer, being governed by the 1st resolution (on page 49 of the printed proceedings), only makes his account up to the 1st of the present month. The accounts of the two G. G. Officers correspond in every particular with this exception. Your committee have corrected the report of the G. G. Treasurer, and charged him with the amount or difference.

Reconciled account	Amount
Balance brought down	$6,214.39
Paid by G. G. Secretary, per receipt	$415.25
Which leaves now in the G. G. Treasury	$6,629.64

To obviate any subsequent misunderstanding, the committee recommend the passage of resolution No. 2.

Your committee recommend that the second resolution, on page 49 of the printed proceedings of the last Triennial meeting, be continued in force.

Your committee have also had under consideration the subject matter of allowances to—

Reader page 61 · Finance resolutions; proposed allowances; thanks to Hartford

the G. G. Officers necessary to cover expenses attending this session, and have agreed to recommend the adoption of resolution No. 3.

William Ferrell.
H. M. Stokes.
Wm. Hacker.
A. B. Thompson.

1. *Resolved*, That the G. G. Treasurer pay to B. B. French, G. G. Secretary, eighteen dollars, amount overpaid, represented as dues coming from Sacramento Chapter, No. 3.

2. *Resolved*, That the G. G. Treasurer’s and G. Grand Secretary’s accounts current shall Triennially be made up to the first day of the month in which the General Grand Chapter is held.

3. *Resolved*, That there is allowed and paid to—

Recipient and purpose	Amount
R. P. Dunlap, M. E. G. G. H. P., expenses & postage	$95.00
Charles Gilman, G. G. King, expenses	$75.00
E. A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer, services	$50.00
B. B. French, G. G. Secretary, services	$300.00
John Christie, assistant to G. G. Secretary, services	$15.00
[F.?] H. C. Melody, G. G. R. A. C., expenses	$125.00
G. M. Willey, G. G. Chaplain	$20.00
E. Skinner, G. G. Sentinel	$20.00
J. Tuttle, assistant G. G. Sentinel	$12.00

Recipient and purpose	Amount
C. W. Moore, printing	$2.00

Editorial note: The first two finance resolutions were agreed to; the third was recommitted, as recorded on reader page 59. Melody's first initial is uncertain.

On motion of Comp. Stokes, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of this General Grand Chapter be and they are hereby tendered to the—

Reader page 62 · Past Master ceremony recommendation adopted; greetings to Willis Stewart

Companions of Hartford, and especially to Companions Henry C. Deming and Daniel Clark, for their kind and courteous attention to the members of this G. Grand Body during our very pleasant sojourn in this beautiful and hospitable city.

Comp. Parvin, from the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to which was recommitted that part of their report relative to the Past Master's degree, with instructions, reported the following resolution, with report, as recommitted.

Resolved, That the G. G. Chapter do recommend to the Grand Chapters and the subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction to abridge the ceremonies now conferred in the Past Master's degree within the narrowest constitutional limits, only retaining the inducting of the candidate into the Oriental Chair, and the communicating of the means of recognition.

The report was read and accepted, and the resolution agreed to.

Comp. Neill offered the following resolution:

Whereas this G. G. Body have heard with much regret of the severe indisposition of our M. E. Willis Stewart, of Kentucky, D. G. G. H. P., who is thereby prevented from participating in our deliberations, therefore be it resolved, that we tender to our M. E. Comp. our sincere and fraternal greetings, deeply regretting that we are deprived of his valuable services in our councils, that we hope for a speedy recovery of his health, and his return to a sphere of usefulness of our Com—

Reader page 63 · Stewart greetings; Dunlap testimonial; allowances adopted

panion. And that he may be blessed with long life, and that his last days may be peaceful and happy.

Which resolution was read and unanimously adopted. The M. E. G. G. High Priest having called M. E. Comp. Gilman, G. G. King, to the chair, on motion of Comp. Neill:

Resolved, By this General Grand Chapter that a Committee of three be appointed to procure an appropriate testimonial, with suitable inscriptions, to be presented to our M. E. General Grand High Priest, Robert P. Dunlap, as a slight testimonial of the high regard and esteem entertained by the Royal Craft of the U. S. for his labors of love in the cause in which he has devoted a long series of years, and as a token of our appreciation of his services as our late presiding officer.

Resolved, That a sufficient sum of money be, and the same is hereby, placed to the order of said Committee, in the hands of the General Grand Treasurer, to carry into effect the foregoing resolution.

Which was read, considered, and unanimously agreed to.

The presiding officer appointed Comps. Neill, Gourdin, and Raymond, the Committee.

The M. E. G. G. H. Priest resumed the chair.

The Committee on Finance, to which was recommitted the third resolution of the series reported by them, reported the same without amendment and it was agreed to.

The resolution heretofore offered by Comp. Koppel was taken up, and considered, and—

Reader page 64 · Work recommendation adopted; revised California grievance report

On motion of Comp. Mackey, was so amended as to read—

Resolved, That this General Grand Chapter having failed to determine any specific mode of work, it is earnestly recommended to the officers of the Grand Chapters, by careful investigation, to make themselves acquainted with the ancient work of the Order, and to disseminate it among their respective subordinates.

And, in this form, it was agreed to.

Comp. Thrall, from the Committee on Grievances, to which was recommitted the report and resolutions in a modified form, as follows:

The Standing Committee on Grievances, to which was referred the memorial of California Chapter, No. 5, at San Francisco, California, have had the memorial so referred under their consideration, and respectfully report:

That from an examination of the memorial and accompanying papers, it appears—that early in the year 1854, the Comps. of said Chapter received a Dispensation from M. E. Comp. Gilman, under authority from the General Grand Chapter of the United States, authorizing them to assemble, form and open a Royal Arch Chapter in the City of San Francisco, State of California, under which authority said Comps. proceeded on the 15th day of July, 1854, to organize said Chapter, with the designation of California Chapter, U. D. That on the 28th of the—

Reader page 65 · California grievance — competing jurisdiction and charter conditions

same month, the officers of the several chartered R. A. Chapters in that State assembled and organized the Grand Chapter of the State of California, and assumed jurisdiction of “all Chapters of R. A. Masons working under Dispensations from the G. G. C. of the U. S. under (within) this jurisdiction.” That California Chapter continued its labors under its Dispensation until the meeting of the Grand Chapter of California, on the 28th of April, 1855, when it is proposed to said Grand Chapter to surrender its Dispensation and take a Charter under the Grand Chapter “upon certain conditions,” which was refused by the Grand Chapter and all Masonic intercourse interdicted with the Comps. of the Chapter until they shall have received a Charter or Dispensation from the Grand Chapter of that State. The gist of the whole difficulty is embraced in the “certain conditions” annexed to the application of the Chapter for affiliation with the Grand Chapter, and which are not clearly set forth in the papers referred to your committee.

From the lights furnished us we infer that the Grand Chapter required of California Chapter, U. D., to pay for its charter as if no dispensation had been granted by the General Grand Chapter, and that it pay dues from its organization to the State Grand Chapter. Your committee conceive that, on satisfactory evidence of the moral and Masonic qualifications of the Comps. of California Chapter, they were entitled to a charter at the hands of the Grand Chapter of that State, on payment of the fee usually required in—

Reader page 66 · California grievance — committee’s proposed resolutions

such cases by the Grand Chapter of California, less the amount paid by them for the dispensation issued by authority of the General Grand Chapter; and that said California Chapter should account to the General Grand Chapter for dues that may have accrued to the time of receiving its charter, and to the Grand Chapter subsequently to that date. And, in accordance with this opinion, your committee submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, That Chapters who have received their dispensation from the General Grand Chapter, or any of its officers authorized to issue the same, are entitled (their work being approved) to a charter at the hands of this General Grand Chapter, notwithstanding a Grand Chapter may have been organized subsequently to the issuing of such dispensation in the State in which such Chapter is situate.

Resolved, That a charter issue to California Chapter, San Francisco, California; such Chapter having made due return, and paid its dues to the General Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of California be requested to forward to the General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter the Dispensation issued by Comp. Gilman to said California Chapter, and to account to said Chapter for such sums as may have been paid to it in excess, whether fees or dues.

Resolved, That Chapters working under dispensation from authority of the General Grand—

Reader page 67 · California resolutions adopted; proposed constitutional amendments laid over

Chapter are accountable to the General Grand Chapter for dues, until such time as they shall regularly come under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter, by one being formed in such State, having first received a charter from the General Grand Chapter.

Edward A. Raymond.
W. B. Thrall.
A. Neill.
Chas. L. Church.

Committee.

The report and resolutions were read, considered, the report accepted, and the resolutions agreed to.

Comp. Mackey, on behalf of Comp. Pike, submitted to the G. G. Chapter the following amendments to the Constitution, which were read, and laid over to the next Triennial Session.

Resolved, That the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America be altered and amended as follows, that is to say:

Strike out Section 2, of Article 1, of the present Constitution, and insert the following in lieu thereof:

> “The General Grand Chapter receives all its powers, faculties, and prerogatives by grant and delegation from the several State Grand Chapters; and it can have and possess no other powers than such as are expressly granted and delegated to it by them, or as are indispensably necessary to the exercise of—

Reader page 68 · Proposed Article 1, Section 2 — delegated powers and jurisdiction

its general powers and consistent with the nature of the confederation between the State Grand Chapters.

It can exercise no doubtful powers, nor any powers by implication merely; and all Masonic powers not hereby granted to it are reserved to the Grand and Subordinate Chapters of the several States.

It shall have and maintain jurisdiction over all Chapters established by itself in those States, Districts, Republics and Territories which recognize this jurisdiction, and where there is no Grand Chapter established.

It shall have power to decide all questions of Masonic law, usage and custom which may arise between any two or more Grand Chapters, or in any of the Subordinate Chapters under its immediate jurisdiction, or all that may be referred to it by any Grand Chapter, by formal vote; and its decisions, so made, shall be deemed and regarded as those of the supreme judicial tribunal of Royal Arch Masonry in the last resort.

It shall have no power of discipline, admonition, censure or instruction over the Grand Chapters, nor any legislative powers whatever not hereby specifically granted, nor any authority to suspend the proceedings of any State Grand Chapter, nor entertain any complaint against a Grand Chapter, preferred by any subordinate Chapter or individual Mason in that jurisdiction or elsewhere; but it may upon proper reference to it of any mat—

Editorial note: This is proposed constitutional language laid over to the next Triennial Session, as recorded on reader page 67.

Reader page 69 · Proposed constitutional powers continued; chartered chapter representation

ter of controversy between any two or more Grand Chapters, and even where the question is not one of Masonic law, custom or usage (both or all such Grand Chapters consenting to such reference), act as final arbiter between them, and settle such controversy.

It shall be the judge of the qualifications of its own members. It shall see that the ancient work of the Order is preserved in the several degrees, and establish uniform formulas for installation of its own Officers and those of Grand and Subordinate Chapters, for the consecration and constitution of Chapters and the opening of Grand Chapters; and it may suspend the proceedings of any Chapter under its own immediate jurisdiction, in any State, District or Territory, where there is no Grand Chapter, for any wilful violation of any of the provisions of this Constitution, or for gross unmasonic proceedings or conduct."

Add at the end of Section 3, Article I, the following:

"So soon as a charter is ordered to issue to any Chapter under dispensation, it shall be entitled to be represented under this Section, and those who were its officers while under dispensation shall be officers under the charter, until their successors are elected and qualified; and being installed, if present, shall become, by an order for a charter, members of this General Grand Chapter."

Add at the end of the first paragraph of Section 4, Article I, the following:

Reader page 70 · Proposed constitutional changes — voting, dispensations, appeals and degree list

> "If there be but two representatives, the inferior officer, or his proxy, shall give but his own single vote, and the higher, or his proxy, shall give the other three. If there be three representatives, the highest officer, or his proxy, shall give two votes, and the others, or their proxies, one each."

In Section 6, Article I, in the 9th line from the beginning, instead of the words "beyond the time," insert the words "beyond the close."

At the end of the same section, add the words, "which Charter shall be taken and deemed to be a continuation of the original warrant of dispensation."

In section 9, of Article I, strike out the words "Past Master."

In section 11, of Article I, in the first line, strike out the words "this jurisdiction," and insert in lieu thereof the words "the immediate jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter."

Add to Article I, the following Section—

> "Sec. 14. An appeal shall in all cases lie to the General Grand Chapter, from the decision of the M. E. G. Grand High Priest; but his opinions and decisions shall stand as judgment of the General Grand Chapter, unless it is otherwise determined by the concurrent vote of two-thirds of all the members present."

Strike out Section 5, Article III, and insert in lieu thereof the following:

Editorial note: These proposed constitutional amendments were laid over to the next Triennial Session, rather than adopted at this point.

Reader page 71 · Proposed constitutional changes — visiting companions and amendment approval

> "Authority is hereby given to every Chapter under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, or of any State Grand Chapter, to confer the degrees of Mark, and Most Excellent Master upon any worthy companion, from without the jurisdiction of the United States, who may not have received them, and who may present himself as, and prove himself to be, a Royal Arch Mason; to the end that he may thereby be healed, and become a regular Royal Arch Mason, free of charge."

In Section 1, of article "Miscellaneous," after the word "Priest," in the sixth line, insert the following—"or the High Priest of the same Chapter while it was under dispensation, when he himself shall have been installed."

In Section 2, of the same article, insert at the end of the first line, the following—"whether chartered or under dispensation."

Add, at the end of Section 3, in article "Miscellaneous," the following:

> "But no future Constitution, nor any amendments to this or any future Constitution, other than those made at the present Session, shall become and be in force and operative until they shall have been submitted to and approved by at least two-thirds of the Grand Chapters of the confederation, and until such approval has been officially promulgated by proclamation of the G. Grand H. Priest; and no amendment shall ever be made, unless by the unanimous assent of all the—

Reader page 72 · Proposed amendments concluded; Grand Chapters requested to instruct delegates

> Grand Chapters, to change the system of government, and the nature of the confederation, to derogate from the sovereignty and independence of such State Grand Chapters, to make the General Grand Chapter supreme and sovereign, or the source of power; or to invest it with the inherent powers of a Grand Lodge of Master Masons."

On motion of Comp. Mackey,

Resolved, That each Grand Chapter within this jurisdiction is particularly and urgently requested to take formal action upon all the amendments proposed to the Constitution at this session, and to instruct its delegates to the next General G. Chapter how they shall vote upon each.

Comp. Lovell, by unanimous consent, gave to the G. G. Chapter the authority conferred upon him by the M. E. G. G. High Priest to exemplify the work of Royal Arch Masonry.

On motion of Comp. Stokes,

Ordered, That the subject of installing Chapters to which new charters have been issued be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

On motion of Comp. Storer,

Resolved, That the G. G. Secretary be instructed to cause the G. G. Constitution to be appended to the printed proceedings of this session of the G. G. Chapter.

Leave of absence was granted to Companions Murphy, Watson and Ferrell.

Reader page 73 · Foreign Correspondence report; September 16; Florida inquiry report

Comp. Gilman, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which was accepted.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence ask leave to report that no business has come into their hands for consideration.

Charles Gilman.
For the Comm.

And then the G. G. Chapter was called from labor until tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock.

Tuesday, September 16, 1857

Editorial note: The year is written "1857" in this heading. The surrounding proceedings belong to the September 1856 session; the written date has been retained.

The G. G. Chapter met, and was called to labor by the M. E. G. G. High Priest.

Prayer by the Rev. G. G. Chaplain.

Comp. Gilman, from a select committee, made the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the matter of the resolution of inquiry into the impediment to the G. Chapter of Florida coming into union with others in this G. G. Chapter, and of instruction to report what action, if any, is necessary to be taken, on the part of this G. G. Chapter in the premises, ask leave to report—

That from facts known to some of them, they are quite sure that the difficulty arose from a mistaken interpretation of the action of the G. G. Chapter in the matter of a Chapter (now a consti—

Reader page 74 · Florida inquiry — earlier misunderstanding and possible union

tuent of the G. Chapter of Florida) that had been irregularly established in that State by the Grand Chapter of South Carolina, itself a constituent of this body; which fact was communicated to the G. G. Chapter, at the triennial session of 1844, by the Representative of that Grand Chapter, with a request that the G. G. Chapter would take such action in the premises as would remedy the irregularity.

A resolution was offered and adopted, intended to be quite agreeable both to the Grand Chapter of South Carolina and the new Chapter thus irregularly established. About the same time a Grand Chapter was formed in Florida, which, as before stated, mistook the intention and meaning of the action of this body, took umbrage at it, and refused all connection therewith.

Thus matters have remained for several years, when one of your committee had an opportunity of a private interview with a distinguished Companion, a member of that Grand Chapter, to whom he explained the action aforesaid of the G. G. Chapter, and pointed out the error of that body in its construction.

Your committee further report that they have been informed, though not by official authority, that the Grand Chapter of Florida desires to place itself beneath your jurisdiction, if it can be received upon an equal footing with other Grand Chapters; and they are of opinion that,—

Reader page 75 · Florida admission authorized on equal footing; Deming asks to be excused

inasmuch as that it may not be supposed that the members of the Chapter above alluded to designedly sought power to organize their Chapter from those who had no right to grant it, there is no impediment on the part of this G. G. Chapter to receive said Grand Chapter of Florida into fellowship, and upon equal footing with other Grand Chapters under your jurisdiction. They therefore offer the accompanying resolution.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Charles Gilman.
A. G. Pike.
[I.?] N. Coe.

Committee.

Resolved, That whenever the Grand Chapter of Florida shall signify to the M. E. G. G. H. Priest its desire to come under the jurisdiction of this G. G. Chapter, he be and is hereby authorized to accept the same on an equal footing with other Grand Chapters, constituents thereof.

Which report was read and accepted.

The question was put on agreeing to the resolution reported by the committee, when the same was unanimously agreed to.

Comp. Deming, who had been elected Royal Arch Captain of this G. G. Chapter, rose and stated that having been elected an officer of the Grand Encampment, and not desiring to hold both offices, he most respectfully asked the G.—

Editorial note: Coe’s first initial in the signature is uncertain.

Reader page 76 · David Clark elected Royal Arch Captain; Vermont constitutional proposals

G. Chapter to excuse him from being installed into said office; when he was unanimously excused.

Comp. Melody declined being a candidate for re-election.

The G. G. Chapter proceeded to the election of a Royal Arch Captain, and Comp. David Clark, of Hartford, Conn., was elected.

Comp. Tucker submitted the following amendments to the G. G. Constitution.

In General Grand Chapter
September Session, 1856

The Grand Chapter of the State of Vermont, through its representatives in the General Grand Chapter (under the 3d section of the article entitled “Miscellaneous,” in the Constitution as established at Lexington, Kentucky, at the Session of September, A. D. 1853), propose for consideration the following alterations of the Constitution:

1st. That the 9th section of the first article thereof be repealed, and that the following provision be substituted in lieu thereof:

> “No Royal Arch Mason, within the jurisdiction of this G. Grand Chapter, shall be permitted to confer any degree in Masonry, not recognized as a constitutional degree; nor to establish any Society of Masons not recognized as a constitutional body; and the first four officers of the General Grand Chapter, or any three of—

Reader page 77 · Vermont amendments laid over; installation of Charles Gilman

> them, shall, in all cases, have authority to decide all constitutional questions under this section; nor shall any Royal Arch Mason be permitted to give lectures, or instruction, on the several degrees of Masonry conferred by or under the authority of the General Grand Chapter, except he or they shall have been duly authorized by two of the State Grand Officers; which authority shall be given under their hands and the seal of the State Grand Chapter, attested by their Grand Secretary.”

2d. That the first clause of the seventh section of Article I of the Constitution as established at its session of September, 1853, be so altered as to insert the word “sixty” in place of the word “ninety,” and thus fix the fees for instituting a new Royal Arch Chapter with subordinate degrees at the sum of “sixty dollars” instead of “ninety dollars.”

Ordered, That the said proposed amendments be entered on the journal, and lie over to the next Triennial meeting, in conformity with the provisions of the Constitution.

The General Grand Chapter proceeded to the installation of its officers.

M. E. G. G. H. P. Dunlap installed in solemn and ample form M. E. Charles Gilman as General Grand High Priest; and he was inducted into the Oriental Chair, and saluted by the Comps. present, when he addressed the G. G.—

Reader page 78 · Installation completed; session closed until Chicago, September 1859

Chapter in a brief, but feeling and eloquent speech.

At his request, Past G. G. H. P. Dunlap resumed the Chair, and completed the ceremonies of Installation on all the G. G. Officers elect, except M. E. John L. Lewis, Jr., G. G. Scribe elect, who was absent.

On motion of Comp. French,

Ordered, That M. E. Comp. Hon. John [L.?] Lewis, Jr., be installed as G. G. Scribe in the Chapter of which he is a member, and that the Secretary thereof be requested to notify the G. G. Secretary of his installation.

Proclamation was then made by the G. G. Captain of the Host that the G. G. Chapter of the United States of America was duly organized, and its G. G. Officers installed for the next Triennial term; that the business of its present session was completed, and that it was about to be called from labor.

After the usual solemn ceremonies, the blessing of Heaven was invoked by the G. G. Chaplain, and the G. G. High Priest pronounced the G. G. Chapter called from labor, until the second Tuesday of September, A. D. 1859, then to be called on again at the city of Chicago, in the State of Illinois, at ten o’clock in the forenoon.

Attest:

G. G. Secretary.

Editorial note: The middle initial in the installation order is obscured by binding shadow. The name appears clearly as John L. Lewis in the preceding paragraph. The attestation space above “G. G. Secretary” is unfilled.

Reader page 79 · Secretary’s account, 1853–1856 — debits

The General Grand Chapter of the United States in account with B. B. French, G. G. Secretary

Dr.

Date	Entry	Amount
1853 Sept.	To error in last account submitted at Triennial meeting by short charge of 88 cts. in drafts sent G. G. Treasurer, June 1, 1853	$0.88
Oct. 1	To cash paid postage (see bill)	$7.89
Nov. 19	To cash paid postage (prepaid, see bill)	$1.73
Dec. 12	To F. C. French, for recording proceedings	$15.00
Dec. 28	To Wm. Hinwood, for engrossing certificate for Stapleton family	$5.00
Dec. 31	To S. Cariss, for framing said certificate	$5.00
1854 June 17	To cash paid E. A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer, as per receipt	$180.00
Sept. 27	To cash paid E. A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer, as per receipt	$100.00
1855 June 29	To cash paid for postage stamps	$1.00
1856 April 16	To cash sent E. A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer, as per receipt	$100.00
Aug. 31	To stationary furnished for 3 years	$5.00
Sept. 1	To ½ expenses of sending trunk to Hartford, Conn.	$0.25
Sept. 9	To cash paid G. G. Treasurer to balance	$415.25
	Written total	$838.00
	Deduct $18 refunded to G. G. Secretary by G. G. Treasurer for that amount twice credited Sac. Chap.	$18.00
	Written net total	$820.00

Editorial note: Entries and totals follow the written account. The entered debit amounts add to $837.00, while the source total is $838.00; this difference has not been silently corrected. The year 1856 is inserted above the April 16 entry. “Stationary” is the spelling used in the source.

Reader page 80 · Secretary’s account, 1853–1856 — credits

Cr.

Date	Entry	Amount
1853 Sept. 27	By cash of San Francisco Chapter, California, for dues to Aug. 1, 1853	$32.00
Sept. 27	By cash of San Francisco Chapter, California, in advance, for dues	$18.00
1854 Feb. 11	By cash of C. Gilman, G. G. King, Dispensation to Eldorado Chapter, Diamond Springs, Cala.	$90.00
Mar. 19	By cash of C. Gilman, G. G. K., Dispensation to California Chapter, No. 5, San Francisco	$90.00
Sept. 23	By cash of C. Gilman, G. G. K., Dispensation to Enterprise Chapter, Jersey City, N. J.	$90.00
Nov. 7	By cash of Iowa Chapter, No. 1, dues to time of forming G. C. of Iowa	$30.00
1856 Feb. 23	By cash of Boudinot Chap. U. D. for Dis. by H. P.	$90.00
May 10	By cash of G. G. K. Gilman, for Dis. to Multnomah Chapter, Salem, Oregon	$90.00
Aug. 2	By cash of Hiram Chap., No. 4, Eatontown, N. J.	$18.00
Sept. 1	By cash of Dubuque Chapter, Iowa, for dues to the time of formation of G. C. of Iowa	$32.00
	By cash of Multnomah Chapter, U. D., Salem, Oregon, for dues to Aug. 1, 1856	$22.00
Sept. 9	By cash of Minnesota Chapter, St. Paul	$78.00
Sept. 9	By cash of Boudinot Chapter, Newark, N. J.	$20.00
Sept. 9	By cash of Washington Chapter, No. 4, Muscatine, Iowa, up to the formation of G. C.	$30.00
Sept. 9	By cash of California Chap., dues to Aug. 1, 1856	$46.00
Sept. 9	By cash of San Francisco Chapter, bal—	

Editorial note: The final entry continues on reader page 81. This leaf places Boudinot Chapter at Newark; the chapter is recorded at Burlington elsewhere in the proceedings. The account’s place-name has been retained.

Reader page 81 · Secretary’s credits concluded; treasurer’s debit account

Secretary’s credits — continued

Date	Entry	Amount
	ance due G. G. Chapter up to the formation of Grand Chapter of California	$26.00
1855 Aug.	By cash of Sacramento Chapter, Cal., for nine exaltations, to time of formation of G. C. of Cal.	$18.00
1857 Sept. 9	By cash of Sacramento	$18.00
	Written total	$838.00
	Deduct $18 twice Cr. to Sacramento Chap.	$18.00
	Net total	$820.00

B. B. French,
G. G. Secretary.

Sept. 9, 1856.

Editorial note: The last Sacramento entry is dated “1857 Sept. 9” as written, although the account is signed September 9, 1856. The source date has been retained.

Edward A. Raymond, Treasurer, in account with the General Grand Chapter U. S.

Dr.

Date	Entry	Amount
1853 Sept. 1	To balance	$5,658.96
	To cash rec’d of G. G. Secretary	$265.93
1854 June 17	Do. do. do. do. — cash received of G. G. Secretary	$180.00
Oct. 2	Do. do. do. do. — cash received of G. G. Secretary	$100.00
1856 Apr. 18	Do. do. do. do. — cash received of G. G. Secretary	$100.00
Sept. 1	To interest on money loaned to date (invested per vote)	$540.00
	Total	$6,844.89

Reader page 82 · Treasurer’s credit account and closing balance

Cr.

Date	By cash paid	Amount
1853 September 21	S. Lusk	$8.00
September 21	R. P. Dunlap	$125.00
September 21	Willis Stewart	$25.00
September 21	B. B. French	$250.00
September 21	E. A. Raymond	$50.00
September 21	N. B. Haswell	$100.00
September 21	Wm. K. Forsyth	$15.00
September 21	P. Swigart	$15.00
September 21	J. K. Stapleton	$7.50
September 21	D. D. Richardson	$25.00
September 21	Cyrus Goodale	$10.00
1856 September 1	Balance	$6,214.39
	Total	$6,844.89

Edward A. Raymond,
G. G. Treasurer.

Reader page 83 · Representatives and postal addresses — Maine through New York

General Grand Chapter
September, 1856

List of Representatives in attendance with P. O. address, so far as could be ascertained.

Grand Chapter of Maine

Representative	P. O. address
A. B. Thompson	Brunswick
G. E. Stephens	Bangor
Stephen Webber	Gardiner
T. J. Maney	Saco

Grand Chapter of Vermont

Representative	P. O. address
Philip C. Tucker	Vergennes
Thos. H. Campbell	St. Albans
Danl. L. Potter	Middlebury
John B. Hollenbeck	Burlington

Grand Chapter of Massachusetts

Representative	P. O. address
Abraham A. Dame	Boston
Jno. McClellan	Boston

Grand Chapter of Rhode Island

Representative	P. O. address
Jos. Belcher	Providence
James Salsbury	Providence
Wm. C. Barker	Providence
Eldred	Newport

Grand Chapter of Connecticut

Representative	P. O. address
Isaac N. Coe	Killingly
David Clark	Hartford
John C. Blackman	Bridgeport

Grand Chapter of New York

Representative	P. O. address
Charles L. Church	New York City

Reader page 84 · Representatives and postal addresses — New York through Indiana

Grand Chapter of New York — continued

Representative	P. O. address
Peter P. Murphy	Royalton
Sylvester Gilbert	Ogdensburgh
James M. Austin	New York City

Grand Chapter of Maryland and Dist. of Colum.

Representative	P. O. address
Enoch S. Courtney	Baltimore
Geo. M. Lamb	Baltimore

Grand Chapter of Ohio

Representative	P. O. address
Horace M. Stokes	Lebanon
Kent Jarvis	Massillon
Platt Benedict	Norwalk
B. F. Smith	Mount Vernon

Grand Chapter of Kentucky

Representative	P. O. address
Marcus M. Tyler	Eddyville
Rob. Morris	Lodge P. O., Fulton Co.

Grand Chapter of North Carolina

Representative	P. O. address
Peter Custis	Newbern

Grand Chapter of South Carolina

Representative	P. O. address
Albert G. Mackey	Charleston
Theodore S. Gourdin	Charleston
Henry Buist	Charleston

Grand Chapter of Georgia

Representative	P. O. address
Philip T. Schley	Savannah

Grand Chapter of Alabama

Representative	P. O. address
Wm. A. Ferill	Hollow Square
Thos. C. Hartwell	Lowndesborough
R. P. Watson	Montgomery

Grand Chapter of Indiana

Representative	P. O. address
Wm. Hacker	Shelbyville
Jas. R. Mendenhall	Richmond

Editorial note: Addresses reproduce this attendance list. For example, this leaf places Philip T. Schley at Savannah, while the printed officers' table on reader page 21 gives Columbus.

Reader page 85 · Representatives and postal addresses — Indiana through Iowa

Grand Chapter of Indiana — continued

Representative	P. O. address
Geo. W. Porter	New Albany

Grand Chapter of Illinois

Representative	P. O. address
Ira A. W. Buck	Aurora
M. J. Noyes	Pittsfield

Grand Chapter of Mississippi

Representative	P. O. address
Charles Scott	Jackson
Charles Koppell	Carrollton

Grand Chapter of Louisiana

Representative	P. O. address
Amos Adams	Baton Rouge
J. Q. A. Fellows	New Orleans
Albert Pike	New Orleans
Fred. N. Knapp	New Orleans

Grand Chapter of Missouri

Representative	P. O. address
A. O’Sullivan	St. Louis
Jno. D. Daggett	St. Louis

Grand Chapter of Texas

Representative	P. O. address
James L. Greene	Montgomery
Andrew Neill	Seguin
James Sorley	Galveston
P. C. Tucker, Jr.	Galveston

Grand Chapter of Michigan

Representative	P. O. address
Michael Shoemaker	Jackson
Horace N. Roberts	Detroit

Grand Chapter of Arkansas

Representative	P. O. address
Luke E. Barber	Little Rock

Grand Chapter of Wisconsin

Representative	P. O. address
Rufus D. Pulford	Milwaukie

Grand Chapter of Iowa

Representative	P. O. address
James R. Hartsock	Iowa City

Editorial note: “Koppell,” Horace N. Roberts and “Milwaukie” follow the entries on this leaf.

Reader page 86 · Attendance list concluded; Grand Officers and Past Grand High Priests

Grand Chapter of Iowa — continued

Representative	P. O. address
T. S. Parvin	Muscatine

Grand Chapter of California

Representative	P. O. address
O. H. Dibble	Grass Valley, Nevada Co.
Isaac Davis	Sacramento

Grand Chapter of New Hampshire

Representative	P. O. address
John Christie	Portsmouth
Moses Paul	Dover
Horace Chase	Hopkinton

New Jersey

Representative	P. O. address
Union, No. 1 — Danl. N. Bruin	Newark
Enterprise, No. 2 — James B. Taylor	Newark
Hiram, No. 4 — Geo. A. Tator	Eatontown

Grand Officers

Representative	P. O. address
Robt. P. Dunlap, G. G. H. P.	Brunswick, Maine

Past Grand High Priests

Representative	P. O. address
E. G. Storer	New Haven, Conn.
Horace Goodwin	Hartford, Conn.
William B. Thrall	Columbus, O.
William B. Hubbard	Columbus, O.
B. B. French, of Md. & D. C.	Washington, D. C.

B. B. French,
G. G. Secretary.

Reader page 87 · Blank leaf between the 1856 and 1859 proceedings

Editorial note: This leaf has no new text. Faint show-through is visible from the other side.

Reader page 88 · 1859 Chicago — Seventeenth Triennial Session opens

Proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America

The Seventeenth Triennial Session of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America was held in the Masonic Temple, in the City of Chicago, in the State of Illinois, on Tuesday, the 13th day of September, A. D. 1859.

Present

Companion	Office
M. E. Charles Gilman	G. G. High Priest
M. E. Philip C. Tucker	D. G. G. High Priest
M. E. John L. Lewis, Jr., G. G. S.	as G. G. King
M. E. Robt. P. Dunlap	as G. G. Scribe
M. E. John McClellan	as G. G. Treasurer
M. E. Benjm. B. French	G. G. Secretary
M. E. Jas. R. Hartsock	G. G. Capt. of the Host
M. E. David Clark	G. G. Royal Arch Capt’n

And, for the purpose of opening

Companion	Office
A. O’Sullivan	G. Principal Sojourner
J. Q. A. Fellows	G. Master, 3d Vail
Geo. M. Hillyer	G. Master, 2d Vail
James M. Austin	G. Master, 1st Vail
[E.?] J. Higgins	G. Guard

Editorial note: The same supplied PDF continues here into the 1859 Chicago proceedings. Some opening officers' initials are obscured by the binding shadow; Higgins's first initial is marked uncertain.

Reader page 89 · 1859 secretary's report — printed Grand Chapter proceedings received

The General Grand Chapter was then opened in Ample Form.

On motion of Comp. Tucker, the reading of the last proceedings was dispensed with.

On motion of Comp. Dunham,

Resolved, That all Royal Arch Masons in good standing be admitted as visitors to this General Grand Chapter.

The General Grand High Priest stated that he was not now prepared to submit his address.

The General Grand Secretary, Comp. B. B. French, submitted his triennial report, as follows:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The undersigned, in accordance with the resolution of Sept. 17th, 1844, which requires the General Grand Secretary to prepare and present, on the first day of each triennial session, a digest of the communications received by him, requiring the action of the General Grand Chapter, reports as follows:

Since the last meeting of this General Grand Body, in Sept. 1856, I have received, as General Grand Secretary, the printed proceedings from Grand Chapters, as stated in the following list:

Grand Chapter	Printed proceedings received
Alabama	Decr. 1857 and 1858
Arkansas	Octr. 1858
California	1857 and 1859
Connecticut	1857, 1858 and 1859
Georgia	1857, 1858 and 1859
Illinois	Octr. 1858
Indiana	1859
Iowa	Octr. 1857 and 1858
Kentucky	Octr. 1857 and 1858
Louisiana	1859
Maine	1857, 1858 and 1859
Maryland & D. C.	Novr. 1857 and 1858
Massachusetts	1856, 1857 and 1858*
Michigan	1857, 1858 and 1859
Mississippi	1857, 1858 and 1859
Missouri	1857, 1858 and 1859
New Hampshire	1857, 1858 and 1859
New Jersey	1858

Grand Chapter	Printed proceedings received
New York	1857 and 1859
N. Carolina	1857 and 1858

* All in one volume.

Reader page 90 · 1859 secretary’s report — withdrawals, constitutional opinions and dissolution

Grand Chapter	Printed proceedings received
Ohio	Octr. 1857 and 1858
Rhode Island	1856, 1857 and 1858
S. Carolina	1857, 1858 and 1859
Tennessee	Octr. 1857 and 1858
Texas	1857, 1858 and 1859
Vermont	Aug. 1857 and 1858
Virginia	Decr. 1857 and 1858
Wisconsin	1857, 1858 and 1859
Canada	1859

Of the Grand Chapters enumerated in the foregoing list, those of Virginia and Pennsylvania have never been under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter. Those of Kentucky and North Carolina passed resolutions of withdrawal from its jurisdiction in 1857, leaving twenty-five State Grand Chapters now forming component parts of this General Grand Body.

The matter contained in the reports received from State Grand Chapters, “requiring the action of the General Grand Chapter,” is principally touching the proposed amendments to the General Grand Constitution.

There are other things in those reports which it may or may not be deemed expedient for this General Grand Body to notice. The vital question of a dissolution of this General Grand Chapter has been noticed in many of the State Grand Chapters, in some way, and more than half of them have expressed their opinions in regard to it, either for or against.

I have considered it my duty, under your resolution, to make a careful examination of the action of the several Grand Chapters on the two important matters above alluded to, and bring their opinions in a simplified form before you.

I will commence with the opinions expressed on the Constitutional amendments, and in order to bring them into as small a compass as possible I will designate those amendments by numbers, and then make a list showing the expressed opinion of each Grand Chapter on each amendment, by its number, where such opinion has been—

Reader page 91 · 1859 digest — proposed constitutional amendments numbered 1–14

expressed, and noting such other facts as I may deem relevant.

Proposed Amendments

No.	Reference	Description
1	Art. 1, Sec. 2	Making the General Grand Chapter subordinate to the State Grand Chapters instead of maintaining jurisdiction over them, and reducing its powers.
2	Art. 1, Sec. 3	Making Dispensation officers of a subordinate Chapter voters in the General Grand Chapter as soon as a charter is granted.
3	Art. 1, Sec. 4	Making the votes of the Grand Chapter representatives in the General Grand Chapter unequal.
4 and 5	Art. 1, Sec. 6	Continuing the effect of a Dispensation for a new Chapter to the close of the meeting of the General Grand Chapter, and declaring the charter a continuation of the Dispensation.
6	Art. 1, Sec. 9	Striking out the degree of Past Master.
7	Art. 1, Sec. 11	Substitute for “under this jurisdiction” the words “under the immediate jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter.”
8	Art. 1, Sec. 14	Allowing an appeal from the decision of the General G. High Priest.
9	Art. 3, Sec. 5	Changing the phraseology of the provision in the Constitution relative to healing R. A. Masons who have not received the intermediary degrees—and omitting to mention the “Past Master.”
10	Article Miscellaneous, Sec. 1	Granting power to General Grand Officers to constitute the Dispensation High Priest a proxy to constitute a new Chapter.
11	Article Miscellaneous, Sec. 2	Add in relation to Chapters, “whether chartered or under Dispensation.”
12	Article Miscellaneous, Sec. 2	Constitution to be approved by two-thirds of Grand Chapters of the confederation, and approval officially promulgated, etc.
13	Art. II, Sec. 4	State Grand Chapters to fix the price of Charters for new Chapters granted by themselves.
14	Art. 1, Sec. 9	Constitutional degrees and Constitutional bodies—Grand Officers to decide what are such, and lecturers to be authorized by State Grand Officers.

Editorial note: This is the secretary’s numbered digest of proposals, used by the voting summary that follows. The references reproduce this leaf, including “Sec. 2” for No. 12.

Reader page 92 · 1859 digest — amendment opinions of Alabama through Rhode Island

No. 15. Art. 1, Sec. 7—Reducing Dispensation fee from ninety to sixty dollars.

The following is the action of the State Grand Chapters on the foregoing amendments:

Grand Chapter	Action reported
Alabama	Votes for Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5; 7, 8 and 9, adding Past Master’s Degree; and 10, 11, 12 and 13; and against Nos. 3, 6, 14 and 15.

Grand Chapter	Action reported
Arkansas	If this Grand Chapter expressed any opinion, the proceedings containing it were not received.
California	If this Grand Chapter expressed any opinion, the proceedings containing it were not received.
Connecticut	Votes against Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5; 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15.
Georgia	Has expressed no opinion.
Illinois	Votes for Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5; 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15; and against No. 6.
Indiana	If this Grand Chapter expressed any opinion, the proceedings containing it were not received.
Iowa	Has expressed no opinion.
Kentucky	Voted to leave the subject entirely to its representatives at Chicago.
Louisiana	Voted to leave the subject entirely to its representatives at Chicago.
Maine	Voted to leave the subject entirely to its representatives at Chicago.
Maryland and Dist. of Columbia	Has expressed no opinion farther than to lay a report of a Committee on the subject on the table.
Massachusetts	Has expressed no opinion.
Michigan	Voted that it was inexpedient to act on the amendments.
Mississippi	Has expressed no opinion.
Missouri	Votes for Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5; 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15; and against No. 6.
New Hampshire	Votes against Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5; 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12; and expressed no opinion on Nos. 13, 14 and 15.
New Jersey	Has expressed no opinion.
New York	Votes for Nos. 3, 4, 6, 9, 10, 11 and 14; and against Nos. 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13 and 15.
N. Carolina	Votes for Nos. 1, 3, 4 and 5; 7, 8 and 9, adding Past Master’s Degree and intermediate; and 10, 11 and 12; and against Nos. 2, 6, 13, 14 and 15.
Rhode Island	Votes for Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5; 7, 8, 10, 11, 12 and 13; and against Nos. 6, 9 and 14.

Reader page 93 · 1859 digest — remaining amendment opinions and proposed dissolution

and expressed no opinion on No. 15.

Editorial note: The opening line concludes Rhode Island’s entry from reader page 92.

Grand Chapter	Action reported
South Carolina	The Grand High Priest called attention expressly to the subject, but Grand Chapter expressed no opinion.
Tennessee	Expressed no opinion.
Texas	Voted against all the amendments.
Vermont	Voted for Nos. 4 and 5; 7, 8, 10, 11, 12 and 14; and against Nos. 1, 6, 9—ignores Past Master’s Degree—and 15; and offering a substitute for 15; and expressed no opinion on Nos. 2 and 13.

Grand Chapter	Action reported
Wisconsin	Votes for Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5; 7, 10, 11 and 12; and against Nos. 6, 8 and 9; and expressed no opinion on Nos. 13, 14 and 15.

From this list it will be seen that fourteen Grand Chapters have expressed no opinion whatever on the proposed amendments, and those who have expressed opinions, except on the single one of striking out the degree of Past Master, are very much divided. All, except one, that have acted on the amendments, are in favor of retaining that degree.

As regards the question of sustaining or dissolving the General Grand Chapter, the Grand Chapters of Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, New Jersey, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Tennessee and Wisconsin have expressed no opinion.

Those of Michigan, Texas, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Mississippi and Missouri have expressed opinions favorable to a dissolution; and

Those of New York, Maryland and the District of Columbia, Maine, Massachusetts, Louisiana, South Carolina and Vermont have voted to sustain the organization of the General Grand Chapter.

The only official communications, in writing, that I have received, and deemed of sufficient importance to be matters of reference in this report, are the following:

First—The report of the committee, consisting of Comps. Neill, Gourdin and Raymond, appointed at the last triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter to—

Reader page 94 · 1859 secretary’s report — official communications A–F

procure an appropriate testimonial to be presented to the M. E. Past G. G. High Priest, Robert P. Dunlap, addressed to this General Grand Body, and notifying it of the performance of the duty assigned to the committee, and accompanied by a description of the testimonial presented, and by the correspondence that took place between the committee and our most excellent and distinguished Comp. Dunlap. That report is herewith presented, marked A.

Second—A communication from Comp. James S. Tuttle, Secretary of Penn Yan Chapter, No. 100, in the State of New York, accompanied by a transcript from the records of said Chapter, properly authenticated, showing that the M. E. and Hon. John L. Lewis, Jr., was duly installed in that Chapter, of which he is a member, on the 23d day of October, 1856, as General Grand Scribe of this General Grand Chapter, in conformity with the order of this General Grand Body, dated on the 16th day of September, 1856, and immediately certified to said Chapter by me. That communication accompanies this report, marked B.

Third—A letter from Comp. Thomas B. Harris, “Grand Scribe E.” of the Grand Chapter of Canada, dated August 21st, 1857, enclosing the address of the then newly constituted Grand Chapter, “To the Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons of the States of America.” That letter is marked C, and accompanies this report.

Fourth—The return of the proceedings and papers of Honolulu Chapter, under Dispensation at Honolulu, in the Island of Oahu, Sandwich Islands, asking for a Charter; marked D.

Fifth—The return of the proceedings and papers of Washington Chapter, under Dispensation at Atchison, in the Territory of Kansas, asking a Charter; marked E.

Sixth—The return of the proceedings and Dispensation of Portland Chapter, under Dispensation, at Portland, Oregon, asking a Charter; and marked F.

Reader page 95 · 1859 secretary's report — Oregon and Minnesota petitions; accounts

Seventh—The return of the proceedings and Dispensation of Clackamas Chapter, Under Dispensation, at Oregon City, Oregon, asking a Charter; marked G.

Eight—The return of Vermillion Chapter, Under Dispensation at Hastings, Minnesota, with a verbal request from the Comp. A. T. C. Pierson, who brought it to this city, that a charter may be granted; marked I.

Ninth—A petition from nine Royal Arch Masons, of Jacksonville, in the County of Jackson, Oregon, praying that a Dispensation or Charter may be granted to them to open and hold a Chapter at that place, with the recommendation of Multnomah Chapter, at Salem, annexed, and for which ninety dollars has been paid to me, and I now hold the same for the General Grand Chapter, if the prayer of the petitioners is granted. The paper is marked K.

I also have the honor herewith to submit a carefully prepared Table, showing the names of all the Royal Arch Chapters, Grand and Subordinate, under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, with the names and residences of their presiding officers and Secretaries, the number of subordinate Chapters under each Grand Chapter, and the number of affiliated Royal Arch Masons belonging to each jurisdiction, so far as the same could be ascertained; also, so far as possible, the date of formation, recognition, or admission of every Grand Chapter.

This table shows that there are seven Chapters immediately subordinate to this General Grand Chapter, now Under Dispensation from our General Grand High Priest.

My account current from September, 1856, to the first day of September instant, closed on the latter day, in accordance with the decision of the General Grand Chapter in resolution of 1856, is also herewith submitted; by which it will be seen that I have received nine hundred dollars and seventy—

Reader page 96 · 1859 secretary's report — receipts and publication of the Compendium

five cents, during the time specified, of which I have paid over to the General Grand Treasurer eight hundred and twenty-five dollars and sixty-three cents, and have paid out, for official expenses, seventy-five dollars and twelve cents.

In accordance with the resolution of this General Grand Body, at its last triennial meeting, appointing a committee to prepare a Compendium of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter from its first organization to the (then) present Convocation, and that the same be published under the superintendence of the General Grand High Priest and General Grand Secretary, I, at the request of the committee, of which I was one, prepared a Compendium, and the same was published under my own supervision—the health of our General Grand High Priest being such as to prevent his giving as much attention to the matter as I desired. I had, however, his counsel throughout the preparation and publication of the work.

It makes 316 pages—and I prepared for it a full index, which will be found most convenient in making critical examinations of the subjects contained in it.

The cost of printing one thousand copies of the book is three hundred and twenty-five dollars.

I have sold copies at one dollar each, and paid fourteen cents postage on each copy sent by mail.

Up to this day I have received one hundred and thirty-three dollars for copies sold, and have paid out to the printer seventy-two dollars; for postage on books, thirty-five dollars and eighty cents, making one hundred and seven dollars and eighty cents.

I devoted some three or four months to the compilation and printing, and employed a copyist to aid me a portion of the time.

I respectfully suggest that this Most Excellent Grand Body take some action relative to this publication.

Respectfully submitted,

Reader page 97 · 1859 report printing ordered; credentials committee appointed

(Signed) B. B. French.
General Grand Secretary.

Comp. Tucker moved that the General Grand Secretary's report be laid on the Table, and so much as relates to the amendments of the Constitution be printed for the use of the General Grand Chapter, so as to be in the hands of the members tomorrow.

Comp. Mackey moved to print the amendments in full with his report.

Comp. Tucker accepted Comp. Mackey's motion, and it became a part of the original motion.

A division of the question was called for and ordered.

The question was taken on the second branch of the motion and it was carried.

At this stage of the proceedings, Comp. Dunlap rose to a question of order, viz.: That as there was no report from a Committee on Credentials, and it was therefore uncertain who were entitled to vote, it was not in order to proceed further until the General Grand Chapter was fully organized.

The General Grand High Priest sustained the question.

On motion of Comp. Dunlap, a Committee on Credentials was then appointed, consisting of Comps. French, O'Sullivan, Hartsock and Fellows.

The General Grand Chapter was then called off until half past 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Reader page 98 · 1859 credentials — Maine through Connecticut

First Day — Evening Session
Tuesday, Sept. 13th, 1859

The General Grand Chapter was called to labor by the General Grand High Priest at 3½ o'clock, P. M.

Comp. French, from the Committee on Credentials, made the following report, which was read and adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The undersigned Committee on Credentials respectfully report that the following Companions are entitled to seats in this General Grand Chapter:

Maine

Companion	Office represented
Moses Dodge	Grand High Priest
[Alvin?] J. Dunham	Dy. Grand High Priest
John J. Bell	Grand King
Robt. P. Dunlap	proxy for Grand Scribe

New Hampshire

Companion	Office represented
Horace Chase	proxy for Grand High Priest
Moses Paul	Dy. Grand High Priest

Vermont

Companion	Office represented
Thos. H. Campbell	Grand High Priest; proxy for Dy. Grand High Priest
Daniel Washburn	Grand King
Samuel Wilson	Grand Scribe

Massachusetts

Companion	Office represented
John McClellan	Grand High Priest

Rhode Island

Companion	Office represented
Wm. C. Barker	proxy for Grand High Priest

Connecticut

Companion	Office represented
H. C. Deming	proxy for Grand High Priest
[unclear] Smith	Grand Scribe

Editorial note: “Evening Session” and 3½ P. M. both appear in the manuscript. Dunham’s first name and Smith’s given name are difficult to read in the binding shadow.

Reader page 99 · 1859 credentials — New York through Indiana

New York

Companion	Office represented
James M. Austin	Grand High Priest
Sylvester Gilbert	Dy. Grand High Priest
Augustus Willard	Grand King
Geo. N. Williams	Grand Scribe

New Jersey

Companion	Office represented
Wm. W. Goodwin	Grand High Priest
Leopold Lithauer	Grand King
M. J. Drummond	proxy for Grand Scribe

Maryland and Dist. of Columbia

Companion	Office represented
James Gozzler	Grand High Priest
John L. Yeates	proxy for Dy. Grand High Priest
James Stirrat	proxy for Grand King and Grand Scribe

Ohio

Companion	Office represented
George Geas	Grand High Priest
Horace M. Stokes	proxy for Dy. Grand High Priest
Peter Thatcher, Jr.	Grand King
Joshua H. Riddle	Grand Scribe

South Carolina

Companion	Office represented
A. G. Mackey	Grand High Priest
H. Buist	proxy for Dy. Grand High Priest
W. D. Haley	proxy for Grand King
D. Ramsey	Grand Scribe

Georgia

Companion	Office represented
Philip T. Schley	Grand High Priest

Indiana

Companion	Office represented
Benj. C. Lawrence	proxy for Grand High Priest
George W. Porter	Dy. Grand High Priest
Chauncey Carter	Grand King

Reader page 100 · 1859 credentials — Alabama through Michigan; end of supplied Volume 2A

Alabama

Companion	Office represented
[unclear initials] Hastings	proxy for Grand High Priest
[Robt.?] M. Wood	Dy. Grand High Priest
R. P. Watson	Grand King
Danl. Sayre	proxy for Grand Scribe

Tennessee

Companion	Office represented
John Frizzell	proxy for Grand High Priest
Wm. H. Whitson	proxy for Dy. Grand High Priest
[J.?] S. Northcott	Grand King
[unclear initials] Sheffield	proxy for Grand Scribe

Illinois

Companion	Office represented
John B. Elwood	Grand High Priest
[H.?] W. Mitchell	Dy. Grand High Priest
[S.?] M. Blakesly	Grand King
Ira A. W. Buck	proxy for Grand Scribe

Mississippi

Companion	Office represented
[Matthew?] S. Ward	Grand High Priest
Geo. M. Hillyer	Dy. Grand High Priest
James Penn	proxy for Grand King

Louisiana

Companion	Office represented
J. Q. A. Fellows	Grand High Priest
Samuel G. Risk	proxy for Grand King
[unclear initials] [Swasey?]	proxy for Grand Scribe

Missouri

Companion	Office represented
A. O’Sullivan	proxy for Grand High Priest
Joseph Foster	proxy for Grand King
Wm. R. Penick	proxy for Grand Scribe

Michigan

Companion	Office represented
[unclear]	Grand High Priest

Editorial note: The binding shadow obscures several names or initials on this leaf. Brackets identify uncertain readings without supplying names that cannot be read reliably. Cross-reference: the continuing roster on Volume 2B, scan 3, clearly names Matthew S. Ward; the given name on this leaf remains obscured. This is the final supplied scan in Volume 2A; the 1859 credentials report continues beyond this file.

