



**P**ROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Most Puissant Grand Council

ROYAL SELECT MASTERS

OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK,

SEPTEMBER 8, 1885,

TOGETHER WITH THE

CONSTITUTION,

GENERAL REGULATIONS, ETC.

AS AMENDED AND ADOPTED,

SEPTEMBER 8, 1885.

NEW YORK:

JOHN F. BALDWIN'S STEAM PRESS, 42 VESEY STREET.

1885.



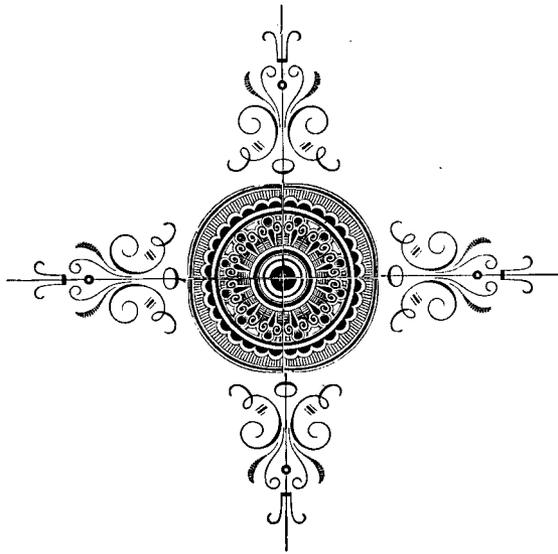
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OF THE  
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OF  
ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS  
OF THE  
STATE OF NEW YORK,

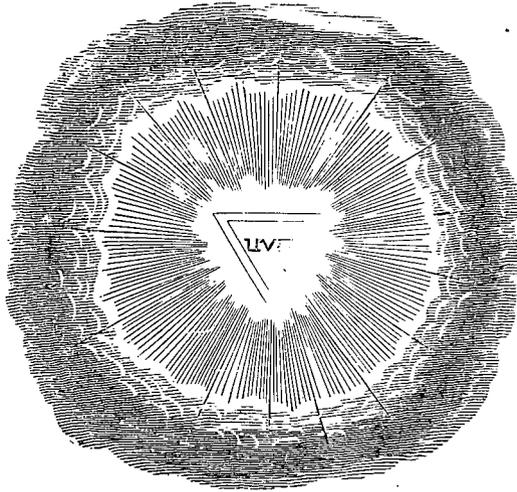
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1885.





ANNUAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE  
GRAND COUNCIL R.: & S.: M'S.:  
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK,

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GRAND COUNCIL ROOM,  
MASONIC TEMPLE, COR. SIXTH AVE. AND 23D. ST.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters  
of the State of New York, convened in Annual Assembly, in the  
City of New York, on Tuesday, September 8th, A.D. 1885, Anno.:  
Dep.: 2885, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

## PRESENT.

M. III. THOMAS GLIDDON.....	GRAND MASTER.
R. III. JOHN W. COBURN.....	GRAND DEPUTY MASTER.
R. III. JOHN L. BROTHERS.....	GRAND P. C. OF W.
R. III. JOHN F. BALDWIN.....	“ TREASURER.
R. III. GEO. VAN VLIET.....	“ RECORDER.
R. III. RALPH C. CHRISTIANCE.....	“ C. OF THE G.
R. III. PORTE L. HINMAN.....	“ C. OF THE C.
R. III. ALEX. B. KING.....	“ MARSHAL.
R. III. Rev. JOHN G. WEBSTER.....	“ CHAPLAIN.
R. III. JOHN N. MACOMB, Jr.....	“ LECTURER.
R. III. WILLIAM DOWNES.....	“ STEWARD.
III. JOHN HOOLE.....	“ SENTINEL.

Together with the Representatives of the following Councils :

COLUMBIAN.....No. 1	DUNKIRK.....No. 25
UNION.....“ 2	PALMYRA.....“ 26
BROOKLYN.....“ 4	UTICA.....“ 28
ADELPHIC.....“ 7	OLEAN.....“ 33
BLOSS.....“ 14	CORNING.....“ 53
BRUCE.....“ 15	PEEKSKILL.....“ 55
SOUTHERN TIER.....“ 16	HUDSON.....“ 62
BUFFALO.....“ 17	SING SING.....“ 64
DORIC.....“ 19	ITHACA.....“ 68
KEYSTONE.....“ 20	ADDISON.....“ 69
DEWITT CLINTON.....“ 22	NEPPERHAN.....“ 70
ONTARIO.....“ 23	ALPH-OMEGA.....“ 71

And permanent members as follows :

M. III. JOHN HOOLE.....	PAST G. M.
M. III. JOHN D. WILLIAMS.....	“
M. III. G. FRED. WILTSIE.....	“
M. III. GEO. M. OSGOODBY.....	“
M. III. CHAS. W. BROWN.....	“
M. III. JOHN J. MARTIN.....	“
R. III. P. M. W. VERHOEVEN.....	P. G. C. OF THE C.
R. III. A. E. LEACH.....	“ STEWARD.
R. III. JOHN B. HARRIS.....	“ TREASURER.
T. III. M. A. LEWIS.....	P. T. I. M.

With Representatives from the following Grand Councils :

ALABAMA,  
CONNECTICUT,  
ENGLAND, WALES, &c.,  
FLORIDA,  
GEORGIA,  
INDIANA,  
KANSAS,  
KENTUCKY,  
LOUISIANA,  
MAINE,  
MASSACHUSETTS,  
MICHIGAN,

MISSOURI,  
MINNESOTA,  
MARYLAND,  
NEW HAMPSHIRE,  
NEW BRUNSWICK, CAN.,  
NEW JERSEY,  
OHIO,  
ONTARIO, CAN.,  
PENNSYLVANIA,  
RHODE ISLAND,  
TENNESSEE,  
VERMONT.

The Grand Council was opened in ample form, and with prayer by Rev. Comp. JOHN G. WEBSTER.

On motion, all Companions Select Masters in good standing were invited to seats, as visitors, during this Annual Assembly of the Grand Council, except at such times as prohibited by the Constitution.

On motion, the reading of the Minutes of the previous Assembly was dispensed with (printed copies being in the hands of the Representatives.)

M. I. THOMAS GLIDDON, Grand Master, then delivered the following

## ADDRESS.

ILLUSTRIOUS COMPANIONS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK :

When we met in this place one year ago, several matters of considerable importance to the welfare of Cryptic Masonry in this jurisdiction were discussed, but some of these, according to usage, were consigned for final action to the deliberations of this Annual Assembly. It will not be amiss for me to call your especial attention to these questions, as they are of vital moment, requiring a modification of the Constitution of this Grand Council.

The first in importance, in my judgment, will be the report of the Illustrious Companions on the *resolve*, "That a Committee of three be appointed for the purpose of compiling our Constitution, said Committee to report at our next

Annual Assembly." Comps. VAN VLIET, SHERER and EHLERS were nominated as such Committee. Doubtless they will make a thorough and exhaustive report, and at the proper time I will ask your most careful attention to its consideration.

One of the changes refers to repealing the restrictive clause of the Constitution adopted at the Annual Assembly of 1880, whereby the Past Masters of our subordinate Councils were denied the privilege of permanent membership in this Grand Council, while all who had served as T. I. M. prior to January 1st, 1881, were confirmed in this inestimable privilege as a Constitutional right.

The Special Committee on this subject reported an amendment to Section 1 of Article I. of the Constitution to carry out my recommendation, which of course will please me very much to have the Grand Council give its unanimous consent.

The proposition is again renewed to take from the Grand Master the prerogative of making "Royal and Select Masters at sight in a Council." I continue of the opinion I expressed last year, "that I would be pleased to see the clause stricken out of the Constitution."

Still another Constitutional amendment is pending, on the motion of R. I. Comp. MACOMB, to

Amend Section 11 of Article I. of the Constitution, by striking out the first two lines of that section, and insert in lieu thereof the following: "The Grand Council shall hold its Annual Assembly on the second Wednesday of April, and shall open at 10 o'clock in the morning at such place as the Grand Council shall appoint, or, in case of its failure to appoint, at such place as the Grand Master shall designate."

I submit this radical proposition to you without comment.

#### OFFICIAL VISITING.

On the 7th day of October last I issued the following circular:

OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER OF  
ROYAL AND SELECT MASTER MASONS  
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 7th, A. Dep., 2884.

#### RIGHT ILLUSTRIOUS COMPANIONS:

In accordance with the custom of this Grand Council, I have made a list of Councils for each of the Grand Officers to visit in an official capacity during the current year; and I do hereby fraternally suggest that great importance to all our subordinate bodies and the Grand Council attaches to these visitations, hence the fervent hope on my part that the Thrice Illustrious Masters of the assigned Councils will make full preparation for and welcome the Grand Visitor to their S. V. at the most convenient time for the success of the object to be obtained. "By faithful, zealous work," said OSGOODBY, "we can make this

year a memorable one in the history of this Grand Masonic jurisdiction," but remember that it will require that each Companion of the Cryptic Rite do his duty, and do it promptly and well.

R. .III. .Comp. JOHN W. COBURN, G. D. M.

No. 4, BROOKLYN.....Brooklyn.  
No. 31, KING SOLOMON.....Poughkeepsie.  
No. 36, PENTALPHA.....Flushing.  
No. 55, PEEKSKILL.....Peekskill.

R. .III. .Comp. JOHN L. BROTHERS, G. P. C. of W.

No. 15, BRUCE.....Lockport.  
No. 25, DUNKIRK.....Dunkirk.  
No. 33, OLEAN.....Olean.  
No. 71, ALPH-OMEGA.....Albion.

R. .III. .Comp. R. C. CHRISTIANCE, G. C. of G.

No. 14, BLOSS.....Troy.  
No. 16, SOUTHERN TIER.....Elmira.  
No. 19, DORIC.....Rochester.  
No. 20, KEYSTONE.....Buffalo.

R. .III. .Comp. P. L. HINMAN, G. C. of C.

No. 23, ONTARIO.....Penn Yan.  
No. 26, PALMYRA.....Palmyra.  
No. 35, HORNELLSVILLE.....Hornellsville.  
No. 40, KONHOCTON.....Bath.

R. .III. .Comp. ALEX. B. KING, G. M.

No. 7, ADELPHIC.....New York.  
No. 22, DEWITT CLINTON.....Albany.  
No. 28, UTICA.....Utica.  
No. 70, NEPPERHAN.....Yonkers.

R. .III. .Comp. WILLIAM DOWNES, G. S.

No. 1, COLUMBIAN.....New York.  
No. 2, UNION.....New York.  
No. 64, SING SING.....Sing Sing.

R. .III. .Comp. JOHN N. MACOMB, JR., G. L.

No. 17, BUFFALO.....Buffalo.  
No. 53, CORNING.....Corning.  
No. 68, ITHACA.....Ithaca.  
No. 69, ADDISON.....Addison.

Again, the GRAND MASTER tenders to his associate Grand Officers his assurances of assistance and personal presence in making any of the visitations in the above list.

Attest:

Fraternally yours,

GEO. VAN VLIET,

*Grand Recorder.*

THOMAS GLIDDON,

*Gr. Master.*

GR. MASTER'S  
SEAL

In company with one or more of our associate Grand Officers, I have during the year visited

BRUCE COUNCIL.....	No. 15	.....at Lockport.
ALPH-OMEGA COUNCIL.....	No. 71	.....at Albion.
BLOSS	“	.....No. 14 .....at Troy.
ITHACA	“	.....No. 68.....at Ithaca.
HUDSON	“	.....No. 62.....at Hudson.
ADDISON	“	.....No. 69.....at Addison.
PALMYRA	“	.....No. 26.....at Palmyra.

Besides, I have been a constant attendant upon the stated Assemblies of my own Council,

DORIC.....No. 19.....at Rochester.

Moreover, I have endeavored through correspondence to make arrangements to visit the Councils at Olean, Utica, Elmira and Buffalo. That I have been unsuccessful in fixing dates to visit the Companions in those places in an official capacity is a source of regret to me, for certainly whenever and wherever it has been my good fortune to assemble in the S. V. V., I have uniformly been greeted with the utmost courtesy, and with that large-hearted hospitality for which the Companions of this jurisdiction are noted; and it is gratifying to add that I found “willing hearts and skilful hands carefully preserving and maintaining that arc of the grand Masonic circle which this order of Masonry represents.”

My visit to the City of Hudson in March last was especially satisfactory in its results. The Council which had been instituted in that city in 1872, and worked with some degree of enthusiasm for a few years, had been permitted to wane and become dormant. A correspondence with Comp. WM. H. SCOVILL assured me that this Council could be resuscitated. I lost no time in communicating with my associate Grand Officers, and, as a gratifying result, on Thursday evening, March 12th, with R. I. Comps. COBURN, VAN VLIET, CHRISTIANCE and KING, and the kindly assistance of T. I. Comps. JOHN F. SHAFER and JOHN A. DAVIS, an emergent Grand Council set the machinery in motion to give the resident Companions of Hudson an opportunity for an election of officers. This being concluded, the same were duly installed by the Grand Master and his staff. The Assembly of Hudson Council, No. 62, R. and S. M., was thus legalized as once more a constituent of this Grand Council. On the invitation of T. I. Comp. HENRY KURTS, the pleasant task of inducting into the mysteries of our favorite Cryptic Rite five neophytes was entrusted to T. Ill. Comp. SHAFER and his associate Companions of Bloss Council, No. 14. With rare felicity they interpreted the Ritual, and I am sure made a deep and lasting impression on the candidates. Comp. DAVIS, of DeWitt Clinton Council, No. 22, cheerfully rendered efficient service during the impressive ceremonies.

#### HARMONY.

The main object of my visit to Addison Council, No. 69, was to endeavor to

smooth the elements of discord that had at least prevented the Companions in that village from working together in harmony for several months. My visit was socially a success, and I am led to believe from correspondence and conversation with T. I. Comp. Rev. E. C. COWAN, that a far better feeling prevails in Addison than heretofore.

An interesting paper was submitted to me from Bruce Council, No. 15, at Lockport, touching the course of events under the incumbency of the lamented JASON COLLIER as T. I. M. After a careful examination of the statements and alleged irregularities, I wrote that the matter complained of was not serious or vital, and that I "did not conceive it in any way for the benefit of Cryptic Masonry to be technical or captious over the alleged error of one who was held in the highest esteem among the S. M. of the State of New York." Two weeks later I proceeded to Lockport and installed T. I. Comp. JOHN HODGE and his associate officers. On this occasion it was quite evident to me that no elements of discord were then lurking around. On the contrary, the Assembly was very numerously attended, and the utmost harmony prevailed.

These two incidents offer no subject for deliberation in this Grand Council, but they are nevertheless worthy of notice in this Address as showing the exigencies that may arise for the counsel and advice of the Grand Master.

#### DISPENSATIONS.

Did ever a year pass without a call upon the Grand Master for a dispensation to hold an election and installation of officers out of time? Probably not; so this Address would not be complete if I failed to announce that on the 18th of February, 1885, I granted a dispensation to Hornellsville Council, No. 35, to install the officers elect at an early date. I also gave consent by dispensation to Utica Council, No. 28, to install officers at a later date than prescribed by law.

#### PENTALPHA AND UTICA.

While I am glad to be able to report a fair degree of prosperity attending the workings of most of our subordinate Councils, there are a few exceptions which I must note for your information.

I learn from our Grand Deputy Master, R. I. Comp. COBURN, that the matter of a contemplated change of location of Pentalpha Council, No. 36, at Flushing, which was referred to him with power to act, could not be satisfactorily consummated. The Companions of that Council had voted to surrender their charter, but he had fondly hoped that with a change of location, and with a different set of Companions to have it in custody, the same charter would have done service for many years in the future. In this laudable effort he was frustrated, and therefore accepted the document, and placed it in our archives. He recommends, however, that this Grand Council now cancel the indebtedness of unpaid dues by Pentalpha Council.

Utica Council, No. 28, has been unfortunate for two or three years past, but comes to this Annual Assembly well represented, and we confidently believe

with brighter prospects ahead. T. I. Comp. FRISBIE has laid before me an earnest request that this Grand Council consider their situation, and vote for the remission of their dues—that should have been paid last year. I cordially commend this case as worthy of attention, and hope the Grand Council will comply with their petition.

#### VISITS TO NEW JERSEY AND VERMONT.

About the middle of January, in company with R. Ill. Comps. COBURN, CHRISTIANCE and HINMAN, I visited the Grand Council of New Jersey, then in Annual Assembly convened at Trenton. It is needless to add that we were very cordially received by the Grand Master and his associate Companions of our sister jurisdiction of R. and S. M.

On the 9th day of June last, on the courteous invitation of M. I. Comp. W. H. S. WHITCOMB, Comp. CHRISTIANCE and myself attended the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Vermont, at Burlington. The kindly greeting and hearty welcome that we received from the Illustrious Companions of the Green Mountain State will not soon fade from my memory.

#### GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL.

It gives me pleasure to announce to my Companions that we have with us to-day the General Grand Master of the General Grand Council of R. and S. M. of the United States of America, M. P. Comp. GEO. M. OSCOODBY. He reports the Cryptic Rite as prospering in all sections of the country, and with great warmth and enthusiasm he refers to the recent accession of the infant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Oregon as a constituent member of the august body over which he has the high honor to preside. On behalf of the jurisdiction of the State of New York, I welcome our Companions of Oregon to the number of those who desire to strengthen our companionship, and beg to assure them that we shall hope to greet them with the most fraternal grasp when the representatives of our beloved Rite meet in National Assembly in the City of Washington, one year from this date. And this induces me to add, that I look forward to that Grand Assembly as promising for us the most important results in relation to our work in the S. V.

#### GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

After some unaccountable delay, our R. I. Comp. JOHN W. COBURN received his commission as Representative of the Grand Council of Alabama near this Grand Council, an appointment I announced at our last Annual Assembly.

Early in the spring I opened a correspondence with the Grand Master of R. and S. M. in the State of Missouri, fraternally requesting an exchange of Representatives. By mutual consent, we agreed upon our R. I. Comp. JOHN L. BROTHERS as their Representative, and M. I. Comp. NOAH M. GIVEN, of St. Louis, as our Representative. Both commissions were subsequently delivered as an earnest of the friendly relations between the two jurisdictions.

About the same time we effected an exchange with the jurisdiction of Kentucky, the Grand Master naming M. I. Comp. WILLIAM RYAN, of Louisville, and on my part the selection fell on our Illustrious Comp. EDWARD M. L. EHLERS, of New York.

It will be recalled that during our last Annual Assembly, M. P. GEO. M. OSGOODBY offered the following, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the M. I. Grand Master elect is hereby requested to revise the list of Representatives of other Grand Councils near this Grand Body, to the end that no Companion shall represent more than one Grand Council, and recommend similar action on the part of the other Grand Councils.

In accordance with this resolve and the vote of this Grand Council, I have endeavored to consummate this idea, but without success. I therefore leave it in your hands to take any further steps you deem necessary.

#### NECROLOGY.

COMPANIONS : The year now closing has been remarkably free from death among the shining lights of those "who have wrought their regular hours" in this grand jurisdiction. Only one demise—that of an old and venerable Companion of Columbian Council, No. 1—R. III. WILLIAM J. SURRE, who received the Council Degrees in 1856, served faithfully and well as Recorder and T. I. M. of Columbian Council, was for a number of years Grand Recorder of the Grand Council, and on April 2d, 1885, at the ripe old age of eighty-three years, was called to enjoy the "rewards of a well-spent life."

Beyond the confines of our jurisdiction the hand of the Destroyer has worked his ravages, and a few of our Companion friends "have been gathered to the land of their fathers." To the sorrowing families and their former co-workers we have the power of tendering words of sympathy and condolence.

ALFRED T. CHAPMAN once said : "In the ancient mysteries the vault was symbolic of death, where at last Divine truth was to be found. In the Secret Vault, therefore, we find the deposit of truth, to fit and adorn us for the new Temple of Eternal Life." To this symbolism I turn your attention as my closing words to this Grand Council.

For two years I have labored with a determination to glorify the Cryptic Rite in this great jurisdiction. I have permitted no discouraging outlook to cause my enthusiasm to waver, and no apathy among the Companions to allow me to feel that I have labored in vain. Whoever else might be lukewarm or disheartened, I have found one soul that was uniformly buoyed up by the profound truths taught in our Ritual, and who has always been willing to journey many miles to testify of his faith and assist your Grand Master. He is a Companion worthy of your love and admiration, and I would be false, indeed, to my convictions of duty if I failed to pronounce this feeble eulogium on R. I. Comp. CHRISTIANCE. He is eminently worthy of all the honors which has fallen to his lot in this Grand Council. Duty to the office he has held has always prompted him to be at the call of the Grand Master, and no matter how wearisome the journey, he was sure to be at my side when called upon to assist in

any work for the furthering of the interests or the encouragement of the Companions of our beloved Rite. Let me not be misunderstood: while I have deemed Comp. CHRISTIANCE worthy of this personal allusion, my other associate Grand Officers are also entitled to my earnest commendation for the manner in which they have performed the several duties assigned them. Moreover, for their willing assistance and uniform courtesy, they will please accept my most cordial thanks. The Grand Lecturer, R. I. Comp. MACOMB, notwithstanding his long absence from the jurisdiction, has not been neglectful in the least in giving of his profound learning and correct ritualistic knowledge whenever his services have been requested. To him the Companions of the entire jurisdiction are under deep obligations for his cheerful imparting of the standard work of the degrees under our immediate control.

The reports from my associate Grand Officers are of the most encouraging character. They have all been assiduous in their efforts to make the official visitations according to assignment, and my information from the several subordinate Councils assures me that these visits have been productive of lasting good to the Rite which it is our especial privilege to propagate throughout the Empire State.

#### CONCLUSION.

Two years of service as Grand Master, and several years of preceding service in this Grand Council, has profoundly impressed me with the earnest work that can be done by a Grand Officer in this jurisdiction in preserving the symbols and ceremonies of Cryptic Masonry. We go into the S. V. because of the conviction that in that dark recess we have a labor to perform that we, or only such as we, can accomplish. Close it, and it may be truly said that we have allowed a light to be extinguished for which it would be difficult for us to give a reasonable excuse. Companions, if we continue to work with unwavering assiduity, the Ninth Arch will be kept open for our deposits, and we will be able to sing, "Joy, joy to the world, the sacred word is found." This is a duty we owe to ourselves, and the ardent disciples of the symbolism and ceremonies of the grades of Royal and Select Masters admonish not to falter when every thing looks so bright around us.

And now my task is done. I surrender the emblem of authority, thanking you for the honors you have conferred. The Companions of the State I shall ever hold in grateful remembrance for the numerous courtesies I have received at their hands. The many seasons of sweet companionship it has been my good fortune to enjoy will serve as a strong incentive to keep me steadfast in loyalty and attachment to this Grand Council, and though I shall no longer be in authority, I shall continue to esteem it a privilege to mingle with those who have devotedly labored with me for the popularizing of the symbolism and ceremonies of Cryptic Masonry.

On motion, the address was referred for sub-division and reference of its several parts to appropriate Committees, to Companions

GEO. MCGOWN,

GEO. A. NEWELL,

JOHN F. SHAFER.

The Grand Treasurer presented the following as his Annual Report, which was, on motion, received and referred to the Committee on Finance, when appointed :

TO THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL OF R. AND S. M.'S OF THE  
STATE OF NEW YORK :

Your Grand Treasurer presents the following as his Annual Report :

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand, as per last Report.....	\$157 21
Received from the Grand Recorder.....	1,043 50

DISBURSEMENTS.

Warrant 533 Grand Recorder's Salary and Expenses.....	\$260 41	
“ 534 “ Master's Expenses.....	10 00	
“ 535 Chairman Committee on For. Cor.....	50 00	
“ 536 Grand Sentinel.....	7 50	
“ 537 Room and Safe rent.....	20 00	
“ 538 Printing.....	6 25	
“ 539 “ Proceedings 1884.....	200 00	
“ 540 Pay of Representatives.....	366 33	\$920 49
Balance on hand.....		\$280 22

Respectfully submitted,

NEW YORK, Sept. 8, 1885.

JOHN F. BALDWIN, *Grand Treasurer.*

The Grand Recorder presented the following as his Annual Report, which was, on motion, received and referred to the Committee on Finance :

TO THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL OF R. AND S. M.'S OF THE  
STATE OF NEW YORK :

The receipts of the Grand Council for the current year have been as follows :  
For dues, as acknowledged in printed Proceedings of Annual Assembly, held Sept. 9, 1884..... \$1,043 50

I have entered in the Grand Council Registry to the present time the names of..... 3,890 Companions.  
among whom the following changes have occurred :  
Suspended for non-payment of dues..... 750  
Died..... 247  
Demitted..... 207  
Expelled..... 6 1,210

Leaving a registered membership in good standing of..... 2,680 Companions.

Respectfully submitted,



*Grand Recorder.*

On motion, it was decided that when this morning's session adjourns, it do so until one o'clock this P. M., and that the afternoon's session be continued until all the business of this Annual Assembly is concluded.

On motion, the election of officers was made a special order for three o'clock this afternoon.

The Grand Master appointed the following Committees :

*On Credentials and Returns.*

GEO. VAN VLIET,                      A. B. WOOD,                      E. A. ROCKWOOD.

*On Warrants and Dispensations.*

WILLIAM DOWNES,                      J. HOLLY PLATT,                      J. M. TOMPKINS.

*On Constitution and By-Laws.*

GEO. M. OSGOODBY,                      JOHN J. MARTIN,                      J. N. MACOMB, JR.

*On Finance and Accounts.*

JOHN W. COBURN,                      ALEX. B. KING,                      GEO. E. PRIEST.

*On Unfinished Business.*

CONRAD WEHNES,                      C. S. HANKS.                      W. M. SMITH.

*On Fraternal Dead.*

REV. JOHN G. WEBSTER,                      B. S. FRISBIE,                      REV. E. C. COWAN.

M. Ill. GEO. M. OSGOODBY, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the report of said Committee as follows, which was, on motion, received and ordered printed with the proceedings :

TO THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL OF R. AND S. M.'S OF THE  
STATE OF NEW YORK :

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence would most respectfully report, that they have been out foraging in the lines of friends, and also have been skirmishing in the camps of those whom they would most gladly hail as beloved Companions, but who have joined themselves unto strange gods, and unto an idolatry of their own choosing, which the obligations we have taken prohibit us from serving. We have found levied contributions, and taken into possession a large quantity of provisions and forage, which we have succeeded in safely conveying into the walls of our Temple—sufficient to provide for the

wants of such of our Craftsmen as will be content with choice tid-bits selected from the rich stores and garneries that we have been privileged to abstract from. We have in all explored the treasuries of thirty-six Bodies, and present the same to you, believing that from the whole some benefit may be derived by each of us.

Upon the whole, we find much to encourage us to persevere in our labors, much to rejoice at, much to build upon, and but little to dishearten us. We are able to say that in the corps of Masonic Reviewers whose brightest jewels have been given to the fraternity in this chosen field of labor, there are gems of wisdom set in royal workmanship and in most exquisite skill, surrounded with pure gold, and worthy of your earnest consideration. We have put these brilliants in a plain surrounding of simple background, that, perchance, their beauties may be the better seen and appreciated from contrast.

We have reported to you upon every Body whose proceedings have come to our hands; where we have not received them we have written to our Grand Recorder for those missing, and are under obligations to him for his labors in endeavoring to supply our wants. We have also sent to the different jurisdictions for missing copies, occasionally with success, but frequently without receiving any return. Such as we have, give we unto you. We first present you with the

GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STATES, under which we present the following :

ARIZONA.....1885	INDIAN TERRITORY.....1885
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.....1885	NEW MEXICO.....1885

We also, under this head, present interesting items in relation to the Cryptic Rite at large. Next in order we present the States alphabetically arranged :

ALABAMA.....1884	MASSACHUSETTS.....1884
ARKANSAS.....1884	MICHIGAN.....1885
CALIFORNIA.....1884-5	MINNESOTA.....1884
CANADA.....1885	MISSISSIPPI.....1885
CONNECTICUT.....1885	MISSOURI.....1884
ENGLAND AND WALES.....1885	NEW HAMPSHIRE.....1884
FLORIDA.....1885	NEW JERSEY.....1885
GEORGIA.....1885	NORTH CAROLINA.....1884
ILLINOIS.....1884	OHIO.....1884
INDIANA.....1884	OREGON.....1885
IOWA.....1885	PENNSYLVANIA.....1885
KANSAS.....1885	RHODE ISLAND.....1884
KENTUCKY.....1884	SOUTH CAROLINA.....1885
LOUISIANA.....1885	TENNESSEE.....1885
MAINE.....1884	VERMONT.....1884
MARYLAND.....1884	WISCONSIN.....1885

## GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL.

This Body is moving along in the even tenor of its way, advancing in strength and numbers. One new Grand Council added to its Mystic Circle during the past year—that of Ooegon, which we give in proper place with other Grand Councils. We refer to the different territory occupied by this body in its order as follows :

## ARIZONA.

One difficulty has been in the way of granting a Dispensation for a Council in this Territory ; that is, the fact that a sufficient number of Companions have not been found near enough together to be able to meet together and form a Council. We are promised, however, an early attempt to secure the organization of a Body there.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

There is in this District one Council chartered by the G. . G. . C. . , located at Washington. It is in a good working condition, and doing reasonably well. The difficulty arising out of the complications between the Grand Council of Massachusetts and Lafayette Council of Washington, which was chartered by such G. . C. . , having been settled and harmoniously adjusted, there remains nothing in the way of a successful career for this Council. In the Correspondence Report of the Grand Chapter of this jurisdiction, M. . E. . Comp. LARNER, speaking of the subject of "Merger," says : "The Mississippi plan remains intact in the place of its birth." He might have added, that it would not always so remain ; that is, in all probability, it would not even survive there long.

T. . I. . JOSEPH McCoy, Master, Washington, D. C.

## INDIAN TERRITORY.

Ok-la-ho-ma Council, U. . D. . , located at A-to-ka, Choctaw Nation. Our lusty pappoose is still flourishing and adding to its members, and from present prospects will present itself with a good showing of work for the consideration of the next G. . G. . C. . in application for a charter.

T. . I. . J. S. MURROW, Master, A-to-ka.

## NEW MEXICO.

The condition of matters in this Territory is precisely the same of that in Arizona: While there are worthy Companions there who desire to have a Council instituted in their midst, they are so far from each other that they cannot unite in one place for its organization.

When the next Triennial Assembly is held, there will some plan be adopted, probably, whereby the wants of Companions in such Territories may be attended to, as well as of those Royal Arch Companions in such places who desire to receive the Cryptic Degrees. This can be arranged in the wisdom of that Body in such a manner as to answer all necessary purposes, and supply all wants.

There will be much found under other States—as Iowa, Kentucky, Missis-

issippi, Nebraska, North Carolina and Wisconsin—that might well have had consideration under the present heading, but we preferred to insert our comments upon these States under their respective names. We ask a careful reading under the names of these States.

The success of the G. G. C. has been far beyond the expectations of its most sanguine advocates. The interest in the Rite has been increased, a harmonious union effected between jurisdictions that were not in the closest communion, and the Rite is now assured beyond a question for all time to come. With this result those who bore the burden of the long days of anxiety and labor must rest content.

The next Triennial of the General Grand Council will be held at Washington on the 28th day of September, 1886, which is the date fixed for the next Triennial of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States. We bespeak for it a full attendance of Representatives direct from all the Grand Councils of the different jurisdictions—not only its constituents, but we would be pleased to meet and welcome Representative Masons from those Grand Councils holding to the faith, but which are not constituents of the General Grand Body. Come and visit us in force, and see our way of “doing things.”

#### ALABAMA—1884.

The 47th Annual Assembly was held at Montgomery, December 1st. M. I. W. WILLIAM WALLACE McCOLLUM, G. M., presiding.

The address was brief, and of a local character and application. The wisdom of the Companions who conceived and organized the General Grand Council is commended in noting that nearly all the Grand Councils that had surrendered their independent existence and been merged in the Chapters have been re-organized, and are now in a state of health that is far better than they enjoyed before that event occurred. The decease of a Companion who had for fifteen years guarded the portals of the different Grand Bodies of Alabama—JAMES DAVIDSON—is noted, and a suitable memorial adopted. The Report on Correspondence is from our veteran Knight of the Quill, DANIEL SAYRE—brief, pithy, juicy, and set with jewels. We shall emulate his example in at least one respect this year; that is, shall be *brief*, even if we have none other of the gems with which his report is adorned.

Our Representative Comp., BENJ. T. POPE, was present and was greeted.

The G. M. was re-elected (address, Briarfield), and Comp. SAYRE was re-elected G. R.

#### ARKANSAS—1884.

The 22d Annual Assembly was held at Little Rock, November 28th, M. I. W. GEORGE THORNBURGH presiding.

His address shows one application for a new Council, which was granted. Authority was conferred to heal all Royal and Select Masters made in Chapters, and many applied to be and were healed. Instead of wasting time over discus.

sions, often accrimonious in their character, as to the necessity of the "healing" and how it should be done, our Arkansas Companions take hold of the matter in the right spirit, and proceed to put themselves in a position where no complaint can be urged against their regularity, as well as the good standing of their members. This course is to be commended all the more for the reason that it was an act concededly necessary in order to relieve those who disagreed with them originally upon the subject from the unpleasant alternative of refusing to recognize such members as being in good standing and not clandestinely made, which they would have been compelled to have done in order to remain consistent with the position heretofore assumed by those who believed that the merger of Council with Chapter was unmasonic and illegal.