1856 Volume 2B

Read the typed text of all 100 PDF scans, continuing the Chicago proceedings of September 1859, followed by accounts and the delegate directory, the note on the cancelled 1862 convocation, and the Columbus special and triennial convocations of September 1865. The file retains its library title “1856 Volume 2B.” Scan numbers match the PDF reader above.

The file begins in the 1859 credentials report continued from Volume 2A. The 1859 session closes on scan 53; its accounts and directory follow. Scan 63 records that no convocation was held in 1862 because of the Civil War. The 1865 special session begins on scan 64 and the triennial session on scan 76. Mackey’s communication follows on scans 92–99, with financial statements on scan 100. Blank leaves, a gap in manuscript numbering, uncertain readings, and conflicting dates or financial figures are identified. Proposed amendments and their recorded outcomes are distinguished.

Original source PDF · 100 source pages

Reader page 1 · 1859 credentials — Michigan continued through Minnesota Chapter

Editorial note: This file continues the 1859 credentials report from the final scan of Volume 2A. Its first three entries continue Michigan.

Michigan — continued

Companion	Office represented
Fred. Hall	Dy. Grand High Priest
A. B. Cudworth	Grand King
Chauncey A. Williams	Grand Scribe

Arkansas

Companion	Office represented
Elbert H. English	Grand High Priest
Albert Pike	proxy for Dy. Grand High Priest
Luke E. Barber	proxy for Grand King
Gabriel McGowan	proxy for Grand Scribe

Wisconsin

Companion	Office represented
Henry L. Palmer	Grand High Priest
Henry M. Billings	Grand King
Andrew J. Redburn	Grand Scribe

Texas

Companion	Office represented
Andrew Neill	Grand High Priest
James Sorley	proxy for Dy. Grand High Priest

Iowa

Companion	Office represented
T. S. Parvin	Grand High Priest
Anibal Porter	Grand King
G. S. Ellis	Grand Scribe

California

Companion	Office represented
Charles Marsh	proxy for Grand High Priest; proxy for Dy. Grand High Priest; proxy for Grand King; proxy for Grand Scribe

Minnesota Chapter No. 1

Companion	Office represented
A. T. C. Pierson	High Priest

(Signed) B. B. French.
Jas. M. Austin.
A. O'Sullivan.
Jas. R. Hartsock.
J. Q. A. Fellows.

Committee.

Reader page 2 · 1859 standing committees — finance through doings of officers

The M. E. General Grand High Priest then announced the following Standing Committees:

On Finance

Companion	Of
Henry C. Deming	Connecticut
Philip T. Schley	Georgia
Moses Dodge	Maine
Horace Chase	New Hampshire
Henry L. Palmer	Wisconsin

On Foreign Correspondence

Companion	Of
Albert Pike	Arkansas
A. O'Sullivan	Missouri
Wm. C. Barker	Rhode Island
James M. Austin	New York
Charles Marsh	California

On Masonic Jurisprudence

Companion	Of
Philip C. Tucker	Vermont
John L. Lewis, Jr.	New York
Jas. R. Hartsock	Iowa
A. T. C. Pierson	Minnesota
R. P. Watson	Alabama

On Grievances

Companion	Of
Andrew Neill	Texas
George Geas	Ohio
Wm. W. Goodwin	New Jersey
A. B. Cudworth	Michigan
Benj. C. Lawrence	Indiana

On Doings of Grand Officers

Companion	Of
A. G. Mackey	South Carolina
Ira A. W. Buck	Illinois

Editorial note: The final committee list continues on reader page 3.

Reader page 3 · 1859 committees concluded; secretary’s report referred; amendments scheduled

On Doings of Grand Officers — continued

Companion	Of
J. Q. A. Fellows	Louisiana
Matthew S. Ward	Mississippi
T. S. Parvin	Iowa

On Charters and Dispensations

Companion	Of
Robt. P. Dunlap	Maine
John L. Yeates	Maryland
James Gozzler	Dist. of Columbia
John Frizzell	Tennessee
Moses Paul	New Hampshire

On motion of Comp. French, the General Grand Chapter proceeded to the consideration of the report of the General Grand Secretary, when, on motion of Comp. Fellows, it was

Resolved, That so much of said report as relates to Finance be referred to the Committee on Finance.

That so much as refers to Chapters Under Dispensation be referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

That so much as relates to the amendments of the Constitution be referred to the General Grand Chapter direct.

That the remainder of the report be referred to the Committee on the Doings of the General Grand Officers.

Comp. Buist moved that the proposed amendments to the General Grand Constitution be made the order of the day for tomorrow, immediately after the reading of the General Grand High Priest's address.

Comp. Fellows moved to amend the motion by adding, "and that they be taken up in their order." Which amendment was rejected.

The question was then put on Comp. Buist's motion, and it was agreed to.

Comp. Northcott moved that the hour of 7½ o'clock tomorrow evening be fixed upon for the exemplification of the work. Which motion was laid upon the Table.

Reader page 4 · 1859 withdrawal inquiry authorized; printing ordered

On motion of Comp. Fellows, the first four officers were appointed a committee to confer with a like committee of the Grand Encampment on a division of the time between them.

Comp. English submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence be instructed to inquire and report whether the Grand Chapters of North Carolina and Kentucky had the constitutional right to withdraw from the jurisdiction of, and dissolve their connection with, the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

Resolved, That if the committee find in the negative, they report what relation said Grand Chapters are to be regarded as sustaining to the Grand Chapters which remain within the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter.

On motion of Comp. Fellows, it was

Ordered, That three hundred copies of so much of the report of the General Grand Secretary as relates to the amendments of the Constitution, together with the amendments proposed, and a list of the Representatives and the Standing Committees, be printed for the use of the members.

And then the General Grand Chapter was called off until tomorrow at 9 o'clock in the forenoon.

Reader page 5 · September 14, 1859 — address of the General Grand High Priest begins

Second Day
Wednesday, September 14th, 1859

The General Grand High Priest not being present, the Deputy G. Grand High Priest took the Chair, and called the General Grand Chapter to labor, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

On motion of Comp. Hillyer,

Resolved, That at the future sessions of the General Grand Chapter, the address of the M. E. General Grand High Priest shall be the first business in order after the organization and presentation of Credentials.

Comp. J. L. Lewis, Jr., moved that the General Grand Chapter be called off for one hour, which motion was agreed to, and at half past 10 o'clock the General Grand Chapter was called off until half past 11.

The hour of half past 11 having arrived, the General Grand High Priest took the chair and called the General Grand Chapter to order.

The General Grand High Priest submitted his address, which was read and is as follows:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

By permission of kind Providence, we are once more assembled in council to deliberate upon such matters as may rightfully come before us.

Although the Angel of Death has visited our Fraternity during the past three years, removing from amongst us many of the good, the great and the true, yet so far as I know, it has pleased our Heavenly Father to preserve its acting officers in life: all of whom, it is hoped, will be present upon this occasion. Among the departed there is one whom we all highly esteemed—all well loved—one whose light ever shone brilliantly among us—one whose loss we may well deplore—for he was a friend & supporter of this body, and the General Grand Chapter owes him much, and can scarcely do his memory too much honor. I allude to Willis Stewart, late of Kentucky, a P. M. E. Deputy General—

Reader page 6 · Gilman's address — illness, decisions and proposed withdrawals

Grand High Priest of this body.

It had been my intention to give you at this time a detailed account of the condition of Royal Arch Masonry throughout your jurisdiction, so far as the same should have come to my knowledge. But it has pleased our Heavenly Father to permit heavy calamity to befall me (known, perhaps, to most of you), so that I am compelled to limit this communication to such matters most important for you to know.

I have been called upon to decide, and have decided, a great number of constitutional and other questions, during the vacation just closed. These, too, it had been my purpose to classify and submit to you; but I have been unable to do so.

If at any time my replies to those questions have seemed too long delayed, I trust it will be imputed either to my absence from my home, or to the infirmity above alluded to.

I regret it is not in my power to congratulate you upon the continuance of that peace and harmony of our subordinate Grand Chapters that had so long and so happily prevailed. It is generally known to you, I suppose, that the Grand Chapters of Kentucky and North Carolina have announced that they have withdrawn their allegiance from the General Grand Chapter; and that some others have signified their desire that the General Grand Chapter shall cease to exist. When the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, acting under instructions from individual States, can dissolve the Congress of the United States, and repeal the Federal Constitution, then, and not till then, may be found power in the State Grand Chapters to dissolve the General Grand Chapter.

I am of the opinion that much of the dissatisfaction which has manifested itself within the State Jurisdictions during the past three years has grown out of certain resolutions that were introduced at the last Triennial—

Reader page 7 · Gilman’s address — powers, financial support and New Jersey Grand Chapter

meetings, touching the origin and powers of the General Grand Chapter. Those resolutions are false in fact and mischievous in their character. They inculcate the idea that the General Grand Chapter has no power except that derived by grant from the State Grand Chapters. Where were the State Grand Chapters when this body came into power? They had no existence! On the contrary, their very existence, in almost every instance, was by grant from the General Grand Chapter.

I earnestly recommend that all such resolutions standing upon your records be repealed.

In some of the State Grand Chapters, a suggestion has been advanced that your body must be supported, at no distant day, by a heavy tax upon those bodies. This has caused anxiety, and if founded upon any just apprehension would be a serious matter. But there has been no greater error than this. As well may the individual States of this Union fear that the support of the pecuniary expenses of the Congress of the United States may become a direct tax upon their citizens, as that the expenses of this General Grand Chapter may fall upon the State Grand Chapters. The account of the General Grand Treasurer will show an increasing surplus, and it needs not the power of prophecy to discover that it must go on increasing.

It is for the General Grand Chapter to say what steps shall be taken respecting those Grand Chapters which have thrown off their allegiance to this body.

On the application of three regularly constituted Royal Arch Chapters in the State of New Jersey, viz.: Enterprise Chapter No. 2, Hiram Chapter No. 4, and Boudinot Chapter No. 5, on the 24th day of January, 1857, I granted them my approbation for the formation of a Grand Chapter for the State, and authorized Comp. High Priest M. J. Drummond to act as my proxy in installing the officers elect and in consecrating said—

Reader page 8 · Gilman’s address — seven dispensations and Monroe Chapter complaint

Grand Chapter, under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter.

These acts he performed on the 13th day of January next following.

I am credibly informed that said Grand Body is regularly progressing in its work.

Since your last triennial meeting, I have issued my Dispensations for the formation of Seven Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, as follows, viz.:

- To Leavenworth Chapter, at Leavenworth, Kansas Territory, Jan. 24th, 1857.
- To Honolulu Chapter, at Honolulu, one of the Sandwich Islands, June 10th, 1857.
- To Vermillion Chapter, at Hastings, Minnesota, June 20th, 1857.
- To Clackamas Chapter, at Oregon City, Oregon, December 7th, 1857.
- To St. Anthony Falls Chapter, at St. Anthony, Minnesota, January 5th, 1858.
- To Portland Chapter, at Portland, Oregon, January 1st, 1859.
- To Atchison Chapter, at Atchison, Kansas, May 18th, 1859.

The fees for these Dispensations, amounting to six hundred and thirty dollars ($630), were all prepaid by the petitioners, and immediately passed over to the General Grand Secretary.

In the early part of the year 1857, I received a communication from Monroe Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at Detroit, State of Michigan, giving me the information, and therewith complaining, that the Grand Chapter of that State had chartered and constituted a Royal Arch Chapter within the city of Detroit, without the avouchment of Monroe Chapter (said Chapter being the Chapter nearest to the place where said new Chapter was opened, and in fact the only one in the city of Detroit), for the moral characters and Masonic abilities of the petitioners therefor, and without its recommendation that a dispensation or charter should be granted them. But on the contrary, said charter was granted against the expressed wish and direct disapprobation of Monroe Chapter, at the time manifested in open Grand Chapter, and with a perfect knowledge of the petitioners therefor.

It was further shown me that said charter was granted in virtue—

Reader page 9 · Gilman’s address — Michigan constitutional changes and proclamation

of a constitutional provision of said Grand Chapter, authorizing the creating of new Chapters upon the recommendation of two Chapters in the State, other than the Chapter nearest to the place where the new Chapter is to be located, with the addition of a certificate of at least three Royal Arch Masons, in good standing as such, in some Chapter in the State, certifying that the petitioners are all Royal Arch Masons, in good standing as such, and that they are men of good moral character; contrary to and in direct violation of the provision of the 7th Section of Article 2 of the Constitution of this General Grand Chapter. That the petition aforesaid was first presented to Monroe Chapter, the only Chapter in Detroit, and its recommendation and certificate was refused; and after that the petitioners were recommended by two Chapters located fifty or sixty miles from Detroit.

It was further shown me that the foregoing provision of the Constitution of said Grand Chapter was not a provision of said Constitution until 1856, and that it was proposed and adopted at one and the same meeting of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, in violation of and contrary to an express provision of said Constitution, which declared that all proposed amendments or alterations should lie over one session of the Grand Chapter before the same should be acted upon.

This information and complaint were accompanied by a certificate under the hand of the Grand Secretary, and the seal of said Grand Chapter, and by copies of the two Constitutions, and the printed proceedings of that body touching the premises, and also by a petition that I would take such official action in the matter as might seem right and proper.

After mature deliberation upon the subject, and after furnishing myself with all the light and wisdom within my reach, I issued my proclamation, declaring all such provisions of the Constitution of the—

Reader page 10 · Gilman’s address — Peninsular Chapter and the Compendium

Grand Chapter of Michigan as are in conflict with the provisions of the Constitution of this General Grand Chapter (annulling them) to be null and void—and the so-called Peninsular Chapter, in the city of Detroit (being the said new Chapter), to be an irregularly formed Masonic assembly—that the charter, or Warrant, under and by virtue of which the same is held, void; and that every act which had been or may thereafter be done, to be also void and of no effect in Free Masonry.

I caused this proclamation to be served upon the M. E. Grand High Priest of Michigan, one upon the R. Dy. Grand High Priest, and another upon the Companion in charge of the so-called Peninsular Chapter.

This produced a correspondence between the said High Priest and myself, in writing, which letters and copies of letters I herewith submit, together with the other papers and documents afore mentioned or alluded to, marked “Michigan.”

I have reason to believe that the change of the Constitution above mentioned was made expressly for the purpose of establishing the said so-called Peninsular Chapter, and having effected that object, said Constitution was again restored to its former provisions.

From necessity, I thus briefly state this case, not doubting that the General Grand Chapter is both able and willing to vindicate her own Constitution and to sustain her officer in his efforts to that end.

At the last triennial meeting of this body, a committee was raised who were ordered to form and publish, for the benefit of the Craft, a Compendium of the proceedings of this General Grand Chapter. That duty has been performed solely by our E. General Grand Secretary, Comp. B. B. French, one of said committee, and as it is believed, in an accurate and very acceptable manner. His great labor and fidelity in this, as well as in his untiring labors in his office as General Grand Secretary, I hope and doubt not, will receive at your hands an ample—

Reader page 11 · Gilman’s farewell; death of Amos Adams; address referred

pecuniary reward, and the grateful acknowledgments of his Companions.

I recommend also that the printer’s bill for printing the Compendium ordered be paid at once.

I am now, my beloved Companions, about to close, once and forever, a long period of official stations among you. During the period of twenty-seven years, I have been a member of the General Grand Chapter, from the triennial sessions of which, in that time, I have been absent but one; and within that time I have held office by your kind suffrage twenty-one years. And I cannot consent to part with you now without once more expressing to you my heartfelt thanks for your confidence in my intentions to do the best in my power to promote the interests of the Craft to which we belong. I can assure you that such has always been my endeavor—such always the sole object of every action. But age and infirmity admonish me that my Masonic labors must close with this Session. I am no longer a candidate for official station. God bless you—Farewell!

(Signed) Charles Gilman.

P. S.—I regret to say that information has just reached us, that our M. E. General Grand King, Comp. Amos Adams of Louisiana, departed this life at his residence near Baton Rouge, La., on the 2d inst. A gentleman, esteemed by all who knew him—a citizen whom all respected—a Companion whom all good Masons loved and delighted to honor.

(Signed) C. G.

On motion of Comp. Austin,

Ordered, That said address be referred to a select Committee, to apportion the subjects on which it treats to Committees of this body.

Ordered, That the said committee consist of Companions Austin, Hillyer and Stirrat.

Comp. Dunlap, from the Committee on Charters and Dispensations,—

Reader page 12 · Seven charters ordered; report on Gilman’s address begins

made the following report, which was read, considered and agreed to, and the resolution adopted, viz.:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The Committee on Charters and Dispensations have examined the papers on file with the Grand Secretary, and find that the following Chapters, now Under Dispensation, have made their regular returns, paid their dues, and are entitled to Charters, viz.:

Chapter	Place
Honolulu Chapter	Sandwich Islands
Washington Chapter	Atchison, Kansas Territory
Portland Chapter	Portland, Oregon
Clackamas Chapter	Oregon City
St. Anthony’s Falls Chapter	City of St. Anthony
Vermillion Chapter	Hastings, Minnesota

They also find the petition of Comps. at Jacksonville, Jackson County, Oregon, for a Charter, which is in due form, and fees for a Charter paid to the Grand Secretary.

Your committee therefore respectfully report the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary issue Charters forthwith to all of the above named Chapters and petitioners.

(Signed) Robt. P. Dunlap.
James Gozzler.
Jno. L. Yeates.
John Frizzell.
Moses Paul.

Committee.

Comp. Dunlap moved that the special order set for this day be postponed until tomorrow, which motion was laid upon the Table.

The Committee to whom was referred the address of the General Grand High Priest made the following report, viz.:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

Reader page 13 · Address subjects referred; Michigan question assigned to Jurisprudence

The Committee to whom was referred the M. E. General Grand High Priest’s Address report that in their opinion the subjects mentioned therein should be referred as follows:

1. So much as relates to Dispensations, to the Committee on Dispensations.
2. So much as relates to the General Grand Chapter and the withdrawal of North Carolina and Kentucky, to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.
3. So much as relates to Finance, to the Committee on Finance.
4. So much as relates to the action of the State Grand Chapter of Michigan and the action of the General Grand High Priest thereon, to a Special Committee of five.
5. So much as relates to the death of M. E. Willis Stewart, P. D. G. G. H. Priest, to a Special Committee of three.

6. So much as relates to the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the United States, to a Special Committee of three.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed) J. M. Austin.
G. M. Hillyer.
Jas. Stirrat.

Committee.

On motion of Comp. English, the fourth proposition of said report was so amended as to refer the subject of difficulty in Michigan to the Committee on Jurisprudence, in lieu of to a select committee.

The report was then agreed to.

The Select Committee on the death of M. E. Comp. Stewart was appointed as follows: Comps. English, Bell and Palmer.

On motion of Comp. Buist, the General Grand Chapter proceeded to the consideration of the special order, viz.: the proposed amendments to the Constitution.

Reader page 14 · Amendment debate; September 15 opening; memorial and election arrangements

The first amendment being read, Comp. English moved that the question be taken upon that amendment.

Which being agreed to, the question was stated: “Shall the first amendment be adopted?” And after debate, Comp. Pike, who had the floor, gave way for a motion to call off, and the General Grand Chapter was called from labor until tomorrow at 9 o’clock in the forenoon.

Third Day — Morning Session
Thursday, September 15th, 1859

The General Grand Chapter was called to labor by the General Grand High Priest at 9 o’clock, A. M.

Comp. Dunlap, Past G. G. High Priest, in a most feeling manner, called the attention of the General Grand Chapter to the melancholy intelligence just received, of the sudden and unexpected demise of M. E. Amos Adams, G. G. King, and moved that the same Committee on the death of Comp. Willis Stewart be instructed to report appropriate resolutions thereon, which was unanimously agreed to.

On motion of Comp. Frizzell, Comps. Burnham, Mitchell, and Frizzell were appointed a Committee to designate the next place of meeting.

On motion of Comp. Pierson, the election of officers was made the special order of the morning session of Friday.

The G. G. Chapter then proceeded to the consideration of the amendments to the General Grand Constitution, and the first amendment, which is to Sec. 2 of Art. 1, being before the General Grand Chapter, it was eloquently and ably debated by Comps. Pike, Lewis, Mackey, Fellows, and others.

Pending the debate, the General Grand Chapter was called from labor until 7 o’clock this evening.

Reader page 15 · September 15 evening — debate closes; first constitutional amendment read

Third Day — Evening Session
Thursday, September 15th, 1859

The General Grand Chapter was called to labor by the General Grand High Priest at 7 o’clock, P. M.

Comp. Buck tendered an invitation to the delegates to the General Grand Chapter, to attend and participate in a banquet to be given on tomorrow evening at 8 o’clock, at the Tremont House.

The General Grand Chapter then proceeded to take up the amendments to the General Grand Constitution, and the first amendment being under consideration, the debate thereon was continued for some time, when no one desiring to speak further, the General Grand High Priest stated he would address the General Grand Chapter, and then put the question.

Comp. Pike claimed the right to reply, and Comp. Ramsey moved that Comp. Pike be allowed to close the debate.

The General Grand High Priest declared the motion out of order unless the General Grand Chapter would suspend the law just then under consideration, which it refused to do.

Comp. Gilman, G. G. High Priest, then expressed his views, and requested Comp. Pike to reply.

Comp. Pike then briefly addressed the General Grand Chapter, and the debate being concluded, and the question being called for, the amendment was read, as follows:

No. 1. Strike out Sec. 2, of Art. 1, of the present Constitution, and insert the following in lieu thereof:

> “The General Grand Chapter receives all its powers, faculties and prerogatives by grant and delegation from the several State Grand Chapters; and it can have and possess no other powers than such as are expressly granted and delegated to it by them, or as are indispensably necessary to the exercise of its general powers,—

Reader page 16 · First proposed constitutional amendment — powers and limits

> and consistent with the nature of the confederation between the State Grand Chapters. It can exercise no doubtful powers, nor any powers by implication merely; and all Masonic powers not hereby granted to it are reserved to the Grand and Subordinate Chapters of the several States.
>
> It shall have and maintain jurisdiction over all Chapters established by itself in those States, Districts, Republics and Territories which recognize this jurisdiction, and where there is no Grand Chapter established.
>
> It shall have the power to decide all questions of Masonic law, usage, and custom, which may arise between any two or more Grand Chapters, or in any of the Subordinate Chapters under its own immediate jurisdiction, and all that may be referred to it for its decision by any Grand Chapter, by formal vote; and its decisions, so made, shall be deemed and regarded as those of the Supreme Judicial tribunal of Royal Arch Masonry in the last resort.
>
> It shall have no power of discipline, admonition, censure, or instruction over the Grand Chapters, nor any legislative powers whatever, not hereby specifically granted, nor any authority to suspend the proceedings of any State Grand Chapters, nor shall entertain any complaint against a Grand Chapter, preferred by any subordinate Chapter, or individual Mason in that jurisdiction or elsewhere; but it may upon proper reference to it of any matter of

controversy between any two or more Grand Chapters, and even where the question is not one of Masonic law, custom or usage (both or all such Grand Chapters consenting to such reference), act as final arbiter between them, and settle such controversy.

It shall judge of the qualifications of its own members. It shall see that the ancient work of the Order is preserved in the several degrees, and establish uniform formulas for installation of its own officers and those of Grand and Subordinate Chapters, for the consecration and constitution of Chapters, and for the opening of Grand Chapters; and it may suspend the proceedings of any—

Reader page 17 · First amendment initially lost, 63–34; reconsideration ordered

Chapter under its own immediate jurisdiction, in any State, District or Territory, where there is no Grand Chapter, for any wilful violation of any of the provisions of this Constitution, or for gross, unmasonic proceedings or conduct."

The question then being put, "Shall the amendment be adopted?" it was lost, two thirds not voting therefor. Ayes 63; Nays 34.

Those who voted in the affirmative

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. Capt. of the Host	1
Grand Chapter of Maine	1
Grand Chapter of Md. & D. C.	1
Grand Chapter of Ohio	4
Grand Chapter of S. Carolina	4
Grand Chapter of Georgia	4
Grand Chapter of Alabama	4
Grand Chapter of Tennessee	4
Grand Chapter of Indiana	4
Grand Chapter of Illinois	4
Grand Chapter of Mississippi	4
Grand Chapter of Missouri	4
Grand Chapter of Michigan	4
Grand Chapter of Arkansas	4
Grand Chapter of Wisconsin	4
Grand Chapter of Iowa	4
Grand Chapter of California	4
Grand Chapter of New Jersey	4
Total	63

Those who voted in the negative

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. High Priest	1
D. G. G. High Priest	1
General Grand Scribe	1
General Grand Secretary	1
Grand Chapter of Maine	3
Grand Chapter of Massachusetts	4
Grand Chapter of Vermont	4
Grand Chapter of Connecticut	4
Grand Chapter of New York	4
Grand Chapter of Md. & D. C.	3
Grand Chapter of Louisiana	4
Grand Chapter of Texas	4
Total	34

Comp. Austin moved that the vote just taken be reconsidered, and pending a desultory debate thereon, withdrew it, and

Comp. Tucker then renewed the motion to reconsider, and it was adopted.

The General Grand Chapter was then called off until tomorrow morning at 11 o’clock.

Reader page 18 · September 16 — first amendment adopted on reconsideration, 77–23

Fourth Day
Friday, Sept. 16th, 1859

The General Grand Chapter was called to labor by the General Grand High Priest at 11 o’clock, A. M.

On motion of Comp. Pierson, the special order set for this morning (being the election of General Grand Officers) was postponed until after the first amendment to the General Grand Constitution should be disposed of.

The General Grand Chapter then proceeded to the consideration of the amendments to the General Grand Constitution, the question pending being on agreeing to the 1st Amendment, the vote rejecting it yesterday having been reconsidered.

The question was stated, and after debate, was put and decided in the affirmative—two thirds voting therefor. Yeas 77; Nays 23.

Those who voted in the affirmative

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
D. G. G. High Priest	1
General Grand Secretary	1
G. G. Capt. of the Host	1
Grand Chapter of Maine	2
Grand Chapter of N. Hampshire	4
Grand Chapter of Massachusetts	4
Grand Chapter of New York	2
Grand Chapter of Md. & D. C.	1
Grand Chapter of Ohio	4
Grand Chapter of S. Carolina	4
Grand Chapter of Georgia	4
Grand Chapter of Alabama	4
Grand Chapter of Tennessee	4
Grand Chapter of Indiana	4
Grand Chapter of Illinois	4
Grand Chapter of Mississippi	4
Grand Chapter of Missouri	4
Grand Chapter of Michigan	4
Grand Chapter of Arkansas	4
Grand Chapter of Wisconsin	4
Grand Chapter of Iowa	4
Grand Chapter of California	4
Grand Chapter of New Jersey	4
Minnesota Chapter, St. Paul	1
Total	77

Those who voted in the negative — continued on reader page 19

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. High Priest	1
Grand Chapter of Maine	2
Grand Chapter of Vermont	4
Grand Chapter of Connecticut	4

Reader page 19 · 1859 election — Mackey chosen General Grand High Priest

Negative votes — continued from reader page 18

Grand Chapter	Votes
New York	2
Md. & D. C.	2
Louisiana	4
Texas	4
Total nays	23

M. E. Comp. Lewis, of New York, General Grand Scribe, was at his own request excused from voting.

Comp. Mackey moved that the vote by which the amendment was adopted be reconsidered, and that the motion to reconsider be laid on the Table; which motion to lie on the Table was agreed to.

The General Grand Chapter then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing three years, with the following result:

Companion and residence	Office
M. E. Albert G. Mackey, of Charleston, S. C.	G. G. High Priest
M. E. John L. Lewis, Jr., of Penn Yan, N. Y.	Dy. G. G. High Priest
M. E. Ira A. W. Buck, of Aurora, Ill.	G. G. King
M. E. Giles M. Hillyer, of Natchez, Miss.	G. G. Scribe
M. E. James Penn, of Memphis, Tenn.	G. G. Treasurer
M. E. Samuel G. Risk, of New Orleans, La.	G. G. Secretary
M. E. John McClellan, of Boston, Mass.	G. G. Capt. of the Host
M. E. William Hacker, of Shelbyville, Ind.	G. G. Royal Arch Captain

Previous to the foregoing election, Comp. Dy. General Grand High Priest Tucker declined to be a candidate for the office of General Grand High Priest, and also for a reelection to his present position. General Grand High Priest Gilman also positively declined a reelection.

Comp. Chas. Marsh presented a paper relating to matters of grievance and complaint by the Grand Chapter of the State of California, in reference to the former action of this General Grand Chapter in the matter of complaint by California Chapter No. 5, asking of the General Grand Chapter a review of their action in the premises; which was referred to the Committee on Grievances.

And then the General Grand Chapter was called from labor until tomorrow at 9 o’clock, A. M.

Reader page 20 · September 17 — Dunlap testimonial committee reports

Fifth Day — Morning Session
Saturday, September 17th, 1859

The General Grand Chapter was called to labor by the M. E. General Grand High Priest at 9 o’clock, A. M.

On motion of Comp. Chase, the reading of the journal of yesterday was dispensed with.

On motion of Comp. Lewis, leave was granted to the Committee on Jurisprudence to sit during the sessions of this grand body.

Comp. Neill, from the Committee appointed at the last triennial session of this General Grand Chapter, made the following report, which was read and the correspondence accompanying it ordered to be spread upon the journal and printed with these proceedings:

To the M. E. General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The undersigned, from the Committee appointed at your last Triennial Convocation, to procure an appropriate Testimonial for presentation to the M. E. Past General Grand High Priest, most respectfully report: That as early as was convenient after appointment, the duty was performed; and by reference to the accompanying letters, you can see the manner in which the same was fulfilled. It may only be necessary to state that the bill was duly paid out of the funds of the Grand Treasury, as will be seen by reference to the account of the Grand Treasurer; and it is also a fit time here to say that for the design, and almost the entire management, the Committee are indebted to Comp. Gourdin.

Fraternally submitted.

(Signed) A. Neill, for Committee.

> To the M. E. General Grand High Priest, Officers and Companions of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America:
>
> The Committee appointed to procure an appropriate testimonial to be presented to the M. E. and Hon. Robert P. Dunlap, P. G. G. High Priest, respectfully—

Reader page 21 · Dunlap testimonial — silver pitcher and salver described

> report: That they have performed the pleasing duty assigned to them in a manner, as they trust, alike gratifying to the distinguished recipient and creditable to the Most Eminent Body which they have the honor to represent, as will more fully appear from the description of the said testimonial and the correspondence hereto annexed.
>
> All of which is respectfully submitted by
>
> (Signed) A. Neill.
> Theo. S. Gourdin.
> E. A. Raymond.
>
> Committee.
>
> August 15th, 1857.

The Testimonial consists of a massive Silver Pitcher and Salver, which were prepared by Mr. James E. Spear, of Charleston, S. C.

The Pitcher, which is in the shape of an Urn, is in the Egyptian style, and is highly embossed with bunches of the “Nymphœa Cærulea” growing in the water, which forms the base. This plant, the roots of which preserve their germinating powers for more than a year, after having been exposed to drought and been trampled under foot in the fields, was regarded by the ancient Egyptians as the symbol of immortality. A more expressive type of that vitality which is inherent in Free Masonry, and which has caused it to survive the various political and social revolutions to which the world has been subjected.

The Handle of the Pitcher represents the stalk of this plant. Around the top there is a graceful cord, symbolical of that “Mystic Tie,” which unites the brethren wheresoever dispersed.

On the front of the Pitcher appear the Arms of Royal Arch Masonry, and below them the following inscription:

The Gen. Gr. Chapter of R. A. Masons,
for the
U. S. of America
to—

Reader page 22 · Testimonial inscription and presentation letter to Robert P. Dunlap

The M. E. and Hon. Robert P. Dunlap,
Past Gen. Gr. High Priest,
Sept. 15th, A. I. 2386, A. L. 5856, A. D. 1856.

There is an unwritten history of thoughts and deeds which never was recorded!

Within the Salver, which is in keeping with the Pitcher, there is a wreath, composed of the Wheat and the Acacia, which are respectively the symbols of Fidelity and Immortality. They are intended to remind the brethren that the faithful discharge of their duties to God and Man will ensure immortality. The Wreath encloses an inscription similar to that on the Pitcher.

To the M. E. and Hon. Robert P. Dunlap, Past G. G. High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America:

M. E. Companion:

We beg leave to call your attention to the following extract from the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America, under date of September 15th, 1856.

Comp. Neill offered the following resolution:

Resolved, By this General Grand Chapter, that a Committee of three be appointed to procure an appropriate testimonial, with suitable inscriptions, to be presented to our M. E. General Grand High Priest, Robert P. Dunlap, as a slight testimonial of the high regard and esteem entertained by the Royal Craft of the United States, for his labors of love in the cause in which he has devoted a long series of years, and as a token of our appreciation of his services as our late presiding officer.

Resolved, That a sufficient sum of money be, and the same is hereby, placed to the order of said committee, in the hands of the General Grand Treasurer, to carry into effect the foregoing resolution.

Which was read, considered, and unanimously agreed to.

The presiding officer (M. E. Charles Gilman, G. G. King) appointed Comps.—

Reader page 23 · Presentation letter concluded; Dunlap’s reply from Brunswick, August 1857

Neill, Gourdin and Raymond, the Committee.

In compliance with these resolutions, we have, M. E. Companion, prepared for you a Silver Pitcher and Salver ornamented with appropriate Masonic emblems.

We trust that you will accept this Testimonial, not because of its intrinsic value, but as a tribute justly due to one who has, for many years, devoted his best energies to an Order of which he is considered one of the brightest lights, and as a token of the admiration and affection which your Comps. entertain for your high character as an upright man and Mason.

With sentiments of the highest regard, we have the honor to remain, Most Excellent Sir, in behalf of our Companions of the General Grand Chapter collectively, as well as of ourselves individually,

Yours Fraternally,

(Signed) A. Neill.
Theo. S. Gourdin.
E. A. Raymond.

Committee.

July 15th, 1857.

Brunswick, Maine, August 2nd, 1857.

M. E. Companions:

The Massive Silver Pitcher and Salver which you, in behalf of the General Grand Chapter, have forwarded to me, have been duly received.

I feel entirely incompetent to express, in this brief reply, my grateful appreciation of this token of regard. It will ever be cherished by me as a most beautiful and highly esteemed gift, and will be handed down to those who come after me, both as a costly and valuable work of art, and as a memento of your regard for me, whose chief aim was realized in the approval of those he had the honor to serve.

The honor conferred in electing me to preside over the Grand body which you represent, aside from the pleasure and profit afforded by thus meeting—

Reader page 24 · Dunlap’s reply concluded; Texas withdrawal request referred

with the most distinguished lights of our institution, has more than repaid any services which I may have rendered.

Allow me to express the hope, and I do it with the assured confidence of belief, that those triennial assemblings of our General Grand Chapter may ever be as edifying to all its members as, in times past, they have been to me; that through their instrumentality, the interests of Royal Arch Masonry may increase and strengthen with increasing years; and that its “unwritten history,” as well as its ennobling principles, may be faithfully recorded in the hearts of its true votaries.

Be pleased to express to the General Grand Chapter my high appreciation of this token of their regard, which you have embodied in such beautiful form, and accept my acknowledgments to yourselves, personally, for the interest you have shown and the labor you have performed in their behalf.

With sentiments of regard, yours fraternally,

(Signed) Robert P. Dunlap.

To M. E. A. Neill.
Theo. S. Gourdin.
E. A. Raymond.

Committee.

Comp. Neill presented a communication in behalf of the Grand Chapter of Texas, asking permission to withdraw from the confederacy of Grand Chapters, which, on motion of Comp. English, was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Comp. Wm. A. Smith presented the proxy of the Grand King of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, and was admitted to a seat in the General Grand Chapter.

On motion of Comp. Austin, the General Grand Chapter proceeded to the consideration of the remaining amendments to the General Grand Constitution.

Reader page 25 · Second amendment on chapter representation rejected, 25–72

The 2d Amendment was read, and is as follows:

No. 2. Add at the end of Section 3, Article 1, the following:

> “So soon as a Charter is ordered to issue to any Chapter Under Dispensation, it shall be entitled to be represented under this Section, and those who were its officers while Under Dispensation shall be its officers under the Charter, until their successors are elected and qualified; and being installed, if present, shall become, by an order for a charter, members of the General Grand Chapter.”

And, on the question, “Shall the said amendment be adopted?” it was decided in the negative. Ayes 25; Nays 72.

The Yeas and Nays being taken, those who voted in the affirmative are:

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
Grand Chapter of Alabama	4
Grand Chapter of Arkansas	4
Grand Chapter of Indiana	4
Grand Chapter of S. Carolina	4
Grand Chapter of Wisconsin	4
Grand Chapter of Michigan	4
Minnesota Chapter	1
Total	25

Those who voted in the negative

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. High Priest	1
D. G. G. High Priest	1
G. Grand Scribe	1
G. G. Capt. of the Host	1
Grand Chapter of Connecticut	4
Grand Chapter of Georgia	4
Grand Chapter of Illinois	4
Grand Chapter of Iowa	4
Grand Chapter of Louisiana	4
Grand Chapter of Maine	4
Grand Chapter of Md. & D. C.	4
Grand Chapter of Massachusetts	4
Grand Chapter of Missouri	4
Grand Chapter of Mississippi	4
Grand Chapter of New Jersey	4
Grand Chapter of N. Hampshire	4
Grand Chapter of New York	4
Grand Chapter of Ohio	4
Grand Chapter of Rhode Island	4
Grand Chapter of Tennessee	4
Grand Chapter of Vermont	4
Total	72

The 3d and 4th Amendments were then read, and agreed to, as follows—two-thirds voting therefor.

Reader page 26 · Third and fourth amendments adopted; fifth and sixth rejected

No. 3. Add, at the end of the first paragraph of Section 4, Article 1, the following:

> “If there be but two representatives, the inferior officer or his proxy shall give but his own single vote, and the higher, or his proxy, shall give the other three. If there be three representatives, the highest officer, or his proxy, shall give two votes, and the others, or their proxies, one each.”

No. 4. In Section 6, Article 1, in the 9th line from the beginning, instead of the words “beyond the time,” insert the words, “beyond the close.”

The 5th Amendment was then read, and is as follows:

No. 5. At the end of Section 6, Article 1, add the words, “which Charter shall be taken and deemed to be a continuation of the original Warrant of Dispensation.”

And the question being put, on agreeing to the same, it was rejected.

The 6th Amendment was then read, and is as follows:

No. 6. In Section 9, of Article 1, strike out the words “Past Master.”

And the question being taken, on agreeing to the same, it was rejected. Ayes 8; Nays 89.

The Yeas and Nays being taken, those who voted in the affirmative are:

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
Grand Chapter of Georgia	4
Grand Chapter of Indiana	4
Total	8

Those who voted in the negative — continued on reader page 27

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. High Priest	1
D. G. G. High Priest	1
General Grand Scribe	1
G. G. Capt. of the Host	1
Grand Chapter of Alabama	4
Grand Chapter of Connecticut	4
Grand Chapter of Arkansas	4
Grand Chapter of Illinois	4
Grand Chapter of Iowa	4
Grand Chapter of Louisiana	4
Grand Chapter of Maine	4
Grand Chapter of Md. & D. C.	4
Grand Chapter of Massachusetts	4
Grand Chapter of Mississippi	4
Grand Chapter of Missouri	4
Grand Chapter of Michigan	4
Grand Chapter of New Jersey	4
Grand Chapter of N. Hampshire	4
Grand Chapter of New York	4
Grand Chapter of Ohio	4

Reader page 27 · Seventh and eighth amendments adopted; appeal provision, 79–18

Negative votes on the 6th Amendment — continued

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
Grand Chapter of Rhode Island	4
Grand Chapter of S. Carolina	4
Grand Chapter of Tennessee	4
Grand Chapter of Wisconsin	4
Grand Chapter of Vermont	4
Minnesota Chapter	1
Total nays	89

The 7th Amendment was then read as follows, and was agreed to—two-thirds voting therefor, viz.:

No. 7. In Section 11, of Article 1, in the first line, strike out the words “this jurisdiction,” and insert in lieu thereof the words “the immediate jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter.”

The 8th Amendment was then read as follows:

No. 8. Add to Article 1, the following Section:

> “Sec. 14. An appeal shall in all cases lie to the General Grand Chapter, from the decision of the M. E. General Grand High Priest; but his opinion and decisions shall stand as the judgment of the General Grand Chapter, unless it is otherwise determined by the concurrent vote of two-thirds of all the members present.”

And the question being put, “Shall the said amendment be agreed to?” it was decided in the affirmative. Ayes 79; Nays 18.

The vote being taken by Yeas and Nays, those who voted in the affirmative are:

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
D. G. G. High Priest	1
G. G. Capt. of the Host	1
Grand Chapter of Alabama	4
Grand Chapter of Arkansas	4
Grand Chapter of California	4
Grand Chapter of Connecticut	4
Grand Chapter of Illinois	4
Grand Chapter of Indiana	4
Grand Chapter of Iowa	4
Grand Chapter of Louisiana	4
Grand Chapter of Massachusetts	4
Grand Chapter of Michigan	4
Grand Chapter of Missouri	4

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
Grand Chapter of Mississippi	4
Grand Chapter of New Jersey	4
Grand Chapter of Ohio	4
Grand Chapter of Rhode Island	4
Grand Chapter of S. Carolina	4

Editorial note: The affirmative roll continues on reader page 28.

Reader page 28 · Ninth amendment rejected; tenth and eleventh adopted; twelfth begins

Affirmative votes on the 8th Amendment — continued

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
Grand Chapter of Tennessee	4
Grand Chapter of Vermont	4
Grand Chapter of Wisconsin	4
Minnesota Chapter	1
Total yeas	79

Those who voted in the negative

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
G. G. High Priest	1
General Grand Scribe	1
Grand Chapter of Maine	4
Grand Chapter of Md. & D. C.	4
Grand Chapter of N. Hampshire	4
Grand Chapter of New York	4
Total	18

The 9th Amendment was then read, and is as follows:

No. 9. Strike out Section 5, Article 3, and insert, in lieu thereof, the following:

> “Authority is hereby given to every Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Genl. Grand Chapter, or of any State Grand Chapter, to confer the degrees of Mark and Most Excellent Master upon any worthy Companion from without the jurisdiction of the United States, who may not have received them, and who may present himself as, and prove himself to be, a Royal Arch Mason; to the end that he may thereby be healed, and become a regular Royal Arch Mason, free of charge.”

And on the question of agreeing to the same, it was rejected.

The 10th and 11th Amendments were then read and adopted, as follows, two-thirds voting therefor:

No. 10. In Section 1, of Article “Miscellaneous,” after the word “Priest,” in the sixth line, insert the following—“or the High Priest of the same Chapter while it was Under Dispensation, when he himself shall have been installed.”

No. 11. In Section 2, of the same Article, insert at the end of the first line the following—“whether chartered or Under Dispensation.”

The 12th Amendment was then read, and is as follows:

No. 12. Add at the end of Section 3, in Article “Miscellaneous,” the following:

> “But no future Constitution, nor any amendments to this or any future Constitution, other than those made at the present Session, shall become and be in force and operative until they shall have been submitted to and approved—

Reader page 29 · Twelfth amendment rejected, 44–53

> —by at least two-thirds of the Grand Chapters of the confederation, and until such approval has been officially promulgated by proclamation of the General Grand High Priest; and no amendment shall ever be made, unless by the unanimous assent of all the Grand Chapters, to change the system of government, and the nature of the confederation, to derogate from the sovereignty and independence of such State Grand Chapters, to make the General Grand Chapter supreme and sovereign, or the source of power, or to invest it with the inherent powers of a Grand Lodge of Master Masons.

And the question being put, “Will the General Grand Chapter agree to this Amendment?” it was decided in the negative. Ayes, 44; Nays, 53.

The question being taken by Yeas and Nays, those who voted in the affirmative are:

Grand Chapter	Votes
Alabama	4
Arkansas	4
California	4
Illinois	4
Indiana	4
Michigan	4
Missouri	4
Ohio	4
Rhode Island	4
South Carolina	4
Vermont	4
Total	44

Those who voted in the negative are:

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
The G. G. High Priest	1

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
D. G. G. High Priest	1
General Grand Scribe	1
G. G. Capt. of the Host	1
Connecticut	4
Iowa	4
Louisiana	4
Maine	4
Md. & D. C.	4
Massachusetts	4
Mississippi	4
New Jersey	4
N. Hampshire	4
New York	4
Tennessee	4
Wisconsin	4
Minnesota Chapter	1
Total	53

The 13th Amendment was then read, and is as follows:

Reader page 30 · Thirteenth amendment rejected; fourteenth proposed

No. 13. Art. 2, Sec. 4. Strike out the proviso commencing on the twelfth line, in the following words, viz.:

> “And provided further, That the same fees as are required by this Constitution for Charters, shall be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Secretary.”

And the question on agreeing to the same being put, it was decided in the negative, two-thirds not voting therefor. Yeas, 57; Nays, 40.

The vote being taken by Yeas and Nays, those who voted in the affirmative are:

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
The D. G. G. High Priest	1
Alabama	4
Arkansas	4
California	4
Connecticut	4
Illinois	4
Indiana	4

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
Louisiana	4
Michigan	4
Missouri	4
New Jersey	4
Ohio	4
South Carolina	4
Tennessee	4
Wisconsin	4
Total	57

Those who voted in the negative are:

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
The G. G. High Priest	1
General Grand Scribe	1
G. G. Capt. of the Host	1
Iowa	4
Maine	4
Md. & D. C.	4
Massachusetts	4
Mississippi	4
N. Hampshire	4
New York	4
Rhode Island	4
Vermont	4
Minnesota Chapter	1
Total	40

The 14th Amendment was then read, and is as follows:

No. 14. That the 9th Section of the first Article thereof be repealed, and that the following provision be substituted in lieu thereof:

> “No Royal Arch Mason within the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter shall be permitted to confer any degree in Masonry not recognized as a constitutional degree; nor to establish any society of Masons not recognized—

Reader page 31 · Fourteenth amendment rejected, 26–66

—as a constitutional body; and the first four officers of the General Grand Chapter, or any three of them, shall, in all cases, have authority to decide all constitutional questions under this section; nor shall any Royal Arch Mason be permitted to give lectures or instructions on the several degrees of Masonry, conferred by or under the authority of the General Grand Chapter, except he or they shall have been duly authorized by two of the State Grand officers, which authority shall be given under their hands and the seal of the State Grand Chapter, attested by their Grand Secretary.

And the question being put, “Shall the same be agreed to?” it was decided in the negative. Yeas, 26; Nays, 66.

The question being taken by Yeas and Nays, those who voted in the affirmative are:

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
The G. G. High Priest	1
D. G. G. High Priest	1
Connecticut	4
Illinois	4
Massachusetts	4
Missouri	4
New York	4
Vermont	4
Total	26

Those who voted in the negative are:

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
The General Grand Scribe	1
G. G. Capt. of the Host	1
Alabama	4
Arkansas	4
California	4
Indiana	4
Iowa	4
Louisiana	4
Maine	4
Md. & D. C.	4
Michigan	4
Mississippi	4
New Jersey	4

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
N. Hampshire	4
Ohio	4
South Carolina	4
Tennessee	4
Wisconsin	4
Total	66

The General Grand Chapter then proceeded to the consideration of the 15th Amendment, which is as follows:

Reader page 32 · Fifteenth amendment rejected; exemplification proposed

No. 15. That the first clause of the seventh section of Article 1 of the Constitution, as established by the General Grand Chapter at its session of September, 1853, be so altered as to insert the word “sixty” in place of the word “ninety,” and thus fix the fees for instituting a new Royal Arch Chapter with subordinate degrees at the sum of sixty dollars, instead of ninety dollars.

Comp. Tucker asked leave to withdraw it, which being objected to, the question was put, “Shall the said amendment be adopted?” and decided in the negative.

All the amendments proposed having been acted on, Comp. English moved that the Work of Royal Arch Masonry be exemplified in this Hall at half past 7 o’clock this evening; pending the question on which motion,

On motion of Comp. Pierson, the General Grand Chapter was called from labor until 3½ o’clock, P. M.

Reader page 33 · Fifth day: Memphis proposed; ritual committee resolution

Fifth Day — Evening Session

Saturday, September 17th, 1859.

The General Grand Chapter was called to labor by the General Grand Scribe at 3½ o’clock, P. M.

The General Grand Chapter proceeded to the consideration of the motion of Comp. English, which was pending when the General Grand Chapter was called off, and the same was postponed for the present.

Comp. Burnham, from the Committee on fixing the next place of meeting, submitted the following report and resolution:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The committee to propose a place of meeting for the next Triennial Session of the General Grand Chapter, report that while a majority of the Committee are in favor of New York as a place of meeting, yet a majority of the Joint Committee, including that of the Grand Encampment, prefer Memphis, Tennessee, which place we accordingly propose, and offer a resolution:

Resolved, That the next place of Triennial Meeting of the General Grand Chapter be at Memphis, Tenn.

Respectfully submitted.
(Signed) Edw. J. Burnham,
Wm. W. Mitchell,
John Frizzell,
Committee.

The question was stated on agreeing to the resolution, but before it was taken, on motion of Comp. Whitton,

Ordered, That it do lie on the table.

The General Grand Chapter proceeded to the consideration of the motion of Comp. English in relation to Work, when Comp. Stokes offered the following resolutions as a substitute:

Resolved, That a Committee of nine, of which the General Grand High Priest elect shall be chairman, be appointed to report to this General Grand Chapter at its next—

Reader page 34 · Ritual proposal referred; Fellows proposes constitutional amendments

—triennial communication, the rituals of the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, M. E. Master & Royal Arch Masons, for uniform observance throughout the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter. And said Committee shall have power to meet during the recess of this Grand Body at such time and place as a majority of the members may select.

Resolved, That the expenses of the members of said Committee in attending to their duties be paid out of the Treasury of the General Grand Chapter on the order of the M. E. General Grand High Priest.

Comp. Fellows moved that the resolutions be referred to a select committee, with instructions to report on the same on Monday morning next, which motion was adopted, and Comps. Fellows, Lewis and English were appointed the said committee.

Comp. Fellows proposed the following amendments to the General Grand Constitution:

1st. Amend first clause, Section 2, Article 1, so as to read,

> "The General Grand Chapter has and possesses no other powers than such as are indispensably necessary to the exercise of its general powers, and consistent with the nature of the confederation between the State Grand Chapters. It can exercise no doubtful powers, nor any powers by implication merely; and all Masonic powers not hereby granted to it, are reserved to the Grand and Subordinate Chapters of the several States, or to Royal Arch Masons individually."