A most beautiful and touching reference, mostly poetical, is made to the death of Judge ELBERT H. ENGLISH, whose departure to another existence our Fraternity have so much mourned. His life belonged, not alone to Arkansas, but to all the brotherhood. The writer cherished a warm attachment for Comp. ENGLISH from his first acquaintance with him, which grew in strength as time rolled on to the last sad ending of a life of unusual brightness, and which had been so fraught with good deeds to those with whom he came in contact needing a kindly word, or of assistance in their struggles through the trials and sorrows of bearing the burdens imposed. Of broad, comprehensive views, a still broader charity, an accomplished jurist, not only in Masonic law, but in the laws of the land of whose judiciary he was a bright and shining light, he endeared himself to all who came to know of his characteristics. In relation to him we can most appropriately quote the beautiful lines of Whittier :

" If we drop our tears,  
We loved him as few men were ever loved ;  
We mourn no blighted hope or broken plan,  
With him whose life stood rounded and approved  
In the full growth and stature of a man."

The Royal and Select Degrees were each conferred in Grand Council. Resolutions were adopted to take the necessary steps to re-organize all Councils whose Charters had not been forfeited. That all worthy (Does it mean Royal?) and Select Masters made in Councils appended to Chapters in the State be healed in such constitutional manner as the Grand Master might direct, and, when so healed, might apply for affiliation with such Councils as they might select ; that all Councils which do not re-organize and go to work and comply with the Constitution in making returns and paying their dues have their Charters revoked. All dues owing at the time of the consolidation with the Chapters were remitted, provided the Council so owing such dues promptly made returns and paid dues for the ensuing year.

The Proceedings are printed with those of the Grand Chapter, which shows that the action of the Grand Council has the approval of that body, and that they are working in harmony.

M. I. JAMES M. HARKEY was elected G. M. (address not given). R. I. JAMES M. HENRY was re-elected G. R.

## CALIFORNIA—1884.

The 24th Annual Assembly was held April 10th, at San Francisco, M. I. : DAVID POTTER BYSTLE, G. . M. . , presiding.

His address was excellent, but brief. The Body appears to be much more prosperous in the Golden State than it has been for years, and to be making steady progress in the right direction ; has a good credit balance, and its officers are alive to the interests of the Rite. One new Council instituted at Oakland.

Comp. THOMAS H. CASWELL made the report on Correspondence. It is most ably prepared, and one of the best that we have had the pleasure of perusing. We would gladly quote liberally from it, but with the idea in our mind when we commenced this review that we would be brief, that an addition might be made to our fund for the re-printing of our earlier Proceedings, which are very rarely to be found at this late day, we must refrain from so doing.

Under Connecticut and New Jersey he expresses the hope of seeing them both come in as constituents of the G. . G. . Council. We would all like to see a harmonious whole, but as it is not the desire of these Bodies to unite at present, we must wait until they see things in the same light that the others do ; they understand that there is a standing invitation for them to come and be one of us, and that we would all be glad to welcome them. That must suffice as far as we are concerned.

New York does not appear in this Report—why, we do not understand, unless our Proceedings failed to reach the golden sands of California—their's failed to reach us—and we are now reviewing upon a copy that we procured from a Companion in New York City.

Under Vermont, Comp. CASWELL gives us the astounding information that he does not know what juleps, cocktails and whiskey-sours are, and at the risk of being charged with a desire to air our superior (?) knowledge by some who may be envious, we are inclined to give our light on the subject. The "juleps" spoken of is most probably a misprint for "jalap," which is some kind of "doctors' stuff ;" a "cocktail" grows, we are informed by a poultry fancier, on the rear end of a rooster ; and a "whisk-eyes-ours" is some kind of a—a—a whisker growing below the eyes, and the person speaking of it probably intended to say he had such a whisker, and ungrammatically remarked "whisk-eyes-ours," meaning that it was his own, "ours ;" any way, we are informed that such things are occasionally to be found by earnest, persevering explorers in and about the ruins of Gotham, and if Comps. WHITCOMB and CASWELL will call around some day when our folks are at home (the latch-string will be out), we will try and get EHLERS, COBURN, VAN VLIET, Uncles DAN or JOHN, or some other of the "oldest inhabitants," to look up some of those relics for them ; we couldn't go out very well ourself, for they might weigh more than we could carry, and we know that the Companions we have named could carry their bel- backs full without inconvenience. As for us, "No, thanks, we have tried it"—jalap, we mean.

In closing his report, Comp. CASWELL says :

"In surveying the field of Cryptic Masonry we find much to encourage and

enthuse its votaries, and very little to dishearten. We mourn the loss of North Carolina, who succumbed to a severe attack of Mississippi fever; but most of those attacked with it have fully recovered, are now either in robust health or rapidly convalescing. A little patience, energy and enthusiasm and the Cryptic Rite will be all *right*."

M. I. GEORGE ALEXANDER MCKENZIE was elected G. M., and R. I.; THOMAS H. CASWELL re-elected G. R.

#### CALIFORNIA—1885.

The Proceedings of this State for this year are just at hand, and are gotten up in a very fine style typographically, and the contents are in as good taste as the book itself.

The Assembly was held at San Francisco, April 30th, M. I. FRANKLIN H. DAY, as G. M., presiding. Seven Councils were represented. The address of the G. M. was read by the presiding officer. It is quite brief and of local importance only. The Rite appears to be prospering finely. The degree of Super-Excellent Master was added to those to be hereafter conferred by this Body.

The Report on Correspondence was prepared by Comp. THOMAS H. CASWELL, in his usual able manner, and contains matters of great interest to the Rite wherever spread. It covers nineteen Bodies, including New York, which has favorable mention.

Two hundred dollars was appropriated to defray the expenses of the Grand Master in visiting the Councils of the State.

The Proceedings are full of interesting matters, and we should like much to give more from the report of Comp. CASWELL, but we only received the Proceedings half an hour before leaving for the Assembly of our own State.

M. I. FRANKLIN H. DAY, G. M., San Francisco. THOMAS H. CASWELL, G. R., same address.

#### CANADA—1885.

The 15th Annual Assembly was held at Hamilton, Ontario July 10th, M. I. J. ROSS ROBERTSON presiding. The address of the G. M. is full of good things, and deserves more than a mere mention. He deservedly hit some of the "humorists" of our sister Grand Councils over their knuckles for their comments upon the titles of the Officers of the Grand Council of Canada; as all was in a joking way, no one will feel hurt in the warfare. The G. M. recommended that the control of the degrees of the Order of Rome and Constantine and the Royal Ark Mariners should be resumed by a separate Body, and be struck out of the list of the degrees now under the control of the Grand Council, which was agreed to by the Committee to whom the subject was referred, and the recommendation was adopted by the Body. The Cryptic Rite seems to be fairly prosperous over the border, and its votaries appear to be endowed with life and a love for its teachings. With a working corps of energetic Officers, the future of the Rite cannot but be prosperous.

The next Annual Assembly is to be held at Windsor, in July, 1886. Our Representative Comp. DANIEL SPRY was present and greeted as such.

M. I. ROBERT RAMSAY, of Barrie, Ontario, was elected G. M., and Past G. M. J. ROSS ROBERTSON, G. R., address Toronto, Ontario.

#### CONNECTICUT—1885.

A Special Assembly of this Grand Council was held at New Haven, May 11th, at ten o'clock, A. M., and the regular Annual Assembly was convened at two o'clock, P. M. of the same day, M. I. ALEX. B. SHUMWAY, G. M., presiding.

His address and the reports of the Officers required to report their official acts exhibits an activity upon their part worthy of commendation and also of imitation in some other jurisdictions, and evinces a lively interest in the advancement of the Rite on their part; but as the address and reports are local in their character, we refrain from quotations. Every Council in the jurisdiction was represented and made its returns—sure evidence of life and strength. A Council of Super-Excellent Masters was opened, and that degree was conferred in the orthodox manner.

The Correspondence Report is from the pen (and scissors) of the veteran, Wm. WALLACE LEE, who not only has a will of his own, but most positive ideas upon the eternal fitness of things in general, but also of some things in particular. However, we think he sort o' begs the question in his attempted answer to our query of a year ago. We asked him:

“Do you recognize a colored man—*i. e.*, an African, born a slave, by fortunate circumstances made free—as a Mason, because he has received so-called degrees in a clandestine colored lodge?”

To which he made answer:

“I recognize the Declaration of Independence in its fullest extent; consequently hold that no one is born a slave; he is made a slave after his birth by usurpation and force, just as if OSGOODBY, being some eight or ten inches taller than I am, and proportionally stronger and larger, should seize upon me and compel me to do his bidding without reward or compensation. I have never found in any old Colonial records any law by which slavery was established, although I have found where the method of electing officers was by using white and black beans as ballots. I believe in my inmost soul that all men are free. My ancestors gave willing service in the army of the Revolution to sustain that idea; my brothers died on the field of battle to re-affirm it; I think the word ‘freeborn’ applies to all.

“2d. I know no color line in Masonry or anywhere else; but I suppose after all our experience there are some who still cling to it, and will until they die—perhaps longer.

“I hold no lodge to be clandestine when duly chartered by competent authority.”

Our question asks, Whether one born a slave, afterwards made free, who has secured so-called degrees in a *clandestine* lodge is recognized by Companion LEE as a Mason. It is a suppositious question.

1st. We take the subject a slave.

2d. He becomes free after birth.

3d. He gets "degrees" in a clandestine lodge.

4th. We ask, do you recognize him as a Mason?

The answer begs the question. He don't recognize, first, that there ever was or could be a slave, although we read of them as "bondmen" in an ancient book. He doesn't recognize any color line, and finally he seems to imply that the clandestine lodge referred to in the question cannot exist. What will become of our ancient "landmarks" if these ideas are to prevail? We appreciate the "progressive euchre" there is in his position; that is, his ideas are progressive, but who gets euchred in the finale? Let some of our brothers of the quill answer.

Under "Maine" we give further information about "Connecticut."

M. I. JOB F. SEAMAN, of East Killingly, elected G. M., and R. I. JOSEPH K. WHEELER, of Hartford, re-elected G. R.

#### ENGLAND AND WALES—1884.

Our information in regard to this Grand Council is meagre. The Annual Assembly was held in October last, and we were promised that a report of it would be sent us, but which we have not received. We but echo the wish of our sister Grand Councils when we say that the publishing annually of its Proceedings would be a high gratification to us all. Why not do it? The expense is but trifling, and its work should go on record, so that we might all enjoy the privilege of knowing what is done over the great waters.

From private sources we learn that there are eleven Councils working within this jurisdiction. The progress of the Rite has been like all things in staid Old England—slow but sure. Its ultimate prosperity is assured from the fact that all so far who have entered the Crypt express themselves as pleased with the Rite, and a continual inquiry is being made by other branches of the fraternity in relation to it, and its Officers are of the best Masons in the Kingdom. Its Proceedings should be printed. Companions of Grand Masters' Council No. 1, "Cast your bread upon the waters," &c.

M. I. Rev. G. R. PORTAL, G. M., and R. I. C. F. MARTIN, P. G. M., address, No. 8 Red Lion Square, High Holborn, London, W. C., England.

#### FLORIDA—1885.

The Annual Assembly was held as usual (the date we have not at hand), M. I. GEORGE S. HALLMARK, G. M., presiding.

His address is a beautiful piece of work, and we would be only too well pleased to copy it in full, but we cannot do so this year. Understanding that there had been extra sentinels placed on guard this year, it was a little more difficult to get our Telephone in a good position for hearing all their Proceedings, but we caught on to most of what was said and done. It would be well for our Companions down there to understand that they can't hide their light under a bushel any longer; that "there's a chiel amang ye takin' notes, an' faith he'll prent 'em." The business was of a local character only. Dues from subordinate Councils were abolished. Everybody in attendance at Grand Coun-

cil pays his own expenses, mileage included. The Proceedings will not be printed at present. The Officers were all re-elected. The address, as we caught on, was an extra good one. We give its commencement :

“In undertaking the task allotted me, *i. e.*, making an Annual Address, I shall make it my sole object on this occasion to present in simple guise, truthful and unadorned, the grand aim and object of our Order—Charity.”

Then follows one of the finest dissertations upon the subject that we have ever had the pleasure of perusing. It is altogether too good not to be printed, and we hope yet to see it in the future in their Proceedings in full. Our Companions of Florida are deserving of great credit for their unselfishness in sparing no labor or inconvenience to themselves in keeping up courage under adverse circumstances. We hope the reward of the future will be ample to remunerate them.

#### GEORGIA—1885.

Annual Assembly held April 29th, at Atlanta, M. I. C. F. LEWIS, G. M., presiding.

The address and Proceedings show cheering prospects, and the present outlook in that jurisdiction shows a marked improvement over the past, and that the several Councils thereof are in a healthy condition. This is good, and we congratulate our Companions of Georgia that the shadow is passing away, the daylight appearing, and that the noon-tide of prosperity may soon be theirs in our sincere and earnest wish. One new Council chartered. Nine Councils represented. The Proceedings for the years 1872 to 1879 inclusive have never been printed until recently, and we are now presented with them by the liberality of Comp. AUSTIN A. CASSEL, of Mt. Vernon, Ohio. This generous act on his part will long be remembered by the friends of the Rite. They fill a vacancy in one epoch of the Cryptic history of Georgia that was not in the possession of the fraternity generally, and being printed from the original records can be relied upon as authentic. We tender our thanks for this great favor.

From a personal letter sent us by Comp. WOLHIN, we are informed that the Rite is progressing, and that they feel much encouraged.

The Grand Master, as a part of his Address, includes therewith a Report on Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of twenty-two Bodies, including N. M., in an able and interesting manner. Our Grand Master receives a deserved compliment for his energetic work, and his decisions in the matter of healing, etc., are fully concurred in.

Our Representative, Comp. ANSELM STERNE, was present at the Assembly.

M. I. C. F. LEWIS was re-elected as G. M., and R. I. A. M. WOLHIN was re-elected as G. R.

#### ILLINOIS—1884.

The 32d Annual Assembly was held at Chicago, October 29th, M. I. GEO. W. CURTISS, G. M., presiding.

The address covers about eight closely printed pages, and from it we glean

that the State was divided into five districts, and each placed under the supervision of Officers assigned. The information being conveyed to the Grand Master that some Companions of the Rite had in their possession unauthorized notes in full or abridged of the Ritual, he issued his proclamation requiring the same to be delivered to the T. I. M. of their Council or to himself at once, and all Companions were forbidden to copy hereafter. No copies, however, were surrendered. Four new Councils were chartered, and one was instituted under dispensation. A Committee to revise their Constitution and By-Laws was appointed, and a report made which was read and is printed with the Proceedings. We would have been much pleased to have seen in it a provision making it a constituent of the General Grand Council. But that will yet come. Proxies were granted to heal those Companions who had received their degrees under Chapter Authority.

The Ritual in use as promulgated by the Grand Chapter of the State for use in Chapter Councils was adopted as the standard work and Ritual of the Body in Illinois.

The report of the District Officers exhibits a good deal of enthusiasm in the Crypt in this jurisdiction, and that the Rite is safely established there for all time to come.

The M. I. G. M. elected at this Assembly issued his proclamation to the Companions of the Rite, again making a division of the State, assigning Officers to visit the Councils therein, and in it he states, among other important matters, as follows:

“Companions who received the degrees in Chapters of this State up to the first day of January, 1883, stand as non-affiliates until they unite with some regularly organized Council. As far as this jurisdiction is concerned, such Companions are in good standing to all intents and purposes as if they had received their degrees in Council; but in some other jurisdictions they will not be recognized as Royal and Select Masters until lawfully healed. It is, therefore, desirable that such Companions should be healed without delay, and on application I will issue my proxy to any present or past T. I. M. to heal such as are in need of it in their respective Councils. . . . Companions Royal and Select Masters of the State of Illinois, let us one and all take hold of the work of re-organizing and re-vivifying Cryptic Masonry in our midst, with a determination to succeed in making it not only in name, but also in fact, the summit and perfection of the American York Rite. Put these degrees on their merits. Abandon the delusive hope that some other organization may in the dim future do something that will coerce Companions into our ranks. It will not, it should not be done. ‘God helps those that help themselves.’ These degrees are worthy the confidence and esteem of the craft for the valuable lessons they inculcate, or they profit us nothing. Let every Royal and Select Master feel, believe, and act in this spirit; be active, be energetic, be enthusiastic, and the end of the year will see a wonderful revival of Cryptic Masonry in progress in the State of Illinois, and the near future will see these degrees at the head of the Masonic column, and receiving the honor and appreciation which is justly their due as the Cope-Stone and perfection of the Masonic Temple.”

This has the ring of the true workman's tools, and we have no doubt but that Illinois will take what it had in days of yore—the front of the Cryptic column, and pass by its sisters in the Cryptic Rite. We are glad to see this evidence of

zeal in our Companions there, and say "God speed" to you in your noble work.

Upon page 4 of Appendix, in the Report on Correspondence, there is such a great error in fact that we must correct it as a matter of history, and trust that it will be corrected in the next printed Proceedings of Illinois. How such an error could have occurred we cannot imagine. Speaking of the action of the Convention of Royal and Select Masters, held in Buffalo, N. Y., August 20th, 1877, Comp. GURNEY, who makes the report, says :

"Very little was accomplished aside from the *adoption* of the following :

"*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Convention, that if the General Grand Chapter of the United States shall sanction the conferring of the Council Degrees by the Chapters whenever the Grand Council of any State is willing to concede this right and the Grand Chapter of such State shall accept the same, then this action shall meet our approval."