2nd. To strike out the fourth clause of Section 2, Article 1.

3rd. To amend Section 4, Article 2, commencing on the twelfth line, by striking out the following words:

> "And provided further, That the same fees as are required by this Constitution for Charters, shall be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Secretary."

Comp. Buist submitted the following Amendments to the General Grand Constitution:

Reader page 35 · Further voting amendments; installation of officers

Resolved, That the Constitution of this General Grand Constitution of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America, be altered and amended as follows—that is to say, in the second paragraph of Section 4, strike out the words “The General Grand officers when present, shall each have one vote.” And, and insert in lieu and place thereof the following words, “The General Grand High Priest, when present, shall have one vote.” In the second paragraph of Section 4, strike out the words: “The General Grand officers, when present, shall each have one vote. And,” and insert in lieu and place thereof the following words: “The General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, and General Grand Scribe, when present, shall each have one vote.”

Which amendments were ordered to be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the General Grand Constitution.

On motion of Comp. Fellows, the General Grand Chapter then proceeded to the installation of the officers elect.

The M. E. General Grand High Priest installed the M. E. Albert G. Mackey as G. G. High Priest; and he took the chair, and proclamation having been made that he was duly installed, he proceeded to install the other officers present as follows, viz.:

Officer	Office
M. E. John L. Lewis, Jr.	Dy. G. G. High Priest
M. E. Giles M. Hillyer	General Grand Scribe
M. E. James Penn	General Grand Treasurer
M. E. Samuel G. Risk	General Grand Secretary
M. E. John McClellan	General G. Captain of the Host
M. E. William Hacker	General G. Royal Arch Captain

And they severally took their appropriate stations.

Comp. English offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Grand Chapter be tendered to the M. E. Charles Gilman, Past G. G. High Priest, for the firm, faithful and conscientious manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office; and that the hope is—

Reader page 36 · Thanks to Gilman; sixth day, September 19, 1859

—sincerely expressed that his health may be restored, and his life prolonged, that the Craft may have the benefit of his wisdom, experience and counsel, and that he may be rewarded for his long and zealous services in the cause of Masonry and benevolence by the enjoyment of uninterrupted happiness in the evening and decline of life.

Which was read and unanimously adopted.

The General Grand Chapter was then called from labor until Monday morning next, at 9 o’clock.

Attest:
(Signed) B. B. French,
General Grand Secretary.

Sixth Day — Morning Session

Monday, September 19th, 1859.

The General Grand Chapter was called to labor by the General Grand High Priest at 9 o’clock, A. M.

The Committee on Credentials reported the following Companions as entitled to seats as Representatives in this General Grand Body, viz.:

Companion	Representation
B. B. French	Proxy for Comp. Buist of South Carolina
John M. Hunt	Proxy for G. High Priest of Wisconsin
J. R. Hartsock	Proxy for Grand Scribe of South Carolina

Which was adopted.

Comp. French read the Journals of Friday and Saturday, which were approved.

Comp. John S. Philbrick was admitted as proxy for the Grand High Priest of Massachusetts.

Comp. Austin submitted the following amendment by instruction of the Grand Chapter of New York:

Reader page 37 · Voting proposal; thanks to French; report on withdrawal

Amend Section 4, of Article 1, as follows: Add at the end of the word “Representatives,” where it first occurs in that Section, these words, “and an additional vote when the number of Chapters under the jurisdiction of such State Grand Chapter shall exceed fifty; and a further additional vote for each additional fifty Chapters under the same jurisdiction.”

On motion of Comp. Lewis, the General Grand High Priest was requested to prepare Rules of Order for the government of the proceedings of this body, and report the same at its next Triennial Convocation.

Comp. Pike offered the following resolution, which was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Grand Chapter are eminently due, and are hereby given, to the late M. E. General Grand Secretary, Comp. Benjamin B. French, for his long continued and faithful services in that office, and for the uniform kindness and courtesy which have marked all his official intercourse with his Companions during his whole term of service; and that he be assured of the entire confidence, regard and affection of all his Companions of this body, and of its warm wishes for his prosperity and happiness.

The Committee on Jurisprudence submitted the following report, which was adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom certain subjects have been referred, have attended thereto, and respectfully report as follows: In relation to the withdrawal of the State Grand Chapters of North Carolina and Kentucky from the jurisdiction of this General Grand Body, and of the Masonic relations which those Grand Bodies now bear to this, your Committee are of the opinion, that no State Grand Chapter, which has heretofore acknowledged the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, has any power to withdraw forcibly therefrom by its own single act. The original compact between every State Grand Chapter and the General Grand Chapter, was made at the request of the one and by the assent of the other. The compact was—

Reader page 38 · Jurisprudence report: withdrawal and individual recognition

—mutual, and can only be lawfully severed by mutual consent. It contained no reserved right on the part of those State Grand Chapters to withdraw; and all the members of the State Grand Chapters jurisdictions have, if they have complied with the compact, solemnly obligated themselves to sustain and support the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution. In forcibly dissolving the connection by a State Grand Chapter, that obligation is directly violated, and your Committee are unable to perceive why such an act does not clearly involve a distinct violation of moral obligation on the part of those who originated the severance, and of those who assented to it.

As to the relations which would naturally result from the acts of the Grand Chapters of North Carolina and Kentucky towards the General Grand Chapter, your Committee find themselves embarrassed by the fact that the forcible withdrawal of those two State Grand Bodies was not wholly unanimous on the part of their members, but that large minorities opposed to the action taken, existed in both instances; towards which minorities the same course of action would hardly seem appropriate as towards the assenting members; and yet it seems wholly impossible, in the existing state of things, to make a proper and just distinction.

Your Committee believe that the acts of withdrawal by those two Grand Chapters could not interfere with the individual rights of the Royal Arch Masons residing under those jurisdictions, as they existed at the respective times of such withdrawals; and that such Royal Arch Masons are, at the present time, to be considered as wholly regular as individual Masons; but your Committee entertain the opinion that such position is dependent upon the future action of those Grand Chapters, and that if, after a suitable time has elapsed without any reconsideration of the acts of said State Grand Chapters, it would be wholly competent for the General Grand Chapter to declare, that all the membership of said State Grand Chapters was irregular, and not to be recognized by other State Grand Chapters acknowledging the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter.

Reader page 39 · Texas application; Michigan constitutional dispute

As to the application of the Grand High Priest of Texas, that the Grand Chapter of Texas be permitted now to withdraw from the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, your Committee find that that Grand Chapter has not yet passed any resolution or taken any action directly authorizing such application to be made. In the opinion of your Committee this General Grand Chapter cannot properly and lawfully act upon the application now made, nor of any other application on the subject, until the Grand Chapter of Texas shall, by its own solemn act, first authorize directly such an application to be made.

Your Committee has investigated, with all the care which time has allowed, the many documents placed in its hands in relation to the action of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, its Grand High Priest, and the General Grand High Priest of this General Grand Chapter. It cannot be anticipated, in existing circumstances, that your Committee should enter into a labored argument in detail upon this subject, or to do any more than to state substantially the conclusions at which it has arrived, after a thorough examination of the mass of matter which has been laid before it.

It is the opinion of your Committee that the second section of the fourth Art. of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of the State of Michigan, adopted in 1856, conflicted with the seventh Section of the second Article of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, as it then existed, and that the provision in the General Grand Constitution was the paramount law of the Order—was of the

highest authority, and was the law which should have been submitted to by the Grand Chapter of Michigan.

The Grand Chapter of Michigan judged differently, and acted under its own Constitution, by chartering Peninsular Chapter, contrary to the provision in the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter; and Peninsular Chapter lives, and acts, and works, to this day, as your Committee understand, under the Charter thus granted.

Reader page 40 · Committee upholds Gilman’s declaration; separate consideration ordered

The General Grand High Priest, as the executive head of the General Grand Chapter, took the same view of these Constitutional provisions as is taken by your Committee, and deemed it his official duty to set forth his views in an official proclamation, and he did so—sending copies of said proclamation to the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, and to the High Priest of said Peninsular Chapter. In that proclamation he “pronounces & declares” the conflicting provision in the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Michigan to be “null and void,” that Peninsular Chapter was an “irregular Masonic assembly,” and that its “Charter or Warrant” was “void,” and that acts done or to be done under its authority, were “also void and of no effect in Freemasonry.”

Your Committee cannot discover in this action of the General Grand High Priest anything but that which is merely declaratory of his own construction of Constitutional Masonic Law. He issued no edict against either the Grand Chapter of Michigan or the Chapter which it had created. He simply stated plainly the existing law as he understood it, and the legal constitutional results which, in his judgment, naturally and necessarily followed from the views of it which were taken by him. In all this the Committee discover no oppression, no tyranny, no assumption of doubtful power. It is difficult to perceive how he could have done less, and been true and faithful to the dignified organization of which he was the Constitutional head.

All which is respectfully submitted.
(Signed) Philip C. Tucker,
John L. Lewis, Jr.,
J. R. Hartsock,
A. T. C. Pierson,
R. P. Watson,
Committee.

Comp. Neill moved that the subjects treated on in the above report be acted upon separately; which was agreed to.

Comp. Sayre moved to postpone the consideration of that part of the report relating to North Carolina and Kentucky until the next triennial session; which was lost.

Reader page 41 · Withdrawal report adopted; Michigan question recommitted

The question was then taken on that portion of the report, and the yeas and nays being called for, it was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
The G. G. High Priest	1
D. G. G. High Priest	1
General Grand Scribe	1
G. Grand Treasurer	1
G. G. Captn. of the Host	1
Alabama	3
Arkansas	4
Connecticut	4
Louisiana	4
Maine	4
Md. & D. C.	4
Massachusetts	4
Mississippi	4
N. Hampshire	4
New York	4
S. Carolina	4
Tennessee	4
Vermont	4
Minnesota Chapter	1
Total	57

Nays

Grand Chapter	Votes
Alabama	1
Georgia	4
Michigan	4
Missouri	4
Ohio	4
Texas	4
Total	21

On motion, the General Grand Royal Arch Captain was excused from voting.

Comp. Northcott moved to reconsider the above vote, when Comp. Austin moved to lay said motion on the table; which was adopted.

The question was then put on that portion of the report relating to Texas, and it was adopted unanimously.

That part of the report in relation to Michigan was then taken up, when

Comp. Coffinberry moved to recommit the same, with instructions; pending which, Comp. Pike offered the following resolution as a substitute for the motion, which was accepted by the mover, and the resolution adopted:

Resolved, That the residue not yet acted on, of the Report of the Committee on Masonic—

Reader page 42 · Peninsular Chapter inquiry; memorial for Amos Adams

—Jurisprudence, now under consideration, be recommitted to that Committee, with instructions to consider and report:

Whether the creation of Peninsular Chapter by the Grand Chapter of Michigan, was or was not null and void, in consequence of the non-observance by that Grand Chapter of the provision of the General Grand Constitution, requiring the voucher and recommendation of the Chapter nearest the place where Peninsular Chapter was proposed to be opened; and whether Peninsular Chapter now is, or is not, a regular Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

On motion of Comp. French, the amount of $5.37½, being one half of stationery bill, was ordered to be paid.

A report was then read from the Committee on Grievances, in the case of California, which was, on motion of Comp. Fellows, ordered to be placed on file.

The Special Committee to whom was referred the subject of the death of M. E. Companions Adams and Stewart, submitted the following reports and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The Special Committee on Memorials of the Dead, respectfully report and recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the General Grand Chapter has heard with sorrowful emotions the announcement of the death of the Most Excellent Companion Amos Adams, of Louisiana, late General Grand King, who departed this life, in the midst of his useful Masonic labors, at Baton Rouge, on the 1st September, instant.

Resolved, That in the death of this distinguished Companion, the Craft of Louisiana has been deprived of one of its most amiable, useful and prominent members, and that the General Grand Chapter has been deprived of the valuable services of a faithful, efficient and much respected Companion and officer.

Resolved, That we deeply deplore the loss of our departed Companion, and as a testimonial of regard for his memory, will wear the usual badge of mourning.

Resolved, That we sincerely sympathize with the afflicted family of our deceased—

Editorial note: *This memorial gives Adams's death as September 1. The postscript to Gilman's address on reader page 11 gives the 2nd; both readings are retained as written.*

Reader page 43 · Memorial report for Willis Stewart

—Companion, on account of their great bereavement; and that the General Grand Secretary be instructed to furnish them with a copy of these resolutions.

Respectfully submitted.
(Signed) E. H. English,
John J. Bell,
H. L. Palmer,
Committee.

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The Special Committee on Memorials of the Dead, to whom was referred so much of the address of the M. E. General Grand High Priest as relates to the death of the illustrious and lamented Companion, Willis Stewart, of Kentucky, Past Deputy General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter, respectfully submit the following report:

The distinguished Companion, whose loss we deplore, was much respected and beloved by this body. At its last triennial session, he being prevented, by ill health, from meeting his Companions in Council, and affording them the benefit of his wisdom and experience in their deliberations, a resolution was passed sincerely regretting his affliction, and expressing the hope of his speedy recovery of health, and return to the sphere of usefulness. But, alas! the prayers of his Companions were unavailing! He has ceased from his labors—terminated his pilgrimage upon the rough and rugged journey of life; and gone, we trust, to reap the reward of the good, the true and the faithful beyond the tomb!

For a period of nearly thirty years he labored with fervency and zeal to forward the mission of the general organization of the Royal Craft as expressed in the Constitution of 1798—“to establish order and uniformity, to promote love and charity among Masons, and to render more general and extensive the principles of benevolence and philanthropy,” holding and faithfully discharging the duties of the most important offices in the grand organization of Kentucky during his long career of Masonic usefulness.

He projected the beautiful Masonic Temple at Louisville, and to his—

Reader page 44 · Stewart memorial concluded; dispensation jurisdiction; thanks to Tucker

—perseverance the Craft of that city are indebted for the completion of that splendid model of architectural skill. For long centuries yet to come, the Masonic generations may look upon it as a monument of his devotion to the Order, and his persevering labors to promote and perpetuate the sublime principles inculcated by it. But though, in the progress of ages, that beautiful monument may waste and moulder into ruins, yet the memory of the Masonic virtues of its builder, like the virtues of Hiram Abiff, will be perpetuated in the records and traditions of the Craft.

The committee recommend the passage of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we most cordially concur in the sentiments expressed in the address of the M. E. General Grand High Priest, announcing and deploring the death of our distinguished and much lamented Companion, Willis Stewart, of Kentucky.

Resolved, That these proceedings be spread upon our records, and a copy thereof furnished by the General Grand Secretary to the sorrowing family of our beloved Companion, with assurances that this body most sincerely and deeply sympathizes with them in their sad bereavement.

Respectfully submitted.
(Signed) E. H. English,
John J. Bell,

H. L. Palmer,
Committee.

Comp. Marsh offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this General Grand Chapter that Chapters acting Under Dispensation from this Grand Body, or the officers thereof, become and are immediately under the jurisdiction of the State Grand Chapter whenever the same be formed.

Comp. Austin offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Grand Chapter are eminently due, and are hereby tendered to M. E. Philip C. Tucker, for the very able and efficient manner in which he has performed the duties of Deputy General Grand High Priest during the past three years, and that he has our cordial good wishes for his future and long continued happiness.

Reader page 45 · Memphis confirmed; invitations; uniformity report begins

On motion of Comp. Frizzell, the resolution fixing the place of meeting for the next triennial Session at Memphis, Tennessee, was taken up and adopted unanimously.

Comp. Pike offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Chapters of Virginia, Florida, and Pennsylvania, be fraternally invited to unite with their Peers now represented in this General Grand Chapter, under the present Constitution; and that those of Kentucky and North Carolina be also fraternally invited to rescind their action by which they have endeavored to withdraw from this Union of Grand Chapters.

Comp. Pike offered a resolution in regard to the regalia of a Royal Arch Mason, which, with an amendment by Comp. Fellows, was, on motion of Comp. Ward, referred to a special committee of three, composed of Comps. Pike, Ward, and Stokes.

Comp. Chase presented an account of Past General Grand High Priest Gilman, amounting to $7.50, for contingent expenses, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion of Comp. Schley, the General Grand Secretary was instructed to append to the printed proceedings, a list of the names and post office addresses of the members present during this triennial Session.

Comp. Ira A. W. Buck, being present, was then duly installed as M. E. General Grand King for the ensuing three years.

The Special Committee to whom had been referred the subject of Uniformity of Work and Lectures, submitted the following report and resolutions:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The special committee to whom was referred the resolutions proposing to appoint a committee of nine, to ascertain the true Work and Lectures of Royal Arch Masonry, have considered the propositions contained in the resolutions, and respectfully submit the following report:

Reader page 46 · Uniformity of work: duties of the first four officers

The committee regard it as expedient to adopt the resolutions referred to them. They think it preferable to leave the duty of ascertaining the correct rituals of the Order where the Constitution places it—in the hands of the first four officers of this body. And the committee think that this may be done at this time with great safety and propriety, as these officers are Companions of much ability and Masonic experience, have been selected from the prominent geographical divisions of this general jurisdiction, and are familiar with the rituals observed therein, and the substantial points of difference between them.

The committee further report that they are advised that upon some consultation between the chief officers, they are of the opinion that they can reconcile conflicting views, and agree upon that which is matter of substance and essential in the Work and Lectures of the several degrees.

The committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That if the first four officers of this General Grand Body cannot, from other engagements, agree upon and report at this Session, a uniform and authentic system of work and lectures in the several degrees, in matters of substance, as above indicated, they be instructed to ascertain, agree upon, and report such system at the next triennial session of this body for its consideration.

2. That should the said officers find it necessary to hold an occasional meeting, after the present Session of this body terminates, for the purpose of performing the duties enjoined upon them as above, the expenses necessarily incurred by them in attending such meeting, be paid out of the General Grand Treasury, upon the certificate of the M. E. General Grand High Priest.

3. That if the General Grand officers aforesaid, can agree upon and settle any of the controverted points in the Work and Lectures before the present session of this body closes, they report the same for its action.

Respectfully submitted.
(Signed) J. Q. A. Fellows,
John L. Lewis, Jr.,
E. H. English,
Committee.

Reader page 47 · Uniformity report adopted; Royal Arch regalia prescribed

Comp. Fellows moved to adopt the report and resolutions; pending which,

On motion of Comp. Austin, the General Grand Chapter was called from labor until 4 o’clock, P. M.

Sixth Day — Evening Session

Monday, September 19th, 1859.

The General Grand Chapter was called to labor by the M. E. General Grand High Priest at 4 o’clock, P. M.

The motion pending at the close of the morning session, which was to adopt the report and resolutions of the Special Committee on Uniformity of Work and Lectures, was then taken up and unanimously adopted.

The Special Committee to whom was referred the subject of the Regalia of a Royal Arch Mason, reported the following, which was adopted:

Be it enacted by the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America: That, after this Session, no member of this General Grand Chapter shall be allowed to sit herein, without being appropriately clothed as a Royal Arch Mason, which proper clothing is hereby defined to be:

1st. A White Lamb-skin Apron (for which cotton or linen cannot be substituted), square in form, lined with scarlet silk, and with a narrow edging of scarlet, without any device whatever on the body, but with a Triple Tau Cross within a Triangle, and that within a circle on the flap.

2nd. Where no official collar is worn, a collar of scarlet velvet, coming to a point in front, edged with narrow gold lace, from which may be suspended a Triple interlaced Triangle of Gold or yellow metal as a jewel.

(Signed) Albert Pike,
M. S. Ward,
H. M. Stokes,
Committee.

Reader page 48 · Correspondence committee; finance reports

Comp. Buck offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee of Masonic Correspondence be appointed for this General Grand Body; and that the Committee be requested to be prepared with a report at the next triennial Session.

On motion, it was ordered that the above Committee consist of three, whereupon the M. E. General Grand High Priest appointed the following Committee on Masonic Correspondence:

Companion	Address
Philip C. Tucker, Chairman	Vergennes, Vermont
Albert Pike	Little Rock, Arkansas
A. T. C. Pierson	St. Paul, Minnesota

The following reports, from the Committee on Finance, were then read and adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The Committee on Finance ask leave to report that they have examined the account current of the General Grand Secretary, made out to the first day of September instant, from which it appears that the amount received by him from all sources, from the 9th September, 1856, the date of his last report, to the first day of September, 1859, is $900.75.

Application of funds	Amount
Paid to the General Grand Treasurer	$825.63
And for necessary expenses of office	$75.12
Total	$900.75

All which is respectfully submitted.
(Signed) Henry C. Deming,
Philip T. Schley,
Moses Dodge,

H. L. Palmer,
Horace Chase,
Committee.

The Committee on Finance, having examined the accounts of the Past M. E. General Grand High Priest, amounting to $7.50, beg leave to report that the same be allowed and paid.

(Signed) H. Chase, for the Committee.

Reader page 49 · Treasurer’s receipts and disbursements, 1856–1859

The Committee on Finance ask leave to report that they have examined the account of the General Grand Treasurer and find him chargeable as follows:

Receipts	Amount
To balance on hand as per report, Sept. 10th, 1856	$6,629.64
To cash received of the General Grand Secretary at sundry times, between Sept. 10th, 1856 and Sept. 1st, 1859	$825.63
Interest to Sept. 1st, 1859	$620.00
Amounting to	$8,075.27

Which is accounted for as follows:

Date	Disbursement	Amount
1856, Sept. 15	By cash paid R. P. Dunlap	$95.00
Same	By cash paid Charles Gilman	$75.00
Same	By cash paid E. A. Raymond	$50.00
Same	By cash paid B. B. French	$300.00
Same	By cash paid John Christie	$15.00
Same	By cash paid G. W. C. Moody	$125.00
Same	By cash paid J. M. Willey	$20.00
Same	By cash paid Isaac Tuttle	$12.50
Same	By cash paid E. Skinner	$20.00
Same	By cash paid C. W. Moore	$2.00
Same	By cash paid W. J. Balch	$90.00
Oct. 18	Jno. Berry, printing of General G. H. Priest	$50.00
Dec. 12	John T. & Lem. Towers, bill of printing	$159.00
1857, June 18	T. S. Gourdin’s draft for testimonials to Hon. R. P. Dunlap, P. G. G. H. Priest, per vote	$280.00
1859, July 31	T. S. Gourdin’s draft for printing circulars for testimonials to R. P. Dunlap	$8.00
	Amounting to	$1,301.50
Sept. 1	Balance	$6,773.77

Date	Disbursement	Amount
	Total	$8,075.27

Editorial note: *The committee corrects the allocation of the $90 Balch payment and the resulting balance on reader page 50.*

Reader page 50 · Treasury correction; correspondence compensation; California refund

The Committee find the above charges for moneys paid out correct, with the exception of ninety dollars charged as paid to W. J. Balch, which the Committee believe was erroneously charged as paid out of the funds of the General Grand Chapter, instead of the funds of the Grand Encampment, as it should have been. If this supposition of the Committee be correct, of which they have no doubt, the balance now in the hands of the General Grand Treasurer will be $6,863.77, instead of $6,773.77.

(Signed) Horace Chase, for the Committee.

Comp. O'Sullivan offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Chairman on Masonic Correspondence be paid the sum of three hundred dollars on the presentation of his report, at the next Triennial Session.

Comp. Frizzell moved to strike out "three hundred dollars," and insert "[five?] hundred dollars," which amendment was rejected; and the question being put on the original resolution, it was adopted.

Comp. Marsh offered the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, The General Grand Chapter has fully recognized the rule that subordinate Chapters holding under it, either by Dispensation or Charter, become and are subordinate to and immediately under the jurisdiction of State Grand Chapters, upon the formation of the same;

And *Whereas,* The General Grand Chapter exercised jurisdiction, by receiving dues from California Chapter No. 5, after the formation of a Grand Chapter in the State of California: therefore

Resolved, That the General Grand Secretary be directed to draw a warrant upon the General Grand Treasurer, in favor of California Chapter No. 5, for the amount paid by said Chapter after it came under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of the State of California.

Comp. Fellows moved to amend by adding the following words to the resolution: "And that the Grand Chapter of California refund the amount exacted, as a fee for a Charter, from California Chapter No. 5," which was adopted.

Reader page 51 · California resolution adopted; Michigan reports and credentials

The question then being put on the preamble and resolution, as amended, they were adopted.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was recommitted, with instructions, that portion of their report in regard to Michigan, submitted the following:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was recommitted a portion of their report, with instructions to inquire whether the creation of Peninsular Chapter was or was not null and void, respectfully report, that the time allotted to them will not enable them to canvass the questions involved, or to write an argument in support of their conclusions, but they present those conclusions in the form of a resolution, as follows:

Resolved, That in our opinion the creation of Peninsular Chapter by the Grand Chapter of Michigan, in known violation, by both parties, of the General Grand Constitution, was null and void, and that therefore said Chapter is not a regular Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

All of which is respectfully submitted.
(Signed) Philip C. Tucker,
John L. Lewis, Jr.,
J. R. Hartsock,
A. T. C. Pierson,
Committee.

The Committee on Credentials reported Comp. J. C. Tucker, proxy for Grand King of Vermont, and Comp. N. D. Jacobs, proxy for Grand King of New York.

Comp. English then moved that that portion of the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, in regard to the Grand Chapter of Michigan, as originally made at the morning session, be adopted, which motion was carried.

Comp. Pike then offered the following resolution, as a substitute for the resolution of the Committee on Jurisprudence, in regard to Peninsular Chapter, of Michigan:

Reader page 52 · Peninsular Chapter recognized by substitute resolution, 40–17

Resolved, That although the disregard by the Grand Chapter of Michigan of the provisions of the General Grand Constitution, requiring the voucher and recommendation of the Chapter nearest the place where Peninsular Chapter was proposed to be opened was unwarranted, and it ought not to be made a precedent for the future, still such non-observance did not affect the validity of the act done; but, for the protection of innocent parties, such Chapter cannot be held to be irregular, or the action of the Grand Chapter in creating it to be null and void, but it must be held to be a regular Chapter.

The question being taken on the adoption of the above resolution, as a substitute, and the yeas and nays being called for, it was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
The G. G. High Priest	1
G. Grand King	1
G. G. Royal Arch Captain	1
Alabama	4
Arkansas	4
Illinois	4
Indiana	4
Michigan	4
Mississippi	4
N. Hampshire	4
Ohio	1
S. Carolina	4
Wisconsin	4
Total	40

Nays

Officer or Grand Chapter	Votes
The D. G. G. High Priest	1
General Grand Scribe	1
Louisiana	4
New York	4
Ohio	3
Vermont	4
Total	17

On motion, the first four General Grand Officers were empowered to make out and to audit the pay-roll of the officers for this triennial Session.

On motion of Comp. Fellows, the General Grand Secretary was—

Reader page 53 · 1859 session closes; proposed next meeting in 1862

—instructed to have printed two thousand copies of the proceedings of this Session.

Comp. Hillyer submitted the following amendment to the General Grand Constitution:

In Section 1, Article 1, strike out the words “on the second Tuesday in September, at such place,” and insert the words “at such time and place.”

The General Grand Chapter was then closed in ample form, to meet at Memphis, Tennessee, on the second Tuesday (being the 10th day) of September, 1862.

Attest:

Editorial note: *No attesting signature appears beneath "Attest" on this scan. The proposed meeting date is retained as written.*

Reader page 54 · Blank manuscript page 67

Editorial note: *This scan contains a ruled blank page, numbered 67, with no proceedings to transcribe.*

Reader page 55 · Names and addresses of 1859 delegates: Maine through Ohio

Names and Addresses of Delegates to the Triennial Convocation of 1859, as far as ascertained

Companion	Address
Moses Dodge	Portland, Maine
Edw. J. Burnham	Saco, Maine
John J. Bell	Camden, Maine
*Robt. P. Dunlap	Brunswick, Maine
Horace Chase	Hopkinton, New Hampshire
Moses Paul	Dover, New Hampshire
Tho. H. Campbell	St. Albans, Vermont
Gamaliel Washburn	Montpelier, Vermont
Samuel Wilson	Vergennes, Vermont
John McClellan	Boston, Massachusetts
*Wm. C. Barker	Providence, Rhode Island
H. C. Deming	Hartford, Connecticut
Asa Smith	Norwich, Connecticut
James M. Austin	New York City, New York
Sylvester Gilbert	Ogdensburg, New York
Augustus Millard	Greene, Chenango Co., New York
Geo. N. Williams	Syracuse, New York
Wm. W. Goodwin	Burlington, New Jersey
Leopold Sithauer	Jersey City, New Jersey
M. J. Drummond	N. Y. City, New York
James Gozzler	Georgetown, D. C.
John L. Yeates	Baltimore, Maryland
James Stuart	Baltimore, Maryland
George Rex	Wooster, Wayne Co., Ohio

Reader page 56 · Names and addresses of 1859 delegates: Ohio through Louisiana

Names and Addresses — continued

Companion	Address
Horace M. Stokes	Lebanon, Warren Co., Ohio
Peter Thatcher, Jr.	Cleveland, Ohio
Joshua A. Ridder	Wellsville, Columbiana Co., Ohio
Albert G. Mackey	Charleston, South Carolina
G. H. Buist	Charleston, South Carolina
W. B. Haley	Washington, D. C.
D. Ramsey	Charleston, South Carolina
Philip T. Schley	Savannah, Georgia
E. M. Hastings	Montgomery, Alabama
S. A. M. Wood	Florence, Alabama
R. P. Watson	Montgomery, Alabama
Daniel Sayre	Montgomery, Alabama
John Frizzell	Winchester, Tennessee
William B. Whiton	Columbia, Tennessee
R. S. Northcott	Murfreesboro, Tennessee
W. H. Sheffield	Nashville, Tennessee
Henry C. Lawrence	Lafayette, Indiana
Geo. W. Porter	New Albany, Indiana
Chauncey Carter	Logansport, Indiana
Nelson D. Elwood	Joliet, Illinois
W. W. Mitchell	Chicago, Illinois
A. W. Blakesly	Quincy, Illinois
Ira A. W. Buck	Aurora, Illinois
Matthew S. Ward	Panola, Mississippi
Giles M. Hillyer	Natchez, Mississippi
James Penn	Memphis, Tennessee
J. Q. A. Fellows	New Orleans, Louisiana
Samuel G. Risk	New Orleans, Louisiana
Henry R. Swasey	New Orleans, Louisiana

Reader page 57 · 1859 delegate directory concluded; past officers

Names and Addresses — continued

Companion	Address
A. O. Sullivan	St. Louis, Missouri
Joseph Foster	St. Louis, Missouri
W. E. Penick	St. Joseph, Missouri
S. C. Coffinberry	Constantine, Michigan
Frederick Hall	Ionia, Michigan
A. B. Cudworth	Pontiac, Michigan
Chauncey N. Williams	Flint, Michigan
Elbert H. English	Little Rock, Arkansas
Albert Pike	Little Rock, Arkansas
Luke E. Barber	Little Rock, Arkansas
Gabriel McGowan	Little Rock, Arkansas
Henry L. Palmer	Milwaukie, Wisconsin
Henry M. Billings	Highland, Wisconsin
Andrew J. Redburn	Racine, Wisconsin
Andrew Neill	Seguin, Texas
James Sorley	Galveston, Texas
T. S. Parvin	Muscatine, Iowa
Anibal Porter	Iowa City, Iowa
G. S. Ellis	Davenport, Iowa
Charles Marsh	Nevada, California
A. T. C. Pierson	St. Paul, Minnesota
John W. Hunt	Madison, Wisconsin
John R. Hartsock	Iowa City, Iowa
John S. Philbrick	East Boston, Massachusetts
William A. Smith	Iowa City, Iowa

Past General Grand Officers

Companion	Address
G. H. C. Melody	Rocheport, Missouri
E. S. Barnum	Utica, New York

* Dead.

Editorial note: *The asterisk refers to the starred names on reader page 55. Name forms and initials in this directory are retained as written, including John W. Hunt and John R. Hartsock.*

Reader page 58 · Secretary’s debit account, 1856–1859

The General Grand Chapter in Account with B. B. French, G. G. Secretary — Dr.

Entry, in manuscript order	Amount
To one half freight on trunk, from Hartford to Washington	$1.50
To paid the Adams Express, freight on G. G. H. P. address from Portland (no voucher)	$2.50
To paid for postage stamps and stamped envelopes	$5.00
To paid for postage stamps to send off Proceedings	$10.00
To paid J. S. Gideon for blank book for second vol. Records	$5.50
To paid T. O. French for recording proceedings of 1856	$25.00
To cash sent E. A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer	$300.00
To paid for blank letter book (no voucher)	$1.75
To protested draft sent back to A. J. Alden, High Priest of St. Anthony Falls Chapter, Minn. (see credit to balance)	$90.00
To cost on same, paid by me	$0.78
To cash sent E. A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer	$200.00
To cash paid for postage stamps	$2.50
To cash sent E. A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer	$135.00
To cash paid, charges from New York on Express package from Atchison, K. T. ($90, in gold; no voucher)	$0.75
To Taylor & Maury, for letter file and bottle of gum	$2.00
To paid Murphy & Co., Baltimore, for printing Charters	$13.12
To paid L. Towers, for printing letter headings and paper	$5.50
To cash sent E. A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer	$190.63
Total	$991.53

Editorial note: *Dates in the left margin are partly obscured by the binding; entries are kept in manuscript order. The last remittance is also recorded as $190.63 on reader page 60. The protested draft is explained across reader pages 59–60.*

Reader page 59 · Secretary’s credit account and protested draft

The General Grand Chapter in Account with B. B. French, G. G. Secretary — Cr.

Date	Entry	Amount
1856, Sept. 10	By cash of Enterprise Chapter, Iowa City, for dues to Aug. 1st, 1856	$32.00
Dec. 26	By cash of Hiram Chapter, Newark, N. J., for dues to Aug. 1st, 1856	$66.00
1857, Jany. 27	By cash of Leavenworth Chapter, Kansas Territory, for Dispensation by General Grand High Priest	$90.00
June 8	By cash of Enterprise Chapter, Iowa City, dues to formation of Gr. Chapter	$10.00
June 8	By cash of Hiram Chapter, New Jersey, dues to formation of Gr. Chapter	$6.00
June 8	By cash of Boudinot Chapter, New Jersey, dues to formation of Gr. Chapter	$14.00
June 23	By cash of G. G. High Priest, for Dispensation to Vermillion Chapter No. 2, Hastings, Dacotah Co., Minn.	$90.00
June 23	By cash of C. L. Storer, for Dispensation by G. G. High Priest to Honolulu Chapter No. 1, Honolulu, Sandwich Islands	$90.00
Oct. 6	By cash of Multnomah Chapter, U. D., Salem, Oregon, dues to July 1st, 1857	$14.00
Dec. 25	By cash of G. G. H. Priest, for Dispensation to Clackamas Chapter No. 2, Oregon City	$90.00
1858, Jany. 8	By cash of G. G. H. Priest, for Dispensation to St. Anthony Falls Chapter, Minn.	$90.00
Mch. 10	By cash of St. Anthony Falls Chapter to pay protested draft & cost (see Dr.)	$90.78
May 7	By cash of Comp. Pierson, on a/c of dues of Minnesota Chapter No. 1 (no return made)	$34.00
Nov. 13	By cash of Multnomah Chapter, Salem, Oregon, dues to Aug. 1st, 1858	$8.00
1859, Jany. 4	By cash of G. G. H. Priest, for Dispensation to Portland Chapter, Oregon	$90.00
Jany. 30	By cash of Clackamas Chapter, Oregon, dues to August 1st, 1858	$12.00
May 19	By cash of Jos. Laforgue, for Dispensation, G. G. H. P., to Washington Chap., K. T.	$90.00
June 12	By postage stamps from chapter at Atchison, to pay expenses, etc.	$0.75
Aug. 10	By dues of Atchison Chapter, Kansas, U. D.	$8.00
Aug. 15	By dues of Honolulu Chapter, Sandwich Islands	$48.00
Aug. 27	By dues of Multnomah Chapter, Salem, Oregon, to July 1st, 1859	$8.00
Aug. 29	By dues of Clackamas Chapter, to July 23rd, 1859	$10.00
	Total	$991.53

Of the foregoing $991.53 it will be seen that $90 appears twice, in consequence of a protested draft for which credit was given, and which I—

Reader page 60 · Net receipts; Treasurer’s debit and credit accounts

—charged up when I found it was not paid, and again credited when another draft came; also the expense of protest is charged and credited, leaving the actual sum received $900.75.

Edward A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer, in Account with the G. G. Chapter of the U. S. — Dr.

Entry	Amount
To balance on hand as per report	$6,629.64
To cash received of General Grand Secretary	$300.00
To cash received of General Grand Secretary	$200.00
To cash received of General Grand Secretary	$135.00
To cash received of General Grand Secretary	$190.63
To interest to date	$620.00
Total	$8,075.27
1859, Sept. 1: To balance on hand to date	$6,773.77

Edward A. Raymond, G. G. Treasurer, in Account with the G. G. Chapter of the U. S. — Cr.

1856, Sept. 15:

Entry	Amount
By cash paid R. P. Dunlap	$95.00
By cash paid Charles Gilman	$75.00
By cash paid E. A. Raymond	$50.00
By cash paid B. B. French	$300.00
By cash paid John Christie	$15.00
By cash paid G. H. C. Melody	$125.00
By cash paid J. M. Willey	$20.00
By cash paid E. Skinner	$20.00
By cash paid Isaac Tuttle	$12.50
By cash paid C. W. Moore	$2.00
By cash paid W. J. Balch	$90.00
Amount carried forward	$804.50

Editorial note: *Some dates in the debit account’s left margin are obscured by the binding. This ledger names G. H. C. Melody; the earlier committee account on reader page 49 writes the surname as Moody.*

Reader page 61 · Treasurer’s credit account concluded

Treasurer’s Credit Account — continued

Date	Entry	Amount
1856	To amount brought forward	$804.50
Oct. 18	By cash paid Jno. Berry, printing for G. G. High Priest	$50.00
Dec. 12	By cash paid John T. & Lem. Towers, bill of printing	$159.00
1857, June 18	By cash paid T. S. Gourdin’s draft, for testimonial to Hon. R. P. Dunlap, Past G. G. High Priest, per vote	$280.00
July 31	By cash paid T. S. Gourdin’s draft for printing circulars for testimonial to R. P. Dunlap	$8.00
1859, Sept. 1	By balance	$6,773.77
	Total	$8,075.27

Reader page 62 · Blank manuscript page 75

Editorial note: *This scan contains a ruled blank page, numbered 75, with no proceedings to transcribe.*

Reader page 63 · No convocation in 1862 because of the Civil War

There was no Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of U. S. A. at Memphis, Tennessee, in 1862, on account of the prevailing Civil War.

Editorial note: *This short retrospective entry occupies manuscript page 78. The preceding supplied scan is numbered 75; no scans numbered 76–77 are present between them in the supplied PDF.*

Reader page 64 · Special convocation opens at Columbus, September 7, 1865

Anno Inventionis 2395.
Anno Lucis 5865.

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

Special Grand Convocation, 1865
(In lieu of Tr. Conv. of 1862)

Columbus, Ohio. Sept. 7th, A. D. 1865.

Pursuant to call of Comp. Albert G. Mackey, Most Excellent General Grand High Priest,

Several officers and Representatives of State Grand Chapters to the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the U. S. of America, assembled in Representatives Chamber of the State House in this city on this day at the hour of 2 o’clock P. M.

Organization

The following Companions were in the several offices at the opening of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons to organize the General Grand Chapter:

Companion	Address	Office or capacity
John L. Lewis	Penn Yan, N. Y.	Dep.; acting G. G. H. P.
Ira A. W. Buck	Aurora, Ill.	G. G. K.; acting Dep. G. G. H. P.

Companion	Address	Office or capacity
John Q. A. Fellows	N. Orleans, La.	Acting G. G. K.
Moses Dodge	Portland, Me.	Acting G. G. S.
James M. Austin	N. York, N. Y.	Acting G. G. Tr.
John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati, O.	Appointed G. G. S.; acting G. G. Sec.
Joseph W. Healy	St. Paul, Minn.	Acting G. G. Chap.
John McClellan	Boston, Mass.	Acting G. G. Capt. H.
William Hacker	Indianapolis, Ind.	Acting G. G. R. A. C.
Joseph M. Stuart	Columbus, O.	Acting G. G. Ward.

Reader page 65 · 1865 circular and Mackey’s summons

Devotional services were participated in by the Companions, Rev. Gr. Chaplain officiating.

The Circular calling this Special Convocation

Comp. Caldwell, Genl. Gr. Secy., then read the following call authorizing this opening:

Convocation of General Grand Chapter U. S. A.
At Columbus, O. Thursday, Sept. 7th, A. I. 2395, A. D. 1865.

Cincinnati, O. June 24th, A. I. 2395, A. D. 1865.

To the Officers and Members of the General Grand Chapter U. S.; and of the several State Grand Chapters; and of the Subordinate Chapters under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter; and To all whom it may concern:

I fraternally communicate the following official summons of the M. E. Genl. Gr. H. P. for a Convocation of the Genl. Gr. Chapter of R. A. Masons of the U. S. to be held in Columbus, O., on the 7th of September next.

May there be a cordial Reunion on that “joyful day.”

John D. Caldwell, Genl. Grand Secy.

(Official) Office of the General Grand High Priest.
Charleston, S. C. 6th of June, 1865.

Whereas, When the General Grand Chapter closed its labors at Chicago in September, 1859, and it had resolved that the next General Grand Convocation should be held at the City of Memphis, Tennessee, on the second Tuesday of September, 1862, and whereas the representatives of the General Grand Chapter, in consequence of the unhappy and discordant condition of the Country could not be convened at that time and place; and whereas the General Grand High Priest did, therefore, by due proclamation in the Constitutional exercise of his prerogatives, suspend the said Triennial Convocation of 1862, until the restoration of Peace and Union; and, whereas, by the blessing of divine providence the friendly relations of all parts of our common Country are now restored, so that it is no longer impracticable for representatives from all sections of the Union to assemble together in fraternal consultation;

Now, therefore, be it known, that I, Albert G. Mackey, Gen. Grand High Priest—

Reader page 66 · Mackey’s summons concluded; credentials committee

—in virtue of the power in me vested, do hereby summon the Representatives of the Grand Chapters and of such Subordinate Chapters as may be under the immediate jurisdiction of the Genl. Gr. Chapter, to assemble on Thursday, the seventh day of Sept., 1865, at the City of Columbus, in the State of Ohio, for the purpose of opening and holding a Session of the Genl. Gr. Chapter of the U. S., and therein to deliberate and act on all matters relating to the good of Royal Arch Masonry, and the interest of the General Grand Chapter, and the State Grand Chapters, as in their wisdom may seem best.

Albert G. Mackey, M. D.
Genl. Grand High Priest.

[Seal]
Attest: John D. Caldwell,
Genl. Grand Secy.

Committee to Examine Credentials

Credentials were submitted for examination and referred to a Select Committee appointed by the presiding officer:

Comp. Azariah T. C. Pierson of Minnesota;
Comp. George Frank Gouley of Missouri;
Comp. John D. Caldwell, G. G. Secy., of Ohio.

They submitted Report which perfected is as follows:

General Grand Officers

Companion	Office
John L. Lewis, Jr.	Dep. G. Gr. H. P.
Ira A. W. Buck	Gen. Gr. K.
John McClellan	G. G. C. H.
William Hacker	G. G. R. A. C.

Reader page 67 · 1865 credentials: Maine through Wisconsin

Credentials — continued

Maine

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	A. J. Fuller
G. S.	Moses Dodge

Massachusetts

Office	Representative
D. G. H. P.	Caleb Rand

Connecticut

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	Luke A. Lockwood
D. G. H. P.	James L. Gould
G. K.	Asa Smith, proxy for—
G. S.	Benjamin Beecher, proxy for—

New York

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	J. M. Austin, proxy for—
D. G. H. P.	Seymour H. Stone
G. K.	Rees J. Williams
G. S.	J. B. Chaffee

Minnesota

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	George W. Prescott
G. K.	A. T. C. Pierson, proxy for D. B. Foot
G. S.	B. H. Langley, proxy for J. E. Finch

Wisconsin

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	M. L. Young
D. G. H. P.	H. L. Palmer, proxy for—
G. K.	Wm. L. Kennett, proxy for—
G. S.	A. M. Blair, proxy for—

Editorial note: *Where the manuscript says “proxy for” without naming the principal, a dash retains that unfinished entry.*

Reader page 68 · 1865 credentials: Missouri through California

Credentials — continued

Missouri

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	Anthony O’Sullivan
D. G. H. P.	Anthony O’Sullivan, proxy for—
G. K.	Geo. Frank Gouley, proxy for—
G. S.	James H. Aglar, proxy for Martin Collins

Tennessee

Office	Representative
G. K.	John Ainslie, proxy for—

Louisiana

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	John Q. A. Fellows, proxy for—

New Jersey

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	John Sheville, proxy for—
G. K.	John W. Timms, proxy for—
G. S.	Samuel Stevens, proxy for—

Maryland & D. C.

Office	Representative
G. S.	William J. Parkhurst

Ohio

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	George Rex
D. G. H. P.	Charles C. Kiefer
G. K.	Peter L. Wilson
G. S.	William M. Cunningham, proxy for—

California

Office	Representative
Four State officers	Charles Marsh, proxy

Reader page 69 · 1865 credentials: Michigan through Kansas

Credentials — continued

Michigan

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	E. Sprague
D. G. H. P.	A. B. Cudworth
G. K.	G. B. Noble, proxy for—
G. S.	J. P. Fisk

Indiana

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	Thos. Pattison
D. G. H. P.	Thomas Newby
Gr. K.	Harvey G. Hazelrigg, proxy for—
G. S.	B. J. Chestnutwood

Illinois

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	Wiley M. Egan
G. K.	Orlin H. Miner

Arkansas

Office	Representative
H. P.	G. McGowan, proxy for—

Kansas — Washington Chapter No. 1

Office	Representative
H. P.	Jacob Saqui

Reader page 70 · 1865 standing committees and admission of visitors

Standing Committees

The following Standing Committees were then appointed:

Finance: Comps. Moses Dodge; Luke A. Lockwood; Melvin L. Young; Seymour H. Stone & Charles Marsh.

Foreign Correspondence: Comps. John W. Timms, George Rex and William Hacker.

Masonic Jurisprudence: Comps. J. Q. A. Fellows; H. L. Palmer; Anthony O'Sullivan, Orlin H. Miner & A. T. C. Pierson.

Grievances: Comps. John Sheville, H. G. Hazelrigg, A. J. Fuller, Charles C. Kiefer and W. L. Kennett.

Doings of Grand Officers: Comps. E. Sprague, James L. Gould, and W. J. Parkhurst.

Charters and Dispensations: Comps. Caleb Rand, G. McGowan, R. J. Williams, Charles Marsh & John Ainslie.

Admission of Visitors

On motion it was

Ordered, That Royal Arch Masons, members of Chapters in good standing, on application, may be admitted as Visitors.

Reader page 71 · Mackey’s communication; Caldwell confirmed; meeting amendment

Communication of Comp. Mackey, M. E. G. G. H. P.

Comp. Caldwell, Genl. Gr. Secy., presented and read an official communication received by mail from Comp. Albert G. Mackey, M. E. Genl. G. H. P., who was detained from being present by Government engagements at Charleston, S. C., which was ordered to be spread upon the minutes (see Journal) and be printed with the proceedings of this Grand Communication.

(It announced “The office of Genl. Grand Secretary becoming vacant by the death of Comp. Risk, the Dep. Genl. Gr. H. Priest appointed Comp. John D. Caldwell, of Cincinnati, the acting Genl. Gr. Secy. The impossibility of my communicating with the Craft in the loyal States so as to make the appointment myself, rendered it necessary and proper for the exercise by the Deputy of a prerogative of appointment which under other circumstances would have been irregular. The appointment at the time met with my hearty concurrence, and as soon as by the recurrence of peace I had an opportunity, I confirmed it with great pleasure.”)

Reference

The matters therein as to Finance and Contingent funds were referred to the Com. on Finance.

Approval of Appointment of Genl. Secy.

On motion, by an unanimous vote, the Genl. G. C. ratified and confirmed the appointment of John D. Caldwell as Genl. Grand Secy. of this G. G. C.

Constitution Amended as to Time and Place of Meetings

Comp. Fellows called up Unfinished Business (p. 46, Prn. Proc. 1859) when the proposition to amend the Constitution, Art. 1, Sec. 1, by striking out therefrom the words “On the second Tuesday in September at such place,” and inserting the words “At such time and place,” was unanimously adopted.

So the Constitution as amended reads as follows:

Reader page 72 · Next meeting set for September 8; powers amendment adopted

Art. 1. Sec. 1. “There shall be a General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America, which shall be holden triennially, at such time and place as from time to time be designated for that purpose, &c.”

First Designation of “Time and Place”

On motion of Comp. Fellows, the time and place of the next Triennial Meeting was designated, viz.:

9 o’clock A. M., September 8th, 1865, City of Columbus, Ohio.

Further Consideration of Propositions to Amend the Constitution

Comp. Fellows called up Unfinished Business (p. 33, Printed Proc. 1859).

First proposed amendment was taken up, viz.:

1st. Amend first clause, Sec. 2, Art. 1, so as to read:

> “The General Grand Chapter has and possesses no other powers than such as are indispensably necessary to the exercise of its general powers, and consistent with the nature of the confederation between the State Grand Chapters. It can exercise no doubtful powers, nor any powers by implication merely; and all Masonic powers not hereby granted to it are

reserved to the Grand and Subordinate Chapters of the several States, or to Royal Arch Masons individually."

This Amendment was adopted. Ayes, 24; Nays, 6.

And the Constitution is thus amended accordingly.

The second proposed Amendment was taken up, viz. (p. 33, Printed Proc. 1859):

2nd. To strike out the fourth clause of Sec. 2, Art. 1.

After considerable further action thereon, and of the 3rd proposed Amendment, was deferred until the next Triennial Communication.

Invitation of Joint Com. of Gr. Chapter & Gr. Enc. of [K. T.?] to Banquet this evening was accepted.

Reader page 73 · Election deferred; special convocation closes

General Business Deferred

No Election at this Special Convocation

Comp. Ira A. W. Buck, R. E. Gen. Gr. King, presented the following Resolution:

Resolved, That the Election of Officers of this General Grand Chapter be deferred to the next Triennial Session, to convene at Columbus, Ohio, on (tomorrow) the 8th of September, A. D. 1865.

A viva voce vote was taken.

Indiana (on application) was excused from voting.

Voters	Vote
Connecticut	Nay
The officers of the Gen. Gr. Chapter, also the Representatives of 14 State Grand Chapters and 1 Subordinate Chapter	Aye

The Resolution was adopted.

The business of this Special Convocation being completed, the General Grand Chapter proceeded to close.

Attest:
John D. Caldwell,
Genl. Gr. Secy.

Reader page 74 · Blank manuscript page 89

Editorial note: *This scan contains a ruled blank page, numbered 89, with no proceedings to transcribe.*

Reader page 75 · Blank manuscript page 90

Editorial note: *This scan contains a ruled blank page, numbered 90, with no proceedings to transcribe.*

Reader page 76 · Triennial communication opens, September 8, 1865

A. I. 2395 — A. D. 1865.

Triennial Communication of General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America

Columbus, O., Sept. 8th, A. D. 1865.
9 o'clock A. M.

Pursuant to notice, the General Grand Chapter of R. A. Masons of the U. S. of A., assembled at the Representatives Chamber of the General Assembly of Ohio, on this day, it being the time and place designated at its last Session.