We have before us a copy of the printed Proceedings of that Convention. We were also personally present and took part in the discussion and in the voting upon this resolution, and we know and the printed Proceedings state correctly and truly states as follows :

"Companion HOWRY, of Mississippi, offered the following resolution :

Then follows the resolution as stated by Companion GURNEY. Immediately after it is this :

"The resolution was seconded by Companion LEE, and on being put to a vote was lost by a vote of 12 to 6."

The original Minutes as taken at the time, and subscribed by the Officers of the Convention, are still in existence and verify the same fact, that the resolution was LOST, *not* adopted, and we confidently appeal to those of the Representatives then present, who are still in life, to verify this statement. We regret this placing upon record in such important Proceedings as those of Illinois a statement so directly opposite to the historical fact; and we can only attribute it to an error of the printer changing the word "rejection" into the word "adoption," which suffices—makes the error in the record. We are the more inclined to this belief, for there are several other typographical errors in the Report as printed; for instance, he makes Comp. "CARROLL" the author of the Correspondent's Report for California, instead of "CASWELL," who is too well known to Comp. GURNEY for him to make such a mistake. "Shoot the printer." We have just discovered that he has taken the liberty of making G. : M. : "SHAW," of Louisiana, into "a STARR." The extra "r" is to show that he is a planet of the first magnitude. Well, the printer *is* right in that respect; he does dispense a large amount of light. But we doubt whether he will approve of being transported to, and being made a part of, our Solar System by a printer just yet—not as long as he can remain on earth. We concede that SHAW is a "STAR," but not a "STARR."

A more unfortunate mistake than was made in relation to the result of the vote on the resolution referred to, and embracing a greater error, could not by

any possibility have been confined within the limits of one word. The Correspondence Report of Comp. GURNEY is one of the best. It is well and ably written, and well worth reproducing. Under Maine, in commenting upon the report of Comp. DRUMMOND, speaking of the future, he says :

“ Our opinion is, that the only salvation for the Council is in a General Grand Body. If such an organization will not keep up an interest, nothing will. It may be that after our Grand Council get ‘clandestines’ healed to the satisfaction of Brother D. and his associates, Illinois may knock at the door of the General Grand Council. This is simply a private opinion, and may not be of any value.”

Now, this is all good ; but, Comp. GURNEY, we think you are getting the “clandestines” you speak of out of the way pretty fast. Come along to the Circle, and it is needless to assure you that there will be such a welcome extended as will, if it be given voice, “make the welkin ring.”

Under New York for 1883, considerable space is given and pleasant notice is taken of our Architecture. We might abstract many things from this Report that would be very interesting, but we must forbear.

M. I. HARVEY E. HUSTON, G. M., Monticello ; and R. I. GIL. W. BARNARD, G. R., Chicago.

#### INDIANA—1884.

The 29th Annual Assembly was held at Indianapolis, October 21st and 22d, M. I. LAGRANGE SEVERANCE, G. M., presiding.

The address announces the death of R. I. THOMAS R. AUSTIN, Deputy G. M., February 5th, 1884, and of R. I. CHARLES FISHER, Grand Treasurer for nearly a quarter of a century, and who had handled as Treasurer of Masonic Bodies over \$3,000,000, every cent of which has been accounted for satisfactorily. He gives us a synopsis of their masonic histories and lives, which were filled with good works and deeds.

One new Council chartered, one instituted U. D., and one other petition received for a Council, but which had not been granted, as it was objected to by the Council nearest to the proposed location. The G. M. takes occasion to say in his address :

“ In carefully reviewing the reports of Proceedings of the different Grand Councils in the United States, one cannot fail to be gratified at the improvements in our order of Masonry since the organization of the General Grand Council. Cryptic Masonry is now a fixture. It is no longer a side degree, and it is destined to grow in permanence from year to year.”

Upon the subject of making the Cryptic Rite pre-requisite to the orders of the Temple, he says :

“ I believe there is no question among Cryptic Masons as to the justice of having these degrees pre-requisite to the Orders of the Temple. York Masonry, as practiced in America, advances step by step, and each step explains something of those which precede. The Lodge is not complete without the Chapter, nor the Chapter fully understood without the Council. What is lost in

Ancient Craft Masonry and discovered in Capitular, is explained in Cryptic. Beautiful moral lessons are hinged upon the traditions of all.

"It would be doing great injustice to those valiant and magnanimous Masons composing the Order of the Temple to suppose that they would willingly or knowingly do an injustice to any other degree in Masonry. Make it known to them that the Council is an established fact, as an independent degree, and they will hardly fail to recognize it.

"Neither does there seem any difference of opinion as to the effect upon the Order of the Temple. All believe, instead of being detrimental, it would be beneficial. If it kept any out of the Commandery, it would be some one unworthy of membership in that Order. It is character, not numbers, that make Masonry strong. Those who are induced by the pomp and display of the Commandery to believe that that is the goal to be sought in Masonry are likely to become apathetic when the novelty wears off, and prove a drawback to any Degree or Order."

He closed by asking for the appointment of a Committee to take the matter in charge, and the same was by the Grand Body referred to Past Grand Masters ALBERT CHARLES, MARTIN H. RICE, ALEXANDER THOMAS and LUCIEN A. FOOTE, who reported,

"That while they deem it desirable that the Cryptic Degrees should be made pre-requisite to the Chivalric Orders, yet in view of the several attempts that have heretofore been made to accomplish this object, and the refusal of the Grand Encampment of the United States to acquiesce therein, they believe it inexpedient at this time to take any further steps."

This was concurred in.

Our Representative, Comp. LUCIEN A. FOOTE, was present in his place.

The Correspondents' Report is from the fruitful pen and brain of P. G. M. WILLIAM W. AUSTIN, and we cannot resist saying, that if we were to sit down to hear the play of Hamlet, and found that Hamlet was left out, we could not be more disappointed than we would be to sit down to a review of Cryptic Reports and find AUSTIN not with us. New York receives favorable mention in this Report. If we dared to do so, we would quote most liberally from this Report; but if we were to commence we would not know when, where, nor how to stop. And as curtailment of expenses is the suggestion, we bide our time some other day.

Suffice it to say that Indiana is alive, at the front of the Cryptic rank. Their Officers are at their post doing brave work for the Rite. As in the past, now and always, we opine, they will be zealous and enthusiastic.

M. I. HEZEKIAH R. MARLATT, G. M., address, Richmond. R. I. JOHN M. BRAMWELL, re-elected G. R., Indianapolis.

IOWA—1884.

"Still dead"—but is getting ready for that eruption. Its Grand Chapter has entered upon a special mission of supplying Rituals of the Cryptic Rite to its Chapters. This is presumably for the purpose of "disbursing funds," as its bill for writing out thirty-two copies, in a *common* style, for that number of Chapters, and "a plainly written *Original*" (?) "for the Grand High Priest,"

was the modest little sum of \$177.64. That is better than giving the money to the Widow and Orphans' Fund they think. Out of all these "copies," how are they to tell which one is the "original" (horse)?

The Grand High Priest, by inference, has adopted a new name for his Grand Chapter, *i. e.*, "a title factory." He ought to know best what to call it.

Nothing appears to be doing in or towards the advancement of the Rite, and in all probability nothing will be done under its present auspices and superintendence. It is wedded to the Chapter, and from its breasts must all its nourishment come. Dry pastures, of course, for it is hardly to be expected that an adopted child will be treated as one to the manor born.

#### KANSAS—1885.

We are without advices from this jurisdiction, other than a letter from the Grand Recorder, who states that their Proceedings are not yet printed; however, he gives us some "meat," *i. e.*, the Annual Assembly was held at Emporia, February 17th, 1885, M. I. JACOB DEWITT, G. M., presiding. Seven Councils represented. Ten Councils on roll, membership 400. The Councils are all in good and flourishing condition except one, which has been sick (like Thomas' wife's mother) of a fever; but a thorough course of treatment was having a good effect, and the patient was rapidly approaching convalescence, and a marked improvement was looked for in the near future. The Rite was advancing, and prospects were growing brighter.

M. I. SAMUEL TAYLOR, G. M., of Newton, and R. I. JOHN H. BROWN, G. R., Wyandotte.

#### KENTUCKY—1884.

Held its Annual Assembly at Louisville, October 23, M. I. CHARLES ERSKIN DUNN, G. M., presiding.

The address states that while the G. M. could not give as cheering a report of the prosperity of his subordinate Councils as he would like still, under the circumstances, he had every reason to be encouraged. Some of the Councils have been very prosperous. Two new Councils were instituted U. D., and presenting a good report of their work received Charters. Grand Representatives were interchanged between Kentucky and eleven other Grand Bodies. The Proceedings were mostly of a routine character and of local importance. Its Committee on Jurisprudence presented a report which was approved, which, while having a local application, contains one or two items of general interest, *i. e.*,

"That the title of courtesy ought not to be stated in a law as the name of an office, but be distinct, as in the Constitution. Thus the presiding Officer of a Council is 'Master,' and the title ought so to be affixed to a signature. It would be indelicate for him to style HIMSELF 'Thrice Illustrious,' however proper it might be to address him by that title."

This conclusion is most sensible, and should be observed at all times.

The new Constitution of this Body as revised and adopted are published with its Proceedings. We should have been glad to have found an article in this

Constitution providing that the G. . C. . of Kentucky should be a constituent of the G. . G. . Council.

The Correspondents' Report is from the pen of H. P. GRANT, who was not apprised of his appointment until after the G. . C. . had adjourned. He, however, gives us about thirty-three pages of excellent selections and interesting comments. Considerable space is taken in defining the position of this Body from 1878 to 1882, which we consider unnecessary, as the present position or status of this Grand Body is beyond question regular, and is so conceded by all its sister Grand Councils, as well as the G. . G. . C. . We are in favor of dropping forever discussions of this character as between Bodies who are now concededly working and living in harmony. Such discussions are liable to engender unfriendly and often acrimonious feelings, and which is manifested by the comments of Comp. GRANT in many places; this should not be. Therefore we say, let the dead past remain buried without invoking its sheeted phantom to rise and disturb the harmonious work of the living for the living. Life is too short to complete the labors set before us by the Supreme Grand Master, ere we are called upon to return to the unknown sphere from which our souls first emanated, if we continue to devote ourselves to matters which are not now of substance in living issues, but only shadows of the past.

We should make several extracts from this report, but for the fact that its author accompanied nearly all his brightest sayings with what seems to be an undercurrent of bitterness, hardly concealed and often expressed toward the G. . G. . C. ., and we think his own sense of fairness and justice, if he had read his review after its completion before it went to press, would have constrained him to have eliminated many of its paragraphs. His next report should show a change, as it is never too late to retrace one's steps in such matters when convinced of error.

M. . I. . HIRAM BASSETT, G. . M. ., Millersburg. R. . I. . L. D. CRONINGER, G. . R. ., Covington.

#### LOUISIANA—1885.

This Body held its Annual Assembly at New Orleans, February 12th, M. . I. . ALFRED SHAW, G. . M. ., presiding.

We have no copy of the address to refer to, as the Proceedings are not yet printed, and our information comes by private advices through our "telephonic" connections. Three Councils out of four in the State were represented. There was no Report on Correspondence, the Chairman, Comp. PINCKARD, not being in the City at the Assembly. We shall have a good long report next year. No business of importance was transacted except the usual routine.

The Officers were all re-elected.

#### MAINE—1884.

The 30th Annual Assembly was held at Portland, May 7th, M. . I. . MARQUIS F. KING, G. . M. ., presiding.

His address is of a local character, principally, and it is evident that prosperity is attending their efforts.

The Correspondents' Report is from the accomplished Masonic writer, M. P. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, who received and reviewed the Proceedings of twenty-two Bodies, including those of New York for 1883.

Under Connecticut, Comp. DRUMMOND, commenting upon the position taken by Comp. LEE, that

"Masonry existed before there was any Code of Laws, and, I believe, would get along better if a large portion of the laws enacted within the last forty years could be wiped out,"

Gives us his ideas as follows :

"And he (Comp. LEE) falls into the error of arguing, in effect, that the enactments of Grand Lodges are the law of Masonry; that Masonry existed before there was any Code of Masonic law is true, but that it existed before there was any Masonic law is not true. He understands that the 'body of Masonry' is 'its Ritual, in substance—its legends, forms and ceremonies;' we do not. We understand the *Body of Masonry* to be its fundamental laws—note it, Comp. LEE—*laws* such as, for example, that no man can be made a Mason who does not believe in God, the Father. When the Grand Orient of France struck from its creed this law, the Grand Lodge of Maine declared that she had attempted to make an innovation in the *Body of Masonry*, and, having struck this fundamental law from her creed, *was no longer a Masonic body*. The logic of Comp. LEE's position would compel him to hold that one made a Mason in France, under authority of the Grand Orient, is a regular Mason, although an Atheist of the worst type. We think Comp. L's charity has run away with his judgment in this matter."

We incline strongly to the opinion that Comp. LEE is in error on this question.

In a previous report, Comp. LEE had said :

"I am informed that on the Continent of Europe all the so-called higher degrees are conferred under a Lodge warrant. Should such an one come to Maine, would DRUMMOND refuse him recognition? If so, why? If not, why not?"

To this Comp. DRUMMOND answered him that he would refuse, and gave his reasons why. Illustrating his position, he

"Reminded him that there *are* in Connecticut bodies of men claiming to be Masons, who were made in precise accordance with the law under which they act, and claim to have gone through the same forms and ceremonies, and received the same teachings that Comp. LEE did, and 'we ask,' Now, does he (Comp. LEE) recognize them as Masons?"

To which Comp. LEE replies, after telling a story about Beecher's father :

"I decline to answer suppositious questions."

To which Comp. DRUMMOND responds :

"We have often known this answer to be made, and our observation is that when that answer is made it means, 'I decline to answer suppositious questions whenever I find that the answer will overthrow the position which I have undertaken to sustain.'"

We guess that Comp. DRUMMOND had reference to our colored brother (?) in

his illustration, over whom Comp. LEE and ourself have had and are having a little discussion. Now, Comp. LEE, don't beg the question, come right up to the mark.

Under Illinois, we desire to second Comp. DRUMMOND's suggestion that Comp. BARNARD print or re-print its Proceedings from 1878 to 1882, inclusive, in a pamphlet by themselves. The expense would be small, and make a perfect history of the Body, independent of outside histories.

In looking over Comp. DRUMMOND's review it is almost impossible for us to refrain from making most copious extracts. It is filled to overflowing with bright, interesting and spicy items, such only as might be expected to emanate from this distinguished writer and authority.

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Scotland was recognized by its sister of Maine as the head of the Rite in Scotland.

Our Representative, Companion JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, was present, as he always is.

M. I. HORACE H. BURBANK, G. M., Saco. R. I. IRA BERRY, G. R., Portland.

#### MARYLAND—1884.

Annual Assembly was at Baltimore, November 12th. Three Councils represented, and the Representatives of eleven Grand Councils were present, our own included.

The Proceedings of this Body have not been printed for the past three years. The business transacted was purely local. We are not favored with any further information, and that which we have is through the kindness of our particular friend, Comp. GEO. L. McCAHAN, to whom we touch our "tile."

M. I. HENRY C. LARRABEE, G. M., and R. I. GEO. L. McCAHAN, of Baltimore, G. R.

#### MASSACHUSETTS—1884.

Its Annual Assembly was held December 10th, at Boston, M. I. JOHN HAIGH, G. M., presiding.

In opening the Proceedings of this Assembly the first thing which meets our eye and approval is a most excellent and life-like portrait of the G. M., finely engraved upon steel, a credit to the skill of the artist, to the engraver, and to this Grand Council, whose liberality has given the Companions of the Rite an enduring souvenir of one of the best and most faithful Officers this Body ever had or can have.

The exhibit of work and prosperity of the Rite in this jurisdiction is most gratifying. In Boston Council alone one hundred and two candidates received the degrees within the preceding year, which we think entitles Boston Council to the banner position for the entire country. One new Council was chartered. The matters of difference relating to the complications arising out of the action of Lafayette Council of Washington, D. C., which was chartered by the Grand Council of Massachusetts, and the connections of its former members as charter

members of Washington Council, more recently chartered and working by authority of the G. .G. . Council of the U. S., has been fully and amicably adjusted. This result is satisfactory to all concerned.

Our Representative we do not see named as being present.

Rev. Comp. J. W. DADMUN, Committee on Correspondence, by special request of the G. .M. . elect to write a short report this year, wrote simply what he calls "an *introduction* to a review *serialim* another year, (D. V.)" We sincerely trust that our anticipation of a full report with their next Proceedings will not be doomed to disappointment. Comp. DADMUN has his reputation fully established as an able writer upon Masonic subjects, and a report from him, fully reviewing the work of our different Bodies in the Cryptic Rite, will be greeted with a hearty and sincere welcome, much more earnest and cordial than he realizes. Do not postpone the fulfilment of this promise longer, for "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick."

M. .L. .SERANUS BOWEN, G. .M. ., Roxbury. R. .I. .ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, G. .R. ., Boston.