Comp. John L. Lewis, R. E. Dep. Genl. G. H. P., acting as General High Priest, presided at the opening of the Genl. Gr. Chapter, assisted by the following General Grand Officers:

Reader page 77 · 1865 triennial officers and credentials committee

General Grand Officers Acting

Companion	State	Office or capacity
John L. Lewis, Jr.	N. Y.	Dep. G. G. H. P.; acting Gen. G. H. P.
Ira A. W. Buck	Ill.	G. G. K.; acting D. G. G. H. P.
John Q. A. Fellows	La.	Acting G. G. K.
Moses Dodge	Maine	Acting G. G. S.
James M. Austin	N. Y.	Acting G. G. Tr.
John D. Caldwell	Ohio	Gen. Gr. Secy.
Joseph W. Healy	Minn.	Acting G. G. Chaplain
John McClellan	Mass.	G. G. C. H.
William Hacker	Ind.	G. G. R. A. C.
Joseph M. Stuart	O.	Acting G. G. Guard

Prayer by Rev. Grand Chaplain.

Credentials

Seventeen State Grand Chapters, and one Chapter immediately Subordinate, presented Credentials by their Representatives, which were referred to Committee on Credentials:

Comps. A. T. C. Pierson of Minn.;
George Frank Gouley of Mo.;
William M. Cunningham of O.

Who reported as follows:

Genl. Grand Officers

Companion	Office
John L. Lewis	D. G. G. H. P.
Ira A. W. Buck	G. G. K.
John McClellan	G. G. C. H.
William Hacker	G. G. R. A. C.
John D. Caldwell	Gen. Gr. Secy.

Reader page 78 · Triennial credentials: Connecticut through Maine

Report of Committee on Credentials — continued

Connecticut

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	Luke A. Lockwood
Dep. G. H. P.	James L. Gould
G. K.	Asa Smith, proxy for—
G. S.	Benjamin Beecher, proxy for—

California

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	Charles Marsh, proxy for—
D. G. H. P.	Charles Marsh, proxy for—
G. K.	Charles Marsh, proxy for—
G. S.	Charles Marsh, proxy for—

Arkansas

Office	Representative
D. G. H. P.	G. McGowan, proxy for—

Indiana

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	Thomas Pattison
D. G. H. P.	Thomas Newby
G. K.	Harvey G. Hazelrigg
G. S.	B. J. Chestnutwood

Illinois

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	Harman G. Reynolds, proxy for—
G. K.	Orlin H. Miner

Maine

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	Andrew J. Fuller, proxy for—
G. S.	Moses Dodge

Reader page 79 · Triennial credentials: Michigan through New Jersey

Report of Committee on Credentials — continued

Michigan

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	E. Sprague
Dep. G. H. P.	A. B. Cudworth
G. K.	G. B. Noble, proxy for—
G. S.	John P. Fisk

Massachusetts

Office	Representative
D. G. H. P.	Caleb Rand
G. S.	Luther L. Tarbell, proxy for—

Maryland & D. C.

Office	Representative
G. S.	W. J. Parkhurst

Missouri

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	Anthony O’Sullivan
D. G. H. P.	Anthony O’Sullivan
G. K.	Geo. Frank Gouley
G. S.	James H. Aglar

New York

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	James M. Austin, proxy for—
D. G. H. P.	Seymour H. Stone
G. K.	Rees J. Williams
G. S.	Joseph B. Chaffee

New Jersey

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	John Sheville, proxy for—
G. K.	John W. Timms, proxy for—
G. S.	Samuel Stevens, proxy for—

Reader page 80 · Triennial credentials concluded: Ohio through Kansas

Credentials — continued

Ohio

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	George Rex
D. G. H. P.	Charles C. Kiefer
G. K.	[No name entered]
G. S.	William M. Cunningham, proxy for—

Wisconsin

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	Melvin L. Young
D. G. H. P.	Henry L. Palmer, proxy for—
G. K.	William L. Kennett
G. S.	A. M. Blair

Louisiana

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	John Q. A. Fellows, proxy for—

Minnesota

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	Geo. W. Prescott
G. K.	A. T. C. Pierson, proxy for—
G. S.	B. H. Langley, proxy for—

Tennessee

Office	Representative
G. H. P.	Charles A. Fuller, proxy for—
G. K.	John Ainslie, proxy for—
G. S.	Charles A. Fuller, proxy for—

Kansas — Washington Ch. No. 1, Atchison

Office	Representative
H. P.	Jacob Saqui

Reader page 81 · Visitors and triennial standing committees

Visitors

It was ordered that all regular Royal Arch Masons in good standing, on application, be admitted as Visitors.

Comps. Benj. B. French, P. Gr. M. Gr. Enc. U. S.;
William B. Hubbard, P. Gr. M. Gr. Enc. U. S.;
Wm. E. Sanford, Past G. H. P. of Conn.;
C. E. Wintersmith, Past Gr. M. of Ky.;
were in attendance as Visitors.

Standing Committees

The following Standing Committees were appointed:

Finance: Comps. Dodge, Lockwood, Young, Stone & Marsh.

Foreign Correspondence: Comps. Timms, Rex & Hacker.

Masonic Jurisprudence: Comps. Fellows, Palmer, O’Sullivan, Miner & Pierson.

Grievances: Comps. Sheville, Hazelrigg, A. J. Fuller, Kiefer & Kennett.

Doings of Grand Officers: Comps. Sprague, Gould & Parkhurst.

Charters & Dispensations: Comps. Rand, McGowan, Williams, Marsh & Ainslie.

Reader page 82 · Reports; St. Louis in 1868; Union and Royal Arch welcome

Official Communications

Comp. Lewis, R. E. Dep. Gen. G. H. P., submitted in writing & read Report of his official action and Recommendations.

Comp. Ira A. W. Buck, R. E. Gen. Gr. King, submitted in writing & read Report of his official acts—with Recommendations.

Comp. John D. Caldwell, R. E. Genl. Grand Secy., submitted Report and Financial Statement.

Which were respectively referred.

Time and Place of Next Meeting Designated

On motion of Comp. Anthony O'Sullivan of Mo., the time and place of holding the next Triennial Meeting of this Gen. Gr. Chapter was fixed, viz.: At 9 o'clock A. M. on the third Tuesday of September, 1868, in the City of St. Louis, Mo.

Union — Royal Arch Welcome

Comp. Egan, of Illinois, presented preamble & resolutions, as follows:

Whereas, Several Grand Chapters within this jurisdiction have failed to hold their regular Convocations, as provided by their respective Constitutions, and the Constitution of this General Grand Chapter, thereby incurring legal disabilities. Therefore

Resolved, That all Grand Chapters which have failed to meet in consequence of the recent war, are declared to be in good standing in this body, and entitled to continue their relation with it.

Resolved, That all the Grand Chapters in the United States of America, and in any Territory or District thereof, are hereby most cordially and fraternally invited to unite with this Genl. Grand Body as constituent members, without reference to past differences of any character, & are hereby most sincerely assured that they shall receive a fraternal hearty and Royal Arch Welcome.

Which were unanimously adopted.

Reader page 83 · Memorial pages ordered for deceased officers

In Memoriam

Comp. Gouley, of Mo., presented the following:

Resolved, That the Genl. Grand Secretary be and is hereby directed to set apart sufficient number of pages in the (printed) proceedings of this Genl. Grand Chapter, in memory of the virtues of the officers of this G. G. Body who have departed this life during the past six years.

Which was adopted.

Reader page 84 · Officers elected for 1865–1868; official acts reviewed

Election of Officers, 1865–1868

The Triennial Election of Officers by ballot was then proceeded with, and resulted in choice of the following named Companions:

Companion	Address	Office
John L. Lewis, Jr.	Penn Yan, N. Y.	Gen. G. H. P.
Ira A. W. Buck	Aurora, Ill.	Dep. G. G. H. P.
Azariah T. C. Pierson	St. Paul, Minn.	G. G. K.
John Q. A. Fellows	N. Orleans, La.	G. G. S.
John McClellan	Boston, Mass.	G. G. Tr.

Companion	Address	Office
John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati, O.	G. Gr. Sec.
William Hacker	Shelbyville, Ind.	G. G. Capt. H.
James L. Gould	Bridgeport, Ct.	G. G. R. A. Capt.

Report of Committee on Doings of Grand Officers

Comp. Parkhurst reported from a Standing Com., as follows:

The Committee on the Doings of Grand Officers beg leave to report that they have examined the papers referred to them with as much care as the time would permit, and recommend that the official acts as reported be confirmed by the General Grand Chapter, with the exception of the granting of Dispensations to sundry Chapters without any recommendation from the nearest Chapter as required by Sec. 6, Art. 1, of the Constitution. This matter we recommend to be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence. Also, that so much of these Reports as relates to Finance, be referred to the Com. on Finance.

Which was agreed to.

Recess until 2 o’clock P. M.

Reader page 85 · Officers installed; jurisprudence report and thanks

2 o’clock P. M.

The Gen. Gr. Chapter convened.
Comp. Lewis, G. H. P. Elect, presiding.

Prayer by R. Ex. Grand Chaplain.

Installation

The Officers Elect were duly installed.
Comp. William B. Thrall, M. Ex. Past G. H. P. of Ohio, presiding.

Comp. Lewis, M. E. G. G. H. P., assumed the chair and made acknowledgment in a short address of thanks.

Report of Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence

Comp. Fellows, from a Standing Committee, submitted Report as follows:

Your Com. on Masonic Jurisprudence have had under consideration the various matters submitted to them, but owing to the shortness of the time allotted to the business of this Session, have not been able to prepare such a report as the importance of the several subjects demands; they ask therefore to be permitted to make their Report on the first day of the next Triennial Session of the Gen. Gr. Chapter.

On one point however, specially referred to them—namely, that of granting dispensations for new Chapters without the approval or recommendation of the nearest Chapter—the wording of Sec. 6, Art. 1, of the Constitution is so clear as to require no further elucidation. The recommendation of the nearest Chapter is not required, where such nearest Chapter is not within a reasonable distance—of which fact the officer so granting the Dispensation is the judge.

Thanks

Comp. O’Sullivan of Mo. presented the following:

Resolved, That the thanks of this G. G. C. be and is hereby tendered to our venerable and most estimable Comp. W. B. Thrall, P. G. H. P. of the G. Chapter of O., for the courteous, dignified, and truly Masonic manner in which he has discharged the duty of installing the officers of this G. G. Body.

Reader page 86 · Ohio hospitality; nine charters; District of Columbia proposal

Recognition of Hospitalities

Comp. Henry L. Palmer, of Wisc., presented the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of the G. G. Chapter of R. A. M. of the U. S. of A. be hereby tendered to the Companions of Ohio, for the hearty welcome, generous hospitality, and munificent Banquet, with which we have been entertained during our stay in Columbus.

Charters Ordered

Comp. Rand, from a Standing Com., submitted Report as follows:

The Com. on Charters & Dispensations have examined the papers on file with the Genl. Grand Secretary, and find the following Chapters, now under Dispensation, have made returns—paid their fees and dues, and are entitled to Charters, viz.:

Chapter	City	Location
King Cyrus	Valparaiso	S. America
Denver	Denver City	Colorado
Lewis	Carson City	Nevada
Omaha	Omaha	Nebraska
Nebraska	Plattsmouth	Nebraska
Otoe	Nebraska City	Nebraska
Leavenworth	Leavenworth	Kansas
Fort Scott	Fort Scott	Kansas
Central City	Central City	Colorado

The Report was adopted and Charters ordered.

Proposition for an Independent G. C. in D. Columbia

Comp. Parkhurst, of D. C., presented the following:

Resolved, That the R. A. Chapters in the D. C., or any three of them, are hereby authorized to establish a Gr. Chapter for the District of Columbia; and whenever such G. C. shall be organized, the jurisdiction now exercised over the Chapters taking part in the same, by the G. C. of Md., shall cease.

Ref. to Com. on Masonic Jurisprudence at next Triennial Com.

Reader page 87 · Mackey testimonial; thanks; proposed world convention

Thanks to Past G. G. H. P. Mackey

Comp. Austin, of N. Y., presented the following:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Grand Chapter are eminently due and hereby tendered, to M. E. Albert G. Mackey, for the able and distinguished manner in which he has performed the duties of Genl. Gr. H. Priest during the past six years, and that a committee be appointed to present him a suitable testimonial.

Which was unanimously adopted.

Comps. James M. Austin of N. Y., Anthony O'Sullivan of Mo., & Azariah T. C. Pierson of Minn., were subsequently appointed this Committee.

Thanks

Comp. Gouley, of Mo., presented the following:

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of this Genl. Grand Chapter be, and are hereby tendered to His Excellency the Governor of Ohio, and to [initial unclear] Ware, Superintendent of the State House, for the use of the legislative building in which to hold this important Session.

Which was adopted.

Proposed Masonic World's Convention

Comp. Pierson submitted proposition looking to action of this Gen. G. Chapter towards securing a World's Masonic Convention.

On motion of Comp. Buck, R. E. Dep. G. G. H. P., the proposition was laid on the table.

Finance — Appropriation

Comp. Lockwood, from a Standing Committee, submitted Report as follows:

Reader page 88 · Financial report; funds in Memphis; Austin's proposed amendment

Your Committee find very little available material for a report of the financial condition of this Gen. Gr. Body, as the books and papers of Comp. James Penn, Gen. Grand Treasurer in 1859, are not accessible at this time. From the best information they can obtain, they believe that the sum remaining in the hands of G. G. Treasurer is over $5,000; but that it was deposited in the Planters' Bank of Memphis, Tenn., which is now insolvent, and they recommend the matter to be referred to the first four General Grand Officers of this body to take such steps for its recovery as may seem to them best.

The Committee have examined the Report and accompanying vouchers of the Genl. Grand Secretary, and find that he has received since his appointment, for seven Dispensations $630, and for dues of six Subordinate Chapters $410, total $1,040, for which he holds the receipt of Comp. McClellan, Gen. Gr. Treasurer.

Your Committee recommend that a draft of $58.50 be made in favor of the Genl. Gr. Secy., for disbursements as per vouchers furnished your Committee. They also recommend that the first four officers of this G. G. Body be authorized to make out and audit the Pay-roll of the officers at this Triennial Session.

Proposed Amendments

Comp. Austin of New York gave notice that at Session in 1868 he would call up, as further business, to amend the Constitution by striking out all of Section two, Art. 1, and insert as follows:

> Sec. 2. The General Grand Chapter shall have and maintain jurisdiction over all State Grand Chapters, and over all Chapters in those States, Districts, Republics or Territories which

recognize this jurisdiction, and where there is no Grand Chapter regularly established agreeably to the provisions of this Constitution; & shall have authority to suspend the proceedings of such State Grand Chapters, and such Chapters in States where there are no Grand Chapters as may knowingly violate any of the provisions of this Constitution;

Reader page 89 · Proposed amendments deferred or rejected; Stone's proposal

—to settle all difficulties which may arise, and to give such advice and instruction as may seem most conducive to their peace, and to the advancement of the great cause of benevolence and virtue.

Comp. Pierson presented the following:

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed by the G. G. H. P., to report at the next Triennial Convocation, any amendments to the Constitution of this G. G. Body that may be necessary to gather under our banners all the Grand Royal Arch Chapters of the United States.

Which on motion of Comp. Reynolds was laid on the table.

Further Amendments Postponed

Comp. Fellows called up matters of proposed amendments of the Constitution—Proc. 1859, p. 33—which were postponed Sept. 7, 1865, for consideration at this Triennial Meeting.

On his motion the consideration of the same was further postponed.

Amendments Proposed

The two amendments submitted in 1859—p. 33—by Comp. Buist, as to vote of Grand Officers, was taken up.

On consideration and vote thereon they were disagreed to.

Amendment for Consideration in 1868

Comp. Seymour H. Stone of N. Y. submitted proposition of Amendment of Constitution, by striking out the fourth clause of Sec. 2, Art. 1—as to the General Grand Chapter—which is as follows:

"It shall have no power of discipline, admonition, censure or instruction over the Grand Chapters, nor any legislative powers whatever, not hereby specially granted; nor shall entertain any complaint against a Grand Chapter or individual Mason in that jurisdiction or elsewhere; but it may, upon proper reference to it of any matter of controversy between any two or more Grand Chapters, and even where the question is not one of Masonic law, custom or usage (both or all such—

Reader page 90 · Proceedings ordered printed; 1865 triennial session closes

—Grand Chapters consenting to such reference) act as final arbiter between them and settle such controversy."

Which lays over under the rule.

Proceedings to be Printed & Distributed

On motion of Comp. Fellows, the Genl. Grand Secretary was authorized to have the proceedings of this and last Session printed and distributed, and to draw on the General Grand Treasurer to pay for the same.

Comp. Wintersmith of Ky. addressed the G. G. Chapter, adverting to the importance of Masonic influence to renew the bonds of brotherhood between the late belligerent sections of the Union.

The business of the General Grand Chapter having been completed, the General Grand Secretary read the minutes of proceedings which were approved and signed thereon.

On motion of Comp. H. L. Palmer, the General Grand Chapter proceeded to close, which was done in Ample Form.

Attest:
John D. Caldwell,
Genl. Grand Secy.

Reader page 91 · Blank manuscript page 106

Editorial note: *This scan contains a ruled blank page, numbered 106, with no proceedings to transcribe.*

Reader page 92 · Mackey's 1865 communication: wartime suspension of meetings

Copy of Communication of Genl. Grand High Priest Comp. Albert G. Mackey

See page 86.

To the Officers & Members of the General Grand Chapter of the U. S.

Excellent Companions,

When, in September, 1859, the Genl. Gr. Chapter closed its labors at Chicago, a resolution had been adopted that the next Triennial Convocation should be holden at the City of Memphis. Before the appointed period of this reunion had arrived, our unhappy Country found itself involved in a frightful war, the consequence of the most stupendous rebellion that ever in any age or Country has been devised. All communication between the northern and southern portions of our common Country were suspended by the intervention of lines of hostile armies. Memphis was situated within the limits of what was then an insurgent State, and all access to the intended place of meeting was prohibited to those Companions who resided in the loyal portion of the Union.

Seeing, therefore, the impossibility of convening the members of the General Grand Chapter at Memphis, or any other place on either side of the Military Cordon so that the representatives of both the northern and southern jurisdictions could be present, I conceived that I was but exercising the legitimate authority intrusted to me by the Constitution in postponing the Meeting of the Genl. Gr. Chapter until the time when the mad passions of men being allayed, Peace and Union should once more be restored. I accordingly issued an edict to that effect, and I have since been gratified in learning that the course pursued by me has met with the general approbation of the Fraternity.

As soon as the rebellion was subdued, and I was permitted once more to mingle with my brethren of the rest of the Union, from whom I had been isolated for four long and weary years, I took the necessary measures for summoning a Convocation of the G. G. Chapter at as early a period as was practicable.

Editorial note: *"See page 86" is the manuscript's own cross-reference to the earlier notice of this communication (reader page 71).*

Reader page 93 · Mackey explains his absence and government appointment

And as the Grand Encampment of the U. S. was to meet at Columbus, O., on the first Tuesday in September in the present year, I deemed that a suitable time for calling together the members of our own body, many of whom would necessarily be members of the Grand Encampment. I accordingly issued an edict convening the Genl. Gr. Chapter at the City of Columbus, on the 7th day of Sept., 1865. It is in obedience to this summons that the present Convocation has been assembled.

That I am not present myself, to greet you with that cordial grasp of fraternal affection which has so long been withheld, and to which I have for years been looking with fond anticipation, with almost wearied hope, is to be attributed to unexpected circumstances, which it was beyond my power to control, and the details of which I trust will exonerate me from any charge of neglect of duty, or any want of grateful appreciation of the kindness to which I am indebted for the exalted position which I occupy as your presiding officer. On the same kindness must I throw myself for an acceptance of my apology for involuntary absence.

As soon as I could enter into official communication with Comp. John D. Caldwell, the acting General Grand Secretary, whose appointment to that office I with pleasure confirmed, I determined to summon the triennial Convocation, as I have already stated. At that time I was not overwhelmed with any other business, and looked forward with emotions of which you may readily conjecture to a reunion with my old friends and brethren, whom I had not seen for years, and to many others whose names were known to me but whose reputations only had reached me in my isolation.

But shortly afterward I received from the Government—to which I had always paid allegiance, even in the midst of treason—an important and highly responsible position (that of Collector of Customs) at the Port of Charleston. On arriving home and taking possession of the honorable post assigned me, I found everything in such a state of confusion, Civil order not yet established—the very building—

Reader page 94 · Mackey’s duties at Charleston; official record

—which I should have occupied so dilapidated by a bombardment as to be uninhabitable—the archives scattered, and everything in such a condition as to require all my personal superintendence to reorganize the office, and to inaugurate a regularity in the discharge of its duties. Two months have not yet elapsed since I took possession. Many of the officers of other departments, with whom I am to act in concert, have not yet begun to discharge the functions of their offices. Hence a heavy responsibility has been thrown upon me, and I feel that the only way in which I can meet and discharge that responsibility is to remain at my post and aid in the re-establishment of law and order.

To leave Charleston at this time would subject me to great inconvenience, and to the chance of pecuniary loss. These I would willingly incur for the sake of performing my duty as your presiding officer, but it would also involve a dereliction of my duty as an agent of the Government, and a neglect of that charge with which I have been intrusted, and this I have no right to do. My own convenience I do not look at. My pleasure would be to be with you—but I look at the necessity of a faithful discharge of my public duty, and this imperatively requires me to remain where I am, at my post until my office is thoroughly and completely organized.

It is for these reasons, Excellent Companions, that I exercise this act of self denial, and punish myself by remaining away from you when every feeling of my heart prompts me to hasten to you to join in your deliberations, and to partake of all those courtesies and kindnesses which I know this

Meeting will bring forth. I trust you will receive and appreciate these excuses. If you do not, you will but add to my own regrets the additional punishment of your disapprobation.

The record of my official acts must necessarily be brief. More than two thirds of the period during which I had the honor of filling the station to which I was called in 1859, have been passed in the insurgent States,

Reader page 95 · South Carolina allegiance; Connecticut visit; Secretary Risk’s papers

—entirely cut off from all communication by correspondence or personal interview with the officers of the General Grand Chapter or the State Grand Chapters. With the Grand Chapter of South Carolina alone have I had communication. That body, I am proud to say, has not withdrawn her allegiance from her governing head, and during the whole of the rebellion, by a resolution adopted in 1861, the oath of office and of initiation have included that of allegiance to the General Grand Chapter. An attempt was made in that year to sever the connection between the two bodies, and to declare the independence of the Grand Chapter. I had the honor of presiding and appointed an intelligent committee, whose unfavorable report on the motion for secession was unanimously adopted.

In May, 1865, I had the pleasure of visiting the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, and the courtesy and kindness with which I was received, for which I take this public opportunity of expressing my grateful thanks, only served to show me how much of delightful intercourse I had been deprived of by the cruel despotism of war. Confined within military lines, I have not been able to visit any other State Grand Chapters which it was my intention to have visited when I was first elected. High as has been my official position, I have but “drawn a sceptre in my gripe.”

In 1862, Comp. Samuel G. Risk, who had been elected General Grand Secy., died in Louisiana. His books and papers were taken possession of by his friend and I believe executor Comp. J. Q. A. Fellows, Gr. Master of Louisiana. Among these papers were of course all the documents appertaining to the office of the G. G. Secretary. Of these facts I was made aware by a communication from Comp. Fellows, but in the unsettled state of the Country, and the confusion of all express & mail arrangements, I deemed it proper that he should remain for a time the custodian of those papers, and the subsequent surrender of New Orleans (the residence of Comp. Fellows) to the Union forces cut off all further communication. Comp. Fellows will, I understand, be present at this Meeting, and doubtless will make the necessary arrangements for the surrender of the property of the General Grand Chapter now in his possession.

Reader page 96 · Caldwell appointed; Penn’s bond; 1860 work conference

The office of General Grand Secretary becoming vacant by the death of Comp. Risk, the Deputy Grand High Priest appointed Comp. John D. Caldwell of Cincinnati, O., the acting Grand Secretary. The impossibility of my communicating with the Craft in the loyal States so as to make the appointment myself, rendered it necessary and proper for the exercise by the Deputy of a prerogative of appointment which under other circumstances would have been irregular. The appointment at the time met with my hearty concurrence, and as soon as by the restoration of peace I had an opportunity, I confirmed it with pleasure.

Of the General Grand Treasurer, Comp. James Penn, formerly of Memphis, I have had no intelligence since April, 1861, when I met him in New Orleans. I learn that he has removed from Memphis, but to what place I have been unable to ascertain. I hope that he will be with you at this Convocation, or if prevented by ill health—for I have been informed that he is very infirm—that he

will communicate with you by letter. I have in my possession his official bond with the penalty of $10,000, which I am ready to deliver over to my successor in office.

In May, 1860, under the provisions of a resolution of the G. G. Chapter, I assembled the General Grand Officers at the City of Washington, for the purpose of inquiring into and establishing the true and ancient Work. The Grand King & Grand Scribe were present, and our deliberations, which lasted for a week, were aided by the counsels of several distinguished members from different parts of the Country. We succeeded, I think, satisfactorily to all parties in adopting a system of work. With the exception of New Jersey, to whose Grand High Priest, Comp. Corson, and North Carolina, to whose Deputy Grand High Priest, Comp. Waterhouse, I communicated it, and South Carolina, where I personally taught it, I have had no opportunity of giving it extension. The Grand King and Grand Scribe may have been more fortunate and more successful.

Under the resolutions of the G. G. Chapter, I drew from the G. G. Treasurer the sum of $700 to meet the expenses of this Meeting. Of this sum $611.50 was expended in paying the mileage and per diem bills of the Committee on Work,

Reader page 97 · Contingent funds; memorials; Masonry during the war

—and the bills for stationery, printing and other incidental expenses of my office, leaving in my hands the sum of $88.50. This amount I am ready to pay over to the G. G. Treasurer who shall be elected at this Convocation, upon his drawing on me at sight.

Those of you, Excellent Companions, who shall be assembled on this important occasion, will undoubtedly miss the presence of some who, in past years, have been wont to mingle in our deliberations, and to enlighten us with their wisdom.

Over the tumultuous noises of war came to my ears, from time to time, the intelligence of the departure to the better land of such patriarchs of our Order as Dunlap, Gilman, Tucker, Melody; and since the restoration of Peace, even while I was anticipating the happiness of again meeting with him in fraternal converse, came the news that Comp. Hall was no more.

What could I say of these men that would not be like painting the lily? Which of you all who are now present, have not either by personal relations or by your knowledge derived from the Records of the Order, long since been familiar with the purity of their character, their enthusiastic devotion to our art, their profound acquaintance with its principles, and their practical enforcement in their own conduct of all its teachings. The memory of such men is redolent of moral sweetness, and the example of their lives should be handed down as a precious heirloom of the Fraternity. Of these we have a right to boast that they were Masons. In honoring them we honor ourselves, and the best honor we can pay to their memories, better far than “storied urn or monumental bust,” is to remember and to follow the precepts which their lives were spent in inculcating.

And now, before closing, permit me to indulge in a few remarks which the times through which we have just passed suggest to my mind.

In the fratricidal contest which for four years has deluged our Country with blood, Freemasonry, if it has not done all that it should have done, has at least done more than any other organization of men towards ameliorating the horrors and inhumanities of war. On the field, in the hospital and the prison, Masonry has been seen exerting her beneficial influences, and saving life, comforting the distressed—

Reader page 98 · Mackey urges reconciliation and the practice of brotherly love

—and lessening the evils of captivity. For what she has done in this way, we should be proud of our noble institution. Her teaching has always been, like that of her great Patron, the Evangelist, “Children, love one another.” There have been, alas for the infirmity of our humanity, too many instances in which this teaching has been, for the time, forgotten. But it has never been repudiated. There is no Mason living, who will deny that Love is the Chief Corner Stone upon which the edifice of Masonry is erected. In theory we are all right. In practice we are too often wrong.

But if the theory be true—if the doctrine be admitted—what remains for us, the Chiefs of the Order, but to insist upon the practice and to give life and energy to the doctrine.

At the first outbreak of the rebellion, attempts were made by many distinguished Masons to stem the tide of approaching war. The attempts were noble, but the advice was unheeded. Passion had closed the ears and dethroned the judgment. Yet that the attempt was made is a proud record for the men who made it, and for the institution whose principles had prompted it.

The war is now over. The storm is, it is true, abating into a gloomy calm. But although there is no longer a battle of arms, a bitter war still exists. Bitter feeling is not altogether allayed. Some men will remember the past with revengeful or unforgiving thoughts. Now then is the time for Masonry again to raise her warning voice. To say unto her children that they are of one household and of one faith, to beseech them to lay aside all bitter animosity, to remember that they have a common language and a common altar, and throwing the veil over the cruel struggles of the past, to seek in the future every opportunity of doing good to each other. Let them cultivate that spirit of forbearance and of kindness which will make men say: “Behold, how these Masons love one another!”

If Masonry is good for anything it is good for this. If it is capable of accomplishing anything it is capable of accomplishing this. If our professions are not vain words—if our obligations and charges have any weight—if our symbols and ceremonies contain any meaning, then does Masonry oblige us to the law of love, and—

Reader page 99 · Mackey’s closing appeal and benediction

—then it is our duty when hatred still lingers in the land to seek to overcome that hatred with love, and to inaugurate a new era, where every American Mason shall exhibit to his fellow citizens who are beyond our pale, the great fact that American Masons know no North, no South, no East, no West, but only one common Country—undivided and indivisible.

I have thought, Excellent Companions, that assembled as you will be, as the heads of an important branch of our Order, coming from all sections of the Country, and however differing on other subjects, united in your devotion to Masonry, you might devote some part of your Session to the preparation of a conciliatory address—embodying the views I have just expressed—if, as I hope, they shall meet your concurrence, and send it forth to the world in tones of kindly admonition and advice which shall show that with us Masons, at least, the deluge of passion has subsided, and that the olive branch of Peace has appeared above the waters.

May the Supreme Grand High Priest aid and counsel you in your deliberations, and take you all into his holy keeping.

Albert G. Mackey,
Gen. Grand High Priest.

Reader page 100 · Mackey’s and Buck’s financial statements

Financial Statement of Gen. Gr. High Priest

Genl. G. Chapter in a/c current with A. G. Mackey, G. G. H. P.

Date	Entry	Amount
1860, March 29	To amt. recd. fr. G. G. Treasurer	$700.00
Apr. 4	By rent of Parlor & incidental expenses paid [Lemry?] & Co., for Committee on Work	$106.75
Same	Mileage & p. d. to A. G. Mackey, G. G. H. P.	$115.00
Same	Mileage & p. d. to I. A. W. Buck, G. G. K.	$152.00
Same	Mileage & p. d. to G. M. Hillyer, G. G. S.	$212.75
Same	Teleg. & Postage a/c	$7.00
Same	Stationery	$5.00
Same	For engraving letter head	$12.00
	Disbursements, as written	$611.50
	Amt. due G. G. C.	$88.50

Financial Statement of Grand King

Gen. G. K. in a/c with Gen. G. Chapter — Dr.

Date	Dispensation fee	Amount
1859, Nov. 21	Omaha Chapter	$90.00
1860, Jan. 25	Keystone	$90.00
1863, Mar. 23	Central City	$90.00
1865, July 13	Nebraska	$90.00
	Total	$360.00

Amt. forw’d G. G. Sec. Risk, $180.
Amt. forw’d G. G. Sec. Caldwell, $180.
Total, $360.

I. A. W. Buck.

Editorial note: *The individual expense entries in Mackey’s account, as read, sum to $710.50; the manuscript writes $611.50 and a balance of $88.50 from $700. Those written figures are retained. The dates here read March 29 and April 4, 1860; Mackey’s narrative on reader page 96 describes the Washington meeting as in May 1860. This is the final scan supplied in Volume 2B.*

1856 Volume 2C

Read the typed text of all 100 supplied PDF scans, covering the St. Louis proceedings of September 1868 and the Baltimore proceedings of September 1871. The file retains its library title “1856 Volume 2C.” Scan numbers match the PDF reader above.

The file contains both a working copy and a fuller fair copy of the 1871 proceedings. Both are transcribed in source order; differences in votes, names, dates, and accounts are marked beside the relevant scans. The fair copy begins on scan 38 and continues into Volume 2D. Blank leaves, uncertain readings, and conflicting manuscript figures are identified.

Original source PDF · 100 source pages

Reader page 1 · Blank opening leaf

Editorial note: This scan contains a ruled blank leaf with no proceedings to transcribe.

Reader page 2 · St. Louis triennial proceedings open, September 15, 1868

A. I. 2398 — A. D. 1868.

Minutes or Abstract of Proceedings
General Grand Chapter R. A. Masons, U. S. A.

St. Louis, Missouri.
Tuesday, Sept. 15th, A. I. 2398.
3 o’clock P. M.

The General Grand Chapter U. S. A.—John L. Lewis, Jr., M. Ex. Gen. Gr. H. Priest presiding—organized at this hour in the Chapter room of Freemasons Hall.

General Grand Officers

Companion	Office
John L. Lewis, Jr.	M. Ex. G. Gr. H. P.
Ira A. W. Buck	Dep.
A. T. C. Pierson	G. G. King
John Q. A. Fellows	G. G. S.
John McClellan	G. G. Treas.
John D. Caldwell	G. G. Secy.
William Hacker	G. G. Capt. H.
James L. Gould	G. G. R. A. Capt.

Comps. John D. Caldwell of Ohio, James M. Austin of New York, Samuel M. Todd of La., were appointed Com. on Credentials.

On motion of Comp. Buck, Royal Arch Masons affirming they are members of Subordinate Chapters, were ordered to be admitted to seats as Visitors.

Reader page 3 · 1868 address referred; banquet invitation; adjournment

Partial Report was made by Comp. Caldwell from Committee on Credentials—to make further report. Agreed to.

Address of Gen. Gr. H. Priest

Comp. Lewis, G. G. H. P., submitted & read his Triennial Report, which was read, and 500 copies of same in pamphlet form was ordered to be printed for immediate use of Gen. Gr. Chapter.

The following named Companions were appointed Special Committee to report appropriate Committees to whom the topics of the address may be referred to report thereon:

Comp. Seymour H. Stone of N. Y.;
Charles A. Welch of Mass.;
H. G. Reynolds of Illinois.

The Gen. Gr. Chapter accepted invitation of Gr. Chapter of Missouri to attend a complimentary banquet at Freemasons Hall this evening.

Adjourned to 11 o’clock A. M. tomorrow.

11 o’clock A. M.
Meeting deferred on account of [misapprehension?].
[2?] o’clock P. M. Wednesday.

Editorial note: The final three lines are faint. The reason for deferral and the later hour remain uncertain. The next scan opens at 11 A. M. Wednesday the 16th.

Reader page 4 · September 16, 1868; standing committees

11 o’clock A. M., Wednesday, 16th.

The G. Gr. Chapter reconvened.
M. Ex. Gen. G. H. Priest Comp. Lewis presiding.

Devotional services were conducted at opening by Comp. R. F. Bunting of Cumberland Chapter No. 1, Nashville, Tenn.

Standing Committees

Finance: Comps. Moses Dodge of Maine; Chas. A. Welch of Mass.; Rufus E. Anderson of Mo.; H. C. Moses of S. C.; James A. Berry of Arkansas.

Foreign Correspondence: Comps. John W. Timms of N. Y.; George Rex of O.; William Hacker of Ind.

Masonic Jurisprudence: Comps. Luke E. Barber of Ark.; William J. Palmer of Wisc.; James L. Gould of Ct.; R. S. Bruns of S. C.; Orlin H. Miner of Ill.

Grievances: Comps. W. J. Hazelrigg, Indiana; John A. Harris, N. H.; Joseph P. Horner of Louisiana; Richard R. Rees of Kansas; Peleg Brown of Ala.

On Doings of G. Officers: James M. Austin of N. Y.; T. A. Thomas of Minn.; Geo. B. Edwards, N. J.

On Charters & Dispensations: John L. Yeates of Md.; D. H. Wheeler of Nebraska; Geo. B. Lee of Mich.; Heman Ely of O.; Luther Dearborn of Ill.

Reader page 5 · 1868 address topics assigned to special committees

From Select Committee on address of G. G. H. P., reported recommendation of reference of topics therein, as follows:

So much as relates to deceased Companions to a Com. of three. These Companions were appointed:

Comps. Martin Collins of Missouri;
George W. Lininger of Illinois;
Henry Chickering of Mass.

So much as relates to the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the State of Delaware to a Committee of five. These Companions were appointed:

Comps. Thomas J. Corson of N. Jersey;
George Rex of Ohio;
Alvin B. Alden of Wisconsin;
Thomas Newby of Indiana;
Isaac S. Titus of California.

So much as relates to the new Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia & Potomac R. A. Chapter of that district to a Com. of five. These Companions were appointed:

Comps. Salathiel C. Coffinbury of Michigan;
Seymour H. Stone of New York;
William Barrett of N. Hampshire;
Charles W. Stearns;
Samuel M. Todd of Louisiana.

So much as relates to renewal of relations with Grand Chapters whose connections have been severed with this G. G. Chapter to a Com. of five. These were appointed:

Comps. H. G. Reynolds of Ill.;
George C. Monroe of Mich.;
John D. Caldwell of O.;
W. Morris Smith of D. C.;
Charles E. Chichester, S. C.

So much as relates to appeals from Subordinate Chapters be referred to Com. on Grievances.

Reader page 6 · Past Master amendments proposed; September 17 session opens

So much as relates to applications for Charters & Dispensations to the Standing Committee on C. & D.

On motion of Comp. Austin the Election of officers was set down as special order immediately on proceeding to business at the morning Session of tomorrow.

Comp. Rees of Kansas submitted proposed amendment to the Constitution, which lies over:

Amend Sec. 7, 8 & 9 of Art. 1 of the Constitution of the G. Gr. Ch. by striking out wherever they occur the words “Past Master.”

Amend Sec. 3 & 5 of Article 2 by striking out wherever it occurs designating a degree, the word “Past.”

Amend Sec. 2, 3rd Art., by striking out where it occurs designating a degree the word “Past.”

Amend Sec. 5, Art. 3, by striking out as there it occurs, the words “Past Master.”

Comp. Reynolds moved that Unfinished Business be taken up, which was agreed to, and on the motion of Comp. Buck the consideration of amendments offered for consideration in 1865 was made the special order immediately after the installation of G. G. Officers.

On motion of Comp. Fellows the Gen. G. Ch. was called off until 12 o’clock tomorrow.

12 o’clock M., Sept. 17th

The General Gr. Chapter reconvened. Comp. Lewis, M. Ex. G. G. H. P., presiding.

Papers & books of records as to working of Chapters U. D. were presented, which were referred on motion of the Genl. Grand Secretary to the Committee on Charters & Dispensations.

The protest of Comp. Clayton claiming that the Grand Chapter of Delaware was not extinct was presented and referred to the Select Com. on that subject.

Editorial note: In the special-order entry, the manuscript’s “Election” is struck out and replaced with “installation.” The amendments proposed by Rees are recorded as lying over.

Reader page 7 · 1868 election; report on union of Grand Chapters

Report of Dep. Gen. Gr. H. Priest

Comp. Ira A. W. Buck submitted and read his Triennial Report, which was referred to Com. on Ch. & Disp., also to Com. on Doings of General Grand Officers.

The printed address of the Gen. Gr. H. Priest Comp. Lewis, heretofore ordered, was submitted in pamphlet form & distributed.

The bill of $25 therefor was referred to Com. on Finance and endorsed with their approval. The Gen. Gr. Chapter adopted their report.

Election of General Grand Officers

Agreeably to a special order, the Companions proceeded to the Triennial Election of General Grand Officers, which resulted in choice by ballot as follows:

Companion	State	Office
James M. Austin	New York	Gen. Gr. H. P.
Robert Stewart Bruns	S. C.	Dep.
William Hacker	Indiana	G. G. King
Martin Collins	Missouri	G. G. S.
John McClellan	Massachusetts	G. Gr. Tr.
John D. Caldwell	Ohio	G. Gr. Secy.
Isaac S. Titus	California	G. G. Capt. H.
Orlin H. Miner	Illinois	G. G. R. A. C.

The second Special Order was temporarily deferred to permit introduction of Report of Select Committee on restoring the complete union of all Grand Chapters in the U. S. in this Gen. Gr. Chapter.

Comp. Reynolds submitted Report & Resolutions to secure action of certain State organizations heretofore enrolled under this Gen. Gr. Body and the Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania, Virginia & Florida, and by report and action at next Triennial Convocation, to secure harmonious Union on a satisfactory basis.

Comp. Horner of La. moved adoption of the resolutions.

Reader page 8 · Union report recommitted and adopted; September 18 session

Comp. Webber of Connecticut, to secure an opportunity to examine the same, moved to lay the subject on the table. Lost.

Comp. Fellows of La. moved to adopt the Report & Resolutions.

A division of the question was called for.

Comp. Rex of Ohio moved to recommit the Report, with instruction to embody in the resolutions an enunciation of the principle that State Grand Chapters once under this jurisdiction cannot on their own motion alone, and without sanction of the Genl. Gr. Chapter, withdraw their allegiance to the same.

This motion of Comp. Rex was agreed to & the Report & Resolutions were recommitted with instructions.

Comps. Martin Collins of Missouri;
Samuel M. Todd of Louisiana;
Moses Dodge of Maine;
were appointed Select Committee to designate by Report the time and place of next Triennial Convocation.

The Special Order being consideration of the proposed Constitutional amendments was called up, and again, on motion of Comp. Rex, made the Special Order after opening Session of tomorrow.

On motion of Comp. Collins adjourned until 12 o’clock A. M. tomorrow.

12 o’clock M., Friday, 18th Sept.

The Gen. Gr. Chapter resumed business. Comp. Fellows in the Chair.

Comp. Reynolds, from Committee to whom their report had been recommitted with instructions, submitted Report recommending resolutions as follows:

> Resolved, that no State Grand Chapter organized by the authority of this M. Ex. General Grand Chapter, or which at any time has become a constituent member of this body, can lawfully sever its connection with this Genl. R. A. Chapter U. S. A. without its consent, [remaining clause unclear].
>
> That the M. E. G. G. H. P. and Genl. G. S. of this M. Ex. Gen. Gr. Chapter open correspondence with the Gr. Chapters of Vermont, R. Island, N. Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Texas, Kentucky, Iowa & Indiana, with the view to such acts on their part as shall restore harmonious & fraternal relations as constituent members of this body.
>
> And with the Gr. Chapters of Pennsylvania, Virginia & Florida to request them to send delegates to the next Triennial Convocation of this M. Ex. G. G. Body, [unclear] to negotiate terms of union, if practicable, with this M. Ex. Genl. Gr. Chapter.

Which were unanimously adopted.

Editorial note: The resolutions at the foot of this scan are faint, with portions obscured near the binding. Unreadable clauses are marked rather than supplied. The adjournment line writes “12 o’clock A. M.”; the following heading writes noon (“M.”).

Reader page 9 · Union resolution restated; constitutional votes; District of Columbia report

12 o’clock A. M., Friday, 18th.

The General Grand Chapter reconvened. Comp. Fellows in the Chair.

Editorial note: A crowded added entry at the top directs correspondence with the Grand Chapters of Vermont, R. I., N. C., Iowa, Ky., Ala., Texas and Georgia to secure reunion, and invitations to Pennsylvania, Virginia and Florida to send delegates to the next triennial convocation to confer on terms of union. Parts of the added wording remain unclear.

Comp. Reynolds from Special Committee reported Resolution as follows:

> Resolved, That no State Grand Chapter organized by the authority of this General Grand Body, or which at any time since its organization became a constituent member of it, can lawfully sever its connection with the Genl. Grand Chapter U. S. A. without its consent, but the allegiance of said Gr. Chapter is inalienable & [unclear].

Which were adopted unanimously.

Comp. Fellows had leave of absence.

The Special Order was taken up, and the proposed amendment (page 33, 1865) offered in 1865 by Comp. James M. Austin was considered.

Made a motion to lay on the table.

The vote was taken as follows:

Those voting Aye

Officer or jurisdiction	Votes
G. G. Treasurer	1
G. G. K.	1
G. G. R. A. C.	1
Arkansas	4
Conn.	4
Illinois	3
Indiana	4
Md.	4
Mich.	4
Mass.	4
Minn.	4
Nebraska	1
N. H.	4
S. C.	4
Tenn.	4
Wisc.	4
Total	51

Those voting Nay

Officer or jurisdiction	Votes
G. G. H. P. Lewis	1
Pierson	1
Caldwell	1
Ill.	1
Kansas	4
Louisiana	4
Maine	4
Missouri	4
Nebraska	3
N. J.	4
N. York	4
Ohio	4
Total	35

The motion to lay on the table was declared adopted.

The proposed amendment offered in 1865 (p. 34) by Comp. Stone was taken up, and on motion indefinitely postponed.

Comp. Coffinbury from the Select Committee to whom was referred that portion of the address of the Genl. G. H. P. as relates to the Grand Chapters of Md. & the Dist. of C., reported on his part & that of Comps. Todd & Barrett, that it is the opinion of your Committee that this G. G. Body under its powers as circumscribed by the—

Editorial note: The union resolution restates the entry on reader page 8, with numerous alterations and insertions. Crossed-out wording in the Stone entry is replaced by “indefinitely postponed.”

Reader page 10 · District of Columbia: majority and minority reports

—provisions of the Constitution, has no authority to interfere with the affairs of the Grand Chapter of Md. and her Subordinates; that this whole matter is within the province of that Grand Chapter, and that this G. G. Body can not exercise jurisdiction in the premises. Your Committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the whole subject matter of the Grand Chapter of Md. & D. C. and the Gr. Ch. of D. C. be, and is hereby dismissed.

Comp. Stone for himself and Comp. Charles W. Stearns, a minority of the same Committee, reported that in their opinion the Gr. Chapter of Md. & D. C., by resolution duly adopted and published with their proceedings, relinquished jurisdiction over Chapters in the D. C., and a Grand Chapter has been regularly formed from three Chapters, and being here present by their first four Grand Officers, and asking recognition by this G. G. Body, therefore

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of D. C. is hereby recognized as a regular Grand Chapter, and its officers entitled to seats in this Gen. Gr. Chapter.

Resolved, That Potomac Chapter, within the territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of the D. C., not having united in the formation of said Gr. Chapter, is now under the jurisdiction of this Gen. Gr. Chapter, but without territorial jurisdiction over candidates for the Capitular degrees.

Resolved, That all acts of censure, suspension or expulsion growing out of the formation of the Gr. Chapter of the Dist. of Columbia, be declared null & void, and the Companions of the D. C. who may have affiliated with Potomac Chapter be and are hereby declared to be in good and regular standing as members of such Chapter.

The consideration was continued and was interrupted by yielding to the introduction of other business.

Reader page 11 · Finance report; Baltimore in 1871; District of Columbia debate

Comp. Dodge reported from the Com. on Finance, reported as correct the accounts of the G. G. Treasurer:

Receipts	Amount
From the G. Secretary	$1,515.10
Comp. Mackey	$88.50
Written total	$1,503.60

And after paying necessary expenses leaving balance on hand $1,498.35.

On collection yet of $5,000 due from former G. G. Treas., that two hundred & fifty dollars be appropriated to Comp. G. G. Recorder for his services—leaving to the first four Grand Officers to provide pay-roll for Grand Officers if deemed advisable.

The recommendation was agreed to & the resolution adopted.

Comp. Hazelrigg from Com. on Grievances reported recommendation that the papers in case of Helena Chapter vs. M. F. Truett—for want of time to consider them—be referred to Genl. Gr. H. P. with power to act. Which was agreed to.

Comp. Collins reported from Com. on designating place of meeting and recommended the holding of the Grand Convocation for 1871 at the City of Baltimore, Md., on the third Tuesday of September at 9 o’clock A. M., 1871.

Called off until 5 o’clock.

On re-assembling, the discussion continued on the Reports on D. C. matters.

Comp. Coffinbury moved to postpone indefinitely further consideration of the subject. Lost.

The discussion continued.

On motion of Comp. Todd, the first two Resolutions were consolidated—when on division being taken the (original) first resolution was adopted.

Comp. Bruns moved to strike out from the last line the words “but without territorial jurisdiction over candidates for the Capitular degrees.” On which was called the roll of members:

Editorial note: The entered receipts sum to $1,603.60; the manuscript writes $1,503.60. Both the entries and written total are retained. It also uses the title “G. G. Recorder” in the appropriation entry.

Reader page 12 · District of Columbia votes; St. John’s Chapter report withdrawn

Those who voted in the affirmative

Officer or jurisdiction	Votes
G. G. K.	1
Louisiana	4
Maryland	4
Mass.	1
N. H.	3
N. J.	4
S. C.	4
Tenn.	4
Total	25

Those who voted in the negative

Officer or jurisdiction	Votes
G. G. H. P.	1
G. G. Sec.	1
G. G. Tr.	1
Gr. C. H.	1
G. R. A. C.	1
Ct.	4
Ill.	4
Ind.	4
Maine	4
Mo.	4
Mass.	3
Minn.	4
N. H.	1
N. Y.	4
Ohio	4
Wisc.	4
Total	45

The motion of Comp. Bruns was lost.

The Com. on Credentials reported that the D. C. was duly represented, &c.

The question being on the (original) second resolution, the vote by Chapters was taken.

Those who voted in the affirmative

Officer or jurisdiction	Votes
G. G. H. P.	1
G. G. Sec.	1
Gr. Tr.	1
Gr. C. H.	1
Ct.	4
La.	4
Maine	4
Md.	4
Mo.	4
Mass.	4
Minn.	4
N. H.	1
N. J.	2
N. Y.	4
Tenn.	4
Wisc.	4
Total	47

The votes in the negative

Officer or jurisdiction	Votes
G. G. K.	1
D. C.	4
Ill.	4
Ind.	4
N. H.	3
N. J.	2
O.	4
S. C.	4
Total	26

The second resolution was adopted.

The third resolution of the minority Committee—to this Report Comp. Barrett had added his name (the same having been withdrawn by him from the majority Committee)—was unanimously adopted.

Comp. Cowan reported from the majority of a Committee recommendation that if the Standing Committee on Charters & Dispensations shall recommend that a Charter issue to St. John's Chapter, that such Charter be retained by the M. E. Gen. Gr. H. P. until the consent of the nearest Chapters to the establishment of said St. John's Chapter is obtained and forwarded to said officer.

The Committee withdrew the Report.

Editorial note: The G. R. A. C. entry in the affirmative roll on the second resolution is struck out; it is omitted from that transcribed roll. The written totals are 47–26.

Reader page 13 · Proceedings ordered printed; thanks; charter recommendations

Comp. Gouley presented Resolution as follows:

Resolved, That the Genl. Gr. Secretary cause to have printed, at least one thousand copies of the proceedings of this Grand Communication, and that he have authority to draw a warrant on the G. G. Treasurer to pay for the expense of said publication and for distribution of the same.

Which was adopted.

Comp. Bruns presented Resolution of thanks to Past Gen. G. H. P., and that a Committee of five be appointed to [unclear] present:

Comps. R. S. Bruns;
B. B. French;
Geo. Rex;
Tho. J. Corson;
John McClellan.

See p. 24, beyond.

Comp. J. L. Lewis presented Resolution as follows:

Resolved, That the cordial and most grateful thanks of this Gen. Gr. Chapter be and are hereby gratefully tendered to the Mayor and Common Council of the City of St. Louis, to its citizens generally, and to the Masonic Fraternity of the State of Missouri, for their generous & unbounded hospitality, for their unwearied attention to our comfort and convenience during the present Convocation, and for their courtesy and good will extended to us on every occasion; and that the remembrance of their kindness will ever live in our memories.