#### MICHIGAN—1885.

The 27th Annual Assembly was held at Detroit, January 19th, M. .I. .JAMES H. CUMMINS, G. .M. ., presiding.

The address exhibits a satisfactory condition of the Rite in this jurisdiction. One new Council was chartered. The G. .M. . refused to grant the request of Petoskey Council to go to Sheboygan to confer the degrees on several Companions at that place, to the end that they could apply for a Dispensation to start a new Council there, on the ground that he considered the degrees of the Cryptic Rite of too much importance to be conferred in that migratory manner. Guess they have got all the Councils that they can handle in Michigan—at least they don't want any *wild* Wolverines. The G. .M. . probably had in mind the remark of the Indian, which was afterwards adopted as the name of the proposed location of this proposed new Council; with this statement it seems rather necessary to give the "chestnut:" An Indian whose progeny was all of what we term the "gentler sex," (much to his disgust,) having another papoose added to his lodge, was inquired of as to the sex of the new comer; he grunted out his dissatisfaction in the remark, "She—boy—(a)gan." We think the G. .M. . had some doubt as to the material of which this proposed new Council was to be composed. We can personally vouch for one bright Companion there, and who is not a "*She*-boy-(a)gan" either.

A Special Committee was appointed upon the so-called Pre-requisite Question, consisting of Most Illustrious Companions HUGH McCURDY, D. WOODWARD and E. SPRAGUE, all of whom were P. .G. . Masters and prominent in the Orders of the Temple. Their report, which was adopted, was, in brief, that they deemed it advisable and possible to have the Cryptic Degrees made pre-requisite, and that the Grand Encampment of Knight Templars of the U. S. should repeal its law upon the subject, and enact that the Cryptic Degrees be made a pre-requisite to the Order of the Temple, and that such action would be ben-

official to the Cryptic Rite, and in no respect detrimental to the Temple. We agree with the Committee.

Our Representative, Comp. H. SHAW NOBLE, was present and was greeted.

The Proceedings of this Body from 1871 to 1873, inclusive, were ordered reprinted at an expense of \$250.

The Correspondent's Report covers the Proceedings of twenty-three Bodies. It is most excellent, full and complete, and when we say that M. I. GARRA D. NOBLE is its author and compiler it is needless to add that it is a most valuable addition to Cryptic literature.

Under New York, he makes copious extracts from our report. We appreciate the compliment paid us, and assure Comp. NOBLE that we are more than pleased to have been of the slightest assistance to him in his labors, and if we had not commenced our report with brevity for our watch-word we should have laid ourself open to the charge of exacting usurious interest, as well as requiring our pound of flesh, in taking a return of principal equal in amount to our loan. He closes his report by saying, "The general outlook of the Cryptic Rite is encouraging, and the membership steadily increasing."

M. I. GEO. H. STEPHENSON, G. M., St. Johns. R. I. G. B. NOBLE, G. R., Detroit.

#### MINNESOTA—1884.

Held at St. Paul, October 14th, R. I. DWIGHT M. BALDWIN, D. G. M., presiding.

His address opens, "With our triangle broken and our hearts full of sorrow, we have met to-day on the occasion of our 15th Assembly." He then formally announces the death of their late M. I. G. M. Judge GROVE B. COOLEY, and gives a brief history of his life and eloquently eulogizes his memory. As his decease was announced at our last Assembly, it is unnecessary for us to refer at length to this sorrowful subject. The Rite continues to prosper, and the returns made exhibit a steady and healthy growth in this jurisdiction.

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of P. G. M. GEORGE W. COOLEY, who reviews the Proceedings of fifteen Grand Bodies, in which New York occupies an honored position.

While we would gladly make many extracts from this excellent report, and give a *resumé* of the same, we cannot. It is very apparent that the decease of G. M. COOLEY was resting like a darkened shadow, not only over this Body in its entire Proceedings, but its influence is to be seen pervading every part of the Report on Correspondence. Knowing the deep attachment existing between the deceased and the author of such Report, we can appreciate the difficulty of making it up.

Our Representative, Comp. GEORGE W. COOLEY, was present.

M. I. DWIGHT M. BALDWIN, G. M., Red Wing. R. I. WILLIAM CHENEY, G. R., Minneapolis.

#### MISSISSIPPI—1885.

There is no Grand Council in this jurisdiction, and the Rite is therefore still

groping along in the hope of better days on the part of its friends. Not a word is said by the Grand High Priest in his address upon the subject of the Cryptic Rite. In the Report on Correspondence, however, are some choice bits of information that we feel inclined to present to our readers. Under California, Companion SAVERY, who was formerly Grand Master of the Grand Council of Mississippi, and who writes the Report, says, in speaking of the comments upon the address of the G. : H. : P. : of Mississippi, as made by Comp. CASWELL :

“Mississippi is thus ‘wedded to her idol,’ but we predict ere long a divorce will be obtained.”

And adds further, in response to the suggestion of Comp. PAX,

“That in the contest between the G. : G. : Council of Cryptic Masons and the Grand Chapter of Mississippi, it might be found that the pop-guns of the General Grand Council will meet response from the Columbiads and Mortars of the Grand Chapter,” that “we are of the opinion that the fun will be all on one side, viz. : that of the General Grand Council, and that the old smooth-bore Columbiads of the Grand Chapter will make a sorry show in opposition to the rifled-guns of the General Grand Council.”

To which Comp. SAVERY adds :

“While we differ from Comp. PAX on Cryptic affairs, we will say for him that when he becomes interested in any matter he is very earnest, and is as true to his opinions as the needle to the pole—and then he is a good sized rifle-gun himself in the contest. We have to fight him on Cryptic matters every year, and we know he is no *old smooth-bore*, and those good, contrary Companions who side with him all the time are as good fellows and as well beloved as any in Mississippi.”

Under Kentucky, he quotes from the H. : P. : , who, speaking of the “Merger” and its dissolution, said :

“This Grand Chapter did not solicit the exercise of these rights, or seek to coerce her saucy offspring of somewhat doubtful paternity ; and while I am not ‘a prophet or the son of a prophet,’ I lift the veil of a not distant future, and say to the wanderers, ‘Come, ye disconsolate, where’er ye languish’—come to the bosom of your old mother and find shelter in her arms, feeble and attenuated though they may be. The paps which ye have suckled contain still the only milk to nourish and sustain you.”

And comments as follows :

“We are of the opinion that the old mother referred to would prove the *worst kind of a step-mother*.”

Ha ! ha ! *Dry pastures* again.

Under Massachusetts, he says :

“It’s not popular to oppose the ‘Merger’ in Mississippi, yet there is a respectable minority who do so.”

Under Missouri, he thus quotes from Comp. MAYO on this subject in the G. : Chapter Correspondence :

“Thus we find our beloved sister, Miss-Issippi, is not yet ready to let go of the White Elephant.”

Under Nebraska, he has something to say upon the ruling there, that any Royal Arch Mason may *demand* and *require* the conferring of the degrees of Royal and Select Masters upon himself ; that is, every Royal Arch Mason is *absolutely entitled* to the degrees without passing the ordeal of the ballot, and he comments to this effect :

“ For the first time in our Masonic life we have learned that Masonic degrees may be *demand*ed, and Masons are required to *stand* and *deliver* ! Well, we have no desire to revisit that part of the heritage. That is ‘Merger’ with a vengeance. Mississippi does not endorse the Nebraska plan by a large majority. In this section it is considered a *privilege* to obtain the degrees, and it’s not compulsory on a High Priest to confer them ; neither can they be conferred without his consent, if he is present in the place of meeting. Comp. SPEED, (one of the framers and builders of the Merger,) when G. . H. . P. . , decided as (last) above stated, and its law in the natal home of the Merger is that no Mason is entitled to any degree if thers is a single dissenting voice.”

Comp. SPEED was right in the position that no Mason is entitled to any Masonic degree whilst there is any dissentient voice, and such a change as Nebraska would make is a violation of the fundamental law of Masonry, and no wonder that even the birth-place of “Merger” should cry out in horror and disgust at the attempted innovation upon their own plan, to say nothing of the “law.”

It is well to add right here, that Comp. SAVERY, the accomplished writer of this Correspondence Report, is a strong advocate of the doctrine of an independent, separate existence of the Chapters and Councils. He is one of the respectable minority in this jurisdiction, before referred to.

The Grand Chapter adopted a new Constitution, which nowhere authorizes the conferring of the Cryptic degrees by the Chapters. In Article VI., Sec. 6, it provides :

“ It shall be the duty of the Grand Council to improve and perfect themselves in the work and lectures pertaining to the degrees conferred in this jurisdiction as prescribed by the General Grand Chapter, and to disseminate the same in the manner which, in their opinion, will best secure the desired end, or as may be required from time to time by the Grand Chapter.”

Such degrees authorized by the General Grand Chapter are M. . M. . , P. . M. . , M. . E. . M. . , and R. . A. . only.

We must cut this short. We have been and still are very desirous that the Companions in Mississippi should change off again, and re-organize their Grand Council, separate, the Capitular from the Cryptic, and taking hold of the real work, leaving behind the differences of the past over matters which are now beyond the point where there need be any unharmonious feeling. Let by-gones be by-gones, and engage in the more important labors of the day and hour. Many things have undoubtedly been said in the heat of debate that might have been better left unsaid on both sides, and the sooner such things are forgotten, the better it will be for all concerned. We have only a desire for harmony in the work, and we believe that our Companions in Mississippi will agree with us yet in working hand in hand. “Barkis is willing,” and will be glad to unite forces.

## MISSOURI—1884

The 19th Annual Assembly was held at St. Louis, May 7th, M. I. WILLIAM G. HALL, G. M., presiding.

The address is designed to rouse up those who may be sleeping or even nodding. One Council was instituted U. D., and a charter was ordered. Two Councils consolidated. The address is only of local interest. The Correspondent's Report is very brief. It acknowledges receipt of the Proceedings of twenty-three Bodies, but reviews the G. G. C. alone. Comp. MAYO, the one in charge, is altogether too brilliant a Cryptic writer to let his light shine under a bushel. Look up some of the candlesticks in the Temple and display your light, that others may see and know and thus rejoice. However, he promises us a feast of good things in his next report.

A reasonable degree of prosperity appears to be waiting upon this jurisdiction. The last Assembly was held May 3d, 1885, of which we have no advices.

M. I. WILLIAM H. DALE, G. M., and R. I. WILLIAM H. MAY, G. R., address, St. Louis.

## NEBRASKA—1884.

Upon looking over the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of this jurisdiction, we find some things that are of interest to the Cryptic Rite, but which are not in accordance with our own ideas on the subject. The position assumed by this Body to confer the Cryptic Degrees is not even sanctioned by its own Constitution and law as laid down in its exposition of the "law of Nebraska." Article IV., Sec. 1, provides in substance that the authority of that Body is the highest in that jurisdiction, subject to the ancient landmarks and to the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the U. S., and as such it has the government and control of all lodges of M. M., P. M., and M. E. M., and Chapters of Royal Arch Masons within that State.

It is, however, held by them that any Royal Arch Mason in that State who is a member of a Chapter is entitled to the degrees of the Cryptic Rite *without a ballot*, and that the conferring of these degrees is *imperative* when demanded. For a complete answer to this position, we have only to refer to the scathing review upon this particular holding, given to this Body by Comp. SAVERY under Mississippi, and the views of Comp. SPEED of Mississippi, who was one of the original projectors, and who has always been one of the earnest promoters of the scheme of "Merger," all of which are given under Mississippi. So it seems that in Nebraska they go to a greater length than was ever even dreamed of by those who originated the "Merger" project, and go so far as to violate a fundamental law and ancient landmark.

Comp. SPEED is too accomplished a Masonic jurist to approve of such an innovation, and we believe if he could have foreseen such an outcome of the "Merger" plan as this new departure of Nebraska, he would never have suggested the plan or endorsed it in others. He is too firm a believer in the "Ancient Landmarks" doctrine for any such action to succeed if he had the power of prevention. Nebraska will have a long step backwards to take one of these days, but it will be taken, for the right is yet to prevail.

We shall have more to say on the subject of the action of the Bodies that are assuming to work the "Merger" plan under "Wisconsin," and to which we refer for further information.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE—1885.

No Proceedings received. We wrote to our Grand Recorder, not having received our copy, and heard from him to the effect that he had none. We then wrote direct to the fountain-head, and—got no answer; with this we had to be content, and so will our readers.

#### NEW JERSEY—1885.

We have not yet received the Proceedings of this Grand Body for this year. We reported on 1884 at our last Assembly. After waiting up to within ten days of our present Assembly, we wrote our Grand Recorder to see if he could not supply us in some way with a copy of its Proceedings for this year, but he had received none; consequently we are obliged to leave New Jersey "out of the United States" this year, which we regret, as we started out with the determination of having every Grand Council in its order of review. The real trouble was, that last year we tried to catch up with the current year, and sent special requests to several G. . C. . Officers for MSS. reports, so we might review every Body that had held its Annual Assembly before our own was held in 1884, and succeeded; this year we have not got them all. This must account for the break in the columns. The same explanation applies equally as well to some other jurisdictions which we will name in their order, but more briefly than here.

#### NORTH CAROLINA—1884.

This State has gone over body and soul, such as there was left, to the bosom of the Chapter. The amalgamation has not proved in all respects as satisfactory an arrangement as was anticipated, perhaps from the fact that the Cryptic Degrees were transferred to the Grand Chapter, instead of the Grand Council taking in charge the degrees of Capitular Masonry. We have heard a report that the proposition first came from the Grand Chapter, and was for the Grand Council to take the control of the Chapter Degrees, and thereafter confer them; but as the Grand Council did not care to assume the burden of keeping the Grand Chapter alive, there was a turn-about offer to give the Cryptic Degrees to the Grand Chapter, and this was finally consummated, or, as Comp. COOLEY puts it:

"The Grand Council of North Carolina has merged, or she thinks she has, but really don't know. Well, try it again. She started out in 1822, and in 1823 ceased to exist (went to sleep); roused up in 1860, re-organized but failed to hold its regular Assembly until 1866, and from that time has sustained a regular existence. We hope she may see the error of her ways, reconsider her action, and again open the door of the S. . V. ., and set the craft at work."

The G. . H. . P. ., in his address at the Annual Convocation in 1884, does not seem to like the looks of things. He says:

“The action of the Grand Chapter at its last Annual Convocation in incorporating the Council Degrees into the Chapter work, has been tested by a year’s experience, and it is for you to say whether the results of that action demand further consideration. I cannot say that the consolidation of the two Rites has proven as satisfactory, or accomplished the ends sought, as the most ardent advocates of the scheme had hoped. But few of the Chapters have practically adopted the modified work rendered necessary by the plan of consolidation. If the union is preserved, measures ought to be taken to have the work taught and generally practiced. If, on the other hand, there is friction in the Chapters growing out of the union, I recommend to your respectful consideration any question that may arise looking to an adjustment of differences, with a view to that harmony without which our progress will be retarded. My information is, that in some Chapters the modified work has been practiced; and even in communities where no Councils of R. . and S. . Masters formerly existed, these degrees have been conferred on members of Chapters in conformity to the arrangement entered into last year. In other Chapters there are some faithful Companions who have labored long and energetically in the interest of Royal Arch Masonry, whose views, though not in accord with the existing arrangement, are entitled to respect and consideration. Let us hope for good from your deliberations in this as in all other matters affecting the welfare of our Rite.”

Subsequently a Committee was appointed on the subject, who reported in favor of the submission of the subject of a revision of the work as formally taught in the Council, so as to make the same, as consolidated, harmonious. Subsequent to this another Committee was appointed to adapt the Council work to the Chapter work, &c., &c.

We are not a prophet, but we will wager a “possum” that before these two systems amalgamate and mix together in a uniform mass they will both resemble a “possum” in his usual status when worried. That is, they will both get the “worry” and both play “possum” so naturally that the bystander cannot tell whether they are asleep or dead in earnest. Which?

We have a communication from one of the best known Companions of the “old North State,” who says:

“Do not give yourself any uneasiness about our future; the plan of Merger between the two Bodies will never be carried through successfully. There are a sufficient number opposed to it to make things so lively in the way of Chapter matters that to get to a point where the Chapters can work unimpeded, these usurpers will be glad to back water and give up their ill-gotten degrees.”

Well, this is a matter which they must work out in their own way. If they want to organize under the General Grand Council, the way to do that is now open, if deemed advisable. We say this thus openly, for the question was asked us as to the advisability in this letter—look out for the future.

#### OHIO—1884.

The 54th Annual Assembly was held at Tiffin, September 16th, M. .I. .LEVY C. GOODALE, G. .M. ., presiding.

As we open, we look upon his countenance, the Proceedings being embellished with an excellent likeness of a most excellent and estimable man and Mason; and the addition of his portrait to the Proceedings of this Grand Body

will cause them to be sought and highly prized in the years to come. Would that more of our Grand Councils provided such an enduring monument to their live, working Masters. The address of Comp. GOODALE gives us to understand that we are to expect much therefrom, and upon reading it we are not disappointed. We quote his introduction :

"I have a notion much imports your good,  
Whereto if you'll a willing ear incline,  
What's mine is yours, and what is yours is mine."  
—SHAKESPEARE'S *Measure for Measure*, Act V.