Which was adopted unanimously on a rising vote.

On motion of Comp. Hazelrigg the Genl. Gr. Secy. was directed to have this resolution engrossed and with Seal attached have it communicated to the Hon. the Mayor of St. Louis.

Comp. Hacker from a Standing Committee reported recommendation that a Charter issue to Chapter U. D. Santa Fe, when their Companions comply with Sec. 4, Art. 3 of the Constitution of the Gen. Gr. Chapter.

Editorial note: A marginal insertion before the charter report says that Corson's report was offered at this stage. The "p. 24" reference is the manuscript's own cross-reference.

Reader page 14 · Western charters; Delaware Grand Chapter report begins

Also, on same conditions a Charter to Chapter U. D., Virginia City, Nevada.

Also, a Charter to Companions at Austin, Nevada, upon their paying balance of fee required, and complying with Sec. 4, Art. 3 of the Constitution of this G. G. Chapter; a Charter having been recommended by the G. G. H. P. in his address to this body.

Also, a Charter to Idaho Chapter U. D., Idaho Territory, and the Companions exalted by said Chapter, while working under the Dispensation from the Gr. Chapter of Oregon, be regularly healed, and placed upon good Masonic standing.

Also, a Charter to Companions at Helena, Montana Territory, upon compliance by them with the Constitution of the G. G. Chapter & the payment of the necessary fee and dues.

Also, a Charter be granted to St. John's Chapter at Wilmington, Delaware.

Also, that the papers relating to a Dispensation at Salt Lake City be referred to Gen. Gr. H. P. for his action. Agreed to.

Matters as to State of Delaware Grand Chapter

Comp. Corson submitted the following Report, which was adopted:

The Select Committee to which was referred so much of the address of the M. E. Gen. G. H. P. as relates to the condition of Capitular Masonry in the State of Delaware, and the granting of a Dispensation to form a new Chapter at Wilmington in said State, to be named St. John's Chapter, report that there was not at the time of the issuing of said Dispensation, and is not now, a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in said State.

The Committee also find that at the time said Dispensation was granted to St. John's Chapter by the G. G. H. P. there were three Chapters in said State, one of which was located at Georgetown, one at [unclear] and the other at Milford, the consent of one of which should have been—

Reader page 15 · Delaware recommendations; installation; proposed work approval tabled

—obtained to the establishment of said St. John's Chapter.

The Committee therefore recommend that if the Com. on Ch. & D. shall recommend that a Charter issue to said St. John's Chapter, that such Charter be retained by the M. E. Grand High Priest until the consent of one of said Chapters is obtained to the establishment of said St. John's Chapter, and forwarded to said G. G. Officer.

(Signed) George Rex;
Alvin B. Alden;
Thomas Newby.

Installation of Genl. Gr. Officers

The installation of Genl. Gr. Officers was proceeded with, and the officers elect present were installed with due form & ceremony. Comp. John L. Lewis, M. E. Past G. G. H. P., presiding.

Comp. Titus not being in attendance, it was moved that any Past or Present Grand H. P. or Past Genl. G. H. P. may install Comp. Titus, and send certificate to Gen. Gr. Secy. Agreed to.

Comp. Thomas of Tennessee presented the following:

Resolved, That the G. G. H. P. be, and he is hereby requested to examine into the alleged Grand Chapter of Delaware, and if found to be a legal Grand Chapter, he is hereby instructed to have the same enrolled under this jurisdiction, as requested by Companions of Delaware.

Which was adopted.

Comp. Dearborn of Minnesota offered Resolution as follows:

Resolved, That the work for the Chapter degrees prepared by the first four officers of the G. G. Chapter of the U. S., under a resolution of this Grand Body at its Triennial Session held in the City of Chicago in 1859, is hereby approved and recommended to the Subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction for their adoption.

Which was laid on the table.

Reader page 16 · Past Grand High Priests amendment; charter delivery; thanks to Lewis

Comp. Cowan offered the following Amendment:

Add to Sec. 3, Art. 1, the words “and all Past Grand High Priests” between the words “officers” and “of every” in line sixth of said Article.

Which lies over under the rule.

Comp. Gouley presented the following:

Resolved, That the Genl. Gr. Secretary cause to have printed at least one thousand copies of the proceedings of this Grand Communication, and that he have authority to draw warrants on the G. G. Treasurer to pay the expenses thereof, and for distribution of the same.

Comp. Gouley was appointed Special Com. on Ch. & Disp. to present Charters for Virginia City Chapter, Montana, and to St. John Chapter at Smyrna, [Turkey?]. Agreed to.

Comp. Bruns of S. C. presented the following:

Whereas, the recognition of merit in all properly constituted societies, is the just reward of all honorable performance and of all adequate service in the paths of duty, encouraging fresh performance, and holding forth the hope of recognition and reward to the future incumbent of office, and

Whereas, the whole course of the official career of our M. E. Gen. G. H. P., Comp. John L. Lewis, has been such as to win the approbation of the Gen. G. Chapter, and the several Grand Chapters of the States—distinguished as it has been by a high sense of the dignity, utility and objects of Capitular Masonry, and by a considerate regard for the rights & feelings of the Companions as well as to the laws & authority of the G. G. Ch. U. S.

Be it therefore Resolved, That the thanks of the Companions be tendered to our M. E. Gr. H. P., Comp. John L. Lewis, for his admirable administration of office; his amenity of deportment, the uniform—

Editorial note: Following Cowan’s proposed addition, the manuscript has an abandoned, struck-out extension naming other past officers; it is not included in the operative proposal. The printing resolution repeats the entry on reader page 13.

Reader page 17 · Thanks to Lewis completed; contingent loan; 1868 session closes

—justice of his decisions, and his paramount sense of the equal dignity and duties of his high station in our Most Sacred Order.

And be it further Resolved, That a Committee of five Companions be appointed the more fully to declare our fraternal sentiments in relation to our M. Ex. Gen. Gr. H. P. Which were adopted.

Comps. R. S. Bruns of S. C.;
B. B. French of D. C.;

George Rex of Ohio;
Thomas J. Corson of N. J.;
John McClellan of Mass.;
were appointed said Committee.

On motion of Comp. Rex the Genl. G. H. P. was authorized to negotiate a loan at reasonable rate to provide a contingent fund to meet Pay-roll and expenses of the office of Genl. Gr. Secy., and other demands, and execute requisite obligations therefor.

Editorial note: A faint added entry mentions a companion being added to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations, St. John's R. A. Chapter at Smyrna, and Virginia City Chapter, Virginia City, Montana. The remaining wording is unreadable.

The minutes were read and approved.

No business further offering, the M. E. G. G. H. P. proceeded to close this Grand Communication, which was done with solemn ceremonies—to meet in next Triennial Convocation at 9 o'clock A. M., 3rd Tuesday of Sept., 1871, at Baltimore, Md.

Reader page 18 · Addenda: credentials and representatives, Arkansas through Illinois

Addenda — Report of Committee on Credentials

The undersigned Committee on Credentials have had presented to them the Credentials for the representation of Grand Chapters in the State of Delaware and in the District of Columbia, and respectfully refer them to your Body for your action.

We report the following named Companions as representatives of Grand Chapters in this Grand Chapter, viz.:

John D. Caldwell;
Samuel M. Todd;
James M. Austin.

Arkansas

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
Luke E. Barber	Little Rock	G. H. P.
James A. Henry	Proxy	Dep.
J. H. Van Hoose	Fayetteville; proxy	Gr. Sec.

California

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
Isaac S. Titus	Placerville; & proxy for other officers	G. H. P.

Connecticut

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
James L. Gould	Bridgeport	G. H. P.
William R. Higby		Dep.
Charles W. Stearns	Middletown	G. K.
Amos S. Treat		Gr. Sec.

District of Columbia — after action of Sept. 18th

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
Benjamin B. French	Washington City; proxy	G. H. P.
Joseph Daniels	Washington City	Dep.
George W. Hancock	Washington City	G. K.
William Middleton	Washington City	G. S.

Illinois

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
George W. Lininger		G. H. P.
Orlin H. Miner	Springfield; proxy	Dep.
Harmon G. Reynolds	Proxy	G. K.
James R. Gorin		G. S.

Reader page 19 · Representatives: Indiana through Massachusetts

Indiana

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
Thomas Newby	Cambridge City	G. H. P.
Thomas Pattison	Aurora	Dep.
Jeremiah C. Howe	Louisville; proxy	G. K.
Harvey G. Hazelrigg	Lebanon	Gr. Sec.

Kansas

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
Richard R. Rees	Leavenworth	G. H. P.
O. A. Bassett		Dep.
E. A. Smith		G. K.
John M. Price		G. S.

Louisiana

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
Samuel M. Todd	N. Orleans	G. H. P.
Joseph P. Horner	Proxy	Dep.
R. G. Sterling		G. K.
Hugh Breen		Gr. Sec.

Maine

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
Moses Dodge	Portland; & proxy for other officers	G. H. P.

Maryland & D. C.

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
John L. Yeates	Baltimore	G. H. P.
W. Morris Smith	Washington City	Dep.
George A. Hanson	Frederick	G. K.
James Gozzler	Washington City	Gr. Sec.

Massachusetts

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
Charles A. Welch	Boston; proxy	G. H. P.
Medor H. Simmons	Boston; proxy	Dep.
Daniel W. Lawrence	Boston; proxy	G. K.
Henry Chickering	Pittsfield; proxy	Gr. Sec.

Reader page 20 · Representatives: Michigan through New Hampshire

Michigan

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
George C. Monroe	& proxy G. K.	G. H. P.
W. L. Webber		Dep.
Salathiel C. Coffinbury	Constantine; proxy	Gr. Sec.

Minnesota

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
Luther Dearborn	Fairbault	G. H. P.
G. A. Camp	Minneapolis; proxy	Dep.
William L. Combs	St. Paul; proxy	G. K.
Samuel Willey	Proxy	G. S.

Mississippi

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
George D. Lee	Oxford; & proxy for other officers	G. K.

Missouri

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
Martin Collins	St. Louis	G. H. P.
Rufus E. Anderson	Palmyra	Dep.
James E. Drake		G. K.
George Frank Gouley	St. Louis; proxy	Gr. Sec.

Nebraska

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
D. H. Wheeler	Plattsmouth	G. H. P.
E. A. Alley	Omaha	Dep.
O. H. Irish	Nebraska City	G. K.
Robert W. Furnas	Brownsville	Gr. Sec.

New Hampshire

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
William Barrett	Nashua; proxy	G. H. P.
Daniel R. Marshall		Dep.
John A. Harris	Concord	G. K.
Edward Gustine		G. S.

Editorial note: In the Michigan entry, a separate G. K. label is crossed out; “& proxy G. K.” remains beside Monroe’s name.

Reader page 21 · Representatives: New Jersey through Tennessee

New Jersey

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
George B. Edwards	Jersey City; & proxy for King	G. H. P.
William H. Goodwin		Dep.
Thomas J. Corson	Trenton; proxy	G. S.

New York

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
Seymour H. Stone	Syracuse	G. H. P.
James M. Austin	N. York; proxy	Dep.
Rees G. Williams	Utica	G. K.
Joseph B. Chaffee	Binghamton	G. S.

Ohio

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
George Rex	Wooster	G. H. P.
Charles C. Keefer	Dayton	Dep.
Heman Ely	Elyria; proxy	G. K.
Conrad Matthews	Cincinnati; proxy	G. Sec.

South Carolina

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
Robert S. Bruns	Charleston	G. H. P.
Robert S. Bruns	Proxy	Dep.
H. Claremont Moses	Proxy	G. K.
Charles E. Chichester	Proxy	G. Sec.

Tennessee

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
F. A. [Manson?]	Clarksville	G. H. P.
John Zent	Memphis	Dep.
Henry Sheffield	Nashville	G. K.
Wilbur [S.?] Foster	Nashville	G. S.

Reader page 22 · Representatives: Wisconsin

Wisconsin

Companion	Address or capacity	Office
Henry L. Palmer	Milwaukee; proxy	G. H. P.
Alvin B. Alden	Portage City	Dep.
William J. Palmer	Milwaukee; proxy	G. K.
James A. Gerlick	Racine	G. Sec.

Editorial note: The rest of this leaf has no new entry; faint reverse-side writing shows through.

Reader page 23 · Twenty-first triennial session opens at Baltimore, 1871

Proceedings of the Twenty-first Triennial Session of the General Grand Chapter

Masonic Hall, Baltimore, Maryland.
9 o’clock A. M., Tuesday, Sept. 19th, 1871.

Genl. Grand Officers

Companion	Place or capacity	Office
James M. Austin	New York	M. E. Gen. G. H. P.
Robert Stewart Bruns	Charleston, S. C.	Ex. Dep. G. G. H. P.
William Hacker	Shelbyville, Ind.	G. Grand King
Martin Collins	St. Louis, Mo.	Gen. Gr. Scribe
John McClellan	Boston	Gen. Gr. Treasurer
Charles Marsh	Appointed; California	Gen. G. R. A. C.
E. H. English	Appointed; Little Rock, Ark.	G. G. Capt. H.
Rev. E. R. Eschbach	Baltimore	G. G. Chaplain
Daniel A. Piper	Baltimore	G. G. Sentinel

Committee on Credentials—

Editorial note: A diagonal red line crosses this manuscript page. The appointment of the committee continues on the following reader page.

Reader page 24 · Credentials committee; Austin’s address and visiting companions

The following named Companions:

Comp. John D. Caldwell of Ohio;
Charles W. Stearns, Connecticut;
W. S. Jefferys, New Jersey;

were appointed Committee on Credentials.

On motion of Comp. Jefferys it was

Resolved, That all Affiliated Royal Arch Masons applying be admitted as Visitors to this General Grand Chapter during the Twenty-first Session—except during the Election of Grand Officers.

Address of Gen. Gr. H. Priest

Comp. James M. Austin, M. Ex. Gen. G. H. Priest, submitted in writing and read his Triennial Communication—which, with accompanying papers, were referred for examination and report thereon to

Special Committee

Comp. Josiah H. Drummond of Maine;
E. H. English of Rhode Island;
Thomas A. Doyle of R. Island.

[Faint passage concerning credentials, allegiance to the General Grand Chapter, and admission as visitors rather than members; partly unreadable.]

The Gen. Gr. H. Priest directed that the Grand Chapter could take no action yet to determine the [unclear]—and that the appointment [unclear] was [unclear] due when the Com. on Credentials should [unclear] of members.

On motion it was ordered that 500 copies of the Address of Genl. Gr. H. P. be printed subject to its order for distribution.

Closed to 4 P. M.

Editorial note: This page is crossed by a diagonal red line. English's jurisdiction is written "Rhode Island" in the committee list here, although the preceding officers' list gives Little Rock, Arkansas. The faded middle passage cannot be read in full from this scan.

Reader page 25 · Standing committees for the 1871 session

4 o'clock P. M.

The Genl. Gr. Chapter resumed labor.
Comp. J. M. Austin, M. E. G. G. H. P., presiding.

Standing Committees

Finance

Charles Marsh, California;
Henry Chickering, Mass.;
J. M. Fox, Missouri;
Rees G. Williams, N. York;
Allen A. Leslie, Delaware.

Foreign Correspondence

John W. Simons, N. Y.;
John A. Harris, N. H.;
W. S. Jefferys, N. J.

Jurisprudence

Josiah H. Drummond, Maine;
Elbert H. English, Ark.;
G. H. Ohr, Md.;
J. Q. A. Fellows, La.;
E. E. Allen, Nebraska.

Grievances

Harvey G. Hazelrigg, Ind.;
D. R. Grafton, Tenn.;
A. T. Smythe, S. C.;
J. R. Hartsock, Iowa;
G. H. Merrill, Minn.

Reader page 26 · Further committees; referrals from Austin’s address

Doings of the Genl. Grand Officers

Luke E. Barber, Ark.;
G. Frank Gouley, Mo.;
A. J. Wheeler, Minn.;
Joseph Vates, Wisc.;
John Nichols, N. C.

Charters & Dispensations

L. A. Lockwood, Conn.;
Owen A. Bassett, Kansas;
John E. Mason, D. C.;
Aug. A. Murray, Ill.;
E. A. Jewett, Vermont.

Report of Select Committee

Comp. Drummond reported from the Committee on the Triennial address of the Gen. Gr. H. Priest, recommending:

That so much of the address as relates to the death of Comps. French, Penn & Kilbourn be referred to a Special Committee on Memorials of the Dead.

So much as relates to the Grand Chapter of Delaware be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

So much as relates to the case of M. F. Truett be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

That so much as relates to the Correspondence with the Grand Chapters of Vermont, Rhode Island, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Iowa be referred to the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers.

That so much as relates to Dispensations be referred to Com. on Ch. & D.

That the Decisions made by G. G. H. P. be referred to Com. on Masonic Jurisprudence, with the exception of the case of [unclear]—a case to Com. on M. Jurisprudence.

Editorial note: The final referral is compressed into the bottom margin and is partly unreadable. The committee list spells the Wisconsin companion’s surname “Vates” here.

Reader page 27 · Memorial committee; Past Master amendment rejected

Which was adopted.

Committee on Memorials of the Dead

Comp. Austin, M. E. G. G. H. P., appointed Committee as follows:

Comp. Geo. Frank Gouley of Mo.;
Joseph P. Horner, La.;
David H. Day, New York.

Report of Committee on Credentials

Comp. John D. Caldwell from Com. on Credentials submitted Report—which was approved, and the Committee had authority to report again.

Proposed Amendments

On motion of Comp. English, the proposition of Amendment of the Constitution—see Printed Proceedings of 1868, p. 23—relative to striking out from said Constitution wherever it occurs the words “Past Master,” was taken up.

Comp. English moved to indefinitely postpone further consideration of said proposition—which was not agreed.

It was then moved to adopt the proposition. The States were called & resulted as follows:

Yeas, 14. Nays, [102].

Yeas

Officer or jurisdiction	Votes
Kansas	4
Missouri	4
Ohio	2
Tenn.	4
Written total	14

Nays

Officer or jurisdiction	Votes
All G. G. officers (Sentinel not voting)	9
Ark.	4
California	4
Conn.	4
Delaware	4
Dist. C.	4
Ill.	4
Ind.	4
Louisiana	4
Maine	4
Md.	4
Iowa	4
Mass.	4
Mich.	4
Minn.	3
Miss.	4
Nebraska	4
N. Car.	4
N. H.	4
N. J.	4
N. Y.	4
Ohio	2
S. C.	4
Vermont	4
Wisconsin	4
Written total	102

The proposed amendment was not adopted.

Editorial note: This working entry counts nine General Grand Officers and gives 102 negative votes. The fair copy on reader page 81 counts eight officers and gives 101.

Reader page 28 · Past Grand High Priests amendment; Wednesday session opens

The proposition made by Comp. Corson—see Proc. p. 36, 1868—to amend Section 3, Art. 1 of the Constitution, so as to read:

“These, together with the first four officers—and all Past Grand High Priests, of every State Grand Chapter, etc.”

Was taken up, considered and voted upon by Ayes & Noes.

Those who voted for the amendment were—106, viz.:

Officer or jurisdiction	Votes
The nine Grand officers (G. G. Sentinel not voting)	9
Ark.	4
California	4
Conn.	1
Delaware	4
D. C.	4
Ill.	4
Kansas	4
La.	4
Md.	4
Iowa	4
Mass.	4
Mich.	4
Minn.	4
Miss.	4
Mo.	4
Neb.	4
N. C.	4
N. H.	4
N. J.	4
N. Y.	4
Ohio	4
S. C.	4
Tenn.	4
Vt.	4
Wisc.	4
Written total	106

Those who voted in the negative were—7, viz.:

Officer or jurisdiction	Votes
Connecticut	3

Officer or jurisdiction	Votes
Indiana	4
Total	7

There being more than a two-thirds vote for the amendment, Section 3, Art. 1 of the G. G. Constitution was declared to be amended accordingly.

The G. G. Chapter closed until 11 o’clock A. M. tomorrow.

Wednesday, 11 o’clock A. M., Sept. 20, 1871

The Gen. Grand Chapter re-convened—Comp. J. M. Austin, G. G. H. P., in the chair. Prayer by R. E. James Byron Murray, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Chapter of N. Y.

Comp. Jefferys reported from Com. on Credentials.

Comp. Drummond reported four votes in the affirmative for Maine on Comp. [Corson’s?] proposition to amend—which was recorded.

Comp. Marshall submitted proposition to amend as follows:

Amend Section three of article one of the Constitution by inserting in the fifth line after the word “with” the words—

Editorial note: After referring to Section 3, Article 1 at the start, the manuscript’s declaration appears to read “Section 8, Art. 1”; the proposal and quoted clause identify the section as Section 3. The listed affirmative votes before the later Maine addition sum to 106.

Reader page 29 · Marshall’s proposed amendment; next convocation committee

“All Past General Grand High Priests, Past Deputy General Grand High Priests, Past Deputy General Deputy Grand High Priests, Past General Grand Kings, and Past General Grand Scribes.”

Provided that no member shall be entitled to more than one vote in his own right. So that section three of article one will read (commencing with the word “these” in the fifth line):

“These, together with all Past General Grand High Priests, Past General Grand High Priests, Past General Kings, and Past General Grand Scribes, the first four officers and all Past Grand High Priests of every State Grand Chapter under this jurisdiction, or the proxies of the first four General Grand Officers, and of the first four officers of each State Grand Chapter aforesaid, shall compose this Genl. Gr. Chapter. Provided that no member shall be entitled to more than one vote in his own right,” etc.

It was duly seconded and lies over for action.

Comp. Drummond presented Memorial from Gen. G. Chapter of Delaware.

Referred to Gr. Chapter of Delaware. Paper given to the M. G. H. P.

4 o’clock P. M.

The Genl. Gr. Chapter re-convened. Comp. J. M. Austin presiding.

On motion of Comp. Marshall the Election of G. G. officers was made the Special order for 9 o’clock A. M. tomorrow.

Resolved, That a Special Committee be appointed to confer with the proper Committee of the Grand Encampment of the U. S. to designate the time and place of the next Triennial Convocation. Adopted.

The Special Committee appointed: Comp. Hugh McCurdy, Henry Chickering & Dewitt C. Dawkins.

Editorial note: The proposed wording contains repeated officer titles in the manuscript. These repetitions are retained rather than silently reconciled. The fair copy on reader pages 84–85 supplies the proposal without the repetitions.

Reader page 30 · Charter recommendations; memorial and Royal Arch referrals

Comp. Lockwood reported from Com. on Charters & Dispensations—recommended Charters to be issued on Certificate of G. G. Secy. that all dues & fees are paid—to Chapters, viz.:

Chapter	Place
Pueblo	Pueblo
Keystone	Shanghai
Boise City	
[No chapter name entered]	Cheyenne
White Pine	Hamilton, Nevada

To be issued on approval of their By-Laws by Genl. G. H. P.:

Seattle — Seattle.

Also the following on approval by the Gen. G. H. P. of their Proceedings & By Laws:

Chapter	Place
Honolulu	Honolulu
Cyrus	Silver City
Walla Walla	Walla Walla

Comp. Drummond reported action of the Grand Chapter of Maine relative to Substitute in the Royal Arch degree, which was referred to a Select Committee, viz.:

Luke E. Barber, Geo. F. Gouley, Ezra S. Barnum, Wm. [S.?] Jefferys, H. G. Hazelrigg.

Comp. Gouley reported recommending that the Gen. Gr. Secy. be and he is hereby instructed to set apart memorial pages, paying proper tribute to the virtues of the lamented Companions Benj. Brown French, Giles M. Hillyer & Comp. James Penn.

The Genl. Gr. Secy. submitted his Report—which was referred to Com. on Finance.

Comp. Gouley reported from the Special Committee to whom was referred the Memorial from the G. Chapter of Maine—recommendation as follows:

Reader page 31 · Substitutes in Royal Arch work; jurisdiction and continued existence

Resolved, That this G. Grand Chapter decides that the use of substitutes is not a violation of the Ritual of R. A. Masonry or the installation Charges delivered to a High Priest; and that substitutes may be authorized by Grand Chapters.

Resolved, That while such is the interpretation of the Ritual and installation Charges by this Grand body, Chapters are fraternally & earnestly urged to use full classes of actual candidates, except in cases of emergency, for the best interests of R. A. Masonry.

Comp. McCurdy offered Substitute as follows:

Resolved, That the use of substitutes in conferring the Royal Arch is hereby forbidden.

On a call of votes it was lost. Ayes 28, Nays 90.

The question recurring upon the Resolutions submitted by the Committee, a call was made for a division.

On a call of votes the first resolution was adopted. Ayes 91, Nays [30?].

The second resolution was then adopted. So the recommendations of the Committee were adopted.

Comp. Fellows submitted Report from Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence. That the decision of M. E. G. G. H. P. in the matter of the Grand Chapter of Delaware—and in the case of M. F. Truett was final. Also approving decisions of G. G. H. P. as follows:

1. That this body has authority to determine all questions in relation to the work, and that officers at their installation, and candidates, are required to bind themselves to support the Constitution of the Genl. Gr. Chapter of the U. S.

2. That this General Grand Chapter has never ceased to exist since its organization.

Also, concurring in the language of the M. E. G. G. H. P. in relation to the continuance—

Editorial note: Struck-out wording after the authority of Grand Chapters has been omitted from the operative resolution. The negative total on the vote adopting the first resolution is not fully distinct.

Reader page 32 · Thursday proceedings; omitted charters and constitution reprint

—of this body and they commend it most earnestly to the consideration of the Royal Arch Masons of its jurisdiction.

Closed to meet at 9 o’clock A. M. tomorrow.

9 o’clock A. M., Thursday

The G. G. Chapter reconvened. Comp. James M. Austin, M. E. Gen. G. H. P., presiding.

The Minutes were read—and corrected by directing that the Reports in full—and votes on call of States be recorded in full—when the Minutes were approved.

On motion of Comp. Johnson of Mich. it was ordered that the Gen. Gr. Secy. make note of omission in new printed proceedings that Charters were issued to [unclear] Chapter, Carson City.

Comp. John McClellan, G. G. Treasurer, submitted Financial Report, which was referred to Com. on Finance.

Comp. Johnson of Michigan offered the following:

Resolved, That the Gen. G. Secy. be directed to insert by a note in the Proceedings of the present Session the issue of Charters for subordinate Chapters heretofore granted, but omitted in the printed proceedings. Which was adopted.

Also the following:

Resolved, That the Constitution of the Genl. Grand Chapter with the amendments adopted at the present Session be reprinted with the Proceedings, under the supervision of the Genl. G. Council.

Comp. J. Edwin Mason presented Resolution as follows:

Reader page 33 · Library copies; substitute-work review; Treasurer’s report

Resolved, That this G. G. Chapter furnish a copy of its proceedings in future to the Congressional Library at Washington, and supply as full a set of past proceedings as possible.

Resolved, That the G. G. Chapter request all State Grand Chapters to supply the Congressional Library with their proceedings, and send as full a set of past proceedings as they can now supply. Which were adopted.

Comp. Jefferys of N. J. offered the following:

Resolved, That under the direction of our G. G. [Council?], [copies] be distributed to Public Libraries—in addition to the usual distribution of said printed proceedings. Adopted.

Comp. Ohr proposed resolution as follows:

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed to whom shall be referred the subject of substitutes, and they be requested to revise the work and ritual of the Chapter on that subject, as also the provisions of the Constitution of the G. G. Chapter so far as they relate to this subject, & report to the Triennial Convocation of the G. G. Chapter.

Comp. Hartsock moved to insert in the place of Special Committee the Gen. G. Council.

On motion of Comp. Dawkins the Resolution & Amendment was laid on the table.

Comp. Marsh reported from the Com. on Finance:

That they have examined the Report of the Gen. Gr. Treasurer and find it correct in every particular and that the monies have been paid in accordance with the orders of the G. G. Chapter, and that the sum of money in the Treasury is correctly reported, viz. $857.71.

The Grand Treasurer has only reported such monies as have been received by him, which is much less than the full sums accruing to the Gen. Gr. Chapter, the course hitherto not in practice, but for this the Grand Secy. is responsible, he having received and disbursed monies without accounting to the G. G. Treasurer for the same—and your Committee—

Reader page 34 · Secretary’s receipts, expenses, and contingent fund

—recommend that hereafter all monies received by the G. G. Secy. be paid to the G. G. Treasurer and drawn for by warrants on proper vouchers. Which was adopted.

Also the following:

That they have carefully examined the Report of the Genl. Grand Secretary and find that he has received the following sums as reported by him since the last Triennial Convocation:

Receipts	Amount
From Dispensations	$720.00
Dues, subordinate Chapters	$558.00
Making total	$1,278.00

He has expended in the performance of his duties for necessary expenses, for which he presents proper vouchers, viz.:

Expenses	Amount
Printing, binding, stationery, etc.	$325.48
Office rent, lights, fuel & clerical assistance	$500.00
Making total	$825.48

For this last expenditure your Committee find no precedent in the former action of this Grand Body, but have concluded to recommend the allowance of the amount—believing it just and equitable.

The balance of the monies amounting to $452.52 has been paid to the Genl. Grand Treasurer.

Your Committee also find that the sum of three hundred dollars, procured as a Contingent fund although drawn from the G. G. Treasr. by the G. G. Secy., has been replaced by him, thus leaving the sum in the Treasury the same as reported at last Convocation of $1,498.35—which sum was reduced by appropriations made on [account] of expenses for previous year for G. G. Secy., $142.50; St. Louis Report printing, $25.

Reader page 35 · Finance balance; officers elected in 1871

Leaves on hand of previous accumulations the sum of $223.37; to which sum add the receipts since 1868:

Entry	Amount
Previous accumulations	$223.37
Receipts since 1868	$452.52
Donated by G. Ch. N. Y.	$150.00
Interest on Deposit	$31.82
Leaving in Treasury	$857.71

Which sum the G. G. Treasr. reports as having on hand.

Your Committee believe from all the information they have been able to obtain that the foregoing is a correct financial statement but are constrained to say that the accounts are not kept in such form as renders investigation easy in the office of the Genl. Gr. Secretary.

In justice to the G. G. Secy. it is but proper to state that the difficulty in investigation of the accounts arose from the loss or misplacing of the books in which the accounts had been kept.

Signed: Charles Marsh, Henry Chickering, Rees G. Williams.

The Report was agreed to and adopted.

A motion was made to suspend the Special order which was lost.

The Genl. Gr. Chapter proceeded to the Special order which was

Election of Officers

Which was proceeded with and choice made as follows:

Office	Companion	Place
Genl. G. H. P.	Josiah H. Drummond	Portland, Maine
Dep. G. G. H. P.	Elbert H. English	Little Rock, Ark.
G. Gr. K.	Charles H. Ohr	Baltimore, Md.
G. Gr. S.	Charles Marsh	Nevada, California
G. Gr. Treasurer	John McClellan	[Inserted above following entry]
G. Gr. Secy.	Christopher G. Fox	Buffalo, N. York
G. G. Capt. H.	Joseph Vates	Wisconsin
G. G. R. A. C.	Dewitt Clinton Dawkins	Florida

Who accepted their offices.

Reader page 36 · Officers’ expenses; Canadian visitor and Maguire appeal

Comp. Marsh reported from Com. on Finance—recommended that the following sums for the expenses of the Genl. Grand Officers be allowed in accordance with the custom heretofore observed by this Grand Body:

Companion	Office	Amount
James M. Austin	G. G. H. P.	$100
R. S. Bruns	Dep. G. G. H. P.	$40
Wm. Hacker	G. G. K.	$50
Martin Collins	G. G. S.	$75
John McClellan	G. G. Tr.	$40
John D. Caldwell	G. G. Secy.	$150
Total		$455

On motion of Comp. Drummond, moved that the matter of providing ways & means for the General Grand Chapter be referred to the Com. on Finance. Which was adopted.

The G. G. Chapter called off until 4 o’clock P. M.

4 o’clock P. M. (5:15)

The Genl. Gr. Chapter then met. M. E. G. G. H. P. Comp. James M. Austin presiding.

The Minutes of morning Session were read and approved.

Comp. Henry Robertson, P. G. [J.?] of the Grand Chapter of Canada, was announced in waiting to visit the General Grand Chapter, and was introduced and received with due honor.

An appeal of Denny Maguire from the action of Cyrus Chapter No. 2, U. D., at Silver City, Idaho Ty., was presented and referred to the Committee on Grievances.

Comp. Schuyler [unreadable surname] of the Grand Commandery of Maryland tendered an invitation to the officers & members of the G. G. Chapter to attend a Banquet at the Maryland Institute at 7 o’clock P. M., which was accepted. The G. G. Chapter was then called off until 9 o’clock A. M. tomorrow.

Reader page 37 · Blank leaf

This reader page is blank. Faint marks are show-through from the adjoining leaf.

Reader page 38 · Fair copy: opening of the twenty-first convocation, 1871

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

The Twenty-first Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter was held at the Masonic Temple in the City of Baltimore, Maryland, on Tuesday, September 19th, A. I. 2401, A. D. 1871, at 9 o’clock A. M.

Present

Companion	Jurisdiction	Office
M. E. James M. Austin	New York	G. G. H. P.
Comp. Robert Stewart Bruns	South Carolina	D. G. G. H. P.
William Hacker	Indiana	G. G. K.
Martin Collins	Missouri	G. G. S.
John McClellan	Massachusetts	G. G. Tr.
John D. Caldwell	Ohio	G. G. Sec.
Elbert H. English	Arkansas	As G. G. C. H.
Charles Marsh	California	As G. G. R. A. C.
Rev. E. R. Eschbach	Maryland	As G. G. Chap.
Daniel A. Piper	Maryland	As G. G. Sen.

Editorial note: A more formal copy of the 1871 proceedings begins here. It repeats the session already entered on reader pages 23–36 and continues with fuller reports.

Reader page 39 · 1871 representatives: Arkansas through Florida

1871. And the Representatives of State Grand Chapters as follows:

Alabama

[No representative entered.]

Arkansas

Companion	Office or capacity
Elbert H. English	Grand High Priest
Thomas C. Peek	Proxy of Deputy
Luke E. Barber	Proxy of Grand King
John J. Sumpter	Proxy of Grand Scribe

California

Companion	Office or capacity
Charles Marsh	Proxy of all the officers

Connecticut

Companion	Office or capacity
Charles W. Stearns	Grand High Priest
William W. Lee	Deputy
Joseph K. Wheeler	Proxy of Grand King
Luke A. Lockwood	Proxy of Grand Scribe

Delaware

Companion	Office or capacity
Allen Lesley	Grand High Priest
George W. Stone	Deputy
Paynter Frame	Grand King
John A. Nicholson	Grand Scribe

District of Columbia

Companion	Office or capacity
John Lockie	Grand High Priest
Joseph Daniels	Deputy
A. T. Longley	Grand King
J. Edwin Mason	Proxy of Grand Scribe

Florida

Companion	Office or capacity
Dewitt C. Dawkins	Grand High Priest

Reader page 40 · 1871 representatives: Illinois through Louisiana

1871.

Georgia

[No representative entered.]

Illinois

Companion	Office or capacity
Augustus A. Murray	Grand High Priest
Hiram W. Hubbard	Proxy of Deputy
James C. Luckey	Grand King
George E. Lounsbury	Grand Scribe

Indiana

Companion	Office or capacity
Rev. J. Chestnutwood	Grand High Priest
Harvey G. Hazelrigg	Proxy of Deputy
Alexander Thomas	Grand King
Lawrence B. Stockton	Grand Scribe

Iowa

Companion	Office or capacity
James R. Hartsock	Proxy of Grand High Priest
Theodore S. Parvin	Proxy of Deputy
Robert F. Bower	Proxy of Grand King
Theodore Schreiner	Grand Scribe

Kansas

Companion	Office or capacity
Owen A. Bassett	Grand High Priest
E. D. Hillyer	Deputy
William C. Gould	Proxy of Grand King
John M. Price	Proxy of Grand Scribe

Kentucky

[No representative entered.]

Louisiana

Companion	Office or capacity
Michael E. Girard	Grand High Priest
Joseph P. Horner	Deputy
John Q. A. Fellows	Proxy of Grand King
John C. Gordy	Proxy of Grand Scribe

Reader page 41 · 1871 representatives: Maine through Missouri

1871.

Maine

Companion	Office or capacity
Josiah H. Drummond	Proxy of Grand High Priest
Henry H. Dickey	Proxy of Grand King
Ira Berry	Proxy of Grand Scribe

Maryland

Companion	Office or capacity
Charles H. Ohr	Grand High Priest
Edward T. Schultz	Deputy
George L. McCahan	Grand King
Philip S. Eikle	Grand Scribe

Massachusetts

Companion	Office or capacity
Henry Chickering	Grand High Priest
Z. H. Thomas, Jr.	Deputy
Alfred F. Chapman	Proxy of Grand King
Fred. G. Walbridge	Grand Scribe

Michigan

Companion	Office or capacity
Hugh McCurdy	Grand High Priest
J. Eastman Johnson	Proxy of Deputy
John W. Finch	Grand King

Minnesota

Companion	Office or capacity
George W. Merrill	Grand High Priest
William S. Combs	Proxy of Deputy

Mississippi

Companion	Office or capacity
Charles T. Pond	Grand High Priest
P. L. Saunders	Proxy of Grand Scribe

Missouri

Companion	Office or capacity
Joseph M. Fox	Grand High Priest
William M. Rush	Deputy
Thos. M. Wannall	Grand King
Geo. Frank Gouley	Proxy of Grand Scribe

Reader page 42 · 1871 representatives: Nebraska through Ohio

1871.

Nebraska

Companion	Office or capacity
Edwin A. Allen	Grand High Priest
W. B. Porter	Proxy of Deputy
John Reed	Proxy of Grand King

North Carolina

Companion	Office or capacity
John Nichols	Grand High Priest
Horace H. Munson	Deputy
Robt. H. Rountree	Grand King
Donald W. Bain	Proxy of Grand Scribe

New Hampshire

Companion	Office or capacity
John A. Harris	Grand High Priest
Daniel R. Marshall	Proxy of Deputy
Joseph W. Fellows	Proxy of Grand King
John D. Patterson	Grand Scribe

New Jersey

Companion	Office or capacity
William H. Jefferys	Grand High Priest
T. H. P. [Pricker?]	Deputy
Wm. H. McIlhaney	Grand King
Seth Thomas	Grand Scribe

New York

Companion	Office or capacity
Rees G. Williams	Grand High Priest
Thos. C. Cassidy	Deputy
Joseph B. Chaffee	Grand King
David H. Day	Grand Scribe

Ohio

Companion	Office or capacity
Charles C. Kiefer	Grand High Priest
Joshua H. Pidelle	Deputy
Wm. F. Ruenstein	Grand King
John H. Rettig	Grand Scribe

Reader page 43 · 1871 representatives completed; opening and credentials committee

1871.

Oregon

[No representative entered.]

Rhode Island

Companion	Office or capacity
Thomas A. Doyle	Grand High Priest

South Carolina

Companion	Office or capacity
Augustine T. Smythe	Proxy of all the officers

Tennessee

Companion	Office or capacity
Wm. H. Armstrong	Grand High Priest
Andrew J. Wheeler	Deputy
Daniel R. Grafton	Proxy of Grand King
A. V. Warr	Proxy of Grand Scribe

Texas

[No representative entered.]

Vermont

Companion	Office or capacity
Edward A. Jewett	Grand High Priest
Robt. S. Southgate	Grand King

Wisconsin

Companion	Office or capacity
Joseph Vates	Grand High Priest
Chas. B. L. Collins	Deputy
J. H. Evans	Grand King
Wm. T. Galloway	Grand Scribe

The General Grand Chapter was opened in ample form, and with prayer by the General Grand Chaplain.

Comps. John D. Caldwell, of Ohio, Charles W. Stearns, of Connecticut, and William H. Jefferys, of New Jersey, were appointed a Committee on Credentials, who subsequently—

Reader page 44 · Credentials approved; Austin’s triennial address begins

—reported, that the General Grand Officers and the Representatives and Proxies present were entitled to seats as members of the General Grand Chapter;—which report was accepted and adopted.

On motion of Comp. Jefferys,

“Resolved, That all affiliated Royal Arch Masons applying, be admitted as visitors to the General Grand Chapter during this Twenty-first Triennial Convocation, except during the election of the General Grand Officers.”

M. E. James M. Austin, General Grand High Priest, submitted in writing, and read his address, as follows:

Most Excellent and Right Excellent Companions:

At the close of another triennial period in the history of this venerable body—a period which I may be allowed to remark has been fraught with more encouraging circumstances, having in view our future stability and prosperity, than any other similar time—I offer you my personal and official greeting, and feel that I am but expressing your sentiments when I say, that our most devout acknowledgments and thanks are due to the Father of all Mercies, not only for the protection afforded to our labors, but that on this occasion so many of us are spared to unite in the duties of this convocation. I greet and welcome you, coming from every part of the broad domain of our common country, to this beautiful city, once the home of the devoted and la—

Reader page 45 · Austin’s address: national and overseas growth

—mented Gilmor, and express the hope that his spirit and the interests committed to our care, may preside during our meeting, and incite us to labor, that out of our deliberations may come a determination to make deeper and broader our foundations, and so correct the lines of our building that generations yet to come may admire its symmetry, and be encouraged in their efforts for its perpetuation. I greet you as the representatives not only of the Royal Craft, but as having in charge the honor and continuance of its national organization; as bound by the very fact of your appointment and presence here, to rightly appreciate the value of that organization, and to devote your efforts to such measures as may tend to increase its influence as one of the leading Masonic powers in the world, around which are grouped the various organizations under your immediate direction, and to which they look for such guidance as may best tend to make their zeal effective, and promote and magnify the character of Royal Arch Masonry.

I have great pleasure in being able to say to you, that not only have peace and harmony prevailed among us during the interval since our last meeting, but that a more correct appreciation of the merits of an organization embracing every part of the Republic, and equally efficacious in the North, the South, the East, and the West has prevailed; that not only have we increased and multiplied with equal pace from the Lakes to the Gulf, and between the two Oceans, but that your government now includes companions whose homes are in far off lands, and in the distant Isles of the Sea—

Reader page 46 · Austin’s address: memorial to Benjamin Brown French

—[unclear], in whose honor, rears the living arch, where, but a brief time since, the worship of false gods and the observances of heathenism held sway; and I urge upon you to remember, in your deliberations, the serious nature of the trust reposed in you, the vast interests that depend upon your wise use of the opportunities now at your disposal.

It is in the nature of our common humanity that, one by one, we should yield to the mandate of relentless death, and as the announcement of the sixth hour of the sixth day falls upon our ears, yield to the foreordained lot, and enter upon the final rest. Not one of us may go forth from this fraternal meeting, and not feel that ere another we may be numbered with the innumerable host that has preceded us to the land of the living; not one who will not unite in the sadness with which I announce to you the death of French, and Penn, and Hillyer, who have left upon your records such traces as become those whose entrance in our midst was sealed with the impress of a fidelity that death only could terminate.

Benjamin Brown French, who for nine years served you as Grand Secretary, departed this life, on the 12th of August 1870, in the seventieth year of his age, at his home in the Federal City of Washington. To name him, is to write his eulogy. For every virtue that becomes an honest man, a devoted, enlightened, and zealous Craftsman, his name is the synonym. Wherever the interests of the Craft demanded his presence or services, he was ever ready; and those who have profited thereby, must ever remember him—

Reader page 47 · Austin’s address: memorials to James Penn and Giles M. Hillyer

—with filial reverence as indeed a father in our Israel. Having faithfully and most acceptably wrought his day, he yielded obedience to the mandate of the destroyer, as one who feels that death but opens the gate to that true life, the hope of which should sustain us in the trials and vicissitudes of this earthly pilgrimage.

James Penn, formerly Grand Treasurer, died in Shelby County, Tennessee, July 21, 1870, in the eightieth year of his age, after a lingering illness, borne with that fortitude and resignation which comes of an inner consciousness of rectitude, and that zeal for the right which is the characteristic of those into whose hearts the true principles of the Craft have entered. Stricken in his old age with the paralyzing hand of disease, and losses for which he could not be held responsible, we can easily believe that to him the summons was a welcome relief, and the grave a portal to well earned rest.

Giles M. Hillyer, Past Grand Scribe of this body, died on the 22d of April, of the present year, at his residence, Natchez, Mississippi, after a long and wasting illness, and long after it was known that he could not recover. Distinguished as a writer and orator, his best gifts were always freely devoted to the service of the Craft in its various organizations, and not without the appreciation of his brethren, who delighted in awarding him the highest honors in their gift, and recognizing in him a chief, wise to counsel and prompt to execute. In his latter days, misfortune came upon him, only to call out the manifestations of—

Reader page 48 · Austin’s address: inquiry into Delaware’s Grand Chapter

—his strong and manly nature, and so he struggled until the angel of death kindly summoned him to the better life.

You will not need any incitement from me, to place upon your records such a tribute of respect as shall exhibit your unmistakable appreciation of the lives and example of the excellent Companions gone before us to the silent city of the dead.

At the last Triennial Convocation, in September, 1868, certain matters were intrusted to your General Grand High Priest, with power to determine the same. Among the first to demand my attention was, to examine into the condition of the Grand Chapter of Delaware, and, if found to be a legal Grand Chapter, to have the same enrolled under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, as requested by the Companions of Delaware.

Having been solicited to visit Wilmington, for the purpose of instituting St. John’s Chapter, which had been chartered by this body at its last Convocation, I did so on the 19th day of October, 1868, and, having instituted said Chapter, embraced that opportunity to fully investigate the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the State, and for that purpose I held interviews with some of the most prominent Royal Arch Masons in the jurisdiction. From these Companions, and from the records, I ascertained that there had existed in Delaware no regular Grand Chapter since the year 1856, at which time the original Grand Chapter ceased to meet and elect Grand Officers. I ascertained that there had been a—

Reader page 49 · Austin’s address: Delaware meetings of 1859 and 1868

—“Convocation of Royal Arch Masons” at Dover, in 1859, at which meeting but one Chapter, of the three then existing in that State, was legally represented. At that irregular “Convocation” an election was had, Companion George W. Chaytor being elected Grand High Priest. No other Convocation of the (so called) Grand Chapter was held until January, 1868, a period of nine years. During this time Companion Chaytor claimed to be Grand High Priest, but he persistently refused to assemble the Craft in Grand Convocation. Some three or four years subsequent to the meeting of 1859, a difficulty having arisen between Companion Chaytor and the other members of Washington and Lafayette Chapter, No. 1, of which he was then High Priest, he in his capacity of Grand High Priest declared the said Chapter suspended—thereby placing himself in the anomalous position of a suspended Royal Arch Mason; that is, provided he possessed any powers as Grand High Priest.

At the meeting in January, 1868, there was simply an assemblage of Royal Arch Masons, no one of whom claimed to act in a representative capacity. Companion Chaytor was present, but he refused to open a Grand Chapter, giving as a reason, that his Chapter was under suspension, and therefore there were but two Chapters left in the State. Thereupon the assemblage resolved itself into a “Royal Arch Convention,” and proceeded to elect Grand Officers and to adopt a Constitution. And this was the body which made application at the last Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, to be recognized as the “Grand Chapter of the State—

Reader page 50 · Austin’s address: Delaware edict and new organization authorized

—of Delaware.”

With these facts before me, there was but one conclusion to which I could legitimately arrive. Accordingly, on the 20th of October, 1868, I issued an edict, declaring that any legal existence heretofore attaching to a Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Delaware, had ceased; that said State Grand Chapter no longer existed; and that the several Chapters heretofore holding under it, had become dormant from non-user and other reasons. And that, by the fact of the cessation of the Grand Chapter of the State of Delaware, all semblance of lawful governmental authority in that State had ceased, and the territory had become masonically vacant; and therefore the authority of the General Grand Chapter of the United States did, of right, obtain, and was in full force and effect, in said State of Delaware. Thereupon, I did order and direct, that the three Chapters which had formerly held under the Grand Chapter of Delaware, should be received and recognized as lawful Royal Arch Chapters, under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, with authority to resume and continue work under the warrants then held by them, until the pleasure of the General Grand Chapter was made known, or a State Grand Chapter was formed.

On the 9th day of January, 1869, upon application duly made, and under the powers and authority vested in me by the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, I issued an edict granting permission for the formation of a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Delaware,—

Reader page 51 · Austin’s address: Delaware enrolled; Truett appeal

And upon the 20th day of January, 1869, the legal representatives of the four Chapters in said State assembled in Convention at Dover, and proceeded to organize in due form a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for said State of Delaware, and to adopt a constitution for the government thereof. I availed myself of an invitation to be present at said Convention, and had the honor of installing the newly elected Grand Officers; and I did then and there receive and welcome the said Grand Body into the family of Grand Chapters. Subsequently, to wit, on the 30th of January, 1869, I did, by special edict, order and direct that said Grand Chapter of the State of Delaware, be enrolled under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and be hailed and recognized accordingly.

Another matter referred to me at the last Convocation, was the appeal of M. F. Truett, from the action of Helena Chapter, U. D., in expelling him from the rights and privileges of a “Past Master Mason.”

From the documents placed in my hands, I became satisfied that there had been great irregularities committed in the proceedings during the trial of the accused, which would have warranted the setting aside of the verdict; but my decision was based upon the principle that a Chapter, U. D., being but a “temporary and inchoate body,” which exists only during the will and pleasure of the Grand Officer who brought it into being, and which he may dissolve at any time, it possesses no power to try or discipline its members. It was therefore ordered, that the proceedings of Helena Royal Arch Chapter, U. D., in expelling M. F. Truett from his rights and privileges as a “Past Master Mason,” be set aside as irregular,—

Reader page 52 · Austin’s address: correspondence to restore Grand Chapter relations

—and be declared null and void; and that said brother be restored to all his rights and privileges of a Past Master Mason, and to the position which he held in said Chapter at the time said charges were preferred against him.

Still another duty was intrusted to the Grand Council, viz.: to “open correspondence with the Grand Chapters of Vermont, Rhode Island, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Texas, Kentucky, and Iowa, and to induce, if possible, such acts on their part as would tend to restore harmonious and fraternal relations as constituent members of this Body.” Upon consultation, it was decided that the correspondence should be commenced by issuing a circular letter, addressed to the officers and companions of the several Grand Chapters of the above named States, and also to those Grand Chapters which had, up to that time, never been connected with this General Grand Chapter, viz.: Pennsylvania and Virginia. The preparation of said circular was entrusted to M. E. Companion Robert S. Bruns, Deputy General Grand High Priest, and that it was well done, is doubtless known to you all. Said circular is hereto appended.

Your presiding officer has, from time to time, corresponded with Grand Officers of several of the above named Grand Chapters, and he has the satisfaction of knowing that his labors, to bring about a better state of feeling towards this General Grand Body, have not been unrewarded.

On the 14th of October, 1869, I received official notice that the Grand Chapter of Florida desired to place itself under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, and had adopted a resolution whereby the Companions pledged—

Reader page 53 · Austin’s address: Florida, Iowa, Vermont; St. Andrew’s centennial

—themselves to hereafter bear true allegiance and support to the said Body. Immediately upon the receipt of said notice, I issued an edict, ordering and directing that the said Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Florida be received and enrolled under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and be hailed and recognized accordingly.

On the 26th of the same month, I received official notice that the Grand Chapter of Iowa had rescinded the “act of secession,” passed in 1860, and had directed that the O. B. of allegiance to the General Grand Chapter should be administered to all the then members of Chapters in that jurisdiction, and that hereafter it be administered to candidates receiving the R. A. degree.

I would respectfully suggest, by way of parenthesis, whether it would not be well to try the experiment of re-administering the O. B. to Companions in some other Grand Chapter jurisdictions, to see what effect it would have upon their minds and consciences.

On the 10th day of June, 1871, I received a telegram announcing to me the intelligence that the Grand Chapter of Vermont had again “wheeled into line,” and had rescinded the resolution of secession passed in 1860.

On the 29th of September, 1869, I attended, by special invitation, the celebration of the centennial of St. Andrew’s Royal Arch Chapter of Boston. The occasion was one of great interest, and will not soon be forgotten by those who were privileged to take part in the ceremonies incident thereto. It will be remembered that this Chapter was one of those which—

Reader page 54 · Austin’s address: Potomac Chapter joins the District of Columbia

—originally formed and organized the Grand Body which subsequently became the “General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America.”

On the 8th of November 1869, I visited, by invitation, the Grand Chapter of Maryland, where I was received with the greatest cordiality and kindness, and had the satisfaction of witnessing the truly fraternal spirit displayed by that Grand Chapter, in the unanimous recognition of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, which had so recently formed a component part of the Grand Chapter of Maryland. As a natural sequence of the recognition mentioned above, Potomac Chapter, No. 8, of Georgetown, D. C., which had, since the Triennial Convocation preceding, been apparently under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, but actually forming a part of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, did, by my advice, apply to the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, to be received as a constituent member of that Grand Body. The application was favorably received, and on the 27th of December following, I issued an order granting permission for said Chapter to place itself under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of the District; and the Grand High Priest, M. E. Companion B. B. French, subsequently notified me officially, that said Potomac Chapter had been granted a warrant, and had been received and recognized as one of the Chapters under that jurisdiction. And thus was happily settled a much vexed question, which had caused no little anxiety and trouble.

Reader page 55 · Austin’s address: Seattle, Wyoming, Cyrus and Boise dispensations

Very soon after the last Triennial Convocation, I granted Proxies authorizing the instituting, in due form, of Santa Fe Chapter, at Santa Fe, New Mexico; Virginia City Chapter, of Nevada, and Virginia City Chapter, of Montana.

I have, from time to time, issued dispensations for the formation of the following Chapters:

On November 1, 1869, to Daniel Bagley, as High Priest; Isaac F. Roberts, as King; Thomas M. Reed, as Scribe, and a constitutional number of Companions, to form and open a Chapter at Seattle, Washington Territory, under the name of Seattle Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1.

On December 27, 1869, to George D. Foglesong, High Priest; Henry J. Rogers, King; Jervis Joslin, Scribe, and the requisite number of Companions, to form and open a Chapter at Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, under the name of Wyoming Royal Arch Chapter, No. —.

On February 14, 1870, to George Coe, High Priest; Richard J. Miller, King; David H. Fogus, Scribe, and the requisite number of Companions, to form and open a Chapter at Silver City, Idaho Territory, under the name of Cyrus Royal Arch Chapter, No. 2.

On March 30, 1870, to Augustus G. Thibodo, High Priest; Augustus Haas, King; Henry C. Riggs, Scribe, and other Companions, to form and open a Chapter at Boise City, Idaho Territory, under the name of Boise Royal Arch Chapter, No. 3.

On July 22, 1870, I issued a dispensation authorizing Honolulu Royal Arch Chapter, at Honolulu, H. I., to—

Reader page 56 · Austin’s address: Honolulu conditions; Keystone Chapter at Shanghai

—resume their labors under the warrant granted by this Body in 1859, and the labors of which had been suspended since 1861, but under the following conditions:

1st. That said Chapter should immediately upon the receipt of said dispensation, make due return to the General Grand Secretary of the present membership of the said Chapter. 2d. That on or before the third Tuesday of September, 1871, the said Chapter should return to the General Grand Secretary the said dispensation, and make due return of its labors since the date of its last report in August, 1859. And, 3d. That said Chapter should petition the General Grand Chapter at this triennial Convocation for a revival of the said warrant.

On July 27, 1870, I granted a dispensation to a number of Companions at Shanghai, in the Empire of China, to form and open a Chapter under the name and title of Keystone Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, with the following as the first three officers, viz.: Wm. Cadwallader Blanchard, first High Priest; James Oliver Pendleton, first King, and Joseph Leonard Hammond, first Scribe. A majority of the seventeen Companions petitioning for said dispensation are citizens of the United States, residents of Shanghai, and are members of the Ancient Landmark Lodge, of that city, which Lodge is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The petition was duly recommended by the two Chapters already established there; one under the English, and the other under the Scotch Con—

Reader page 57 · Austin’s address: White Pine, Walla Walla and Pueblo

—stitutions. Subsequently a vacancy having occurred in the office of King, by the resignation of Companion Pendleton, I appointed Companion J. L. Hammond, to the office of King, and Companion S. W. Eckfeldt, to the office of Scribe, in place of Companion Hammond, promoted.

On January 10, 1871, to Thomas P. [Hawley?], High Priest; Wm. Timson, King; Joseph Tilson, Scribe, and the requisite number of Companions, to form and open a Chapter at Hamilton, Nevada, under the name of White Pine Royal Arch Chapter, No. 4.

February 13, 1871, to Edward Smith Kearney, H. P.; James H. Blewett, King; Andrew B. Elmer, Scribe, and the constitutional number of Companions, to form and open a Chapter at Walla Walla, Washington Territory, under the name of Walla Walla Royal Arch Chapter, No. 2.

May 24, 1871, to Samuel H. Bowman, High Priest; Charles H. Blake, King; Robert C. Carleton, Scribe, and other Companions, to form and open a Chapter at Pueblo, Colorado Territory, under the name of Pueblo Royal Arch Chapter.

These Chapters will, doubtless, apply at this Session to be permanently organized under warrants. I cordially commend their petitions to your favorable consideration.

I have received applications for dispensations from Companions at Salt Lake, Utah Territory, and at Diamond City, Montana Territory, but not having been furnished with satisfactory evidence of the good standing of the applicants, I declined to issue dispensations.

I have been frequently applied to for my decision upon—

Reader page 58 · Austin’s address: ritual authority and the 1865 convocation

—questions of Masonic law and usage. I do not propose, however, to take up your time by rehearsing all these different interrogatories. Two only, I deem of sufficient importance to be alluded to in this report. One of these refers to the mode of “Work” in a Chapter. And as it is made imperative upon this General Grand Chapter, by its Constitution, “to see that the Ancient Work of the Order is preserved in the several degrees,” I submit the question, and my decision thereon—together with the correspondence upon the subject—for your action.

The other was presented by a Grand Officer of one of the Grand Chapters which had claimed to have withdrawn from the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, and reads as follows: “Is the General Grand Chapter, to which we owe allegiance, in existence, and has it had a legal existence since 1859?” The question was prompted by the supposition that the Convocation of this body, held on the 7th of September, 1865, was a “Special Convocation,” and that there was no authority, to act upon the amendments then adopted, and under which new provisions all subsequent convocations have been held. This supposition was strengthened by the fact, that our Grand Secretary, in the printed Proceedings, had erroneously styled the Convocation of the 7th of September, 1865, a “Special Convocation.”

My decision was, that said Convocation of the 7th of September, 1865, was not a “Special Convocation,” but that it was the Triennial Convocation, which would have been held at Memphis, in 1862, had not the late war intervened,—

Reader page 59 · Austin’s address: reasons for the General Grand Chapter’s continuity

—to prevent, and which Convocation was, in accordance with Art. 1, Sec. 1, of the General Grand Constitution, postponed by the General Grand High Priest to a subsequent time, and that therefore it was a “regular” Convocation, and that it was perfectly legitimate to act upon the proposed amendments to the Constitution. And further, that the present legal existence of the General Grand Chapter could be maintained upon general principles; for, 1st, the very fact of an organized existence carries with it the right of continuance, and the power to do such acts as may be required to maintain such existence. 2d. That the change of time and place for the meeting of 1862, was under stress of circumstances, for which the General Grand Chapter was in no wise responsible, which it could not foresee, and had no power to prevent. It being an utter impossibility for the body to meet at Memphis at the time appointed, it was clearly the duty of the executive to make the best arrangements in his power to remedy the evil. This was done, and sanctioned by the General Grand Chapter itself, and all questions as to its legality must cease. 3d. The General Grand Chapter having since held two Triennial Convocations, without any question as to their legality, it is now too late to raise that point. 4th. To hold that this body ceased to exist, because it has neither the power nor the will to override the forces of the United States Government, and break its lines of defense, is to violate all the prescriptions of Masonry,—which require our obedience to the regulations of the Government under which we live—

Reader page 60 · Austin’s address: Nevada application and pending amendments

—5th. A mere failure to hold a meeting, or a meeting held irregularly, can not be held to work the dissolution of a Masonic government. Hence, it must therefore be concluded, that the General Grand Chapter has never ceased to exist, and continues the existence it has always held.

In September, 1869, I received a communication from the High Priest of Austin Chapter, No. 3, at Austin, Nevada, asking permission to form a Grand Chapter for that State. I replied that I would willingly grant such permission when I had received satisfactory information that all claims standing in the books of the General Grand Chapter against the three Chapters in said State had been fully paid, and that said Chapters all united in the petition for such permission. I soon ascertained, however, that Lewis Chapter, No. 1, at Carson City, had not been instituted under the charter granted in 1865, and that said charter had been lost in its transmission. I thereupon ordered the General Grand Secretary to prepare and forward a duplicate warrant. Under these circumstances, no further action has been had in the matter of said application.

At the last Triennial Convocation, two amendments to the Constitution were proposed, upon which you will be called upon to act:

The first, by M. E. Companion Rees, of Kansas, contemplates the idea of eliminating the Past Master’s degree from our series. The other, by M. E. Companion—

Reader page 61 · Austin’s address: proposed dissolution and constitutional powers

—Corson, of New Jersey, proposes to make Past Grand High Priests members of this Grand Body.

Refraining, at this time, from any comments on the merits of the proposed amendments, I bespeak for them your thoughtful and prudent consideration.

And now, Companions, it appears to be my duty to call your attention to the well known fact, that this meeting has been selected for the purpose of ending the existence of your honorable Body. The reasons given are, that it has not the powers that ought to be exercised by a governing body; and, on the other hand, that the necessary powers can not be given it, lest it exercise them to the

detriment of the privileges of the several State Grand Chapters. I very respectfully submit that neither argument is good. If this General Grand Chapter has not the powers which it ought of right to have, the reason is that a majority of the representatives have not been willing to accord that power. What reason may have led to this determination is not for me to say; but certain it is, that under the Constitution as we now read it, the State Grand Chapters have, by the acts of their own representatives, brought about the position we now occupy; and it follows, that if this Grand Body ought to exercise other powers than those defined in its present Constitution, then it only remains for its constituents to signify that fact by a proper amendment of the Constitution. If, on the other hand, it be seriously held that the General Grand Chapter can not be trusted with such an enlargement of its powers as will enable it to govern the Royal Craft and maintain its present status—

Reader page 62 · Austin’s address: national representation and American Royal Arch system

—without detriment to the interests of the State Grand Bodies, then some other cause than a supposed disposition to do wrong ought to be advanced. Look over the history of the General Grand Chapter, and point out the instances when the Body has either been willing or has attempted to exercise any power not for the best interests of the whole Craft. Look among yourselves, and see who of you is willing to tear down rather than to build up “the House of the Lord.” Consider for a moment the fact, that this Body is made up of the immediate representatives of the State Grand Chapters, and ask yourselves whether one single man of you would willingly be recorded as doing any act capable of being construed as in opposition to the interests you are sent here to protect. There is certainly not one; and whether you resolve to withhold or to accord such powers as ought rightfully to belong to the National organization, no argument and no sophistry will relieve you of the responsibility of your own acts.

Consider again, Companions, that the system we practice is purely of American origin; that it does not prevail elsewhere on the surface of the globe, save in those isolated instances where authority has been derived from this General Grand Chapter, and you will see at once that if we hope to extend our views of Royal Arch Masonry, it can only be through the means of a body representing not a single State or a few subordinate bodies, but the whole united power of this vast and—

Reader page 63 · Austin’s address: appeal for a united national body

—only successful Republic in the history of mankind. If you wish your system of work to prevail throughout the vast spaces of earth where Royal Arch Masonry is yet unknown, you can only hope for it by the influence of an united National organization, which shall command a respect above that which could be hoped for as the result of the labors of an isolated State jurisdiction.

If you cannot trust yourselves in triennial convocation, how can you do so when separated and under the influence of your several State interests? If you cannot under this organization consider and act upon the interests of Royal Arch Masonry for the sake of the Royal Craft itself, and apart from all other considerations, how shall you, when disintegrated and resolved into separate elements, evade the jealousies and oppositions which will naturally grow out of your new positions, when every State Grand Chapter will naturally be the antagonist of every other, and when each will seek to exercise the powers now only operative as the will of the whole?

I do not, nay, I will not believe, that you will after reflection consent to give up the proud position, the increasing influence you now hold in the history of Masonic [unclear], and exchange a national front for the appearance of individual States. I will not believe that the Companions who have come up to this gathering, will willingly go back to their constituents, and say to them, “We have

no faith in Royal Arch Masonry; we dare not trust our Companions of the other States, and we have therefore preferred—

Reader page 64 · Austin’s address: constitutional obligation and unity

—to undo the work of the Fathers; we have obliged to tear down the walls they have built—we have cast aside the idea of extending the system we practice to the uttermost ends of the earth, and we have preferred to work by ourselves, and to leave to others the task to which we feel ourselves unequal.” On the contrary, I believe that you go forth from this convocation with a more enlarged appreciation of the power and influence exercised by this National Body, as the representative of Royal Arch Masonry in the United States, and as the medium through which our practice will become that of a majority of the nations of the earth; and that you will esteem it a duty to so labor in your several spheres, to so influence your several jurisdictions, that we shall all be drawn more closely together, and that, instead of being reeds that bend before every blast, we shall by our firmer union become as a three-fold cord that cannot be broken.

To do this, we need but firmly resolve to maintain and obey the fundamental law we have made for ourselves; to understand that the covenants into which we have freely entered—each for himself—are ceaselessly binding and operative, and so we shall come to understand that we have failed rightly to estimate our own powers, and the magnitude of the trust committed to our keeping. Be it, then, Companions, to be true to yourselves, to your vows, and to Royal Arch Masonry, and the existence of this Grand Body is firmly assured.

And so, Companions, may the Great Architect—

Reader page 65 · Austin’s address concludes; circular to eight Grand Chapters

—be with us in our labors; direct and guide you in the paths of wisdom, concord, and fraternal love, that the stability of this Body may be increased, its just powers considered and established, the interests committed to our charge earnestly and unselfishly cared for, and the praise awarded, not to ourselves, but unto Him whose mercy endureth forever.

James M. Austin,
General Grand High Priest.

Accompanying the G. G. H. P.’s Address

Circular

Addressed to the Officers and Companions of the several Most Excellent Grand Chapters of the States of Vermont, Rhode Island, Iowa, Kentucky, North Carolina, Texas, Georgia and Alabama:

Beloved Companions,

By special request of the Most Excellent General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, the duty has devolved upon us of making fraternal appeals to you severally, as Grand Chapters of the several States above enumerated, in the terms and spirit of certain official proceedings at the late twentieth Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, begun to be holden at St. Louis, Missouri, on the 15th September, 1868.

That you may be the better prepared to note and appre—

Reader page 66 · Circular: report on interrupted Grand Chapter relations

—ciate the tenor of the appeal which we are thus requested to make to you, we beg to embody here, in limine, the report submitted to the Grand Convocation on the 18th September, by M. E. Companion H. G. Reynolds, chairman, from a select Committee, specially appointed to consider the imperfect relations existing between the General Grand Chapter of the United States and the Grand Chapters of several States not affiliating with or recognizing the authority of said General Grand Chapter of the United States. The report thus submitted was in the terms which follow:

“The Committee to whom was referred so much of the Address of the M. E. General Grand High Priest as relates to the renewal or change of relations with Grand Chapters with this General Grand Body, which have been interrupted or prevented from any cause, would respectfully report:

“That the M. E. Grand Chapters of Vermont, Rhode Island, Iowa, Kentucky, North Carolina, Texas, Georgia, and Alabama have assumed to withdraw from the jurisdiction of this Supreme body.

“Originally, this Body was a National Grand Chapter, having jurisdiction over Subordinate Chapters only. It then formed Deputy Grand Chapters, and continued to do so for several years, when it assumed the form of a General Grand Chapter, and State Grand Chapters were formed thenceforward.

“No Grand Chapters have been formed by any other authority within the United States, with the exception of those of Pennsylvania, Virginia, Florida and Delaware.

Reader page 67 · Circular: resolutions on allegiance, restoration and union

“This Body holds the first-named Chapters of Vermont, Rhode Island, North Carolina, Kentucky, Georgia, Alabama, Texas and Iowa, subject to its jurisdiction, and is anxious that they set aside their acts of withdrawal, and return to their allegiance, and be represented here without the further action of this Supreme Body.

“Your Committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

“1. Resolved, That no State Grand Chapter, organized by the authority of this M. E. General Grand Body, or which at any time has become a constituent member of this Body, can lawfully sever its connection with the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America, without its consent, but the allegiance of such Grand Chapters is inalienable and now due.

“2. Resolved, That the M. E. General Grand Council of this M. E. General Grand Chapter open correspondence with the Grand Chapters of Vermont, Rhode Island, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Texas, Kentucky and Iowa, and to induce, if possible, such action on their part as shall restore harmonious and fraternal relations as constituent members of this Body.

“3. Resolved, That the Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania, Virginia and Florida, be requested to send delegates to the next Triennial Convocation of this M. E. General Grand Body, as a committee of conference, to arrange terms of union, if practicable, with this M. E. General Grand Chapter.

Reader page 68 · Circular: unanimous approval and appeal for renewed membership

“All of which is fraternally submitted.

(Signed) H. G. Reynolds,
John D. Caldwell,
George C. Munroe,
C. E. Chichester.”

That you may fully appreciate the fraternal spirit prevailing at the Grand Convocation to which this report was submitted, and the earnest and affectionate desire of the Companions that a restoration to the ancient relations of the State Grand Chapters should once more bring the whole beloved Fraternity under the one Grand Arch of Union, we have but to add that the report was approved, and the resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Guided by this report, governed by the fraternal sentiment so unanimously felt, it is a grateful duty, which the General Grand Chapter has assigned us, of endeavoring to carry out the provisions of the second of these resolutions, and convey to you, dearly beloved Companions of the several Grand jurisdictions of Vermont, Rhode Island, North Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Texas, Kentucky and Iowa, the earnest desire and affectionate entreaty of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, that harmonious and fraternal relations shall be restored between us, and your several Grand Bodies be persuaded once more to become constituent members of this Grand National Body.

And further, as in the third resolution expressed,—

Editorial note: Florida is included in this paragraph's list, although it is addressed separately in the third resolution on the preceding reader page.

Reader page 69 · Circular: conference, reconciliation and restored allegiance

"That the Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania, Virginia and Florida be requested to send delegates to the next Triennial Convocation of this M. E. General Grand Body, as a Committee of Conference, to arrange terms of Union, if practicable, with this M. E. General Grand Chapter."

The fraternal spirit, thus entertained and expressed by the General Grand Chapter is, of itself, something of a guaranty for the successful working of such a committee of arrangements, with delegates specially chosen from Grand Chapters of such noble and honored character as those appealed to for the purpose of arbitration. It may safely be assumed that, with their wise and fraternal counsels, it will be easy to repair faults and errors, to suggest the revision of rule or law where these may have been thought or felt to be irksome; to repair all grievances, and realize, for all the parties, the conviction that in perfect union alone shall we find strength and security, shall we obtain harmony; and, under authority of one general grand head, baffle irregularity, and schism, and silence those petty differences of [prejudice?] or opinion which lead to discord, and finally result in that disintegration, disorganization and misrule which constitute the great danger in all human institutions.

It is with great satisfaction that we mention the allegiance of the Grand Chapter of Florida to the General Grand Chapter of the United States; that body "wisely waiving all matters heretofore in controversy;" while a similar action of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, at its late Grand Convocation, has rescinded its former resolutions of withdrawal, and resumed—

Reader page 70 · Circular: union, authority and restraint

—its place within the maternal compact. These are all noble examples of the true fraternal spirit of Masonry, which, we trust, will not be lost on those of the sister Grand Chapters who still remain without the porch.

It would be mere impertinence in us to dilate upon the common experience that in union is power, and that union, perfected by wisdom, is the only security for the maintenance of just authority; that the exercise of a just authority is the chief security against disruption, against false doctrines, wild vagaries of doctrine and opinion, and gross irregularities, perpetually recurring in the working of

all human organizations, even as we have known them so frequently to disturb the harmony of Masonic bodies and breed discord among them in place of peace.

As a general rule, it may safely be asserted that most of the heresies and schisms which subvert society are really of an imaginary character, not affecting any of the vital qualities or necessities of any institution. These result from the caprices of human nature, the love of change and novelty, the vanity of individuals, all of which require to be kept under restraint by a watchful, wise and patriarchal head, which shall govern only according to recognized law, and under the guidance of a long experience in the exercise of authority.

It is not believed that in the assertion of its jurisdiction hitherto, the General Grand Chapter of the United States has, in any instance, been guilty of any usurpation, or has exhibited any desire to usurp any powers not expressly conceded to it, and not essential to the maintenance of the—

Reader page 71 · Circular: reform within the order and invitation to return

—general harmony and those loving relations which should exist among the Companions of a great Order such as ours.

It is quite possible, indeed, that, in an occasional instance, in the long progress of years, and under successive and frequent changes in the Priesthood, that errors of judgment may have been committed; but these errors are to be ascribed simply to what is the universal frailty of human nature, and not to the pure institution whose laws it may err in administering.

It is for the Companions in all such cases to gather about their altars, not desert them; gather, and reform, by their votes and their voices, the faults and errors of a weak or vicious administration; not tear down the Temple, or tear themselves away from it; but, eschewing anger and passion, devote themselves to the purgation of its altars and the repair of the breaches which may have been made in its walls.

For the General Grand Chapter of the United States, the Companions at large and for ourselves, humble but loving Companions, we plead for you to re-enter the portals, which we have thrown wide for your reception; to pass along with us, with linked hands and united hearts, three by three, beneath the Grand Arch of the Temple, and unite with us in the decoration afresh of the pillars which represent the wisdom, the strength and the beauty of our ancient and sacred Order. Nothing of these can be gained by the isolation of any one of our State Grand Chapters; all are secure when we march together in solid phalanx, an army of brethren, the elbow touch of whom on every side assures—

Reader page 72 · Circular concludes; Florida’s resolution of allegiance

—us of a companionship of which we need never be ashamed, of a brotherhood in which we always place our trust in the day of strife, and storm and tribulation. It is the language of appeal, dearly beloved Companions, which we now address you, not that of argument. We leave it to your own hearts, seconding our appeal, to find the proper argument equally for head and heart which shall bind us all once more together.

Submitted to our beloved Companions, severally and collectively, of the several jurisdictions of Vermont, Rhode Island, North Carolina, Kentucky, Alabama, Texas and Georgia, this twentieth day of November, 1869.

With the fraternal prayers and benediction of

James M. Austin, G. G. H. P.;
Robert Stewart Bruns, D. G. G. H. P.;

William Hacker, G. G. K.;
Martin Collins, G. G. S.

Grand Chapter of Florida

Grand Secretary's Office,
Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Florida,
July 22d, 1869.

At a regular convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Florida, held in the City of Tallahassee, commencing on the 11th day of January 1869, the following Preamble and Resolution was adopted:

Whereas, The General Grand Chapter of the United—

Editorial note: Iowa is absent from the circular's concluding list, though it appears in the opening address on reader page 65.

Reader page 73 · Florida allegiance adopted; Iowa's letter of restoration

—States of America, waiving all matters heretofore in controversy relative to the organization of this Grand Chapter, thereby admitting the regularity of the same, has most cordially and fraternally invited this Grand Chapter to become a constituent member thereof, therefore

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter accepts such invitation in a true masonic spirit, and will hereafter bear allegiance and support to the said General Grand Chapter.

Adopted by the Grand Chapter, the 13th day of Jan'y 1869.

Attest,
[L. S.] Edward Bradford, Jr.,
Grand Secretary.

Grand Chapter of Iowa

Office of the Grand Secretary,
Grand Chapter of the State of Iowa,
Muscatine, October 23d, 1869.

M. E. James M. Austin, G. G. H. P.
New York.

Dear Sir and Companion:

It affords me pleasure to inform you that on the 20th inst., our Grand Chapter convened, and the following proceedings were had:

On motion of Comp. Langridge,

Resolved, That the action of the Grand Chapter—

Editorial note: The Florida certificate gives adoption on January 13; its introductory paragraph on reader page 72 says the convocation commenced January 11.

Reader page 74 · Iowa repeals its 1860 withdrawal

—of the State of Iowa, had at the Grand Annual Convocation of 1860 (in art. 1, p. 209) whereby this Grand Chapter is “forever absolved from all connection with the General Grand Chapter,” be, and the same is hereby repealed, and this Grand Chapter restored to its position in said General Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the O. B. of allegiance to the General Grand Chapter be administered to all the present members of Chapters in the jurisdiction, and that it be hereafter administered to candidates receiving the Royal Arch Degree.

This was referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, consisting of Comps. Guilbert, Bower and Woodward, who next morning reported in favor of the adoption of the resolutions, which report was adopted by the Grand Chapter, almost, or quite unanimously. Therefore, our Grand Chapter is again “in grace,” as the Methodists would say, and will probably be represented in Baltimore in 1871.

I drop you this line in advance of our regular publication, because I think it will give you pleasure.

Please accept my kind regards, and assurance of warm friendship for yourself both personally and officially.

Very Truly and Fraternally,
W. T. B. Langridge,
Grand Secretary.

Reader page 75 · Vermont telegram; North Carolina restores relations

Grand Chapter of Vermont

Telegraphic Dispatch

Burlington, Vermont, June 16, 1871.

Dr. James M. Austin, New York:

Grand Chapter of Vermont wheels into line, and rescinds the resolutions of 1860.

R. S. Southgate,
Grand King.

Grand Chapter of North Carolina

I, Thomas B. Carr, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina, certify that the following resolutions were adopted by the Grand Chapter of North Carolina, at its Annual Convocation held in Wilmington, on the 6th day of June A. L. 5871, A. I. 2401, A. D. 1871.

Resolved, That the resolution adopted by this Grand Body in 1857, withdrawing from the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, be, and the same is hereby repealed;

Provided always, That final action on this resolution shall be deferred until the next Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter; and that in the meantime, this Grand Chapter take immediate steps to secure its representation in the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter.

Editorial note: The Vermont dispatch is dated June 16 here; Austin’s address on reader page 53 gives June 10 as the day he received a telegram.

Reader page 76 · North Carolina certificate; address referred to committee

Resolved, That the four principal officers of this Grand Chapter be requested to attend the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, which meets at Baltimore in September next, and in case any of said officers be unable to attend in person, they be empowered to appoint proxies to represent them in said Convocation.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to furnish a certified copy of these resolutions to each of the four principal officers of this Grand Chapter, and also to forward a copy of the same to the General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

I further certify, That Comp. John Nichols, is the Grand High Priest, Comp. H. H. Munson, is the Deputy Grand High Priest, Comp. Robert H. Rountree, is the Grand King, and Comp. G. W. Blount, is the Grand Scribe of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina.

Witness my Signature, and the Seal of the Grand Chapter.

[L. S.] Thomas B. Carr,
Grand Secretary.

The address of the General Grand High Priest, with the accompanying papers, were referred for examination and report thereon, to a special committee, consisting of Comps. Josiah H. Drummond, of Maine, Elbert H. English, of Arkansas, and Thomas A. Doyle, of Rhode Island.

Reader page 77 · Printing ordered; Tuesday afternoon and finance committee

On motion, it was

Ordered, That five hundred copies of the address of the General Grand High Priest be printed, subject to the order of the General Grand Chapter for distribution.

The General Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment until four o’clock P. M.

Tuesday, 4 o’clock P. M.

The General Grand Chapter resumed labor.
M. E. James M. Austin, G. G. H. P., presiding.

Minutes of the morning session read and approved.

The General Grand High Priest appointed the following Standing Committees:

Finance

Charles Marsh, Cal.;
Henry Chickering, Mass.;
Joseph M. Fox, Mo.;
Rees G. Williams, N. Y.;
Allen A. Lesley, Del.

Reader page 78 · Standing committees in the fair copy

1871.

Foreign Correspondence

John W. Simons, N. Y.;
John A. Harris, N. H.;
Wm. H. Jefferys, N. J.

Jurisprudence

Josiah H. Drummond, Me.;
Elbert H. English, Ark.;
Charles H. Ohr, Md.;
John Q. A. Fellows, La.;
Edwin A. Allen, Neb.

Grievances

Harvey G. Hazelrigg, Ind.;
Daniel R. Grafton, Tenn.;
Augustine T. Smythe, S. C.;
James R. Hartsock, Iowa;
George W. Merrill, Minn.

Doings of G. G. Officers

Luke E. Barber, Ark.;
Geo. Frank Gouley, Mo.;
Andrew J. Wheeler, Tenn.;
Joseph Yates, Wis.;
John Nichols, N. C.

Charters and Dispensations

Luke A. Lockwood, Conn.;
Owen A. Bassett, Kan.;
John E. Mason, D. C.;
Augustus A. Murray, Ill.;
Edward A. Jewett, Vt.

Editorial note: This fair copy reads “Joseph Yates.” Earlier working entries in this volume write the surname in a form resembling “Vates.”

Reader page 79 · Fair-copy report: referrals from Austin’s address

Comp. Drummond, of the Special Committee on address of the General Grand High Priest, submitted the following report which was received and adopted.

To the M. E. General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The Committee to whom was referred the matter of apportioning the subjects of the address of the General Grand High Priest, recommend that so much of the address as relates to the death of Companions French, Penn, and Hillyer, be referred to a Special Committee on Memorials of the Dead.

That so much of the address as relates to the Grand Chapter of Delaware, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

That so much of the address as relates to the case of M. F. Truett, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

That so much of the address as relates to the correspondence with the Grand Chapters of Vermont, Rhode Island, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Texas, Kentucky and Iowa, be referred to the Committee on Doings of the General Grand Officers.

That so much of the address as relates to Dispensations for the formation of new Chapters, be referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

That so much of the address as relates to the decisions made by the M. E. General Grand High Priest, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

Reader page 80 · Memorial committee; renewed vote on Past Master degree

That so much of the address as relates to the continued existence of the General Grand Chapter, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

Fraternally submitted.
Josiah H. Drummond,
Elbert H. English.

The General Grand High Priest appointed Companions George Frank Gouley, of Missouri, Joseph P. Horner, of Louisiana, and David [H.?] Day, of New York, as the Special Committee on Memorials of the Dead.

On motion of Comp. English, the proposition offered at the last Triennial Convocation, to amend the Constitution, by striking out the words “Past Master” and “Past” wherever they occur as designating a degree, was taken up for consideration.

Comp. English moved to postpone indefinitely the further consideration of said proposition, which was not agreed to.

It was then moved to adopt the proposition, and a vote by States called for and ordered, which resulted as follows:

Yeas—Kansas, 4, Missouri, 4, Ohio, 2, Tennessee, 4. Total 14.

Nays—G. G. H. P., 1, D. G. G. H. P., 1, G. G. K., 1,—

Reader page 81 · Past Master proposal rejected; Past Grand High Priests admitted

—G. G. S., 1, G. G. Tr., 1, G. G. Sec., 1, G. G. C. H., 1, G. G. R. A. C., 1, Arkansas, 4, California, 4, Connecticut, 4, Delaware, 4, District of Columbia, 4, Illinois, 4, Indiana, 4, Iowa, 4, Louisiana, 4, Maine, 4, Maryland, 4, Massachusetts, 4, Michigan, 4, Minnesota, 3, Mississippi, 4, Nebraska, 4, North Carolina, 4, New Hampshire, 4, New Jersey, 4, New York, 4, Ohio, 2, South Carolina, 4, Vermont, 4, Wisconsin, 4. Total 101.

The proposed amendment was declared rejected.

The proposition to amend Sec. 3, of Art. 1 of the Constitution, proposed at the last Triennial Convocation, by inserting the words, “and all Past Grand High Priests,” between the word “officers,” and the words, “of every State Grand Chapter,” so as to read, “these, together with the first four officers, and all Past Grand High Priests, of every State Grand Chapter under this jurisdiction × × × × × × shall compose this, the General Grand Chapter,” was then taken up, and adopted by the following vote:

Yeas—G. G. H. P., 1, D. G. G. H. P., 1, G. G. K., 1, G. G. S., 1, G. G. Tr., 1, G. G. Sec., 1, G. G. C. H., 1, G. G. R. A. C., 1, Arkansas, 4, California, 4, Connecticut, 1, Delaware, 4, District of Columbia, 4, Illinois, 4, Iowa, 4, Kansas, 4, Louisiana, 4, Maryland, 4, Massachusetts, 4, Michigan, 4, Minnesota, 4, Mississippi, 4, Missouri, 4, Nebraska, 4, North Carolina, 4, New Hampshire, 4, New Jersey, 4,—

Editorial note: The fair copy counts eight individual General Grand Officers, producing a negative total of 101; the working entry on reader page 27 counts nine officers and records 102.

Reader page 82 · Past Grand High Priests recognized as members

—New York, 4, Ohio, 4, South Carolina, 4, Tennessee, 4, Vermont, 4, Wisconsin, 4. Total 105.

Nays—Connecticut, 3, Indiana, 4. Total 7.

The Constitution of the General Grand Chapter was declared amended accordingly, and pursuant thereto the following Past Grand High Priests, being present, were recognized as members of the General Grand Chapter:

Companion	Jurisdiction
Albert Pike	Arkansas
Luke E. Barber	Arkansas
Charles Marsh	California
Luke A. Lockwood	Connecticut
Daniel C. Godwin	Delaware
Albert G. Mackey	Dist. of Columbia
Hiram W. Hubbard	Illinois
George W. Lininger	Illinois
William Hacker	Indiana
Harvey G. Hazelrigg	Indiana
Thomas Newby	Indiana
George W. Porter	Indiana
James R. Hartsock	Iowa
Theodore S. Parvin	Iowa
John Q. A. Fellows	Louisiana
John McClellan	Massachusetts
Josiah H. Drummond	Maine
Martin Collins	Missouri
Daniel R. Marshall	New Hampshire

Editorial note: This fair copy gives 105 affirmative votes; the working copy on reader page 28 gives 106 before recording Maine’s additional four votes.

Reader page 83 · Past Grand High Priests continued; second day opens

Companion	Jurisdiction
John Christie	New Hampshire
Thomas J. Corson	New Jersey
George B. Edwards	New Jersey
Marcus Higginbotham	New Jersey
Wm. W. Goodwin	New Jersey
Ezra S. Barnum	New York
John D. Perry	New York
James M. Austin	New York
John W. Simons	New York
Robert Stewart Bruns	South Carolina
John Frizzell	Tennessee

The General Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment, until 11 o’clock A. M. to-morrow.

Second Day

Wednesday, 11 o’clock A. M.

The General Grand Chapter resumed labor.
M. E. James M. Austin, General Grand High Priest, presiding.

Prayer by Comp. James Byron Murray, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Chapter of New York.

The minutes of yesterday’s afternoon session were read and approved.

Reader page 84 · Maine’s additional vote; Marshall’s amendment in full

Comp. Drummond asked leave to record the vote of Maine, (4 votes) in favor of the proposition to amend the Constitution admitting Past Grand High Priests to membership in the General Grand Chapter, and the record was so ordered.

Comp. Marshall submitted the following, as a proposed amendment to the Constitution, which was duly seconded, and action on the same postponed until the next Triennial Convocation, pursuant to a provision of the Constitution.

Amend Section 3 of Article 1, by inserting in the fifth line after the word “with,” the words “all Past General Grand High Priests, Past Deputy General Grand High Priests, Past General Grand Kings, and Past General Grand Scribes,” and, also, in the eighth line after the words “General Grand Chapter,” the following: “Provided, That no member shall be entitled to more than one vote in his own right;” so that Section 3, of Article 1 will read, when so amended, commencing with the word “these” in the fifth line. “These, together with all Past General Grand High Priests, Past Deputy General Grand High Priests, Past General Grand Kings, Past General Grand Scribes, the first four officers, and all Past Grand High Priests of every State Grand Chapter under this jurisdiction, or the proxies of the—

Reader page 85 · Marshall amendment continued; Chaytor memorial and election order

—first four General Grand Officers, and of the first four officers of each State Grand Chapter aforesaid, shall compose the General Grand Chapter; Provided, That no member shall be entitled to more than one vote in his own right, and, Provided further, That any Chapter under this jurisdiction, in any State, District or Territory, where there is no Grand Chapter duly established, shall have a right to appear by its first three officers, or any one or two of them, which officers shall collectively have one vote."

A memorial of George W. Chaytor, of Delaware, was presented, and, on motion, it was referred to the Grand Chapter of Delaware.

The General Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment, until 4 o'clock P. M.

Wednesday, 4 o'clock P. M.

The General Grand Chapter resumed labor.
M. E. James M. Austin, G. G. H. P., presiding.

Minutes of morning session read and approved.

On motion of Comp. Marshall, the election of General Grand Officers was made a special order for 9 o'clock A. M., to-morrow.

Reader page 86 · Next triennial meeting committee; charter report begins

On motion of Comp. McCurdy,

Resolved, That a special Committee be appointed to confer with the proper committee of the Grand Encampment of the United States, to designate the time and place for the next triennial meetings.

Comps. Hugh McCurdy, of Michigan, Henry Chickering, of Massachusetts, and Dewitt C. Dawkins, of Florida, were appointed such Special Committee.

Comp. Lockwood, of the Standing Committee on Charters and Dispensations, submitted the following report, which was accepted and the resolutions adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter:

The Committee on Charters and Dispensations, respectfully report, that they have examined the several papers and records submitted to them, and recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. In the matter of Pueblo Chapter, U. D., Colorado Territory

Resolved, That a Charter be granted, and that said Chapter be directed to amend Sec. 2, of Art. 3, of its by-laws, by striking out the words "unless otherwise ordered by the Chapter,"—the appointment of Committees being a prerogative of the High Priest.

2. In the matter of Keystone Chapter, U. D., Shanghai, China:

Reader page 87 · Charter report: Keystone, western territories and Honolulu

Resolved, That a Charter be granted according to the prayer of the petition.

In connection with this Chapter, your Committee feel that it is due the worthy Companions of this remote Chapter to place upon the records of the General Grand Chapter this expression of its

approbation of the workmanlike character, completeness and excellence of their records and documents as submitted.

3. In the matter of Boise Chapter, U. D., Boise City, Idaho Territory; Wyoming Chapter, U. D., Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory; and White Pine Chapter, U. D., Hamilton, Nevada:

Resolved, That a Charter be issued to each of said Chapters, upon condition that a copy of the By-laws of said Chapters be submitted to and approved by the General Grand High Priest.

4. In the matter of Seattle Chapter, U. D., Seattle, Washington Territory:

Resolved, That a Charter be issued according to the prayer of the petition.

5. In the matter of Honolulu Chapter, Honolulu, Sandwich Islands; Cyrus Chapter, Silver City, Idaho Territory; and Walla Walla Chapter, U. D., Walla Walla, Washington Territory:

Resolved, That the prayer of the several petitions be granted, provided they submit a report of their proceedings, by-laws and records, and the same shall be approved by the General Grand High Priest.

Reader page 88 · Charter fees required; Maine’s request about substitutes and proxies

Resolved, That no Charter be delivered until a certificate of the payment of all fees and dues to the General Grand Chapter, be filed by the General Grand Secretary.

Fraternally submitted.
Luke A. Lockwood,
Jno. Edw. Mason,
Augustus A. Murray,
Owen A. Bassett.

Comp. Drummond presented the following, which was read and referred to a Select Committee, consisting of Comps. Luke E. Barber, of Arkansas; Geo. Frank Gouley, of Missouri; Ezra S. Barnum, of New York; William H. Jefferys, of New Jersey, and Harvey G. Hazelrigg, of Indiana.

To the M. E. General Grand Chapter of the U. S.

At the last Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Maine, the following resolution was adopted:

“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.”

And the Grand High Priest was requested to cause this resolution to be presented to this M. E. Grand Body for its consideration.

Josiah H. Drummond,
Proxy for Grand High Priest.

Reader page 89 · Memorial report adopted; Secretary’s triennial report begins

Comp. Gouley, of the Special Committee on Memorials of the Dead, submitted the following report, which was accepted and the recommendation adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

Your Committee on Memorials of the Dead, beg leave to report that they have learned with unfeigned regret, of the decease of M. E. Companion Benjamin Brown French, P. G. G. Secretary; also of M. E. Companion Giles M. Hillyer, P. G. G. Scribe; also of Companion James Penn, P. G. G. Treasurer of the General Grand Chapter,—realizing that in their death, Royal Arch Masonry in the United States has suffered a severe loss, which is duly felt and appreciated by this Grand Body. We recommend that the General Grand Secretary be instructed to set apart memorial pages, paying proper tribute to the virtues of those lamented, deceased companions.

Fraternally submitted.
Geo. Frank Gouley,
Joseph P. Horner.

The General Grand Secretary presented the following, it being his triennial report, and on motion, it was received and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

Your General Grand Secretary reports that there has been activity in the Royal Art since our happy re-un—

Reader page 90 · Secretary’s report: expenses, records and publications

—ion at St. Louis in 1868.

The spirit of the craft is not that of death, but life. Your devoted chief officer has held the standard high, and the enthusiastic workmen have rallied around him. The correspondence of that officer has been extensive, and the bills of expenses have been only $35.20.

The numerous circulars and increasing labors of the General Grand Secretary have increased his outlays. The expenses of keeping the office and care of the archives, by the services of a lad, I have placed at one hundred dollars a year, leaving it optional with the General Grand Chapter for payment of any salary for my own services.

I would respectfully suggest that some definite assignment be made, it must necessarily be made from our limited means, but it would be satisfactory to have the small sum named; the methodical care of papers and guarding the interests of the organization is worthy of some consideration.

I have sold a few copies of the Compendium, and have some thirty left, which should be carefully preserved for new Chapters.

I have bound two copies of all our Proceedings, and also a single copy of each of the State Grand Bodies of the last three years; this expense should continue each year.

This body, with its undoubted determination to be more useful and active in the future, should mature some—

Reader page 91 · Secretary’s report: proposed history and accounts

—more hopeful scheme of raising money.

The duties of my office, relative to a preservation of its history, have been self-imposed; and I have collected interesting material worthy of publication, and, as the General Grand Chapter has no means to aid in such publication, I propose, if your authority be given, to prepare a condensed historical tract at my own expense. The history of the continuous and successful labors of this General Grand Chapter will show that it has established all the really efficient Chapters that have started in this country since 1798, when it was organized. The United States is the Masonic

Lighthouse, now, to even remote nations. It charters are prized in the Celestial Empire, the Islands in the Pacific Ocean, at Valparaiso in Chili, and at Smyrna in the Turkish Empire.

I had two copies of your vote of thanks for hospitalities at St. Louis, properly engrossed on parchment and framed, and sent one copy to the City Council of St. Louis, whose notice of the same, and message of His Honor the Mayor, I have filed for preservation.

The dispensation fees, dues, and sales of the reprint of the Proceedings in gross amount to $1,278.00; the memoranda of outlays $825.48, I have filed with the General Grand Treasurer, and paid him the balance, $452.52.

The action of yesterday’s session will increase largely the membership of this Grand Body, and a larger number of copies of the Proceedings will be needed for satisfactory distribution.

John D. Caldwell, General Grand Sec’y.

Editorial note: “It charters” is written in the manuscript; the intended sense appears to be “Its charters.” The report gives 1798 as the organization year.

Reader page 92 · Special committee’s report on substitutes

Comp. Gouley, of the Select Committee, to which was referred the action of the Grand Chapter of Maine, in relation to the use of substitutes, presented the following report, which was received:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

Your Special Committee, appointed to take into consideration the subject of the use of substitutes in the Royal Arch degree, beg leave to report, that after duly considering the subject, as well as the various rituals used in conferring said degree, they arrive at the conclusion that the use of substitutes is not in conflict with the covenant of a Royal Arch Mason, and offer the following resolutions and recommend their adoption:

Resolved, That this General Grand Chapter decides that the use of substitutes is not a violation of the Ritual of Royal Arch Masonry, or the Installation charges delivered to a High Priest, and that substitutes may be authorized by Grand Chapters working under this jurisdiction.

Resolved, That while such is the interpretation of the Ritual and Installation charges by this Grand Body, Chapters are fraternally and earnestly urged to use full classes of active candidates, except in cases of emergency, for the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry.

Fraternally submitted,
Luke E. Barber,
Geo. Frank Gouley,
Harvey G. Hazelrigg,
Wm. H. Jefferys.

Reader page 93 · Vote on forbidding substitutes

Comp. McCurdy offered the following as a substitute for the resolutions proposed by the Committee:

Resolved, That the use of substitutes in conferring the Royal Arch degree is hereby forbidden.

And the same was lost on a call of votes by States, as follows:

Yeas—District of Columbia, 4, Illinois, 4, Kansas, 4, Michigan, 4, Mississippi, 4, Tennessee, 4, Wisconsin, 4.

Past Grand High Priests—Illinois, 2, Tennessee, 1.

Total 31.

Nays—G. G. H. P., 1, D. G. G. H. P., 1, G. G. K., 1, G. G. S., 1, G. G. Tr., 1, G. G. Sec., 1, Arkansas, 4, California, 4, Connecticut, 4, Delaware, 4, Florida, 4, Indiana, 4, Louisiana, 4, Maryland, 4, Iowa, 4, Massachusetts, 4, Minnesota, 4, Missouri, 4, New Hampshire, 4, New Jersey, 4, New York, 4, Ohio, 4, South Carolina, 4, Vermont, 4.

Past Grand High Priests—California, 1, Connecticut, 1, Indiana, 4, Louisiana, 1, Iowa, 1, New Hampshire, 2, New Jersey, 1, New York, 1.

Total 90.

The question recurring upon the resolutions submitted by the Committee, a division was called for and ordered, and the first resolution was adopted on a call of votes by States, as follows:

Editorial note: The working minutes on reader page 31 give 28 affirmative votes on McCurdy's substitute; this fair copy adds three votes of Past Grand High Priests and records 31.

Reader page 94 · Substitute-work resolutions adopted; jurisprudence report begins

Yeas—G. G. H. P., 1, D. G. G. H. P., 1, G. G. K., 1, G. G. S., 1, G. G. Tr., 1, G. G. Sec., 1, G. G. C. H., 1, Arkansas, 4, California, 4, Connecticut, 4, Delaware, 4, Florida, 4, Indiana, 4, Louisiana, 4, Maryland, 4, Iowa, 4, Massachusetts, 4, Minnesota, 4, Missouri, 4, New Hampshire, 4, New Jersey, 4, New York, 4, Ohio, 4, South Carolina, 4, Vermont, 4.

Past Grand High Priests—Connecticut, 1, Delaware, 1, Indiana, 4, Louisiana, 1, Iowa, 1, New Hampshire, 2, New Jersey, 1, New York, 1.

Total 91.

Nays—District of Columbia, 4, Illinois, 4, Kansas, 4, Michigan, 4, Mississippi, 4, Tennessee, 4, Wisconsin, 4.

Past Grand High Priests—Illinois, 1, Tennessee, 1.

Total 30.

The second resolution reported by the Committee was then adopted.

Comp. Fellows, of the Standing Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, presented the following report which was adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence ask leave to report upon the various matters in the address of the General Grand High Priest, referred to them, as follows:

The matter of the Grand Chapter of Delaware, and—

Reader page 95 · Jurisprudence report: Delaware, Truett and continuing authority

—the case of M. F. Truett, were referred by the General Grand Chapter, at its last convocation to the M. E. General Grand High Priest with power, and, therefore, his action in the premises is final.

The decisions of the M. E. General Grand High Priest, 1st, That this body has authority to determine all questions in relation to the work, and that officers at their installation, and candidates, are required to bind themselves to support the Constitution of the General Grand

Chapter of the United States, and 2d, That this General Grand Chapter has never ceased to exist since its organization, are clearly correct.

The Committee fully concur in the language of the M. E. General Grand High Priest, in relation to the continuance of this body, and they commend it most earnestly to the consideration of the Royal Arch Masons of the jurisdiction.

Fraternally submitted.
Josiah H. Drummond,
Elbert H. English,
J. Q. A. Fellows,
Charles H. Ohr,
Edwin A. Allen.

The General Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment until 9 o’clock A. M., to morrow.

Reader page 96 · Third day; Treasurer’s receipts

Third Day

Thursday, 9 o’clock A. M.

The General Grand Chapter resumed labor.
M. E. James M. Austin, General Grand High Priest, presiding.

Minutes of yesterday’s afternoon session read and approved.

The General Grand Treasurer submitted his report, as follows, and it was received, and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance.

John McClellan, General Grand Treasurer

In account with the General Grand Chapter of the U. S.

Date	Receipt	Amount
1868, Sept. 15	Balance of Cash on hand	$498.37
Sept. 18	Received of J. D. Caldwell, Genl. Gr. Secy.	$155.00
1870, Feb. 28	J. D. Caldwell	$100.00
May 7	Grand Chapter of New York, donation	$150.00
Nov. 5	J. D. Caldwell, General Grand Secretary	$100.00
Aug. 8	Keystone Chapter at Shanghai, for Dispensation	$100.00
1871, Sept. 15	Home Savings Bank for interest on deposits	$31.82
Sept. 20	J. D. Caldwell, General Grand Secretary	$297.52
	Total	$1,432.71

Reader page 97 · Treasurer’s payments; constitution and library resolutions

Date	Payment or balance	Amount
1868	Paid J. D. Caldwell, General Grand Secretary	$250.00
Sept. 18	St. Louis Republican	$25.00
Dec. 18	J. D. Caldwell, General Grand Secretary	$300.00
1871, Sept. 20	Balance, Cash in hand	$857.71
	Total	$1,432.71

Fraternally submitted,
John McClellan,
General Grand Treasurer.

Comp. Johnson offered the following resolutions, which were adopted.

Resolved, That the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, with the amendments adopted at the present session, be reprinted with the Proceedings, under the supervision of the General Grand Council.

Resolved, That the General Grand Secretary be directed to insert, by a note, in the Proceedings of the present session, a list of Charters for subordinate Chapters heretofore granted, but omitted in the printed proceedings.

Comp. Mason offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the General Grand Chapter furnish a copy of its Proceedings in future to the Congressional Library at Washington, and supply as full a set of past Proceedings as possible.

Reader page 98 · Library distribution; proposed review of substitute work

Resolved, That the General Grand Chapter request all State Grand Chapters to supply the Congressional Library with their Proceedings, and send as full a set of Proceedings as they can now supply.

On motion of Comp. Jefferys,

Resolved, That under the direction of our General Grand High Priest, copies of the printed Proceedings of this General Grand Chapter be distributed to Public Libraries, in addition to the usual distribution of said printed copies of Proceedings.

Comp. Ohr proposed the following:

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed, to whom shall be referred the subject of substitutes, and they be requested to revise the work and ritual of the Chapter on that subject, as also the provisions of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, so far as they relate to this subject, and report at the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter.

Comp. Hartsock moved to insert in the resolution the words “General Grand Council,” instead of “a Committee of five.”

On motion of Comp. Dawkins the whole subject—

Reader page 99 · Finance committee on the Treasurer’s report

—was laid on the table.