He says :

"To me there is no more gratifying remembrance of the labors of the past year than the earnest co-operation of the Companions in this jurisdiction, and I think I do not overstate the fact when I say that during the year past no branch of Masonry in Ohio exceeded the Cryptic for intelligent industry. There are yet some Councils that are still sleepy, but the number is exceedingly small, and in most of those an election of new Officers would tend largely to awaken life. In entering upon my duties I did so with the belief that you had elected your Grand Master to examine carefully the condition of the Order, and where fault lay to speak plainly about it. This I have endeavored to do, and in nearly every instance good has resulted."

Is not this a curious belief for one that is at the head of a Grand Council? We know that there are some Grand Masters who have been actuated in the performance of their official duties, and whose official lives have been governed by a like doctrine. But then these misguided (?) officials were not of the class of those who are willing to rest under the belief that an election to, and consequent investiture with, the honors of the exalted position of Grand Master was simply and only designed as an ornamental feature or "figure-head" for the Body they (mis)represent. The latter class are ornamental only. Good on dress parade, when fuss and feathers are to take the premium, and beyond this they are of no practical utility. Pretty to look at, but oh! what becomes of the prosperity of their trusts? However, we do not wish to have it inferred that Comp. GOODALE is not good-looking, or that his personal presence is not ornamental to the Grand Body over which he has the honor to preside, and which has the honor of being presided over by such a live, energetic, and accomplished Chieftain. Too much credit and honor cannot be awarded to Grand Masters of the class to which Comp. GOODALE belongs. Under such leadership, with the right support and co-operation of their co-laborers, they cannot but succeed in materially advancing the interest in the Cryptic Rite, and thus bring deserved prosperity to their constituents.

Comp. GOODALE made a division of his jurisdiction into districts for visitation and instruction. The reports of the visiting officials for fourteen districts so assigned were presented with the address. The practical results, he states, was very gratifying.

Only five working Councils in the State, out of fifty-five, stood still, and in relation to these the Grand Master says in his address that they should have the earnest consideration of the Body as to the propriety of even allowing them to continue to enjoy their Charters. The address is filled with matters of great

local interest, and deserves to be re-read by every Presiding Officer, as well as by those who are hereafter to assume the responsibility of such a position, if for no other reason than to simply understand the careful and systematic manner in which one of the most indefatigable and successful workers conducts his labors. It is impossible to give his address in full, or we would do so; but we must abstract some of the most interesting portion, and here is one:

“During the year the question of securing the recognition of Templar Masons has been brought before me. I certainly desire to obtain for Cryptic Masonry the position to which it is entitled by birthright and tradition, and will do all I can to promote any legitimate undertaking looking to its early recognition; but I think the better plan for Councils to pursue to secure this recognition is to be living Bodies. Then Templars will gladly seek their companionship, as Cryptic Masonry is to attain its proper place by absorption, and not by conquest.

“If Councils are offlcered by go-easy Companions who have neither time nor inclination to interest its members or widen its field of usefulness, no matter how good men or Masons those Officers may be, the Councils will not thrive, and you can rest assured Templar Masons, having neither opportunity extended or incentive given them to learn the beautiful lessons of the Cryptic Rite, will never join the Council.

“On the other hand, make the Councils live ones; man them by electing energetic Officers who will not neglect any opportunity to teach Masons, and sooner or later the Cryptic Rite will have absorbed the Templar, and made them advocates for its recognition. This work is not difficult, nor the time to accomplish it long. Look well to whom you put into official position, and the realization is near.”

No better advice can be given upon this subject. The suggestions are wise and timely, and if the Grand Council of the different States would as a unit adopt this plan there is no doubt of a successful and triumphant termination of this question in the interest and to the perpetual advancement of Cryptic Masonry. Let all interested in our Rite make a thorough trial of this plan, and earnestly work to achieve the desired result. It will succeed. We have as yet hardly commenced giving a record of Comp. GOODALE'S official acts; but we must stop here.

The decease of the first Grand Recorder and early Grand Master of this Body, the venerable Comp. Gen. WM. J. REESE, and of a more recent Grand Master thereof, JOSEPH R. CONRAD, was announced, and a memorial page and an obituary record of each directed to be made a part of the Proceedings.

The Rôyal, Select, and Super-Excellent Degrees were conferred on candidates of Clinton Council during this Assembly by the Grand Council. The Proceedings of twenty-five Bodies, including New York for 1883, were reviewed in the Correspondents' Report, which was presented by S. S. WILLIAMS. This report is one of the very best which we have seen, and Comp. WILLIAMS is entitled to a laurel wreath. We have been trying to make a selection of interesting matters contained in this report, and still keep within the bounds which we had fixed to control the length of our review, but in fact we hardly dare to commence making quotation. There is so much that is good and that really ought to be made use of, that we should not know where to draw the dividing line. For the kind words and encouragement given us under New York, we tender

our acknowledgments, and trust that Comp. WILLIAMS was not disappointed in his anticipations of what he prophesied would be contained in the Proceedings of New York for 1884.

Their Constitution was amended so as to confirm the action of the Body in becoming a constituent of the General Grand Council by a standing vote—ayes, 42; nays, 2.

The next Assembly was appointed to be held at Cleveland, Sept. 15th, 1885. Subsequently, on July 20th, 1885, it was changed by authority to October 6th.

Our Representative, Comp. HENRY NEWBIGIN, was present and greeted as such.

M. I. G. M. DAVID P. CHAMBERLIN, Toledo. R. I. G. R. JOHN D. CALDWELL, Cincinnati.

#### OREGON—1885.

An Emergent Assembly of the Representatives of Pioneer Council No. 1, Oregon Council No. 2, and Washington Council No. 3, was held at McMinnville, February 3, by authority of a special Dispensation granted by GEO. M. OSGOODBY, G. G. M. of the G. G. C. of the U. S. T. I. M. ASA H. HODSON, presiding.

There was a good attendance outside of the Representatives, and much interest taken and felt in the Proceedings. A copy of the Special Dispensation under which the Assembly was held is printed at large in the Proceedings of the Body. A Committee was appointed to consider and report of the advisability of organizing a Grand Council for the State of Oregon. Their report was made at considerable length and in favor of such action, which upon motion was adopted. A Committee was appointed upon Constitution and By-Laws, which took in hand the subject, and reported the result of their labors in a carefully prepared Code, which was taken up Article by Article, Section by Section, and adopted *seriatim* and afterwards adopted as a whole. An election of Officers was then held with the following result: ASA H. HODSON, G. M.; WALLACE BALDWIN, D. G. M.; CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR, G. I. M.; SAMUEL BULLOCK, G. P. C. of W.; HERMAN E. HARRIS, G. T.; FRELON J. BABCOCK, G. R.; JOHN AUGUSTUS A. NEWALL, G. C. of G.; JOSEPH FRANCIS F. WISECARVER, G. S., and JOHN J. SPENCER, G. S.

The Assembly was then adjourned to May 11th at same place. On adjourned day Officers and Representatives were present as before. A Dispensation from the G. G. M. was presented, which appointed T. I. ASA H. HODSON his Deputy to instal the Officers of said Grand Council. And such Deputy duly installed all the Officers except the Grand Master elect, who in turn was installed by R. I. Comp. WALLACE BALDWIN, by virtue of due authority conferred upon him by the G. G. M.

Proclamation was then made by the Grand Marshal that the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Oregon had been legally organized, and its Officers duly installed. Some amendments suggested in relation to the Constitution

were adopted as suggested, and are incorporated in and printed with the same in full in its Proceedings.

The next Annual Assembly will be held at Corvallis, the second Wednesday in January, 1886. A Committee on Correspondence was appointed, of which R. I. Comp. WALLACE BALDWIN is Chairman. Other routine business was accomplished.

M. I. ASA H. HODSON, G. M., McMinnville, and R. I. F. J. BABCOCK, G. R.

#### PENNSYLVANIA—1885.

No Proceedings yet. We wrote for them the same as for New Hampshire, but got an answer saying :

“Keep a place for Pennsylvania. Proceedings in press, and will be sent as soon as out.”

Of course we will keep a place for her. As the Arch would be incomplete without the Key-stone, so would our review be incomplete without the Key-stone State in its proper position. We confess to a peculiar affection for this Grand Old Commonwealth, and hope before the printer gets to this point to be able to add its review.

#### RHODE ISLAND—1884.

No Proceedings yet printed. We wrote, as for Pennsylvania, was answered, but will not get them in time. We hope, however, to be able to give a brief synopsis of their Proceedings herein, as we have sent for them, and Comp. GREENE is very prompt in answering at all times.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA—1883.

Met in Annual Assembly in Columbia, Feb. 14th, M. I. J. E. BRAZEALE, G. M., presiding.

Four Councils represented—one more than in 1882.

The address of the G. M. is full of earnest zeal for the Rite and we believe if his suggestions could be carried out that a great advance would be made in the cause in his jurisdiction. One Council at Greenville applied to have time given them to re-organize, instead of having their Charter re-claimed, which was granted.

The G. M. and G. R. were re-elected.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA—1884.

The Annual Assembly was held at Charleston, February 12th, M. I. J. E. BRAZEALE, G. M., presiding.

Four Councils were represented.

The address does not give a very bright appearance to the status of the Rite there. Still, there is cause for encouragement in that Alpha Council at Greenville.

Improving the opportunity given at the last Annual Assembly, we organized, so that this Body now has five live subordinate Councils. Several Companions had signified their desire to re-organize their Councils, and the G. :M. :. thought that with a little encouragement the number of Councils would be increased ; that their hour was the just before the day, and we infer that that "darkest hour" was then supposed to be passing by. A good deal of interest is manifested in their session by the Officers and Representatives, who from their go ahead, live and zealous Chief down, seem to be imbued with energy, perseverance and enthusiastic vitality. Take courage, Companion, you will see the silver-lining of the cloud ere long, and will look back upon your present labors in the years to come with a degree of satisfaction that you did your part in the erection of the Temple, and when time ends the reward will await you.

M. :I. :A. N. WHITE, elected G. :M. :, Rock Hill. R. :I. :D. D. MOORE, re-elected G. :R. :, same address.

#### TENNESSEE—1885.

Read comments under New Hampshire—ditto in every respect ; also see remarks under New Jersey.

#### VERMONT—1885.

The 32d Annual Assembly was held at Burlington, June 9th, M. :I. : WILLIAM H. S. WHITCOMB, G. :M. :, presiding. The address states :

"The Cryptic Rite in Vermont shows a steady movement forward. It has never had the sudden successes and sad reverses of other Masonic Bodies in Vermont, but all the days of its years have been fairly prosperous. This I ascribe in a large measure to the fact that more than any Body above the Blue Lodge the membership is peculiarly voluntary ; they are unsought, men whom the glitter at that parade of other organizations have not been able to hold, but whom the quiet beauty of the Cryptic Rite has held steadfast."

There was a very good attendance, and the presence of P. :M. :I. : Grand Master DANA, who at the last Annual was dangerously ill, tended greatly to increase the pleasure and profit of the Body.

Our own G. :M. : GLIDDON and R. :I. :Comp. R. C. CHRISTIANCE, Representative of Vermont near the Grand Council of New York, and our Representative, Comp. GEO. H. BIGELOW, were present and were respectively received with the honors of their exalted positions.

The flourishing condition of the Rite in this jurisdiction is greatly attributed to the energetic and persistent labors of their Grand Master, who is entitled to the reward of the just. The Officers that were installed by G. :M. : GLIDDON of New York by invitation was done, we presume, in his usual felicitous and impressive style. In one respect Vermont is *selfish* ; it appropriates all the good it can from the Correspondents' Reports of other jurisdictions, and gives none in return. Give us some milk in your next cocoanut.

M. :I. : WILLIAM H. S. WHITCOMB, G. :M. :, Burlington. WARREN G. REYNOLDS, G. :R. :, Burlington.

## WISCONSIN—1885.

The only news we get from this State is what is to be gleaned from the Grand Chapter Proceedings, as there are none of its Grand Council printed.

In the list of Officers given upon the second page of these Proceedings of the different Grand Bodies of Wisconsin, we find the names of the presiding Officers of the Grand Commandery and Grand Lodge ; also of the Recorder and Secretary of such Bodies respectively. We also find the names of the like Officers of the Grand Encampment of the U. S., and of the G. G. Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the U. S., but we do not find that the names of the Officers of their Grand Council are deemed worthy of a place with the others. Why such a slight is to be seen is not explained.

Nothing is to be found in the Proceedings proper upon the subject of the Cryptic Rite, but in the able report of Comp. WM. C. SWAIN on Correspondence we find some matters of interest, which we take the liberty of dishing up for the information of our readers. Under "Maine" he says :

"We claim that in Wisconsin the Council was never merged into the Chapter. The old Grand Council surrendered its authority to the Grand Chapter over the degrees : but they were always kept distinct, and after the close of the Grand Chapter a Grand Council was opened, the business of that Body, if they had any, transacted, the Officers of the Grand Chapter acting in like capacity in the latter."

And upon the subject of the present system adopted in Wisconsin, he says :

"It is very simple. The Grand Council has become independent of the Chapter, holds its Annual Sessions, and Chartered its subordinates with a tacit understanding that a Council shall be Chartered wherever there is a Chapter, and that the Officers of the Chapter shall be the Officers of the Council ; although there is nothing to prevent them from electing different Officers, if they choose. We acknowledge that we do not like it, and would prefer to see it give up the ghost ; but it appears to work well, and more interest is manifested in the degrees in many localities than we see any signs of in those jurisdictions where they claim to be 'regular.'"

This is all very well to say, that "more interest is manifested," &c., but give us the data by which we can see what these "manifestations" are, and let the "outsiders" know the statistics.

Under this same heading he has something to say upon the position of those States which are still conferring the Cryptic Degrees under "Chapter" authority (?), the minority of the Committee making the Report claiming a construction upon the resolution adopted by the General Grand Chapter in 1883, which it cannot be tortured into meaning, and cannot be by any logic established, and of which he says :

"We are willing to admit that the (this) construction put upon the Report is one which, *per se*, it will not fairly bear ; but we certainly understood it was the construction put upon it by both sides, in the Committee ; and if it was not the legitimate one, we would like to have a question answered. According to that construction, Iowa, Nebraska, Mississippi and North Carolina are each violating the law of the General Grand Chapter, of which they are constit-

uents. There has been one session of that Body since the "Merger" took place, and the General Grand Priest has been in constant exercise of his authority. Still, so far as we can learn, not the slightest official attention has been paid to the violation. Then, which are we to infer, that the law is a dead letter, or that the General Grand Chapter goes through the farce of enacting laws which it is utterly powerless to execute?"

We think that it is to be inferred that the Bodies which are now conferring the Cryptic Degrees in contravention of the expressed law as adopted by the solemn, deliberate act of the Grand Chapter, are in open rebellion against the General Grand Chapter and its declared law—not that the law is a "dead letter," but rather that the attention of the General Grand Body has not been called in a proper and legal manner to such infraction of its law. When a proper complaint is made and charges preferred in such a manner that the parent Body can investigate and act upon them, then the time will come to decide upon the question whether there is any power in this governing Body to enforce its laws; until then, the result of this unwarranted and unauthorized condition of things may not be definitely settled. We hope, however, that the sense of fairness and of Masonic justice, which we believe is yet adhered to, at least in semblance, will lead all these Bodies to do what is right in the premises, and not compel such proceedings to be taken. We sincerely believe that this will yet be the case.

In commenting upon the part of the address of the G. H. P. of Mississippi on this subject in 1884, to the effect that by the action of the Grand Chapter and of the Grand Council of Mississippi the latter Body is still in existence, inasmuch as both Bodies, by the "Merger" resolutions, declared that the organization of the Grand Council should be preserved until the General Grand Chapter approved of the "Merger," which event never happened, and that consequently "the Merger" action, as had, was without constitutional warrant, and wholly illegal and void. This part of the address was referred, as will be remembered, to a special Committee, which endorsed his opinions in full, and recommended the re-organization of the Grand Council and dissolution of the "Merger." The Report was rejected, and the "Merger" continues. Comp. SWAIN says:

"We are of the opinion that the subject will come up annually until the anti-mergers finally win."

This must be encouraging to our anti-merging Companions of Mississippi, who will take new courage and renew their labors to get things back into the old way.

We have taken considerable space under these States which are not in hearty good communion with the great Body of Cryptic Masons in the land, but we think the importance of the subject will excuse us. We earnestly desire every one of these Bodies to unite in one great effort to be one in heart, spirit and in work in the labors of the hour. Let there be such a union that we can all meet and all agree, every one be recognized abroad as well as at home as Companions in very truth.

How long shall it be before the Companions have their own heritage?