Comp. Marsh, of the Standing Committee on Finance, presented the following report which was received and the recommendation adopted.

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

Your Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the report of the General Grand Treasurer, respectfully report, that they have examined the same and find it correct in every particular, and that the moneys have been paid in accordance with the orders of the General Grand Chapter, and that the sum of money in the Treasury is correctly reported, viz., $857.71.

The General Grand Treasurer has reported only such moneys as have been received by him, which is much less than the full amount accruing to the General Grand Chapter. This course should not be practiced in future; but for this the General Grand Secretary is responsible, he having received and disbursed moneys without accounting to the General Grand Treasurer for the same. Your Committee recommend that hereafter all moneys received by the General Grand Secretary, be paid to the General Grand Treasurer, and drawn for by warrants on proper vouchers.

All which is respectfully submitted.
Charles Marsh,
Henry Chickering,
Rees G. Williams.

Reader page 100 · Finance committee on the Secretary’s report; continued in Volume 2D

Comp. Marsh, of the Standing Committee on Finance, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted.

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

Your Committee to whom was referred that portion of the report of the General Grand Secretary relative to finances, respectfully report, that they have carefully examined the same, and find that he has received since the last Triennial Convocation the following sums of money as reported by him: For dispensations $720.00, and for dues from Subordinate Chapters $558.00, making a total of $1,278.00.

He has expended, in the performance of his duties, for necessary expenses, for which he presents proper vouchers, viz., printing, binding, stationery, etc., the sum of $525.48.

He has also charged the sum of $300.00 for expenses connected with his office, viz.: rent, lights, fuel, and clerical assistance, making a total of expenditures of $825.48.

For the last named expenditure your Committee find no precedent in the former action of this Grand Body, but have concluded to recommend the allowance of the amount, believing it to be just and equitable.

The balance, $452.52, has been paid to the General Grand Treasurer.

Your Committee also find that the sum of $300.00, allowed as a contingent fund, although drawn from the—

Editorial note: The report continues in the next source file, Volume 2D. This fair copy assigns $525.48 to printing and other necessary expenses and $300 to office expenses; the working copy on reader page 34 assigns $325.48 and $500 respectively. Both versions total $825.48.

1856 Volume 2D

Read the typed text of all 60 supplied PDF scans, completing the Baltimore proceedings of September 1871 and beginning the Nashville convocation of November 1874. The file retains its library title “1856 Volume 2D.” Scan numbers match the PDF reader above.

The 1871 proceedings continue from Volume 2C and close on scan 13. The Nashville session begins on scan 18. The supplied file ends partway through the 1874 convocation, with the last written entry on scan 59 and a blank final page; the conclusion of that meeting is not present. Uncertain readings, faded figures, and conflicting manuscript dates or amounts are marked.

Original source PDF · 60 source pages

Reader page 1 · Continuation of the 1871 finance report from Volume 2C

Editorial note: This source file begins in the middle of the report on reader page 100 of Volume 2C.

—General Grand Treasurer by the General Grand Secretary, has been replaced by him, thus leaving the balance in the Treasury the same as reported by the General Grand Treasurer as being in hand at the last Triennial Convocation, viz.: $498.37; which amount was reduced by appropriations made at that time on account of expenses of previous years, viz.: General Grand Secretary $250.00, and the St. Louis Republican, $25.00, leaving on hand of previous accumulations the sum of $223.37; to which add the gain since 1868, $452.52, amount donated by the Grand Chapter of New York $150.00, and interest on deposits $31.82, making a total of $857.71, as the amount in the hands of the General Grand Treasurer at the commencement of this Convocation as reported by him.

Your Committee believe, from all the information they have been able to obtain, that the foregoing is a correct financial statement, but are constrained to say, that the accounts are not kept in such form in the office of the General Grand Secretary as to render investigation an easy matter.

In justice to the General Grand Secretary, however, it is but proper to state that the difficulty experienced by your Committee, in the investigation of the accounts, arose from the loss or displacement of the books in which the accounts had been kept.

All of which is respectfully submitted.
Charles Marsh,
Henry Chickering,
Rees G. Williams.

Reader page 2 · 1871 election and officers’ expense allowances

The General Grand Chapter then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing term, which resulted as follows:

Companion	Place	Office
Josiah H. Drummond	Portland, Me.	G. G. H. P.
Elbert H. English	Little Rock, Ark.	D. G. G. H. P.
Charles H. Ohr	Cumberland, Md.	G. G. K.
Charles Marsh	Nevada, Cal.	G. G. S.
John McClellan	Boston, Mass.	G. G. Treas.

Companion	Place	Office
Christopher G. Fox	Buffalo, N. Y.	G. G. Sec’y
Joseph Yates	Berlin, Wis.	G. G. C. H.
Dewitt C. Dawkins	Jacksonville, Fla.	G. G. R. A. C.

Comp. Marsh, of the Standing Committee on Finance, presented the following report, which was received, and the recommendation adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

Your Committee on Finance respectfully recommend that the following sums, for expenses of the General Grand Officers be allowed, in accordance with the custom heretofore observed by this Grand Body.

Companion	Office	Amount
James M. Austin	G. G. H. P.	$100
Robert S. Bruns	D. G. G. H. P.	$40
William Hacker	G. G. K.	$50
Martin Collins	G. G. S.	$75
John McClellan	G. G. Treas.	$40
John D. Caldwell	G. G. Sec’y	$150
Daniel A. Piper	G. G. G. [A.?] C.	$25
Total		$480

All which is respectfully submitted,
Charles Marsh,
Henry Chickering,
Rees G. Williams.

Reader page 3 · Ways and means; Canadian visitor; Henry Maguire appeal

On motion of Comp. Drummond, the matter of providing ways and means was referred to the Standing Committee on Finance.

The General Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment until 4 o’clock, P. M.

Thursday, 4 o’clock P. M.

The General Grand Chapter resumed labor.
M. E. James M. Austin, General Grand High Priest, presiding.

The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Comp. Henry Robertson, P. G. Z., of the Grand Chapter of Canada, was announced in waiting, for the purpose of visiting the General Grand Chapter, and was introduced and received with the customary honors.

An appeal of Henry Maguire, from the action of Cyrus Chapter, No. 2, U. D., at Silver City, Idaho Territory, was presented, and referred to the Standing Committee on Grievances.

At this stage of the proceedings, important action was had relative to the ritual of the Royal Arch degree, the substance of which was recommended to be communicated—

Editorial note: The fair copy calls the appellant Henry Maguire; the working entry in Volume 2C, reader page 36, appears to call him Denny Maguire.

Reader page 4 · Ritual memorandum; Maryland banquet invitation

—through the Grand Councils of the State Grand Chapters at their next ensuing annual convocations.

The action above referred to related to the G. O., or the [unclear abbreviation] Wxx, which was declared to be ××××××, and given as follows:

Editorial note: The manuscript uses abbreviations and crosses in this passage. Beneath it is a red triangle with three numbered groups of letters, rather than continuous prose.

Position	Inscription
Top	1st — J V H
Lower right	2d — H V J
Lower left	3d — V J H

Comp. Schultz, in behalf of the Grand Commandery of Maryland, tendered an invitation to the officers and members of the General Grand Chapter to attend a banquet at the Maryland Institute, at 7 o’clock, P. M., which was accepted.

The General Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment until 9 o’clock, A. M., to-morrow.

Reader page 5 · Fourth day; report on restoring Grand Chapter relations

Fourth Day

Friday, 9 o’clock A. M.

The General Grand Chapter resumed labor.
M. E. James M. Austin, General Grand High Priest, presiding.

Prayer was offered by Comp. Jefferys.

The minutes of the proceedings of yesterday’s afternoon session were read and approved.

Comp. English presented the following report of the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers, which was received and adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers, to whom was referred so much of the address of the M. E. General Grand High Priest, as relates to the duty entrusted to the Grand Council at the preceding Triennial Convocation of this Body, “to open correspondence with the Grand Chapters of Vermont, Rhode Island, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Texas, Kentucky and Iowa, and to induce, if possible, such action on their part as would tend to restore harmonious and fraternal relations as constituent members of this Body,” have—

Reader page 6 · Report commends the Grand Council’s efforts toward reunion

—had the same under consideration, and respectfully report.

It is with no ordinary degree of pleasure that they bear testimony to the enlightened judgment, delicate courtesy and fraternal kindness of the Grand Council, in discharging the important interest committed to their hands—important, we say, because we can scarcely conceive any thing that would more advance the interests, and give dignity, and consideration to this General Grand Body, than in resetting in the Holy House the pillars that have fallen away from it, and the adding of others that would give strength to the rest—beauty, and beauty in the adornment of our then perfect temple.

In congratulating you that Florida has entered under the banners of our house, and that Iowa, Vermont, and North Carolina have returned to the maternal fold, we cannot but express the feelings of the members of this Body, and of our Companions throughout the Union, nor can we refrain from giving utterance to our appreciation of the wise counsels that have led to this result.

Your Committee recommend that the Grand Council cease not their efforts to discharge the duty entrusted to them, in which they have partially succeeded, until the Grand Royal Arch Chapters of the United States shall constitute one harmonious brotherhood in union with—

Reader page 7 · Henry Maguire’s appeal referred for a full record

—this Grand Body.

Respectfully submitted,
Luke E. Barber,
John Nichols,
Andrew J. Wheeler,
Joseph Yates,
Geo. Frank Gouley.

Comp. Hazelrigg, of the Standing Committee on Grievances, presented the following report, which was received, and the recommendation adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The Committee on Grievances, to whom was referred the appeal of Henry Maguire from the sentence of expulsion pronounced against him by Cyrus Chapter, No. 2, U. D., Silver City, Idaho Territory, report:

That the only paper they have had before them is the statement of the expelled, of the fact of his expulsion, and his reasons for appealing. There being no other papers before the Committee, they are unable to decide whether the sentence of the subordinate is correct or not; only upon the principle that the decision of a competent tribunal is presumed to be correct until the contrary appears; but, as injustice may have been done the appellant, the Committee recommend that the case be referred to the M. E. General Grand High Priest, with directions to require the subordinate Chapter—

Reader page 8 · Honolulu warrant revived; rules committee appointed

—to send to him a full and complete record of its proceedings in the case, together with the evidence, and that he make such order as the facts require.

Respectfully submitted,
Harvey G. Hazelrigg,
Daniel R. Grafton,
Augustine T. Smythe,
James R. Hartsock.

On motion of Comp. Jefferys,

Resolved, That the warrant granted to a Royal Arch Chapter at Honolulu, in the year 1859, be and hereby is revived, and the said Chapter has authority by the said warrant to open and work; provided the warrant aforesaid is in possession of the present officers or members; but, if it cannot be found, the General Grand Chapter hereby authorizes the issue of a duplicate warrant.

On motion of Comp. Dawkins,

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed to draft suitable rules for the government of this Body, subject to its approval at the next Triennial Convocation.

Comp. Dawkins, and the members elect of the Grand Council, were appointed such Committee.

Reader page 9 · Next meeting debate: Chicago, New Orleans and Memphis

Comp. Chickering, of the Special Committee appointed to act with the proper committee of the Grand Encampment in the selection of a time and place for the next Triennial Meetings, reported that the joint committee had agreed upon Chicago as the place, and the third Tuesday of September, 1874, at 9 o’clock, A. M., as the time, and recommended that such time and place be selected for the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter.

Comp. English offered the following as a substitute for the report of the Committee.

Resolved, That the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, shall be held at New Orleans, on Wednesday preceding the third Tuesday of December, 1874, at 9 o’clock, A. M.

Comp. Grafton moved to amend the resolution, by substituting “Memphis” as the place of meeting, instead of “New Orleans,” which was not agreed to.

The question was then taken on the resolution offered by Comp. English on a call of votes by yeas and nays, and it was lost.

Yeas—Arkansas, 4, California, 4, Iowa, 2, Louisiana, 4, Maine, 4, New Jersey, 4, South Carolina, 4.

Past Grand High Priests—California, 1, New Jersey, 4. Total 31.

Reader page 10 · Nashville selected; 1856 Past Master recommendation rescinded

Nays—G. G. H. P., 1, G. G. K., 1, G. G. Tr., 1, Florida, 4, Illinois, 4, Indiana, 4, Iowa, 2, Maryland, 4, Massachusetts, 4, New Hampshire, 4, North Carolina, 4, New York, 4, Ohio, 4, Tennessee, 4, Vermont, 4, Wisconsin, 4.

Past Grand High Priests—Delaware, 1, Indiana, 1, New Hampshire, 2. Total 57.

Comp. Bain moved to amend the report of the Committee, by substituting “Nashville” for “Chicago,” as the place of meeting. Agreed to.

Comp. Ohr moved to amend the report of the Committee by substituting “the third Tuesday in November,” for “the third Tuesday of September,” as the time for the next Triennial Convocation. Adopted.

The report of the Committee as amended was then adopted.

On motion of Comp. Kiefer, the resolution adopted by the General Grand Chapter at its Triennial Convocation held at Hartford, in 1856, recommending “Grand Chapters and the subordinate Chapters under its jurisdiction, to abridge the ceremonies of the Past Master’s degree within the narrowest constitutional limits, only retaining the inducting of the candidate into the oriental chair and the communicating of the means of recognition,” was rescinded.

Reader page 11 · Thanks to Baltimore; annual one-cent contribution requested

On motion of Comp. English,

Resolved, That the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States tenders its grateful thanks to the Companions, Knights and Citizens of the City of Baltimore, for the cordial and hospitable manner in which it has been welcomed and treated during its present Convocation, and that the General Grand Secretary communicate copies of this resolution to the local Chapters and Commanderies, and to the Mayor of the City.

Comp. Marsh, of the Standing Committee on Finance, submitted the following report which was received and the resolution adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

Your Committee on Finance would respectfully report, that in consideration of the pecuniary necessities of this Grand Body, they recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the State Grand Chapters throughout the jurisdiction be requested to cause to be paid annually, to the General Grand Secretary of this General Grand Chapter, the sum of one cent for each Royal Arch Mason borne upon the rolls of their subordinates at the date of their annual reports; the funds so raised to be used to defray the necessary expenses of the General Grand Chapter. And the General—

Reader page 12 · Officers installed; thanks to Austin; printing resolution begins

—Grand Secretary be, and hereby is instructed to pay to the General Grand Treasurer the amount so collected, and make report thereof at each Triennial Convocation.

All which is respectfully submitted.
Charles Marsh,
Rees G. Williams,
Henry Chickering,
Joseph M. Fox,
Allen V. Lesley.

The General Grand Officers elect were then duly installed by the General Grand High Priest.

Comp. English offered the following:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Grand Chapter are hereby tendered to M. E. Companion James M. Austin, for the faithful, able and fraternal manner in which he has discharged his duties during his official term as General Grand High Priest, and for the firm but impartial and affable manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of this Body.

The resolution was adopted unanimously, and by a rising vote.

On motion of Comp. Chickering,

Resolved, That the General Grand Secretary—

Editorial note: An embossed General Grand Chapter seal appears over part of this leaf. Lesley's middle initial is written V in the signatures here.

Reader page 13 · 1871 session closes; next meeting at Nashville

—cause to be printed at least one thousand copies of the Proceedings of this Triennial Convocation, and that he have authority to draw a warrant on the General Grand Treasurer to pay the expense thereof, and for distribution of the same.

The minutes of this session were read and adopted.

The General Grand Chapter was then closed in ample form, to meet at Nashville, Tennessee, on the last Tuesday of November, 1874.

Josiah H. Drummond,
General Grand High Priest.

Attest,
Christopher G. Fox,
General Grand Secretary.

Editorial note: This closing entry says “last Tuesday of November”; the adopted amendment on reader page 10 says “third Tuesday in November.” The General Grand Chapter seal is impressed beside the attestation.

Reader page 14 · General Grand Chapter title leaf

General Grand Chapter

Editorial note: Only this heading is entered on the leaf.

Reader page 15 · Blank leaf

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Reader page 16 · General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons title leaf

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

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Reader page 17 · Blank leaf

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Reader page 18 · Twenty-second triennial convocation opens at Nashville, 1874

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

The Twenty-second Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, was held in Freemasons Hall, Nashville, Tenn., commencing on Tuesday, November 24th, A. I. 2404, A. D. 1874, at 12 o’clock, M.

Present

Companion	Jurisdiction	Office or capacity
M. E. Josiah H. Drummond	Maine	G. G. H. P.
James M. Austin	New York	As D. G. G. H. P.
Theodore S. Parvin	Iowa	As G. G. K.
Charles Marsh	California	G. G. S.
John McClellan	Massachusetts	G. G. Treas.
Christopher G. Fox	New York	G. G. Sec.
Wilbur F. Foster	Tennessee	G. G. C. H.
Daniel H. Wheeler	Nebraska	G. G. R. A. C.
Rev. Marcus B. DeWitt	Tennessee	G. G. Chaplain
George [Seiferle?]	Tennessee	G. G. Sentinel

Reader page 19 · 1874 representatives: Arkansas through Kentucky

1874. And the Representatives of State Grand Chapters as follows:

Alabama

[No representative entered.]

Arkansas

Companion	Office or capacity
George H. Dannelley	Proxy of G. H. P.

California

Companion	Office or capacity
Henry Bostwick	Proxy of G. H. P.

Connecticut

Companion	Office or capacity
John N. Lewis	Proxy of G. H. P.
Henry W. Coye	Proxy of D. G. H. P.

Delaware

[No representative entered.]

District of Columbia

Companion	Office or capacity
Noble D. Larner	G. H. P.
Isaac L. Johnson	D. G. H. P.
George B. Clark	G. S.

Florida; Georgia

[No representatives entered.]

Illinois

Companion	Office or capacity
Wm. A. J. DeLancey	G. H. P.

Indiana

Companion	Office or capacity
George H. Fish	G. H. P.
James Hall	Proxy of D. G. H. P.
Reuben Paden	G. K.
Simeon S. Johnson	G. S.

Iowa

Companion	Office or capacity
Robert F. Bower	G. H. P.
Theodore S. Parvin	Proxy of G. K. and G. S.

Kansas

Companion	Office or capacity
John M. Price	G. H. P. and proxy of G. S.
John H. Brown	Proxy of D. G. H. P. and G. K.

Kentucky

Companion	Office or capacity
Joseph R. Force	G. H. P.
Reuben J. Laughlin	Proxy of D. G. H. P.
James W. Staton	G. K.
James B. Blue	G. S.

Reader page 20 · 1874 representatives: Maine through New York

1874.

Louisiana

[No representative entered.]

Maine

Companion	Office or capacity
Horace H. Burbank	G. H. P.
Henry L. Paine	D. G. H. P.
Henry H. Dickey	Proxy of G. K.
George A. Heard	Proxy of G. S.

Maryland

Companion	Office or capacity
James W. Bowers	G. H. P.
Edward T. Schultz	Proxy of D. G. H. P.
George L. McCahan	Proxy of G. K.
D. Claude Handy	G. S.

Massachusetts

Companion	Office or capacity
Alfred F. Chapman	G. H. P.
George C. Stracey	D. G. H. P.
John L. Kendall	G. K.
Alexander N. [Briggs?]	G. S.

Michigan

Companion	Office or capacity
John W. Champlin	Proxy of G. S.

Minnesota

Companion	Office or capacity
Silas R. Merrill	G. H. P.

Mississippi

Companion	Office or capacity
John Y. Murry	D. G. H. P.

Missouri

[No representative entered.]

Nebraska

Companion	Office or capacity
Daniel H. Wheeler	Proxy of G. H. P.
Charles F. Goodman	D. G. H. P., and proxy of G. K. and G. S.

New Hampshire

Companion	Office or capacity
Andrew J. Thompson	G. K., and proxy of G. H. P.
Joseph W. Fellows	Proxy of D. G. H. P.

New Jersey

Companion	Office or capacity
John Woolverton	G. H. P.
Joseph T. Hough	Proxy of D. G. H. P.
George Swift	Proxy of G. K.
Charles Bechtel	Proxy of G. S.

New York

Companion	Office or capacity
Thomas C. Cassidy	G. H. P.
Joseph B. Chaffee	D. G. H. P.
David H. Day	G. K.

Reader page 21 · 1874 representatives completed; Past Grand High Priests

1874.

New York

Companion	Office or capacity
James D. Pollard	G. S.

North Carolina

[No representative entered.]

Ohio

Companion	Office or capacity
J. Kelly O’Neall	G. H. P.
Reuben C. Lemmon	D. G. H. P.
John D. Caldwell	Proxy of G. K.

Oregon; Rhode Island

[No representatives entered.]

South Carolina

Companion	Office or capacity
Augustine T. Smythe	G. H. P.

Tennessee

Companion	Office or capacity
Wilbur F. Foster	G. H. P.
Algernon S. Currey	D. G. H. P.
Henry M. Aiken	G. K.
Thomas O. Morris	G. S.

Texas

[No representative entered.]

Vermont

Companion	Office or capacity
John W. Clark	G. H. P.

Wisconsin

Companion	Office or capacity
Jonathan H. Evans	G. H. P.
William C. Swain	G. K.

Also, Past Grand High Priests as follows:

Companion	Office or capacity
George D. Norris	Alabama
George H. Dannelley	Arkansas
Charles Marsh	California
Theodore S. Parvin	Iowa
Zephaniah C. Luse	Iowa
John H. Brown	Kansas
Henry Bostwick	Kentucky
George L. McCahan	Maryland

Reader page 22 · Past Grand High Priests; subordinate chapter representatives

1874.

Jurisdiction	Past Grand High Priest
Maine	Josiah H. Drummond
Massachusetts	John McClellan
Michigan	Leonard H. Randall
Minnesota	Edwin D. B. Porter
Nebraska	Daniel H. Wheeler
New Jersey	Wm. W. Goodwin
New York	James M. Austin
Tennessee	P. G. [Stivers?] Perkins; Archelaus M. Houston (Hughes); John Frizzell; Wm. Maxwell; Joseph M. Anderson

Also, Representatives of subordinate Chapters:

Chapter	Representative	Capacity
Central City Chapter, No. 1, Colorado	Clarence J. Clarke	Proxy of officers
Denver City Chapter, No. 2, Colorado	William N. Byers	Proxy of officers
Pueblo Chapter, No. 3, Colorado	William N. Byers	Proxy of officers
Wyoming Chapter, No. 1, Wyoming	Edgar P. Snow	H. P.

The General Grand Chapter was opened in ample form, and with prayer by the General Grand Chaplain.

The General Grand Secretary, and Comps. John H. Brown,—

Reader page 23 · 1874 credentials committee and daily session hours

—of Kansas, and John D. Caldwell, of Ohio, were appointed a Committee on Credentials of membership in the General Grand Chapter.

On motion of Comp. Austin, of New York,

Resolved, That the morning sessions of this Triennial Convocation shall be opened at nine o’clock, and be continued until one o’clock, P. M., and the afternoon sessions be opened at three o’clock, and be closed at the pleasure of the G. G. Ch.

The General Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment until three o’clock, P. M.

Tuesday, Three o’clock P. M.

The General Grand Chapter resumed labor, M. E. Josiah H. Drummond, G. G. H. P., presiding. Officers and Representatives present as before.

The Committee on Credentials presented the following report:

To the General Grand Chapter:

The undersigned, the Committee on Credentials, respectfully report, that they have carefully examined the credentials of members of the General Grand Chapter, and find that the elective and appointed General Grand Officers, Representatives of State Grand Chapters, and Past Grand High Priests present at the opening of this Triennial convocation, as recorded in the minutes of the

morning session, together with the H. P. of Wyoming Chapter, No. 1, of Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, are entitled to seats in the General Grand Chapter.

In relation to the proxies of the officers of the subordinate Chapters of Colorado Territory, it is the opinion of your committee that they are not entitled to admission as the representatives of said Chapters,—

Reader page 24 · Colorado proxies initially excluded; credentials report adopted

—the terms of the constitution restricting the representation of warranted Chapters under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter to the principal officers alone.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher G. Fox,
John H. Brown,
John D. Caldwell.

Comp. Wheeler, of Nebraska, offered the following as an amendment to the report of the Committee on Credentials:

Resolved, That Comp. Clarence J. Clarke as the representative of Central City Chapter, No. 1, and Comp. William N. Byers as the representative of Denver City Chapter, No. 2, and Pueblo Chapter, No. 3, of Colorado Territory, be, and they are hereby admitted to membership in the General Grand Chapter during this Triennial Convocation.

Comp. Cassidy, of New York, moved to refer the whole subject to the Committee on Jurisprudence when appointed.

Comp. Burbank, of Maine, objected to the consideration of the resolution, and the proposed reference thereof, on the ground that it was not competent for the General Grand Chapter to amend the report of the Committee.

The G. G. H. P. sustained the objection, and decided that the resolution of Comp. Wheeler was not in order.

Comp. Wheeler then moved to re-commit the report with instructions to the Committee to amend the same so as to include the proxies of the officers as representatives of the subordinate Chapters of Colorado. Lost.

The report of the Committee on Credentials was then adopted, and on motion of Comp. Lewis, of Connecticut, the G. G. Secretary was instructed to procure the printing of three hundred copies of the same for distribution.

Comp. Wheeler offered a resolution recognizing the proxies of the officers of the subordinate Chapters of Colorado as rep—

Reader page 25 · 1874 address: opening greeting and death of Robert Stewart Bruns

—resentatives of said Chapters, and the same was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, with instructions to report on the question to-morrow morning.

On motion of Comp. Day, of New York,

Resolved, That all Affiliated Royal Arch Masons applying, be admitted as visitors to this General Grand Chapter during this Twenty-second Triennial Convocation, except during the election of officers.

On motion of Comp. Chapman, of Massachusetts,

Resolved, That the time for the election of General Grand Officers be fixed at three o'clock P. M., of Wednesday, 25th instant.

M. E. Josiah H. Drummond, G. G. H. P., submitted and read the following address:

Companions: The hearty greetings which we have exchanged attest the warmth of our welcome to the Twenty-second Convocation of this General Grand Chapter, and the thanks which we have formally rendered to "Our Father, which is in Heaven," came, I doubt not, from hearts overflowing with gratitude to Him, that He has permitted us to come together from all parts of this great jurisdiction, and enjoy one of the highest and purest of earthly pleasures—the communion of brethren and companions, who have traveled the same rugged path, who have taken upon themselves the same duties and obligations, and who are bound together by ties which can be sundered only by death.

Obituary

But our next thought, after our mutual salutations and our thanksgiving to God, is one of sadness. We look in vain for some well known forms and familiar faces, and are reminded that, since our last convocation, death has been busy among us.

Robert Stewart Bruns, of South Carolina, Past Deputy General Grand High Priest, died on the 14th day of February last. For several years he had labored under an exceedingly painful and distressing malady; Several operations, of a severe nature gave but temporary relief. His affliction was borne with a patience and resignation scarcely human, although he endured many mysterious dispensations. Nor did he relax his active interest in his Masonic labors. He was Grand Master of his Grand Lodge until within two months of his death, and performed the duties of that high office as fully and faithfully as if he were in robust health. He dedicated the Masonic Temple in Charleston, whose erection was due, in a large measure, to his unwearied perseverance and unflinching energy.

Reader page 26 · Drummond's address: Bruns's final words and other departed companions

His strength failed, and before his term as Grand Master closed he was compelled to take his bed. Yet from that, with devotion to duty scarcely ever equalled, he wrote his annual address, and rendered to his brethren an account of his stewardship, closing with these words:

"And now I lay down, with the office which your confidence has so long bestowed upon me, my life-work. Those of you who know me best—best know what unswerving zeal and with what single devotion, from the first hour of [unclear] manhood to this day, I have spent and been spent in the service of Masonry. Standing as I do upon that narrow space which divides time from eternity, I look back upon that portion of the past, which I fain trust will unite me to the latter, and without any reservations can assuredly say, that [true?] to the holy precepts of our divine religion, her service has best prepared me (by God's mercy alone, man can be fitted) to answer with trembling hope the declaration, 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of [these?] my brethren, ye have done it unto me.' My heart's desire and prayer is that our Order may grow in strength and unity, that our councils be blest with all wisdom, our officers endued with all knowledge and zeal, our craftsmen with every perfect gift.

"My tongue falters when it would utter thanks for the large confidence and the distinguished consideration with which you have ever honored me. [Fain?] we at its source, the heart is too full to give it play. The emotions [unclear] me in this supreme moment, beggars language. I can only [give?] all a heartfelt God bless you, and a solemn farewell."

He went down to his grave in early manhood, but his duties were well performed and his life-work completed.

We have also lost many Past Grand High Priests, members of this Body. Maine mourns the venerable Freeman Bradford, one distinguished for his devotion to Masonry, his sound judgment and knowledge of Masonic law and polity, and to whom the craft looked with confidence for a correct decision, when younger men disagreed. Massachusetts mourns Charles W. Moore, whose name is a household word among masons the world over, and to whom, more than any other man, Masonry is indebted for weathering the storm of Anti-Masonry; Rhode Island mourns James Salisbury and Samuel Lewis, each a veteran of fourscore years; Connecticut mourns William Storer, whose reports on Correspondence gave him and his Grand Chapter a national reputation, and Cyrus Goodell, for many years Grand Chaplain; New Jersey mourns George H. [Alton?], “a zealous and earnest Mason,” and David [surname unclear], who never failed “to use every means in his power to advance the interests and promote the welfare of our institution.” South Carolina, besides Comp. Bruns, mourns James Birnie, who died in office in the very prime of his manhood, and at the zenith of his usefulness—a man of noble, [unclear] and pure character, and beloved and respected by all who knew him. Maryland mourns Charles F. [Hand?] and Joseph C. Lusher, the former of whom was with us at Baltimore in 1871, and both of whom were “good men and true;” also, Henry C. Colman, whose memory will long be cherished for his zealous and faithful services as Grand Lecturer; Louisiana mourns Henry P. Swasey, whom the craft were delighted to honor as an [unclear] of their confidence and love; Texas mourns William B. Taylor, William T. Austin and E. B. Nichols, all highly esteemed during life, and deeply lamented at their death; Ohio mourns William B. Thrall, who gave to Masonry more than half a century of laborious and useful service; Missouri mourns John F. Ryland, “a devoted lover of the Royal Craft, an earnest worker in the broad field of Masonic charity, justice and love,” and James S. Mitchell, her first Grand High Priest, the eminent historian and Masonic editor; and Minnesota mourns—

Editorial note: Faded writing in the bound margin obscures several words and names. Uncertain readings are marked rather than supplied silently.

Reader page 27 · Drummond’s address: Maguire appeal and powers of chapters under dispensation

—Alfred E. Ames, a zealous and faithful Mason.

The Grand Chapters of Virginia and Pennsylvania have also lost able supporters and brilliant ornaments: Virginia mourns Levi L. Stevenson, one of her oldest members, with one exception; and Pennsylvania mourns Samuel C. Perkins, to whom the Royal Craft in that jurisdiction are largely indebted for their present prosperity.

Though the death of every one of these companions falls most heavily upon his own jurisdiction, yet it is a severe loss to the whole craft, and we mingle our tears in a common sorrow. But let us remember that we can best honor their loss most truly by imitating their example, not forgetting that “He mourns the dead who lives as they desire.”

The case of Henry Maguire

At the last triennial convocation the appeal of Henry Maguire from Cyrus Chapter, U. D., in Idaho, was referred to me for decision. I found that this General Grand Chapter had no regulations in relation to the powers of Chapters U. D., and therefore, that, in acting upon this case, I must be governed by the ordinary Masonic law. It seems to be well settled that, in the absence of express regulations, bodies U. D. cannot elect officers, make by laws, admit new members, or exercise any disciplinary powers whatever. I, therefore, in the case referred to me, quashed the proceedings for want of jurisdiction.

Inasmuch as Chapters U. D. created by your officers may exist nearly three years before a Charter can be applied for, I earnestly recommend that you adopt specific regulations defining their powers and privileges, and authorizing them to exercise all the powers of chartered Chapters, save the installation of officers.

The law upon this subject seems to have been originally based upon a false assumption of fact—that these bodies are the creatures of the officer issuing the dispensation. It was said that Charters were issued only by Grand Lodges, while dispensations were issued by Grand Masters by virtue of the prerogative of their office. But all Grand Lodge constitutions expressly authorize the Grand Master to issue dispensations for new Lodges under certain circumstances. A dispensation by the Grand Master is issued by the authority of the Grand Lodge, as much as a Charter ordered by it and signed by him. The idea, therefore, that a Lodge, U. D., is a mere creature of the Grand Master by virtue of an authority inherent in his office is a false one; and there is no reason why bodies U. D. may not be invested with all powers necessary for their convenient operation.

Under the old law, a Mason might be a member of more than one Lodge; in later times this was modified by legislation, so that membership is limited to a single Lodge; in consequence, it was held that the membership of a person named in a dispensation is not affected by the dispensation, but that he still remains a member of the chartered Lodge, which, as a logical consequence, alone has penal jurisdiction over him.

Various modifications of this law have been made, and I believe the best and simplest system is to require petitioners for a new body to obtain their dimits before they organize under their dispensation, and to authorize them, when so organized, to exercise all the powers of chartered bodies, save the installation of officers.

I would not have the officers installed and thus made members of the Grand Body, until an opportunity is afforded for their work to be examined and their capacity to manage the affairs of a Masonic body determined; I would still have bodies U. D. remain experiments, but with powers enough to test the question whether they are successful experiments, in performing the duties which will be—

Reader page 28 · Drummond’s address: new chapters, Nevada, Colorado and Seattle

—required of them when they are permanently organized.

Constitution of New Chapters

The Chapters to which charters were granted at the last triennial convocation have, by my proxies, to whom I issued the necessary authority, [been constituted]. For the details, I refer to the report of the M. E. General Grand Secretary.

Upon receipt of information of our action at the last convocation, the Chapter at Honolulu resumed work. In order to remove any doubts, I forwarded to the Chapter my formal approval of their action.

New Chapters, U. D.

I have issued Dispensations for the following new Chapters:

Georgetown Chapter, at Georgetown, Colorado.
Utah Chapter, Salt Lake City, Utah.
Olympia Chapter at Olympia, Washington Territory.
St. John’s Chapter, at Eureka, Nevada.
Keystone Chapter, at Pioche, Nevada.
Golden Chapter, at Golden, Colorado.
Deer Lodge Chapter, at Deer Lodge City, Montana.

The dates and other details will be given in the Report of the General Grand Secretary.

Grand Chapter of Nevada

On November 18, 1873, a convention of the High Priests, Kings, and Scribes, of the four Chartered Chapters in Nevada, acting under a warrant from me dated the 1st day of November, 1873, proceeded to form the Grand Chapter of the State of Nevada.

I herewith submit a certified copy of the proceedings, and of the constitution adopted. The proceedings seem to me substantially regular, and the Constitution (with a single exception, which I pointed out to the Grand Secretary) in harmony with the General Grand Constitution.

Charters were granted to the two Chapters U. D.; and returns have been made, and the dues accruing up to the date of the organization of the Grand Chapter have been paid to the General Grand Secretary. I see no reason why this new Grand Chapter should not be recognized, and its representatives admitted as members of the General Grand Chapter.

Colorado

An effort was made in 1872 to organize a Grand Chapter in Colorado, where three Chartered Chapters existed; but, one of the Chapters declining to take part in the movement, it was abandoned.

The suggestion was made that the Chapter in Wyoming could unite with the two in Colorado, and organize a Grand Chapter for both Territories; but I held that under our constitution there was no authority for the Chapters in two States or Territories to unite and form a Grand Chapter.

Seattle Chapter, Washington Territory

I regret to say, that, at the very organization of Seattle Chapter, at Seattle, Washington Territory, difficulties among the companions commenced, and from that time increased, until I felt compelled to suspend the Charter, which I did on the twenty-fifth of May last.

One of the officers named in the warrant was not acceptable to some of the companions, and was, in fact, regarded by them as having been made—

Editorial note: The first sentence under “Constitution of New Chapters” is grammatically incomplete in the manuscript; the bracketed words express its apparent sense.

Reader page 29 · Drummond’s address: Seattle dispute and continuing allegiance

—a Royal Arch Mason while suspended by his Lodge. Knowledge of this, at the actual time of constituting the Chapter, he alleges, was kept from him and other companions who sympathized with him; and his objections were made to the installing officer against his installation, which were unanimously sustained by the companions present; a new election was ordered by the presiding officer, and another companion was elected and installed into the office, and all this, as he alleges, without notice to him or any knowledge by him of the proceedings until after they were closed.

At the next annual election there was a pretty sharp contest, but the old officers were re-elected; but the state of feeling was such that little work was done, and very little interest taken in the affairs of the Chapter by most of its members. At the next annual election another companion was elected High Priest, and the other offices were filled by companions sympathizing with him. Objections were made to his installation, and the High Priest refused to install him. Application was made to me by the new officers to be installed, and the old officers remonstrated.

I had previously endeavored to have an investigation made by a competent and disinterested companion, but was unable to do on account of the great distance to be traveled by him. I made as full an investigation as practicable, and found that the two parties could not be induced to harmonize, and moreover, that there were not enough of either party to open a Chapter and do business; at the election but eight members were present, though other companions were present and assisted in the opening. I was of the opinion that there had been no legal election; but satisfied beyond a doubt that such a state of things existed in the Chapter as utterly to destroy its usefulness, I reluctantly issued my order suspending the charter until this convocation.

The charter and records have been transmitted to the General Grand Secretary; and I submit the papers herewith, and trust the case will receive your careful consideration.

The General Grand Secretary informs me that he has received a memorial to this body, from sundry Royal Arch Masons in Washington Territory, praying that this matter may be referred to the Representatives of the Grand Chapter of Oregon.

Renewal of Allegiance by Grand Chapters

Immediately after the last triennial convocation I commenced efforts to induce the Grand Chapters, which had passed resolutions withdrawing their allegiance to the General Grand Chapter, to rescind these resolutions.

I hold, without the shadow of a doubt, that all such resolutions are void, being in violation of the constitution of this body, which every companion who voted for such resolutions had taken a solemn obligation to support and maintain. I hold, moreover, that every Past Grand High Priest of every Grand Chapter that was ever under the jurisdiction of this body, is still a member of it, whatever may be the attitude of his Grand Chapter towards us, and that every member of the Grand Council of such Grand Chapter is also a member of this body, and has a right to exercise the privileges as such without being controlled by the views of his companions. But, of course, no companion desires to come in conflict with his Grand Chapter, and hence such resolutions are practically as effective as if they were perfectly—

Reader page 30 · Drummond’s address: Kentucky restored; Alabama, Georgia and Texas

—valid. I have, therefore, addressed myself directly to the Grand Chapters.

I am happy to announce that the Grand Chapter of Kentucky has rescinded her resolutions of withdrawal, and has renewed her allegiance. Her representatives are here with us, and I believe

the warm welcome they have received has removed any lingering doubts they may have entertained as to the wisdom of their course.

I have corresponded also with the Grand Chapters of Alabama, Georgia and Texas—the only others which have attempted to sever their relations with us.

I have received no reply from Texas, and I do not find in the published proceedings any action upon the matter.

The Grand Secretary of Alabama acknowledged the receipt of my communications; and at the annual convocation in 1872 a resolution was introduced repealing the resolution of 1861, which purported to "dissolve the connection subsisting between the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama and the General Grand Chapter of the United States." The repealing resolution was not acted upon, but was postponed to the annual convocation in 1873, when, however, it was not called up, so far as the published proceedings show.

In 1871 resolutions were offered in the Grand Chapter of Georgia, recognizing the relations legally existing between Grand Chapters and this body, and proposing that that Grand Chapter should "renew its connection and acknowledge its fealty to the General Grand Chapter," but "action was postponed to the next annual convocation." In 1872 my communication was read in open Grand Chapter; but a motion to take up the resolutions offered the year before was lost. The Grand High Priest was directed to answer my letter, and the following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That the communication of the General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, to this Grand Chapter, inviting a return to that body, has been received and read with much pleasure to this Grand Chapter.

"Resolved, That this Grand Chapter deems it inexpedient at present to comply with the request of the General Grand High Priest, but that the subject be postponed for future consideration."

Subsequently the Grand High Priest answered my letter, and his letter is herewith submitted (A).

At the annual convocation in 1873, in accordance with his views as expressed in his letter, he brought the matter before the Grand Chapter, and urged favorable action. The committee to which his address was referred reported as follows:

"The recommendations of the M. E. Grand High Priest, relative to the return of this Grand Chapter to allegiance to the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America, has been carefully considered, and the committee, impressed with the importance of the subject, respectfully ask to be granted time until the next annual convocation of this Grand Chapter to prepare and submit a report, and in the meantime, invite an expression of the subordinate Chapters of this jurisdiction upon the subject."

The report was adopted, and the following resolution passed to carry out the recommendation of the committee:

"Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to have printed in circular form so much of the report as has reference to the return of this Grand Chapter to the G. G. Royal Arch Chapter, with instructions to bring this matter to the consideration of their Chapters as soon as convenient."

Reader page 31 · Drummond’s address: Georgia’s 1874 action; origin of the General Grand Chapter

In his address in 1874, the Grand High Priest called the attention of the Grand Chapter to the matter. The committee of the preceding year did not “prepare and submit” any report; but the address was referred to the committee (four of the five members of which were upon the committee the year before) which reported the following: “The Grand Chapter having disposed of the question of the renewal of our relations with the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States for the present, the committee have no comments to make upon that part of the address touching the same;” and their report was adopted.

As the disposition of the question was to refer it to a substantial standing committee “to prepare and submit a report” may we not reasonably expect that at the next annual convocation they will perform their duty, and give us the reasons for the course which they may advise the Grand Chapter to take?

There is so much misapprehension concerning the historical (and legal) relations of the General Grand Chapter to the State Grand Chapters that I beg your indulgence a few moments while I give a summary of the history of their organization.

This Body is the oldest Sovereign Grand Chapter in the world. The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania was organized earlier, but it was attached to, and under the authority of, the Grand Lodge, and did not become independent for several years.

This Body was organized in January, 1798, as the Grand Chapter of the States of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York, under the name of the “Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America.” It was provided in its original constitution, that there should be in each State a Deputy Grand Chapter, of which the Grand Chapter should have the superintendence, “with the right of appellate jurisdiction over all their proceedings and determinations, with power to disaffirm and disannul them.” It provided the manner for the formation of the Deputy Grand Chapters of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York, but retained Vermont and New Hampshire under its own jurisdiction. At the several times and places named, and by the authority thus given, Deputy Grand Chapters were formed in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York.

In 1799, the Grand Chapter changed its name to General Grand Chapter, but confined its jurisdiction to the same States. It changed the names of the Deputy Grand Chapters to State Grand Chapters. Vermont was then placed under the jurisdiction of New York, and New Hampshire under that of Massachusetts, until Grand Chapters should be formed in those States. In 1804, a Grand Chapter was formed in Vermont, without the consent of New York; but in 1806 the General Grand Chapter confirmed the action and recognized the new Grand Chapter, and admitted it to representation.

In 1806, the General Grand Chapter changed its name to the “General Grand Chapter of the United States of America,” and assumed a corresponding jurisdiction. Let it be observed, that at that time the Grand Chapters which had been created by it were the only ones in the country except the one subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and probably another which was subordinate in the same manner to the Grand [Lodge] of Maryland; the General Grand Chapter was the only sovereign and supreme body of Royal Arch Masons in the country. It limited the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapters to the States in which they were created, reserving to itself exclusive jurisdiction to grant dispensations and Charters in the other States, but provided for the formation of new Grand Chapters upon the warrant of one of the general grand officers. This provision for the—

Reader page 32 · Drummond’s address: formation of State Grand Chapters; Georgia’s constitution

—formation of Grand Chapters has ever since been retained in the constitution.

In accordance with this provision, the Grand Chapters of Arkansas, California, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey,* Oregon, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin, were formed by authority of the warrant of a general grand officer, which warrant in terms, or substantially, provided that the Grand Chapter to be formed should be “subject to the constitution and laws of the General Grand Chapter.” The re-organization of the Grand Chapter of Vermont in 1849 was by virtue of a similar warrant. The clause providing for continuing the authority of the General Grand Chapter in some of these warrants was very explicit: in the case of Texas it was “always provided, however, that such Grand Chapter shall conform to, and abide by the constitution, rules and edicts of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.” The preamble to the original constitution of the Grand Chapter of Georgia (which was also adopted at its re-organization in 1841) is as follows: “We, the several Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in the State of Georgia, erected and established by authority of the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America, and with the consent of the said General Grand Chapter, have agreed to form a Grand Chapter for the State of Georgia, and being duly represented by our respective High Priests × × × Convened × × × pursuant to due notice, and the powers vested in us by the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America × × × do ordain and declare,” etc. All the Chapters which took part in forming all these Grand Chapters were created by the General Grand Chapter, except three in Maine, which were created by the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts while Maine was a part of that Commonwealth.

In Alabama, in 1823, a Grand Chapter was formed by Chapters chartered by the General Grand Chapter; no previous warrant was obtained, but the proceedings were ratified by the General Grand High Priest. On investigation, however, by the General Grand Chapter in 1826, it was decided that the proceedings were irregular, and the Grand Chapter not legally formed; and it was recommended that a new Grand Chapter be formed. This decision was acquiesced in, the old organization abandoned, and a new Grand Chapter duly formed under the warrant of the General Grand High Priest. It became dormant in 1831, and in 1837 the representatives of the several Chapters met and proceeded to form a Grand Royal Arch Chapter according to the provisions of the Constitution of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States.

A Grand Chapter was formed in the District of Columbia in 1824 by virtue of a warrant from the General Grand High Priest, and his action was confirmed, and the Grand Chapter recognized by the General Grand Chapter in 1826, and received under its jurisdiction. In 1841 the Grand Chapter had ceased to work and the Chapters were placed under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Maryland. In 1867, the Grand Chapter was formed, and became a constituent of the General Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter of Florida was formed by two Chapters chartered by the Grand Chapter of Virginia, and one chartered by the Grand Chapter of South Carolina. As the latter was at the time a constituent of this body, this grant of a Charter was unauthorized, and gave just cause of complaint; and the grant of the Charter by the Grand Chapter—

* There was a Grand Chapter in New Jersey before 1826, formed under the authority of the General Grand Chapter; but it became extinct, and was never revived, and the present body was formed as if none had ever existed in that State.

Reader page 33 · Drummond’s address: State Grand Chapters’ historical obligations

—of Virginia was, by the terms of our constitution, an invasion of our jurisdiction; but all irregularity has been removed by many years, the Grand Chapter of Florida being recognized, and all questions have been set at rest forever, on her uniting with her sister Grand Chapters under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapters of Kentucky and Missouri were each formed by three Chapters chartered by the General Grand Chapter, but without any warrant from a general grand officer; the proceedings in Kentucky were approved by two general grand officers (Clinton and Webb) and the action in both cases, upon application, was ratified and confirmed by the General Grand Chapter.

A State Grand Chapter probably existed in Maryland before 1826, but the records have not been preserved; reference is made to it in the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter as “a dormant Grand Royal Arch Chapter.” The present Grand Chapter was formed in 1814 and by mutual action of the General Grand Chapter and itself was admitted under the jurisdiction of this body “on an equality with the other Grand Chapters,” and “subject to the constitution and regulations of said General Grand Chapter.”

The Grand Chapter of North Carolina was formed by six Chapters, at least three of which were chartered by the General Grand Chapter under whose jurisdiction it assumed and belonged. It was organized in 1811; it applied for recognition, which was granted, upon condition that it amend its constitution to conform to that of the General Grand Chapter; this was at once done, and its obligations to the General Grand Chapter fully recognized.

The Grand Chapter of Ohio was formed by two Chapters which had existed before 1798—one Chapter chartered by the Grand Chapter of Maryland, and there was another Chapter in the State chartered by the General Grand Chapter; the proceedings were conducted under advice of Thomas Smith Webb, who, as Deputy General Grand High Priest, approved the formation of the Grand Chapter and installed its officers, and his action was ratified by the General Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter of South Carolina was formed by two Chapters chartered by the General Grand Chapter, and one chartered by the Grand Chapter of New York in 1803, before the jurisdiction of State Grand Chapters was limited to their States. No warrant was obtained in advance, but the proceedings were formally approved by Thomas Smith Webb, General Grand King, and the Grand Chapter was represented in the General Grand Chapter at its next convocation.

Thus it appears that all the Grand Chapters, except Florida and Pennsylvania and Virginia, were either created by the General Grand Chapter, or formed by Chapters chartered by it and welcomed to it as a Grand Chapter solely upon the condition of obedience to the constitution and laws of the General Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter of Virginia was formed in 1808, after the General Grand Chapter had undertaken to exercise exclusive jurisdiction throughout the country. Consistency would have required it to ignore the Grand Chapter of Virginia, as it did Chapters, and [bodies?] in other States, or the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania. But it did not do so, and has practically recognized that Grand Chapter for many years.

It needs no more, it seems to me, than this historical statement to show that a constituent of this General Grand Chapter has no more right, legal or moral, to throw off its allegiance, than any subordinate Chapter has to throw off its allegiance to its Grand Chapter.

Editorial note: This is Drummond’s historical and constitutional argument, transcribed as part of his 1874 address. Several details near the bound margin are faint.

Reader page 34 · Drummond’s address: West Virginia, Nova Scotia and English Mark Masonry

Grand Chapter of West Virginia

In this connection I am reminded that a Grand Chapter has been formed in West Virginia, and that doubts have been expressed whether a Grand Chapter in allegiance to the General Grand Chapter can consistently recognize any, and establish fraternal relations with it. Were the question a new one, the decision undoubtedly would be that we could not recognize it. It was formed by Chapters chartered by the Grand Chapter of Virginia, in territory over which that Grand Chapter has claimed and exercised exclusive jurisdiction for more than sixty years, and the General Grand Chapter has acquiesced in that claim. Our constitution itself recognizes the propriety of having a Grand Chapter in each State, and to my mind it is too late now, after so long an acquiescence in the action of Virginia, to deny the logical result of such action. I recommend that the Grand Chapter of West Virginia be fraternally invited to follow the examples of Maryland and Florida, and unite with us in our common allegiance to this General Grand Chapter.

Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia

The Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, which has been recognized by most, if not quite all our Grand Chapters, has formally applied to me for recognition by this body, and I see no reasons why it may not be accorded.

Grand Mark Lodge of England

You are aware that the degree of Mark Master Mason is not under the authority of the Grand Chapter of England, and is not required by it to be conferred before the Royal Arch; and, indeed, is not recognized by it as a Masonic degree. This difference in the number and order of the degrees has caused serious difficulty in relation to the admission of English Royal Arch Masons into our Chapters. But the degree has been conferred from time immemorial, as well in independent Mark Lodges as in those attached to Masters’ Lodges. Mark Lodges were also established in England by the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland. But feeling the necessity of a governing body, and not desiring to be under a foreign Supreme Masonic authority, three of the (time immemorial) Lodges in 1856, constituted a Grand Lodge, with jurisdiction over the Mark degree in England and its dependencies; in 1858 the Lodges, seven in number, chartered by the Grand Chapter of Scotland, united with this Grand Lodge, after three immemorial Lodges gave in their adhesion with it; all of them were constituents of the Grand Lodge. Since 1871 other old Lodges and other Scotch Lodges have given in their adhesion, and new Lodges have been chartered, so that now it has 186 Lodges on its roll and 5645 members on its register. I understand that the Grand Chapters of Ireland and Canada have recognized this Grand Lodge as the supreme authority in England over the Mark degree.

Formal application has been made, by a communication herewith submitted (B) for recognition by this General Grand Chapter so that Royal Arch Masons of England, who have received the Mark degree under the authority of this Grand Lodge, may be allowed to be received in our Chapters in this country without receiving that degree here. I have very fully investigated the matter, and have no doubt that the Grand Lodge was formed in accordance with Masonic precedents, and Masonic law as established by long usage; and I earnestly recommend that this General Grand Chapter recognizes the “Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown,” as the Supreme Masonic authority over the degree of Mark Master Mason in that jurisdiction, and all Mark Master Masons made—

Reader page 35 · Drummond’s decisions: substitutes, qualifications and Lodge discipline

—under its authority, as regular, and entitled to all the rights and privileges of the degree. I submit also, the proceedings of the Grand Mark Lodge at its half-yearly communication in June last.

Decisions

A very large number of questions of Masonic law have been submitted, in many cases for decision, and in others for an opinion. Some arose in Chapters under our immediate jurisdiction, and others called for a construction of the constitution, or some resolution of the General Grand Chapter. Some of the more important I will give.

1. Substitutes

The action of the General Grand Chapter in relation to substitutes is not mandatory, but permissive; regulations of a Grand Chapter permitting their use, or even requiring their use, is not in conflict with the constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and subordinate Chapters are bound by such regulations.

2. Qualification of Candidates

The General Grand Constitution does not prescribe the qualifications of candidates. By the landmarks they must be Master Masons, and none such Master Masons as are legally recognized as such by the other Master Masons of their particular jurisdictions. In other words, they must be Master Masons in good standing as such. The meaning of the term “in good standing” is determined by the law governing Blue Lodges in the particular jurisdiction. If by these laws, an unaffiliated Mason is “in good standing” he is eligible as a candidate, in the absence of any regulation of the State Grand Chapter. But I find nothing in the General Grand Constitution forbidding any Grand Chapter from requiring such further qualifications as it deems proper.

3. Effect of Discipline by the Lodge

The Chapter must give to discipline by the Lodge the same effect that it has under the law of the Grand Lodge, and the Chapter has no authority to inquire into the regularity of the proceedings of the Lodge, but they must be taken as valid until reversed by competent authority. The Chapter has no part or lot in making or fixing the standing of Master Masons, but take them as made by the Blue Lodge, and their standing as fixed by the Blue Lodge. The effect of the suspension of a member of a Chapter by his Lodge for non-payment of dues must be determined by the law of his Grand Lodge. If the suspension (as in some States) is from membership only, his standing in the Chapter is not affected, in the absence of regulations of the Grand Chapter. But if the suspension (as in other States) is from all his Masonic rights, he at once loses his standing as a Royal Arch Mason, whatever may be the regulations of his Grand Chapter.

4. Effect of Reversal of Action of Lodge by the Grand Lodge

When the action of a Lodge, in case of discipline, is reversed or annulled for any reason by competent authority, the party at once assumes the same status that he had at the commencement of the proceedings, as fully and completely as if none had ever been had.

5. Effect of Restoration by the Lodge

When, after a Mason is restored to his Masonic rights by his Lodge, after a lawful conviction by it, the settled law is, that he is restored to his rights as a Royal Arch Mason, except membership in his Chapter—

Reader page 36 · Drummond’s decisions continued; proposed constitutional amendment

—Chapter. I have never been able to see the propriety of this rule, but no exception to the rule is adopted. When a Lodge expels a member, he loses all his Masonic rights, as fully as if he had never been initiated; consequently he ceases to be a Royal Arch Mason. Now the Lodge may, by restoring him, make him again a Master Mason, as it previously made him a Master Mason, save that the mode is different; but I can see what authority a Lodge has to make a Royal Arch Mason by restoration, any more than by original initiation, unless it is held that when the Lodge restores him to all the rights of which the Lodge deprived him, those rights of membership in the Chapter excepted? The Lodge may refuse to restore him to membership in itself, because it may annex such limitations to the restoration as it sees fit; but the Lodge has no power to annex any limitations to the effect of his restoration in the Chapter.

6. Past Master’s Degree

It is not proper for a Chapter to confer the Past Master’s degree upon the Master elect of a symbolic Lodge, who has not received the Mark Degree. If I understand, the General Grand Chapter decided at its last convocation that a Chapter can recognize no other Past Master’s Degree than the one conferred by it, and no one becomes eligible to receive it than a Mark Master Mason.

7. Qualifications of Grand High Priests

The General Grand Constitution does not provide that a Grand High Priest must be a Past High Priest, and seems to leave it to Grand Chapters to fix the qualifications of their officers.

8. Who may Open a Chapter

A Chapter cannot properly be opened by a Past High Priest, in the absence of the High Priest, King and Scribe. Section 10 of Article 1 of our Constitution provides, “that in all cases of the absence of an officer from any body of masons, instituted or holden by virtue of this constitution, the officer next in rank shall occupy his place, unless, through courtesy, or for other reasons, he should decline in favor of a Past High Priest.” The language of this provision embraces Grand Chapters and Subordinate Chapters, and in terms seems to authorize the Captain of the Host, or any officer of the Third Veil, to open the Chapter in the absence of all his superior officers. I must be understood, however, as the intention, but that it only intended to apply to the three officers composing the council; and if it has a wider meaning, it does not authorize a Past High Priest to open a Chapter, save under the direction of the highest officer present.

9. Change of Place of meeting of General Grand Chapter

The General Grand High Priest has no power to change the place of the convocation of the General Grand Chapter fixed by it, and no power to change the time, unless there shall be “danger to life or health” in holding the Convocation at the appointed time.

This decision was made in consequence of an application of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, approved by many members of this Body. A copy of my reply to the application is herewith submitted (C).

Amendment to Constitution

At our last convocation an amendment to the Constitution was proposed (see pages 31 and 32 of the proceedings) including our first four General Grand Officers permanent members of the General Grand Chapter, and, pursuant to a provision of the constitution, action—

Editorial note: Several connecting words in the faded bound margin are uncertain. The numbered decisions and their historical wording are retained.

Reader page 37 · Drummond’s address concludes; George W. Adams’s letter begins

—thereon was postponed to this convocation.

Concerning the Ritual

I feel it my duty to state to you that the decision of the General Grand Chapter in 1871, in relation to the Ritual, has produced a degree of dissatisfaction, and that very many companions believe that decision to be erroneous, and in conflict with the practice at the time, and ever since our present system was founded. And I feel assured that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry require that the matter be re-examined. I had intended to discuss the question, and submit the results of my investigations in a confidential address, but upon further reflection I have deemed it best to call your attention to the subject without proposing my own views, and bespeak for it your deliberate and impartial consideration and decision.

Conclusion

I cannot conclude without expressing my thanks to my companions, and especially to the General Grand Secretary, for the uniform courtesy they have ever extended to me, and the ready assistance they have given to me on all occasions.

I congratulate you upon the prosperity of the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction, and the prosperous condition of the General Grand Chapter. The decided expression in 1871 in favor of sustaining and perpetuating it has had a happy effect throughout the country; the amendment of the constitution, making Past Grand High Priests permanent members, gives it a power and influence which command respect; as its history is understood, and as it becomes generally known that it is the parent and source of Royal Arch Masonry in this country, it wins the love and veneration of the whole Craft.

We have but to be true to the trusts reposed in us, and the day will soon come when the “Royal Arch will span the continent,” and all our Royal Arch Masons be united in one family, among whom there will be “no contention, but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree.”

(A.) Grand Chapter of Georgia

Macon, Ga., March 18th, 1873.

Josiah H. Drummond,
General Grand High Priest, General Grand Chapter, U. S. A.

Most Excellent Companion:

You have doubtless seen in the published proceedings of our last Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Georgia, that it was made the duty of the Grand High Priest to answer your kind communication, submitted through our Grand Secretary, inviting the Grand Chapter to renew her allegiance to the General Grand Chapter. I regret that circumstances have prevented me from discharging that pleasing duty at an earlier date.

Permit me to say, that I have ever adhered to the opinion expressed in your communication, viz.: that the connection between the Grand Chapter—

Reader page 38 · Georgia letter concludes; Grand Mark Lodge seeks recognition

—of Georgia and the General Grand Chapter has never been actually severed. I am in favor (and have long been) of rescinding all legislation tending to a separation, and renewing the pleasant relations with the M. E. Grand Body formerly existed; and I believe that when the members of the Grand Chapter are brought to a proper understanding of the whole matter, that action to this end will be taken. Rest assured that my influence will be used for the accomplishment of this desired result; and I earnestly hope that the day is not far distant when “the arch will be made complete by spanning all the Grand Chapters of this country.”

Highly appreciating your kind motive in addressing us, I beg to subscribe myself,

Truly and fraternally yours,
George W. Adams, Grand High Priest.

(B.) Grand Mark Lodge of England

Office of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters,
2 Red Lion Square, High Holborn,
London, W. C., 25th Jan’y, 1872.

E. Comp. Jno. D. Caldwell,
General G. R. A. Chapter, Cincinnati, Ohio, U. S. A.

E. Sir and Companion:

I am directed by the M. W. G. Mark Master Mason to ask the consideration of the executive of your Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter, to a proposal for recognition by you of this Grand Lodge as the legitimate head of the Mark Degree in this country—and in the event of such proposal being favorably entertained, to make arrangements for the interchange of representatives.

We have at present under our jurisdiction 143 Lodges, with over 5700 members on our register, and the number is constantly increasing. Our position has recently been considerably strengthened by treaties of alliance with the Supreme Grand Council, 33°, the Grand Conclave of Knights Templar, and with the Imperial Council of the Red Cross of Rome, all in this country.

We have recently received recognition formally from the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapters of Iowa and Pennsylvania, and are in daily expectation of similar recognition from other Supreme Grand Bodies. Our certificates are recognized by the Grand Chapter of Ireland, and we are on the most friendly terms with the Grand Chapter of Canada, as is evidenced by a letter from the Grand Scribe E., which you will find at page [unclear] in the Report of Conference, a copy of which is sent by this Book post.

The Mark Degree in this country is ignored altogether by our Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, but between these bodies and this Grand Lodge there is no feeling of antagonism, as is proved by the letter from the Grand Secretary read by me at the Conference, to be found at page 2 of the same.

We are desirous to be on terms of amity and close fellowship with all the jurisdictions by which the Mark Degree is required, that we may the better be enabled to sustain its proper position as an essential portion of ancient Freemasonry.

I have the honor to be, E. Sir and Companion, yours obedient and fraternally,
F. Binckes, Grand Secretary.

Reader page 39 · Drummond’s circular declines to change the 1874 convocation

(C.) Change of Place of Triennial Convocation

General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America,
Office of the General Grand High Priest,
Portland, Me., March 16th, 1874.

M. E. Companion:

I have received circulars from the Grand Bodies of Louisiana, and a circular from many companions, requesting me to change the time and place of the meeting of the General Grand Chapter from those fixed by it for its next Triennial Convocation, and also a communication from the Committee of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee and circulars from other companions objecting to the proposed changes.

I take this method of announcing my conclusions, in order that all, who have communicated with me upon the subject, may have as early information as practicable.

1. The Grand Council of Louisiana are in error as to there being a conflict in the time of the Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, and the time to which the New York Convention was adjourned. The latter is to meet on the Monday after the Tuesday on which the former meets.

2. At the last Triennial Convocation some forty members of the General Grand Chapter were also members of the Grand Encampment. There was no apportionment of the time between the two bodies, and it is doubtful if an apportionment is practicable. The usual result of an effort to be in two places at the same time, followed. The experiment of having the Triennial Convocation at a time different from that of the conclave of the Grand Encampment was fully discussed and naturally decided; and I understood it to be the deliberate and quite unanimous decision of the General Grand Chapter that the experiment should be tried. The place and time were selected in such manner as to give the members of the General Grand Chapter just time to reach New Orleans before the conclave of the Grand Encampment. The place is quite directly on the way of members from the North and East to New Orleans, and yet so central as to accommodate all who do not wish to go to New Orleans. I cannot, therefore, concur in the statement of our Louisiana companions that the action of the General Grand Chapter was “hasty, immature and impolitic, and against the real interests of Royal Arch Masonry;” and I ought to be slow to disturb the action of the General Grand Chapter so deliberately made.

3. But I find that it is not necessary for me to determine the policy of granting the request, as I feel sure that I have not the power.

The Constitution of the General Grand Chapter (Art. 1, Sec. 1) gives me the power to change the time, “if in my opinion there shall be danger to life or health, from sickness or any other local cause, by any meeting being held at the time appointed.” The request is not based upon any such ground, and does not come within this provision. The Constitution having given me the power to change the time for reasons therein expressed, by necessary implication deprives me of the power to make the change for any other reason. Nor is the power to change the place, under any circumstances, given to the General Grand High Priest.

I trust, therefore, that you and all other members of the General Grand Chapter will cheerfully acquiesce in its action, and will endeavor to make our approaching Convocation one of the most useful in its history.

Yours fraternally,
Josiah H. Drummond, G. G. H. P.

Reader page 40 · Address referrals; printed copies; proxy amendment; next meeting committee

On motion of Comp. Wheeler, of Nebraska, the address of the General Grand High Priest was referred to a committee of five, for subdivision and reference to appropriate committees.

Comps. Wheeler, of Nebraska, DeLancey, of Illinois, Cassidy, of New York, Hough, of New Jersey, and Dannelley, of Arkansas, were appointed such committee.

On motion of Comp. Clarke, of New York,

Resolved, That five hundred copies of the General Grand High Priest's address be printed for the use of the General Grand Chapter.

Comp. Caldwell, of Ohio, presented the following:

Resolved, That Sec. 3, of Art. 1, of the Constitution be amended, by inserting between the words "officers" and "shall," the words "or their proxies," so that when amended the last clause of said section shall read as follows:

"Provided, That any Chapter under this jurisdiction, in any State, District or Territory, where there is no Grand Chapter duly established, shall have a right to appear by its first three officers, or any one or two of them, which officers, or their proxies shall collectively have one vote."

On motion of Comp. Larner, of the District of Columbia,

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to select and report a suitable time and place for the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, with instructions to submit their report on the afternoon of the 25th inst.

Comps. Larner, of the District of Columbia; Burbank, of Maine; Bower, of Iowa; Force, of Kentucky, and Murry, of Mississippi, were appointed such committee.

On motion of Comp. Frizzell, of Tennessee, the proposed amendment to the Constitution, presented at the last—

Reader page 41 · Permanent membership amendment adopted; further proposals

—Triennial Convocation, providing for the admission to permanent membership in the General Grand Chapter of all Past General Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, and Past General Grand Kings and Scribes, was then taken up, and having received the required constitutional vote, was declared duly adopted.

Comp. Wheeler offered the following, which was laid on the table:

Resolved, That the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter be held at such place as may be designated for the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, and one week prior to each conclave.

On motion of Comp. Bower, of Iowa,

Resolved, That the General Grand High Priest, General Grand Treasurer, and General Grand Secretary, be requested hereafter to have their reports in form to be printed previous to the Triennial Convocations.

The General Grand High Priest announced the appointment of the Committee on Jurisprudence, as follows:

Comp. Theodore S. Parvin, of Iowa; Comp. Augustine T. Smythe, of South Carolina; Comp. David H. Day, of New York; Comp. Joseph W. Fellows, of New Hampshire, and Comp. Henry Bostwick, of Kentucky.

Further amendments were proposed to the Constitution, as follows:

By Comp. Larner, of the District of Columbia:

Resolved, That Section [3?] of the Miscellaneous Provisions of the Constitution be stricken out.

By Comp. Frizzell, of Tennessee:

Reader page 42 · Proposed amendments referred; Maxwell House banquet

Resolved, That Sec. 1, of Art. 2, of the Constitution be amended, by adding thereto the following: “Provided, also, that State Grand Chapters may admit to membership therein, the Past High Priests of the subordinate Chapters in their respective jurisdictions, so long as they may continue members of such Chapters.”

By Comp. Lemmon, of Ohio:

Resolved, That Sec. 3, of the Miscellaneous Provisions of the Constitution be amended, by adding thereto the following: “Provided, however, that the amendment so proposed may be modified in any manner by the General Grand Chapter while the same is before it for consideration. No modification, however, shall be made not germain to the matter contained in the original proposed amendment.”

The proposed amendments to the Constitution were severally referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Comp. Frizzell, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, extended a cordial invitation to the members of the General Grand Chapter to attend a banquet at the Maxwell House this evening, given by the Grand Chapter of Tennessee and the Masons of Nashville and Edgefield, in honor of the General Grand Chapter,—which invitation was accepted.

The General Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at nine o’clock.

Reader page 43 · Second day, 1874; English explains his absence

Second Day

Wednesday, November 25th. Nine o’clock, A. M.

The General Grand Chapter resumed labor,—M. E. Josiah H. Drummond, General Grand High Priest, presiding.

Officers and Representatives present as before.
Prayer was offered by the General Grand Chaplain.
Minutes of yesterday’s sessions were read and approved.

The General Grand High Priest presented the following, which was received and referred to the Committee on Doings of the General Grand Officers:

Little Rock, Nov. 20, 1874.

Hon. Josiah H. Drummond,
My beloved and honored Chief:

I much regret the impossibility of my attending the Convocation of the General Grand Chapter at Nashville, which, for a long time I anticipated with much pleasure.

The Supreme Court, of which I am Chief Justice, commences its first term under the new Constitution, on Monday the 23d instant, and my presence is legally necessary, and I could not be away without a disregard of personal duties and the public interests. No private business, you may be assured, would be allowed to prevent me from going to Nashville, to enjoy the great pleasure of meeting and associating for a few days with my beloved companions from the States. I would be delighted to clasp hands with all of them, enjoy their company, and take a humble part in their labors.

No applications have been made to me for dispensations, or the exercise of other official duties, except to install officers, and lecture, during my official term; hence I have nothing special to report.

Please present me affectionately to all of the companions, assure them of my disappointment at not being able to attend, and of my prayer that their deliberations may be harmonious, and result in good to the Royal Craft.

Fraternally,
E. H. English.

Reader page 44 · Mrs. Polk’s invitation; subdivision of the address

Comp. Frizzell, in behalf of Mrs. James K. Polk, widow of the late President of the United States, tendered an invitation to the members of the General Grand Chapter to pay her a visit at her residence in this city, at 12 o’clock, M., this day, and, on motion, the invitation was accepted.

Comp. Wheeler, of the Committee to which was referred the address of the General Grand High Priest, submitted the following report, which was received and its recommendations adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The Committee to whom was referred the matter of apportioning the several subjects of the Address of the General Grand High Priest, respectfully recommend,

1. That so much of the address as relates to the decease of the Companions therein mentioned, be referred to a Special Committee on Memorials of the Dead.

2. That so much of the address as relates to the case of Henry Maguire, so much as refers to the Grand Chapters of Nevada and West Virginia, so much as relates to the subordinate Chapters in Colorado, and so much as relates to the decisions made by the General Grand High Priest, be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

3. That so much of the address as relates to Chapters U. D. be referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

4. That so much of the address as refers to the Chapter at Seattle, Washington Territory, and so much as relates to the renewal of allegiance of Grand Chapters, be referred to the Committee on Doings of the General Grand Officers.

5. That so much of the address as relates to the action of the General Grand Chapter at the last Triennial Convocation, in regard to the Ritual, be referred to a Special Committee of five.

6. That so much of the address as refers to the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, and the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Fraternally submitted,
Daniel H. Wheeler,
William A. J. DeLancey,
Thomas C. Cassidy,
Joseph T. Hough,
George H. Dannelley.

Reader page 45 · Treasurer’s triennial accounts, 1871–1874

Comp. John McClellan, General Grand Treasurer, presented his triennial report, as follows, and the same was received and referred to the Committee on Finance:

John McClellan, General Grand Treasurer

In account with the General Grand Chapter of the United States. Dr.

Date	Entry	Amount
1871, Sept. 20	Balance of cash in hand	$857.71
1872, Mar. 18	Received of General Grand Secretary	$260.[12?]
June 28	General Grand Secretary	$150.00
Sept. 14	General Grand Secretary	$90.00
Oct. 30	General Grand Secretary	$135.[31?]
1873, Feb. 1	General Grand Secretary	$116.[07?]
Mar. 7	General Grand Secretary	$186.[74?]
Apr. 29	General Grand Secretary	$241.00
Sept. 17	General Grand Secretary	$337.[79?]
1874, Jan. 23	General Grand Secretary	$250.[82?]
June 15	General Grand Secretary	$295.00
Oct. 7	General Grand Secretary	$257.[20?]
Oct. 20	Home Savings Bank, Boston, for interest	$127.[12?]
Oct. 23	General Grand Secretary	$172.68
Nov. 14	General Grand Secretary	$317.[57?]
Nov. 24	General Grand Secretary	$312.[52?]
	Written total	$4,131.79

Cr.

Date	Entry	Amount
1871, Sept. 21	Paid James M. Austin, G. G. H. P.	$100
	Robert S. Bruns, D. G. G. H. P.	$40
	William Hacker, G. G. K.	$50
	Martin Collins, G. G. S.	$75
	John McClellan, G. G. Treas.	$40
	John D. Caldwell, G. G. Sec.	$150
	Daniel A. Piper, G. G. Sentinel	$25
1872, Mar. 18	Printing Proceedings of Triennial Convocation of 1871	$466
	Postage on distribution of same	$46
1873, Sept. 17	John W. Simons, for engrossing resolutions	$75
1874, Nov. 24	Balance of cash in hand	$3,064.79
	Total	$4,131.79

Fraternally submitted,
John McClellan,
General Grand Treasurer.

The triennial report of the General Grand Secretary was presented, read and referred to the Committee on the Address of the General Grand High Priest, for subdivision and reference—

Editorial note: Several cents figures in the receipts column are faded into the curved outer margin; uncertain readings are bracketed. The written total is retained without adjusting entries to force agreement.

Reader page 46 · Secretary’s 1874 report: published proceedings and archives

—to appropriate committees:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

In conformity to a custom hitherto observed, I beg leave respectfully, to present the following report relating to matters connected with the office of the General Grand Secretary during the past triennial period.

The proceedings of the last Triennial Convocation were published as early as practicable after the close of the convocation. With a view of supplying a largely increased demand for the official record, occasioned by the action of the General Grand Chapter in admitting to permanent membership all Past Grand High Priests of State Grand Chapters, and for the purpose of disseminating the proceedings of the General Grand Body to the Craft generally under its jurisdiction, upon the suggestion and advice of the General Grand High Priest, an edition of three thousand copies was printed, and, in addition to the usual distribution, a copy was mailed to each Past Grand High Priest, and every Royal Arch Chapter in the United States.

The expense of printing the proceedings, and of their distribution, amounting in the aggregate to $512.00, was paid by the General Grand Treasurer, on drafts drawn on him in accordance with the terms of the resolution adopted by the General Grand Chapter.

Printed Proceedings

Some weeks subsequent to the close of the General Grand Chapter, in 1871, I received from my predecessor, upon request, a large quantity of pamphlets, embracing the printed Proceedings of several Triennial Convocations, also a mass of papers, but no bound volumes of the Proceedings of Grand Chapters referred to in his report, accompanied the collection. The printed matter has been cared for, so far as its preservation is involved, but the papers have not been properly classified and arranged, for the want of time to devote to that service.

The archives of the General Grand Chapter contain an ample supply of the printed Proceedings of the Triennial Convocations of 1859, 1865, 1868, and 1871, to meet any proper requisition that may be made for some time; but there remain in my possession but three copies of the Compendium of the Proceedings of the General Grand Chapter from its organization to 1853, and but three copies of the Proceedings of the Triennial Convocation held at Hartford in 1856—one of the most important, in some respects, of the series. For the latter the General Grand Chapter is indebted to the courtesy of P. G. Comp. James C. [Batcheldor?], Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, who, upon their discovery in his office, kindly transmitted them to the office of the General Grand Secretary.

The constant demand for the earlier Proceedings, during the past three years, which I have been unable to meet in consequence of their scarcity, would seem to require that some action should be taken to secure their republication; and the question of reprinting them is submitted, with the recommendation that the General Grand Chapter authorize the reprinting of the Compendium, as originally prepared, with the addition of the Proceedings of 1856, and provide means to pay the expense thereof, and adopt such rules in regard to its distribution and sale as may seem proper.

A complete set of the Proceedings of the General Grand Chapter was—

Reader page 47 · Secretary’s report: Grand Chapter reports and new chapter constitutions

—presented to the Congressional Library, pursuant to instructions heretofore adopted at the last Triennial Convocation. M. E. Comp. Drummond supplied the Proceedings of 1856, from his private collection of Masonic publications.

Reports of Grand Chapters

The printed Proceedings of the several Grand Chapters, at their annual convocations, held during the interval since the last Triennial Convocation of this Grand Body, so far as the same have been published, have been received, and their preservation provided for.

These reports contain the most gratifying evidences of the healthy growth and substantial prosperity of the subordinates within their several jurisdictions, and indicate most clearly such prudent action on the part of the Grand Bodies, in relation to the questions proposed for their consideration affecting the welfare of their constituent bodies, as best tends to secure the true interests of the Royal Craft.

The Grand Chapters belonging to the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter number 34, with 1750 subordinates, embracing an active membership of about 112,000 companions.

Complimentary Resolution

The resolution complimentary to M. E. Comp. James M. Austin, Past General Grand High Priest, adopted at the last Triennial Convocation, was handsomely engrossed and framed, at an expense of $75, incurred subject to your approval.

Constitution of New Chapters

The Chapters to which warrants were granted at the last Triennial Convocation, were regularly constituted, and their officers duly installed under authority granted by the General Grand High Priest, as follows:

November 25, 1871, White Pine Chapter, No. 4, at Hamilton, Nevada, by Comp. Thomas Wren, P. H. P. of Georgetown Chapter, No. 10, of California.

November 28, 1871, Pueblo Chapter, No. 3, at Pueblo, Colorado Territory, by Comp. William N. Byers, H. P. of Denver City Chapter, No. 2.

December 5, 1871, Wyoming Chapter, No. 1, at Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, by Comp. George D. Foglesong, P. H. P.

December 19, 1871, Boise City Chapter, No. 3, at Boise City, Nevada, by Comp. N. H. Millard, P. G. H. P.

January 18, 1872, Seattle Chapter, No. 1, at Seattle, Washington Territory, by R. E. Comp. J. B. Lee, Grand King of the Grand Chapter of Oregon.

January 26, 1872, Keystone Chapter, at Shanghai, in the Empire of China, by Comp. Henry Murray, District Grand Superintendent over British Royal Arch Masonry in China of the Supreme Grand Chapter of England and Wales, assisted by Comp. Richard Simpson Gundry, Second Grand Principal of the District Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in China, and Comp. John [Craven?] Miller, Second Principal of the Zion Royal Arch Chapter of Shanghai.

January 29, 1872, Cyrus Chapter, No. 2, at Silver City, Idaho Territory, by Comp. Francis E. Ensign, P. H. P. of Grass [Valley?] Chapter, No. [unclear], California.

Editorial note: “Boise City, Nevada” is written here; the earlier reports in the set place Boise City in Idaho Territory.

Reader page 48 · Secretary’s report: returns and new dispensations

A commission was issued to Comp. Augustus G. Thibodaux, to constitute Walla Walla Chapter, No. 2, at Walla Walla, Washington Territory, and install its officers; but no return of his action under the dispensation has reached the office of the General Grand Secretary. It is presumed, however, that the Chapter was regularly constituted, as its returns have been made to the General Grand Chapter with commendable promptness and regularity.

The duplicate charter granted to Honolulu Chapter, No. 1, at Honolulu, H. I., at the last Triennial Convocation, was not issued to the companions of that Chapter, they having elected to reorganize the Chapter under the warrant granted in 1859, in accordance with the provisions of a resolution adopted by the General Grand Chapter in 1871.

Returns of Chapters

In order to secure a greater uniformity of reports from the subordinates under the immediate jurisdiction, and a more prompt payment of their dues to the General Grand Chapter than had formerly prevailed, a blank form was prepared and issued, subject to the approval of the General Grand Chapter. A blank form of return, suitably arranged for the use of Chapters U. D., was also prepared, and adopted under a like condition, and copies of both forms are submitted herewith.

Returns have been made to December 27th, 1873, by all the Chapters immediately subordinate to the General Grand Chapter in this country, with the single exception of Seattle Chapter, No. 1, of

Washington Territory, which has made no returns, nor paid any dues since its constitution, in January, 1872.

Honolulu Chapter, No. 1, transmitted its returns for the year ending with November 27th, 1872; and Keystone Chapter, at Shanghai, China, to October, 1873.

King Cyrus Chapter, at Valparaiso, Chili, and St. John's Chapter, at Smyrna, Turkey, have made no returns during the past three years, and I have not been able to obtain any information in regard to their condition.

New Chapters

Dispensations authorizing the formation of new Chapters, have been issued by order of the General Grand High Priest, as follows:

August 12, 1872, To Comps. Ed. C. Parmelee, as High Priest; Almon [surname unclear], as King; William S. Downing, as Scribe, and their associate petitioning companions, to open and hold a Chapter at Georgetown, Colorado Territory, under the title of Georgetown Chapter.

December 13, 1872, To Comps. Theodore F. Tracy, as High Priest; [initials unclear] C. Robertson, as King; Charles W. Bennett, as Scribe, and their associate petitioning companions, to open and hold a Chapter at Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, by the name of Utah Chapter.

March 24, 1873, To Comps. Thomas M. Reed, as High Priest; Elisha [P.?] Ferry, as King; William S. Boone, as Scribe; and their associate petitioning companions, to form and hold a Chapter at Olympia, Washington Territory, to be known as Olympia Chapter.

April 26, 1873, To Comps. Samuel P. Kelly, as High Priest; J. [surname unclear], as King; Francis G. Belknap, as Scribe, and their associate peti—

Reader page 49 · Secretary's report: further dispensations and financial receipts

—tioning companions, to organize a Chapter at Eureka, Nevada, by the name of St. John's Chapter.

June 12, 1873, To Comps. Martin W. Kales, as High Priest; [S.?] A. Young, as King; Gustavus P. Alexander, as Scribe, and their associate petitioning companions, to form and hold a Chapter at Pioche, Nevada, by the name of Keystone Chapter.

December 8, 1873, To Comps. Mariner Cook, as High Priest; James A. [surname unclear], as King; William C. Rogers, as Scribe, and their associate petitioning companions, to organize and hold a Chapter at Golden, Colorado Territory, by the name of Golden Chapter.

October 10, 1874, To Comps. E. S. Stackpole, as High Priest; W. A. Clark, as King; C. [Vailton?], as Scribe, and their associate petitioning companions, to hold a Chapter at Deer Lodge City, Montana Territory, to be known as Deer Lodge Chapter.

The Chapters organized U. D., in Nevada, made returns and paid dues to the date of the organization of the Grand Chapter of Nevada, of which they became components, in accordance with a custom hitherto approved by the General Grand Chapter.

The remaining Chapters U. D., with the exception of Olympia Chapter in Washington Territory, have made returns, and paid dues in full, transmitted their Records and By-laws, and make application for warrants of constitution.

Financial

In respect to the finances of the General Grand Chapter, I have to report that during my term of office I have received, on account of:

Source	Amount
Annual Contributions from Grand Chapters	$1,578.[80?]
Dues for Exaltations in subordinate warranted Chapters	$721.[88?]
Dispensation Fees for new Chapters	$630.00
Dues for Exaltations in Chapters, U. D.	$180.00
Sale of Compendium of Proceedings to 1853, inclusive	$12.[25?]
Total	$3,122.[93?]

The sources from which this sum was derived, together with the dates of receipt respectively, are as follows:

Date	Source or entry	Amount
1871, Nov. 9	Lewis Chapter, No. 1, Carson City, Nevada, dues	$14.[00?]
Dec. 15	Grand Chapter of Indiana, contribution 1871 and 1872	$40.[unclear]
1872, Jan. 26	Grand Chapter of Maryland, contribution for 1871	$11.[unclear]
Feb. 8	Grand Chapter of New York, contribution 1872	$168.[unclear]
Apr. 22	Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, contribution 1871	$9.[unclear]
Apr. 30	Austin Chapter, No. 3, Austin, Nevada, dues	$82.[00?]
June 15	Grand Chapter of Louisiana, contribution 1872	$16.[20?]
June 15	Grand Chapter of Connecticut, contribution 1872	$40.[unclear]
June 20	Grand Chapter of New Hampshire, contribution 1872	$18.[unclear]
Aug. 3	Grand Chapter of Wisconsin, contribution 1872	$22.[unclear]
Aug. 12	Dispensation for Georgetown Chapter, Georgetown, Colorado Territory	$90.00
Sept. 25	Grand Chapter of Vermont, contribution 1872	$16.[unclear]
Oct. 28	Grand Chapter of Ohio, contribution 1872	$70.[unclear]
Nov. 5	Grand Chapter of South Carolina, contribution 1872	$8.[unclear]

Editorial note: Names and amounts fading into the outer page curve are marked where uncertain. No figures have been supplied merely to reconcile the total.

Reader page 50 · Secretary’s receipts continued, 1872–1874

Date	Source or entry	Amount
1872, Dec. 13	Dispensation for Utah Chapter, Salt Lake City, Utah Territory	$90.00
1873, Jan. 29	Keystone Chapter, Shanghai, China, dues	$18.00
Feb. 10	Grand Chapter of Maryland, contribution 1872	$12.07
Feb. 28	Grand Chapter of New York, contribution 1873	$174.67
Feb. 28	Virginia City Chapter, No. 1, Virginia City, Montana Territory, dues	$12.00
Mar. 27	Dispensation for Olympia Chapter, Olympia, Washington Territory	$90.00
Apr. 21	Cyrus Chapter, No. 2, Silver City, Idaho Territory, dues to Dec. 27, 1872	$14.00
Apr. 25	Idaho Chapter, No. 1, Idaho City, Idaho Territory, dues to Dec. 27, 1872	$10.00
Apr. 25	Denver City Chapter, No. 2, Denver, Colorado Territory, dues to Dec. 27, 1872	$24.00
Apr. 26	Dispensation for St. John Chapter, Eureka, Nevada	$90.00
Apr. 30	Boise Chapter, No. 3, Boise City, Idaho Territory, dues to Dec. 27, 1872	$16.00
May 10	White Pine Chapter, No. 4, Hamilton Chapter, Nevada, dues to Dec. 27, 1872	$34.00
May 14	Central City Chapter, No. 1, Central City, Colorado Territory, dues to Dec. 27, 1872	$6.00
May 16	Wyoming Chapter, No. 1, Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, dues to Dec. 27, 1872	$60.00
June 12	Dispensation for Keystone Chapter, Pioche, Nevada	$90.00
July 14	Grand Chapter of South Carolina, contribution 1873	$9.11
Aug. 30	Honolulu Chapter, No. 1, Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, dues to Dec. 27, 1872	$16.00
Sept. 8	Austin Chapter, No. 3, Austin, Nevada, dues to Dec. 27, 1872	$14.00
Sept. 10	Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, contribution 1873	$74.68
Sept. 15	Georgetown Chapter, U. D., Georgetown, Colorado Territory, on account of dues	$18.00
Oct. 10	Grand Chapter of Ohio, contribution 1873	$76.11
Dec. 3	Grand Chapter of Louisiana, contribution 1873	$16.20
Dec. 8	Dispensation for Golden Chapter, Golden, Colorado Territory	$90.00
1874, Jan. 10	Cyrus Chapter, No. 2, Silver City, Idaho Territory, dues to Dec. 27, 1873	$28.00
Jan. 17	Helena Chapter, No. 2, Helena, Montana Territory	$28.00
Jan. 20	Grand Chapter of Maryland, contribution 1873	$12.57
Feb. 9	Grand Chapter of New York, contribution 1874	$183.31
Mar. 6	Walla Walla Chapter, No. 2, Walla Walla, Washington Territory, dues to Dec. 27, 1873	$16.00
Mar. 25	Grand Chapter of Louisiana, contribution 1874	$14.40

Date	Source or entry	Amount
May 19	Lewis Chapter, No. 1, Carson City, Nevada, dues to organization of Grand Chapter of Nevada	$52.00
May 19	Virginia City Chapter, No. 2, Virginia City, Nevada, same	$120.00
May 19	White Pine Chapter, No. 4, Hamilton, Nevada, same	$12.00
May 19	St. John Chapter, U. D., Eureka, Nevada, same	$32.00
May 19	Keystone Chapter, U. D., Pioche, Nevada, same	$28.00
May 23	Grand Chapter of New Hampshire, contribution 1873	$19.73
June 18	Grand Chapter of Arkansas, contribution for three years, to Sept. 1, 1874	$75.00
July 31	Grand Chapter of Oregon, contributions 1872, $1.90; 1873, $2.03; 1874, $2.64	$6.57
Aug. 29	Grand Chapter of Ohio, contribution 1874	$79.10
Sept. 1	Grand Chapter of Kansas, contributions 1871, $6.50; 1872, $7.55; 1873, $9.25	$23.30

Reader page 51 · Secretary’s receipts, payments to the Treasurer, and expenses

1874.

Date	Receipts	Amount
Oct. 3	Grand Chapter of New Jersey, contributions, 1871, $22.53; 1872, $24.02; 1873, $25.83	$72.38
Oct. 10	Dispensation for Deer Lodge Chapter, Deer Lodge City, Montana Territory	90.00
Oct. 21	Grand Chapter of New Hampshire, 1874	[20.00?]
Oct. 23	Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, 1873	[82.68?]
Oct. 24	Idaho Chapter, No. 1, Idaho City, Idaho Territory, dues to Dec. 27, 1873	[14.00?]
Oct. 29	Santa Fe Chapter, No. 1, Santa Fe, Territory of New Mexico, dues to Dec. 27, 1873	[18.00?]
Nov. 3	Denver City Chapter, No. 2, Denver, Colorado Territory, dues to Dec. 27, 1873	[34.00?]
Nov. 3	Wyoming Chapter, No. 1, Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, dues to Dec. 27, 1873	24.00
Nov. 11	Pueblo Chapter, No. 3, Pueblo, Colorado Territory, dues to Dec. 27, 1873	12.00
Nov. 12	Utah Chapter, U. D., Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, dues for exaltations to return of dispensation	80.00
Nov. 12	Grand Chapter of Maine, contributions, 1872, $32.19; 1873, $35; 1874, $35.62	102.81
Nov. 16	Golden Chapter, No. 1, Golden, Colorado Territory, dues	[6.00?]
Nov. 16	Helena Chapter, No. 2, Helena, Montana Territory, dues to Dec. 27, 1873	[amount unclear]

Date	Receipts	Amount
Nov. 17	Georgetown Chapter, U. D., Georgetown, Colorado Ty., dues	[amount unclear]
Nov. 18	Deer Lodge Chapter, Deer Lodge City, Montana Territory, dues	[amount unclear]
Nov. 23	Grand Chapter of Tennessee, contributions, 1873, $43.90; 1874, $48.90	92.80
Nov. 24	Grand Chapter of Maryland, contribution, 1874	[amount unclear]
	Sale of copies of Compendium	[12.25?]
	Total	$3,122.93

Editorial note: Several amounts at the shaded outer edge of the scan are uncertain or unreadable.

Which amount was paid the General Grand Treasurer, as follows:

Date	Amount
1872, March 15	$260.12
June 26	150.00
Sept. 14	90.00
Oct. 28	135.31
1873, Jan. 30	116.07
Mar. 5	186.74
Apr. 26	241.00
Sep. 15	337.79
1874, Jan. 21	250.88
June 13	295.00
Oct. 3	257.25
Oct. 21	90.00
Oct. 23	82.68
Nov. 12	317.57
Nov. 24	312.52
Total	$3,122.93

I have expended during my term of office $61.63, for postage, stationery, express charges, etc., per account rendered herewith.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Christopher G. Fox,
General Grand Secretary.

Reader page 52 · London degree work, rejected candidates, and correspondence

1874.

The General Grand High Priest presented a letter from the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of New York (M. E. Comp. Williams) in respect to the authority given by him for conferring the degree of Most Excellent Master upon several companions in London, England, and the same was received and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Comp. Cassidy, of New York, offered the following, which was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence:

Resolved, That every Chapter under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter has sole and exclusive jurisdiction over all its rejected material at all times and places, and that no Chapter be permitted to confer the capitular degrees upon a rejected candidate without the consent of the rejecting Chapter.

The General Grand High Priest submitted a letter from J. Carroll Brent, Secretary of the Washington National Monument Society, soliciting the co-operation of the General Grand Chapter in the work of completing the Washington Monument in the city of Washington, by its approval of the proposed method of securing funds for the purpose, and its recommendation of the project to its subordinates, and on motion the same was received and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Comp. Dannelley, of Arkansas, presented a letter addressed to the General Grand Chapter by William A. Barry, a Professor in St. John’s College at Little Rock, Ark., explaining its condition and requesting aid in its behalf, and, on motion, the same was received.

Comp. Larner, of the District of Columbia, offered the following,

Editorial note: The resolution continues on the next reader page.

Reader page 53 · College aid resolutions and standing committees

1874.

which, together with the letter of Prof. [Banks?], was referred to the Committee on Finance:

Resolved, That the General Grand Secretary be instructed to bring to the attention of the several Grand Chapters of the United States the condition of St. John’s College at Little Rock, Ark., and [solicit?] a favorable consideration of its claims on the Royal Craft.

Resolved, That the sum of $300 be, and the same is hereby appropriated in aid of said college.

Editorial note: The preceding page names the correspondent William A. Barry; the surname on this page appears to read “Banks.”

The General Grand High Priest announced the appointment of Standing Committees, as follows:

Finance.—Comps. Charles Marsh, Cal., Joseph B. [Lee?], N. Y., Jonathan H. Evans, Wis., James B. Blue, Ky., Edward T. Schultz, Md.

Foreign Correspondence.—Comps. John N. Lewis, Conn., John W. Champlin, Mich., Reuben C. Lemmon, O., William Swain, Wis., George B. Clark, D. C.

Grievances.—Comps. Henry H. Dickey, Me., John H. [Brown?], Kan., Andrew J. Thompson, N. H., Silas L. Merrill, Minn., Isaac L. Johnson, D. C.

Doings of General Grand Officers.—Comps. J. Kell, N. C., George H. Fish, Ind., James W. Bowers, Md., John [Goodall?], Mass., and Henry L. Paine, Me.

Charters and Dispensations.—Comps. John Woolverton, N. J., Henry W. Coe, Conn., Reuben Roder, Ind., George L. [Calhan?], Mo., and George E. Stacy, Mass.

Also, the following Special Committees:

Ritual.—Comps. Alfred F. Chapman, Mass., George D. [surname unclear], Ala., Zephaniah C. Luse, Iowa, John Frizzell, Tenn., and

Editorial note: The committee list continues on the next reader page. Several names at the shaded outer edge are uncertain.

Reader page 54 · Marsh’s report and the next triennial convocation

1874.

[initials unclear] Ward, N. Y.

Memorials of the Dead.—Comps. George A. Dannelley, Ark., [John?] W. Clark, Vt., Charles Bechtel, N. J., Charles F. Goodman, Neb., and Reuben J. Laughlin, Ky.

Comp. Charles Marsh, General Grand Scribe, presented the following report, which was received and referred to the Committee on Doings of the General Grand Officers:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

As your General Grand Scribe for the past three years I have not been called upon to perform any official acts which are required by our laws to be reported to this Grand Body.

I take the liberty of reporting that the condition of the Royal Craft on the Pacific Coast is prosperous and flourishing, and our work and lectures properly taught and practiced.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Marsh, General Grand Scribe.

Comp. Larner, of the Special Committee appointed to select a time and place for the next Triennial Convocation, presented the following as the conclusion of the Committee:

Resolved, That the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter be held at Buffalo, N. Y., on the third Tuesday of September, 1877.

Comp. Schultz, of Maryland, offered the following as a substitute:

Resolved, That the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter be appointed at the time and place of the Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templars in 1877.

The question on the substitute proposed by Comp. Schultz was taken by yeas and nays, and resulted as follows:

Yeas.—The Grand Chapters of Illinois, 4 votes; Indiana, 4; Kansas, 4; Maryland, 2; Minnesota, 4; Nebraska, 4; New Jersey, 4; Ohio, 2; South Carolina, 4; Tennessee, 4; Wisconsin, 4. Past Grand High Priests McCahan,

Editorial note: The roll-call vote continues on the next reader page.

Reader page 55 · Convocation vote, ritual action rescinded, and report referrals

1874.

Wheeler, Perkins, Maxwell and Goodwin, and Wyoming Chapter, No. 1, of Wyoming Territory, each one vote. Total 46.

Nays.—The Grand Chapters of Arkansas, 4 votes; California, 4; Connecticut, 4; District of Columbia, 4; Iowa, 4; Kentucky, 4; Maine, 4; Maryland, 2; Massachusetts, 4; Michigan, 4; Mississippi, 4; New Hampshire, 4; New York, 4; Ohio, 2; the General Grand Scribe, General Grand

Treasurer, General Grand Secretary, Past General Grand High Priest Austin, Past Grand High Priests Norris, Dannelley, Parvin, Luse, Brown, [Bostwick?] and Frizzell, each one vote. Total 63.

The question then recurring on the motion to adopt the report of the Committee, the resolution was amended, by striking out the word “September,” and inserting instead thereof the word “August,” and as amended the resolution was declared adopted.

Comp. Chapman, of the Special Committee on Ritual, presented the following report, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the action taken by the General Grand Chapter in 1871, in regard to the Ritual of the Royal Arch degrees (as reported on page 42 of the Proceedings of that year), be, and the same is hereby rescinded, and representatives are hereby instructed to communicate this action to their Grand Chapters at their next annual Convocations.

Comp. Wheeler, of the Special Committee to which was referred the Triennial Report of the General Grand Secretary, presented the following report, which was received and its recommendations adopted:

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the General Grand Secretary for appropriate reference, respectfully recommend:

That so much of said report as relates to reprinting the Proceedings from 1798 to 1856, inclusive, and so much thereof as relates to receipts and expenditures, be referred to the Committee on Finance.

That so much of said report as refers to Chapters U. D., and accompanying documents, including forms of Returns for Subordinate Chapters, be referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

That the remainder of the report be referred to the Committee on Doings of the General Grand Officers.

Fraternally submitted,
Daniel H. Wheeler,
Wm. H. S. DeLancey,
Theo. C. Cassidy,
Jos. H. Hough,
Geo. A. Dannelley.

Reader page 56 · Jurisprudence report on proxies, rejected candidates, and amendments

1874.

Comp. Parvin, of the Committee on Jurisprudence, presented the following report, which was received and laid on the table until the afternoon session.

To the General Grand Chapter of the United States:

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the resolutions of Comp. Wheeler, of Nebraska, providing for the admission of active [companions?], claiming seats as proxies of the officers of Chapters holding Charters directly from the General Grand Chapter, having examined the constitutional provisions bearing upon the question, have come to the unanimous conclusion, that this General Grand Body is and must be governed by the clause in Article 1st, Section 3, which expressly confines and limits the representation of such subordinate Chapters to the first three

officers, and that it nowhere confers upon [all?] or either of them the power to appoint a proxy as their representative in the General Grand Body; that without such or any authority, this Body cannot, by any construction of its fundamental law, or upon general principles, admit such representation by proxy.

Your Committee are equally unanimous in their conclusion, that [the same?] distinction should be made as is made in the Constitution between the qualifications of representatives of subordinate Chapters in the State Grand Chapters and this General Grand Chapter. And in order that such officers may appear by proxy, it is necessary that section three be amended, as provided in the resolution offered by Comp. Caldwell, so that the proviso shall read, “Provided [that?] every Chapter under this jurisdiction, in any State, District or Territory where there is no Grand Chapter duly established, shall have a right to appear by its first three officers, or any one or two of them, which officers or their proxies shall collectively have one vote.”

In relation to rejected material.

Your Committee also report on the resolution offered by Comp. Cassidy, of New York, in relation to the jurisdiction of Chapters over rejected material.

Doubts having arisen in reference to the question as to the right of any Chapter to confer the capitular degrees upon a candidate previously rejected by another Chapter, it is declared by this General Grand Chapter, as the law upon such subjects, that no Chapter under this jurisdiction shall confer the capitular degrees on any candidate previously regularly rejected by any other Chapter without first procuring the consent of such rejecting Chapter, provided that such Chapter be still in existence.

Amendments to the Constitution.

Your Committee also report that they have duly considered the amendments to the Constitution proposed by Comps. Frizzell and Lemmon (the former authorizing Grand Chapters to admit Past Grand High Priests to membership, [and?] the latter relative to the consideration of proposed amendments to the Constitution), and recommend their adoption, after due notice as required by law.

Fraternally submitted,
Theodore S. Parvin,
Augustine T. Smythe,
Henry Bostwick,
Joseph W. Fellows,
David F. Day.

Reader page 57 · Visit to Mrs. Polk and a proposal to reprint the proceedings

1874.

The time appointed as the special order having arrived, the General Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until three o’clock, P. M., and the companions proceeded to the residence of Mrs. James K. Polk, where they were severally introduced and paid their respects to that distinguished lady.

Wednesday, Three o’clock, P. M.

The General Grand Chapter resumed labor.

M. E. Josiah H. Drummond, G. G. H. P., presiding.

Officers and Representatives present as before.

Comp. Bower, of Iowa, offered the following, which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

Whereas, The Compendium, embracing the published Proceedings of this Grand Body from 1798 to 1853 inclusive, and the edition of the printed Proceedings of the Triennial Convocation held in 1856, are nearly exhausted, and it being desirable that the same be reprinted, therefore,

Resolved, That the General Grand Secretary be directed to cause the complete Proceedings of this Grand Body, from 1798 to [1856?] inclusive, to be copied and stereotyped, and one thousand copies thereof printed and bound under the advice and supervision of the General Grand High Priest, and distributed as follows: [six?] copies to each State Grand Chapter; one copy to each permanent member of the General Grand Chapter, who shall apply for them; one copy to each subordinate Chapter under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter; one copy to the several important Public Libraries, and that copies be sold at the actual cost to such parties as may apply to purchase them.

A memorial of Comp. Thomas M. Reed, and other companions, of Washington Territory, expressing the belief that a Chapter could be sustained and was necessary at Seattle, that the

Editorial note: The memorial continues on the next reader page. The ending year and number of distribution copies in the reprinting resolution are partly obscured by the page-edge shadow.

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recent difficulties in said Chapter might be satisfactorily adjusted, and recommending that all matters in controversy in relation to said Chapter be referred to the representatives of the Grand Chapter of Oregon for investigation, was presented and referred to the Committee on Doings of the General Grand Officers.

The complaint of Comp. Mariner Cook, appointed H. P. of Golden Chapter, U. D., of Colorado Territory, in relation to the action of said Chapter in selecting companions for officers to be named in the warrant of said Chapter who were not so named in, and were not petitioners for the Dispensation, was presented and referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

Comp. Cassidy, of New York, offered the following, which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

Resolved, That each officer and Past General Grand High Priest attending the Triennial Convocations of the General Grand Chapter shall be entitled to receive from its funds the regular fare charged by the most direct public conveyance to and from his residence to the place of Convocation, and five dollars per day for travel and attendance.

On motion of Comp. Brown, of Kansas,

Resolved, That no companion be permitted to speak more than twice on any question that may come before the General Grand Chapter for its consideration, except to explain, only by its consent.

The report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, pending at the close of the morning session, was then taken up, and the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee adopted.

On motion of Comp. Pollard, of New York,

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Resolved, That Comp. Clarence J. Clarke and Comp. William N. Byers, of Colorado, be, and they are hereby specially invited to occupy seats in the General Grand Chapter with the privilege of speaking on all questions.

Editorial note: This is the last written entry in the supplied Volume 2D PDF. It does not include the conclusion of the 1874 convocation. The remaining reader page is blank.

Reader page 60 · Blank final page

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