## IN CONCLUSION.

We have gleaned after the reapers, have gathered together the golden sheaves of the harvest, which has been most bountiful; have filled our granaries to overflowing, and have completed the task set before us; and the review and examination of our work is to be passed upon by those set as overseers of the workmen. The Cryptic Rite is firmly fixed upon its solid foundations, the Temple approaches completion, and the fires are already lighted upon its Altars, and the incense is ascending upwards. There is no mistaking the present situation, and those who have stood aloof should read the writing upon the wall. The time approaches when to be *of* the select number will be an honor indeed; and to be in the distance a caviller and an idle spectator, unsought in the selection of the material with which it is destined to fill its proper position of honor in the fraternity, will be to occupy a place amongst the rubbish.

So mote it be.

GEO. M. OSGOODBY,  
*Chairman of Committee.*

The Committee appointed at the last Annual Assembly to compile the Amendments to the Constitution (adopted since the printed copies of 1873), presented the following report, which was received and ordered printed in the Proceedings:

TO THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL OF R. AND S. M.'S OF THE  
STATE OF NEW YORK:

Your Committee, having examined the records, present the following Amendments to the Constitution of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, adopted since the printed edition of 1873:

Amend Sec. 3 of Art. I., so that it shall read: "Each warranted Council within this jurisdiction is entitled to be represented in this Grand Council by its first Three Officers, but, in case either of them cannot attend, the Council (or in case of its failure to do so, its Master or acting Master) may appoint in place of the absent officer, a proxy, who shall be a member of a Council under the jurisdiction of this Grand Council, and shall furnish said proxy a certificate of appointment over the signature of the Master or acting Master, attested by the Recorder, and under the seal of the Council."

Amend Sec. 1 of Art. I., so that the words in parenthesis (The style of all of whom is Right Illustrious) immediately follow the words "Grand Steward."

Amend the Constitution of this Grand Council, by striking out the words "Deputy Grand Master" wherever they occur, and by substituting in place thereof the words "Grand Deputy Master."

Amend Sec. 4 of Art. I., by inserting after the words "Grand Principal Conductor of the Work," these words, viz.: "Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder,

Grand Captain of the Guard, Grand Conductor of the Council, Grand Lecturer, Grand Marshal, and Grand Steward."

Amend Sec. 1 of Art. I., so that when amended it shall read: "This Grand Council shall be composed of a Grand Master (whose style is Most Illustrious), a Grand Deputy Master, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Grand Captain of the Guard, Grand Conductor of the Council, Grand Chaplain, Grand Lecturer, Grand Marshal, Grand Steward (the style of all of whom is Right Illustrious), Grand Sentinel (whose style is Illustrious), all Past Grand Masters, and all Masters, Deputy Masters, and Principal Conductors of the Work, for the time being, of the several Councils under its jurisdiction, with all Past Masters of such Councils, who shall have been installed as such prior to January 1st, 1881, so long as such Past Grand or Subordinate officers shall remain members of any Council under the jurisdiction of this Grand Council."

Amend Sec. 36 of Art. III., by adding to it, at the end thereof, these words: "provided that when any member shall be, or become, a resident in the jurisdiction of another Grand Council, a dimit may be granted to him direct, and without compliance with the foregoing provisions."

Amend Sec. 5 of Art. I., by adding at the end thereof, "or by a General Grand Council for the time being."

AMENDMENT PROPOSED AT LAST ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.

Amend Sec. 1 of Art. I., by striking out the words, "who shall have been installed as such prior to January 1st, 1881."

The Special Committee on the Grand Master's Address presented the following report, which was, on motion, received and their recommendations adopted:

TO THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL OF R. AND S. M.'S OF THE  
STATE OF NEW YORK:

The Special Committee to whom was referred the Address of the M. I. Grand Master for sub-division and reference of its several parts to appropriate Committees, respectfully recommend that so much of the Address as relates to the proposed Amendments to the Constitution, and the amendments themselves, be referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

So much as relates to the dues of Utica, Hudson, and Pentalpha Councils be referred to the Committee on Finance and Accounts.

So much as relates to the Fraternal Dead, to a Special Committee of three.

And the entire Address, evidencing as it does the zeal and ability of the Grand Master, is earnestly commended to the consideration of this Grand Council.

Fraternally submitted,

GEO. MCGOWN,  
GEO. A. NEWELL, } Committee.  
JOHN F. SHAFER. }

The Grand Council was then called from labor until 1 o'clock this afternoon.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th, 1885—1 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Council resumed its session.

Officers and Representatives as at the morning's session.

The Minutes of the morning's session were read and approved.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns presented the following report, which was, on motion, received :

TO THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL OF R. AND S. M.'s OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK :

Your Committee on Credentials and Returns report that, in addition to the Grand Officers and permanent members of this Grand Council, the following Councils have made returns and paid dues, and their Representatives, as designated below, are entitled to seats in this Grand Body :

COLUMBIAN.....	No. 1.	P. M. W. Verhoeven.....	Proxy.
UNION.....	" 2.	W. P. Worster.....	"
BROOKLYN.....	" 4.	Wm. M. Smith.....	P. C. of W.
ADELPHIC.....	" 7.	P. C. Benjamin.....	Master.
BLOSS.....	" 14.	John F. Shafer.....	"
BRUCE.....	" 15.	Charles N Palmer.....	Dep. M.
SOUTHERN TIER....	" 16.	Conrad Welnes.....	Master.
BUFFALO.....	" 17.	Cyrus K. Porter.....	Dep. M.
DORIC.....	" 19.	Willard S. Bradt.....	Proxy.
KEYSTONE.....	" 20.	E. A. Rockwood.....	Master.
DE WITT CLINTON..	" 22.	John A. Davis.....	"
ONTARIO.....	" 23.	John N. Macomb, Jr.....	Proxy.
DUNKIRK.....	" 25.	B. Rathbun.....	"
PALMYRA.....	" 26.	George McGown.....	"
UTICA.....	" 28.	B. S. Frisbie.....	Master.
CORNING.....	" 53.	Charles H. Thomson.....	Proxy.
PEEKSKILL.....	" 55.	David Griffin.....	Master.
HUDSON.....	" 62.	W. H. Scoville.....	Proxy.
SING SING.....	" 64.	J. Holly Platt.....	Master.
ITHACA.....	" 68.	A. B. Wood.....	"
".....	" " "	George E. Priest.....	Proxy for D.M.
ADDISON.....	" 69.	Enoch C. Cowan.....	Master.
NEPPERHAN.....	" 70.	Joseph M. Tompkins.....	P. C. of W.
ALPH-OMEGA.....	" 71.	George A. Newell.....	Master.

Respectfully submitted,

CEO. VAN VLIET, }  
 A. B. WOOD, } Committee.  
 E. A. ROCKWOOD. }

The Committee on Unfinished Business presented the following report, which was, on motion, received and accepted :

TO THE M. . P. . GRAND COUNCIL OF R. . AND S. . M. . 'S OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK :

The Committee on Unfinished Business find no material on which to exhibit their willingness to perform the duties assigned them—all business having either been acted upon, or in the hands of Committees for action.

Respectfully submitted,

CONRAD WEHNES, }  
C. S. HANKS, } Committee.  
WM. M. SMITH. }

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations presented the following report, which was, on motion, received and accepted :

TO THE M. . P. . GRAND COUNCIL OF R. . AND S. . M. . 'S OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK :

Your Committee on Warrants and Dispensations respectfully report that no business requiring the attention of this Grand Council has been submitted for their consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. DOWNES, }  
J. HOLLY PLATT, } Committee.  
J. M. TOMPKINS. }

The time (as fixed by special order) for the election of Officers for the ensuing year having arrived, the Grand Master appointed as tellers, Companions CHARLES W. BROWN and B. S. FRISBIE, when the Grand Council proceeded to the election with the following result :

Comp. JOHN W. COBURN, of Morrisania, elected . . M. . I. . Grand Master.  
" JOHN L. BROTHERS, of Buffalo, " . . R. . I. . " Dep. Master.  
" RALPH C. CHRISTIANCE, of Ithaca, " . . " " P. . C. . of W. . .  
" JOHN F. BALDWIN, of New York, " . . " " Treasurer.  
" GEO. VAN VLIET, " " . . " " Recorder.

The Grand Master made the following appointments :

Comp. EDWARD M. L. EHLERS, of New York . . . . . Grand C. of the G.  
" JOHN N. MACOMB, JR., " Branchport . . . . . " C. of the C.  
" ALEX. B. KING, " Troy . . . . . " Marshal.  
" Rev. JOHN G. WEBSTER, " Greenbush . . . . . " Chaplain.  
" SAMUEL C. PIERCE, " Rochester . . . . . " Lecturer.  
" GEORGE A. NEWELL, " Medina . . . . . " Steward.  
" JOHN HOOLE, " New York . . . . . " Sentinel.

*Committee on Foreign Correspondence.*

Companions GEO. M. OSGOODBY, CHARLES W. BROWN,  
and WM. SHERER.

*Committee on Library.*

Companions GEO. VAN VLIET, CHARLES W. BROWN.  
and JOHN G. BARKER.

The Committee on Constitution and By-Laws presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and, after discussion, the 1st recommendation of the Committee was rejected, the 2d and 3d adopted :

TO THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL OF R. AND S. M.'S OF THE  
STATE OF NEW YORK :

Your Committee on Constitution and By-Laws would respectfully report—

1st. That we disapprove of that portion of the proposed amendment to Sec. 11 of Art. I. of the Constitution, which provides that the first two lines of such section be stricken out, and recommend the adoption of so much of such amendment as refers to the power of the Grand Master in appointing time and place of the Assemblies of the Grand Council, and to the hour of its opening. So that the said section shall read, when amended, as follows :

Art. I., Sec. 11.—The Grand Council shall by resolution at each Annual Assembly fix the time and place for holding the next Annual Assembly, which shall open at ten o'clock in the morning. In case of the failure of the Grand Council to fix such time and place, the Grand Master shall designate the same, and the presence of one of the first three elective Officers of this Grand Council, or, in the event of the non-attendance of either of such elective Officers on the day appointed for the Annual Assembly, then the same may be opened by any Past Grand Master of this Grand Council, and such Officer with the Representatives of five subordinate Councils shall be necessary to constitute a quorum. But a Special Assembly may be called whenever the acting Grand Master may deem it necessary, and also whenever it shall be required by five Councils under this jurisdiction, provided such requisition be made in writing to the acting Grand Master.

2d. That the proposed amendment to Art. I., Sec. 1, to strike out the words, "who shall have been installed as such prior to January 1st, 1881," be adopted.

3d. That the proposed amendment to Art. I., Sec. 6, to strike out the words in the fifth line thereof, "He may make Royal and Select Masters at sight in a Council," be rejected.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. M. OSGOODBY,  
JOHN J. MARTIN,  
JOHN N. MACOMB, JR. } Committee.

The Committee on the Fraternal Dead presented the following report, which was received and their recommendations adopted :

TO THE M. . P. . GRAND COUNCIL OF R. . AND S. . M. . 'S OF THE  
STATE OF NEW YORK :

The Special Committee, to which was referred so much of the M. . I. . Grand Master's Address as relates to the Fraternal Dead, would beg leave respectfully to report, and recommend as follows :

Your Committee would present as a matter of devout gratitude to Him in whom we live and move and have our being, that the number is so small of those of our own Companions that have been called from their earthly labors since we last met in Annual Assembly, as well as that but one of our sister Grand Jurisdictions are reported as having been called to mourn the loss of any of their distinguished members. Your Committee beg leave to state that the late death of a constitutional member of this Grand Council, not reported to the Grand Master, was communicated after the appointment of this Committee, to wit : T. . Ill. . Comp. ELIZUR RUSSELL, Past T. . I. . M. . of Utica Council No. 28. That Companion RUSSELL attained to the exalted honor which he reached by the favor of his constituents of Utica Council is *prima facie* evidence of his Masonic worth, and therefore your Committee would incorporate his name in this report, and would recommend that the assurance of our fraternal sympathy be extended to our Cryptic Companions of Illinois in the death of the late Companion ARNOLD R. ROBINSON, for many years Grand Sentinel of that Grand Council, as well as to the families of those deceased members of this jurisdiction whose names have been mentioned and referred. Also it is hereby recommended that a memorial page in our printed Proceedings be dedicated to our late Companions, R. . Ill. . Wm. J. SURRE, Past Grand Recorder, and T. . I. . Comp. ELIZUR RUSSELL.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN G. WEBSTER, }  
B. A. FRISBIE,     } Committee.  
E. C. COWAN.       }

The Officers (elected and appointed) for the ensuing year were installed in their several stations by M. . P. . GEO. M. OSGOODBY, General Grand Master of the General Grand Council of R. . and S. . M. . of the U. . S. ., as Installing Officer, assisted by M. . I. . THOMAS GLIDDON, as Grand Marshal.

The Representatives of our sister Grand Jurisdictions were received by the Grand Master, and while extending to them the hand of welcome, desired them to convey to their respective Grand Bod-

ies the greetings of this Grand Council, and its earnest desire for their prolonged health and prosperity.

The Committee on Finance and Accounts presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and their recommendations adopted :

TO THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL OF R. AND S. M.'S OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK :

Your Committee have examined the accounts of the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer, and find them correct.

We recommend the payment of the following sums :

To Grand Recorder, for salary .....	\$250 00
“ “ “ expenses .....	12 75
“ Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence .....	50 00
“ Grand Master, for expenses .....	15 00
“ “ Sentinel, for services .....	5 00
“ “ “ “ expenses .....	2 50
For Rent of Room and Safe .....	20 00
“ Pay of Representatives .....	468 68
To “Library Committee,” towards the reprint of the early Proceedings of this Grand Council .....	100 00

We also recommend the expenditure by the Grand Recorder of such an amount as may be necessary to print 500 copies of the Proceedings of this Annual Assembly with the revised Constitution, together with such extra copies of the Constitution as he may deem necessary for the use of this Grand Council.

After carefully considering the matter of Utica Council No. 28, Pentalpha Council No. 36, and Hudson Council No. 62, your Committee recommend that the unpaid dues to the present time of Utica Council No. 28 and Hudson Council No. 62, as well as such dues as accrued pending the acceptance of the warrant of Pentalpha Council No. 36, be remitted.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN W. COBURN, }  
 A. B. KING, } Committee.  
 GEO. E. PRIEST. }

The first Tuesday in September, 1886, at ten o'clock, A. M., was designated as the time, and New York City as the place, for the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council.

M. Ill. GEO. M. OSGOODBY offered the following resolution, which was, on motion, received and adopted :

*Resolved*, That the Library Committee be and they are hereby authorized to procure the printing of 500 copies of the earlier Proceedings of this Body as soon as the funds appropriated to such Committee be sufficient for that purpose.

M. :I. : JOHN D. WILLIAMS offered the following resolution of greeting to the Grand Council of Oregon, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the congratulations of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York be and are hereby heartily extended to the Grand Council of the State of Oregon upon the successful organization of that Body as the head of the Cryptic Rite of that State, and that we respectfully request an exchange of Representatives.

The thanks of the Grand Council were unanimously tendered to our immediate Past M. :I. : Grand Master, THOMAS GLIDDON, not only for the ability exhibited during his administration and for the impartiality shown in all matters submitted for his consideration, but for his earnest efforts to arouse from lethargy some of our sleeping offsprings.

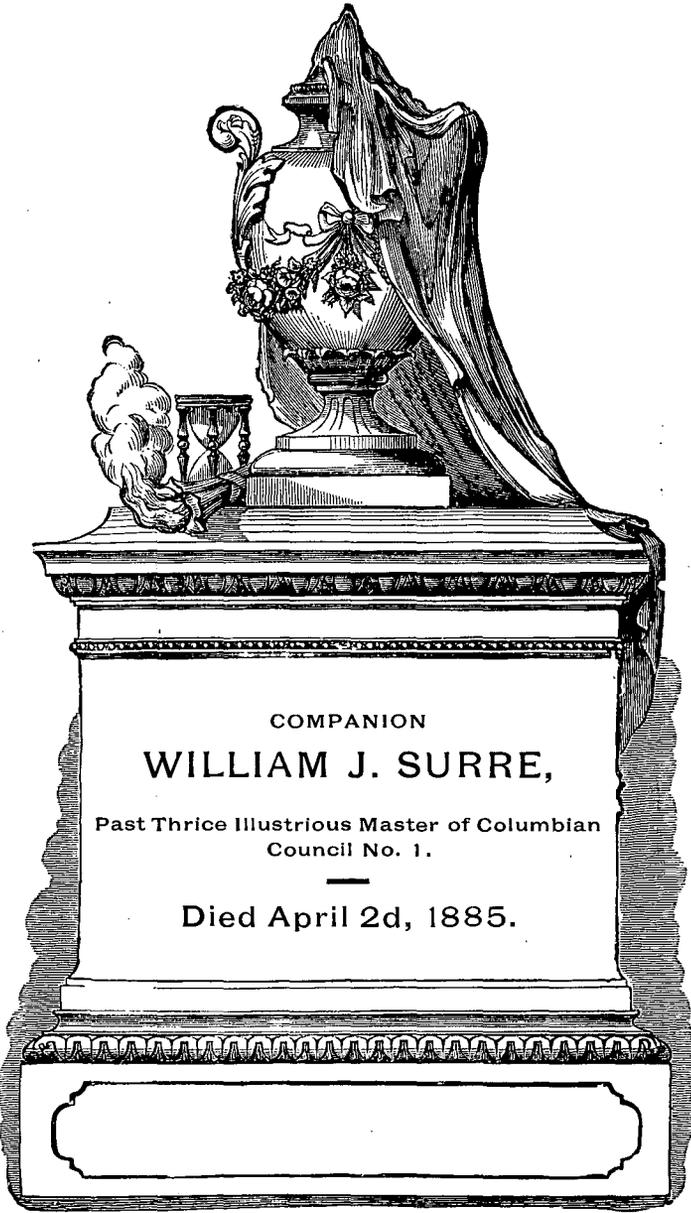
The exemplification of the work at this Annual Assembly was, on motion, dispensed with.

On motion, the Grand Master was requested to apportion the various Councils in this jurisdiction to the several Grand Officers for official visitation.

The Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York was then closed in ample form.



*Grand Recorder.*

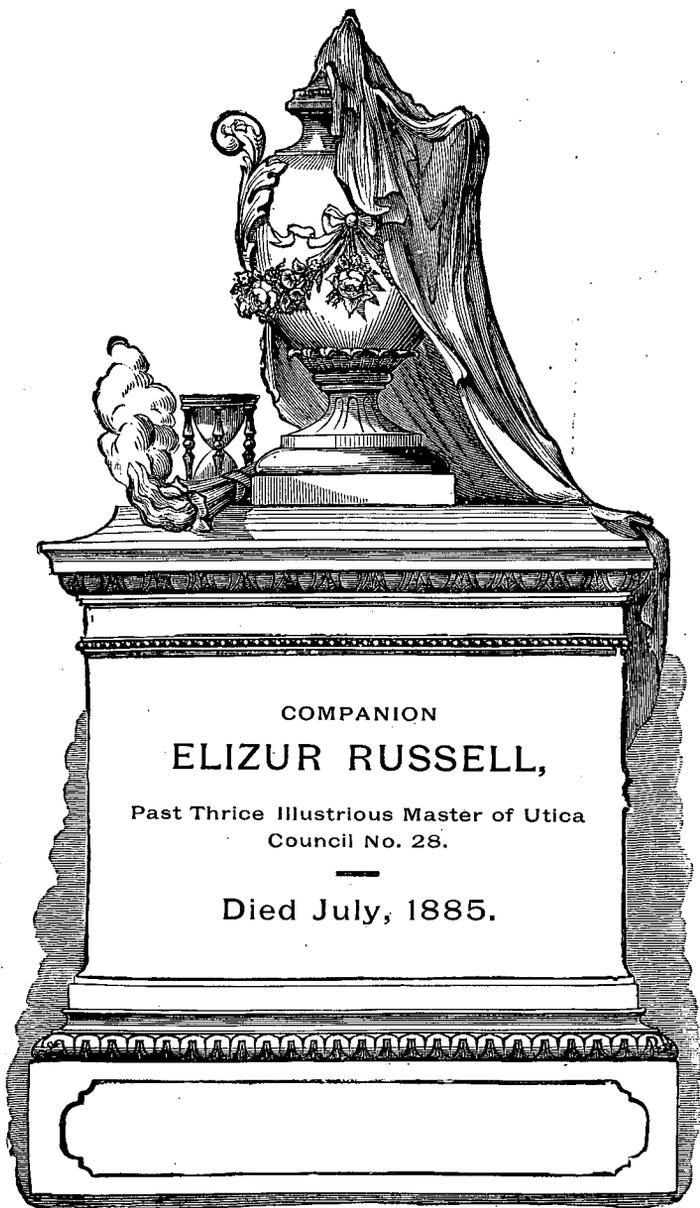


COMPANION

**WILLIAM J. SURRE,**

Past Thrice Illustrious Master of Columbian  
Council No. 1.

—  
Died April 2d, 1885.



COMPANION

**ELIZUR RUSSELL,**

Past Thrice Illustrious Master of Utica  
Council No. 28.

—  
Died July, 1885.

## RECEIPTS FOR DUES.

From Columbian	Council No.	1, for dues to August 1st, 1885. . . .		\$13 09
" Union	" "	2, " " " " . . . .		38 00
" Brooklyn	" "	4, " " " " . . . .		41 00
" Adelpic	" "	7, " " " " . . . .		81 00
" Bloss	" "	14, " " " " . . . .		152 00
" Bruce	" "	15, " " " " . . . .		25 00
" Southern Tier	" "	16, " " " " . . . .		38 50
" Buffalo	" "	17, " " " " . . . .		80 00
" Doric	" "	19, " " " " . . . .		162 50
" Keystone	" "	20, " " " " . . . .		70 00
" DeWitt Clinton,	" "	22, " " " " . . . .		95 00
" Ontario	" "	23, " acct. " " . . . .		11 50
" Dunkirk	" "	25, " " " " . . . .		43 00
" Palmyra	" "	26, " " " " . . . .		20 00
" Utica	" "	28, " " " " . . . .		56 00
" Olean	" "	33, " " " (2 yrs.) . . . .		39 00
" Hornellsville	" "	35, " " " " . . . .		15 00
" Corning	" "	53, " " " " . . . .		15 00
" Peekskill	" "	55, " " " " . . . .		13 00
" Hudson	" "	62, " " " " . . . .		21 00
" Sing Sing	" "	64, " " " " . . . .		14 50
" Ithaca	" "	68, " " " " . . . .		35 50
" Addison	" "	69, " " " " . . . .		10 50
" Nepperhan	" "	70, " " " " . . . .		18 00
" Alph-Omega	" "	71, " " " " . . . .		26 50
				\$1,134 50

## OFFICERS; LOCATION AND DATE OF MEETINGS OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS.

NAME.	No.	MASTER.	DEPUTY MASTER.	P. C. OF W.	RECORDER.	WHERE LOCATED.		DATE OF MEETINGS.
						CITY OR TOWN	COUNTY.	
COLUMBIAN.....	1	L. H. Raymond.	T. Cunningham.	Wm. F. J. Thiers.	P. M. W. Verhoeven.	New York.	New York.	2d or 4th Monday.
UNION.....	2	E. W. Bradley.	W. Wolcott Marks	Marvin H. Conklin.	Miles W. Goodyear.	New York.	New York.	3d Saturday.
ADELPHIC.....	7	P. C. Benjamin.	Alex B. Butts.	Frederick Kanter.	John W. Coburn.	New York.	New York.	1st Saturday.
BLOSS.....	14	John F. Shafer.	Samuel Judd.	S. V. Starveant.	Geo. Lobdell.	Troy.	Rensselaer.	1st Friday.
BRUCE.....	15	John Hodge.	Chas. N. Palmer.	Perry Stowell.	V. N. Douglas.	Lockport.	Niagara.	1st & 3d Wednesdays.
SOUTHERN TIER.....	16	Conrad Wehnes.	D. C. Brown.	F. E. Cleveland.	W. A. Kingsbury.	Elmira.	Chemung.	3d Monday.
BUFFALO.....	17	Girard McVicar.	Cyrus K. Porter.	Theo. L. Wadsworth.	Geo. L. Kingston.	Buffalo.	Erie.	3d Thursday.
DORIC.....	19	Samuel S. Pierce.	Ezra M. Sparlin.	Richard A. Scaring.	John Alexander.	Rochester.	Monroe.	1st & 3d Wednesdays.
KEYSTONE.....	20	E. A. Rockwood.	O. G. Nichols.	G. J. Bowen.	John H. Boshier.	Buffalo.	Erie.	8d Saturday.
DEWITT CLINTON.....	22	John A. Davis.	H. J. McDonald.	A. M. Mull.	J. E. Allanson.	Albany.	Albany.	3d Thursday.
ONTARIO.....	23	O. F. Randolph.	Edward Kendall.	J. Henry Smith.	James Cairns.	Penn Yan.	Yates.	Last Tuesday.
DUNKIRK.....	25	H. H. Morlan.	Benj. L. Harrison.	John Hilliard.	Charles Blood.	Dunkirk.	Chautauqua.	1st Wednesday.
PALMYRA.....	26	Mark C. Finley.	Charles Deyo.	Edwin B. Anderson.	Geo. McGown.	Palmyra.	Wayne.	2d Monday.
UTICA.....	28	B. S. Frisbie.	Charles C. Shaver.	Edward Lawson.	O. G. Browne.	Utica.	Oncida.	
OLEAN.....	33	C. S. Hanks.	Alfred H. Abbey.	John A. Taylor.	LeGrange F. Moore.	Olean.	Cattaraugus.	1st Wednesday.
HORNELLSVILLE.....	35	Wm. L. Collins.	P. M. Nash, Jr.	Joseph Harris.	W. H. Van Dusen.	Hornellsville.	Steuben.	1st Wednesday.
KONHOCTON.....	40	Wm. H. Shepard	Henry Faucett.	Chas. B. Mowers.	V. Brother.	Bath.	Steuben.	4th Friday.
CORNING.....	53	Edward Clidell.	George B. Hill.	Wm. A. Wicks.	Geo. Hitchcock.	Corning.	Steuben.	1st & 4th Thursdays.
PECKSKILL.....	55	David Griffin.	John Hancock.	Robert Brown.	Thos. J. Hodgkins.	Peckskill.	Westchester.	2d Monday.
HUDSON.....	62	Henry Kurts.	E. Waldron.	Chas. F. T. Beal.	F. Carrol Hawks.	Hudson.	Columbia.	1st Monday.
SING SING.....	64	J. Holly Platt.	Smith Lent.	J. Wesley Losee.	Geo. Lockwood.	Sing Sing.	Westchester.	1st & 3d Fridays.
ITHACA.....	68	A. B. Wood.	R. C. Christiance.	G. W. Melotte.	H. M. Hibbard.	Ithaca.	Tompkins.	2d Monday.
ADDISON.....	69	Rev. E. C. Cowan	J. L. Wombough.	Lorin Aldrich.	H. R. Ainsworth.	Addison.	Steuben.	2d Tuesday.
NEPPERHAN.....	70	John E. Murphy.	H. S. Sproull.	Jos. M. Tompkins.	Edwin A. Quick.	Yonkers.	Westchester.	1st & 3d Wednesdays.
ALPH-OMEGA.....	71	Geo. A. Newell.	C. D. Ross.	R. R. Wilkins.	John Bidelman.	Albion.	Orleans.	2d Wednesday.

REPRESENTATIVES  
OF OTHER  
GRAND COUNCILS NEAR THE GRAND COUNCIL  
OF NEW YORK.

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ALABAMA.....	John W. Coburn.....	Morrisania.
CONNECTICUT.....	P. M. W. Verhoeven.....	New York City.
CANADA.....	James McCredie.....	Buffalo.
ENGLAND, WALES, &c.....	Albert G. Goodall.....	New York City.
FLORIDA.....	John F. Baldwin <sup>VI</sup> .....	“
GEORGIA.....	Geo. M. Osgoodby.....	Buffalo.
INDIANA.....	Hawley Klein.....	“
KANSAS.....	John D. Williams.....	Elmira.
KENTUCKY.....	E. M. L. Ehlers.....	New York City.
LOUISIANA.....	Philander Reed.....	“
MAINE.....	G. Fred. Wiltsie.....	Albany.
MASSACHUSETTS.....	John J. Martin.....	“
MISSOURI.....	John L. Brothers.....	Buffalo.
MICHIGAN.....	Thomas Gliddon.....	Rochester.
MINNESOTA.....	Alex. B. King.....	Troy.
MARYLAND.....	Geo. M. Osgoodby.....	Buffalo.
NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	Geo. Van Vliet.....	New York City.
NEW BRUNSWICK (CAN.).....	G. Fred. Wiltsie.....	Albany.
NEW JERSEY.....	Charles H. Thomson.....	Corning.
OHIO.....	Darwin E. Morgan.....	Buffalo.
PENNSYLVANIA.....	Robert Macoy.....	New York City.
RHODE ISLAND.....	Charles W. Brown.....	“
TENNESSEE.....	John N. Macomb, Jr.....	Branchport.
VERMONT.....	Ralph C. Christiance.....	Ithaca.

REPRESENTATIVES  
OF THE  
GRAND COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
NEAR OTHER GRAND COUNCILS.

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ALABAMA.....	Benjamin F. Pope.....	Mobile.
CONNECTICUT.....	James S. Gould.....	Bridgeport.
CANADA.....	Daniel Spry.....	Toronto.
ENGLAND, WALES, &c.....	Nathaniel George Philips.....	London, Eng.
FLORIDA.....	James A. Chaffin.....	Milton.
GEORGIA.....	Anselm Sterne.....	Albany.
INDIANA.....	Lucienne A. Foote.....	Crawfordsville.
KANSAS.....	David Brockway.....	Topeka.
KENTUCKY.....	William Ryan.....	Louisville.
LOUISIANA.....	Rev. Thomas D. Lawson.....	Bastross.
MAINE.....	Josiah H. Drummond..	Portland.
MASSACHUSETTS.....	Wm. Porter Anderson.....	Boston.
MISSOURI.....	Noah M. Given.....	St. Louis.
MICHIGAN.....	H. Shaw Noble.....	Monroe.
MINNESOTA.....	Geo. W. Cooley.....	Minneapolis.
MARYLAND.....		
NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	Henry P. Glidden.....	Dover.
NEW BRUNSWICK (CAN.).....	D. R. Munroe.....	St. Johns.
NEW JERSEY.....	Marcus Higginbotham.....	Jersey City.
OHIO.....	Henry Newbegin.....	Circleville.
PENNSYLVANIA.....	Geter C. Shidle.....	Pittsburgh.
RHODE ISLAND.....	A. H. Cushman.....	Providence.
TENNESSEE.....	John Frizzell.....	Nashville.
VERMONT.....	Geo. H. Bigelow.....	Burlington.

## OFFICERS FOR 1885-6.

JOHN W. COBURN.....	of Morrisania....	M. I.	Grand Master.
JOHN L. BROTHERS.....	of Buffalo.....	R. I.	Grand Deputy Master.
RALPH C. CHRISTIANCE....	of Ithaca.....	" "	P. C. of W.
JOHN F. BALDWIN.....	of New York....	" "	Treasurer.
GEO. VAN VLIET.....	of New York....	" "	Recorder.
E. M. L. EHLERS.....	of New York....	" "	C. of the G.
JOHN N. MACOMB, JR.....	of Branchport ...	" "	C. of the C.
ALEX. B. KING.....	of Troy.....	" "	Marshal.
REV. JOHN G. WEBSTER....	of Greenbush....	" "	Chaplain.
SAMUEL C. PIERCE.....	of Rochester....	" "	Lecturer.
GEORGE A. NEWELL.....	of Medina....	" "	Steward.
JOHN HOOLE .....	of New York....	Ill.	Sentinel.

(Next Annual Assembly, September 7th, 1886.)

OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL  
OF THE UNITED STATES.

GEO. M. OSGOODBY .....	of Buffalo, N. Y.,	<i>M. P. General Grand Master.</i>
GEO. J. PINCKARD.....	of New Orleans, La.,	<i>R. P. General Grand Deputy Master.</i>
GEO. W. COOLEY .....	of Minneapolis, Minn.,	<i>R. P. General Grand P. C. of W.</i>
ORESTES A. B. SENTER .....	Columbus, Ohio,	<i>P. General Grand Treasurer.</i>
BENJAMIN F. HALLER .....	Memphis, Tenn.,	<i>P. General Grand Recorder.</i>
ROBERT VAN VALZAH.....	Terra Haute, Ind.,	<i>P. General Grand C. of the G.</i>
JOHN HAIGH.....	Somerville, Mass.,	<i>P. General Grand C. of the C.</i>
HENRY S. ORME.....	Los Angeles, Cal.,	<i>P. General Grand Marshal.</i>
GEO. L. McCAHAN .....	Baltimore, Md.,	<i>P. General Grand Steward.</i>

CONSTITUTION,  
GENERAL REGULATIONS, FORMS, ETC.  
OF THE  
MOST PUISSANT GRAND COUNCIL  
OF  
*Royal and Select Masters*  
OF THE  
STATE OF NEW YORK.

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REVISED AND AMENDED SEPTEMBER 8, 1885, A. DEP. 2885.

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NEW YORK:  
JOHN F. BALDWIN'S STEAM PRESS, 42 VESEY STREET.

—  
1885.

## PREAMBLE.

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WE, the several Councils now hailing from and constituting the jurisdiction of the MOST PUISSANT GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, for the purpose of promoting harmony and brotherly love, advancing our Order, diffusing Masonic instruction, and regulating our labors by one uniform standard, DO ORDAIN AND DECLARE the following Articles to be the CONSTITUTION of this Grand Council.

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## CONSTITUTION.

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### ARTICLE I.

#### OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.

§ 1. This Grand Council shall be composed of a Grand Master (whose style is Most Illustrious), a Grand Deputy Master, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Grand Captain of the Guard, Grand Conductor of the Council, Grand Chaplain, Grand Lecturer, Grand Marshal, Grand Steward (the style of all of whom is Right Illustrious), and Grand Sentinel (whose style is Illustrious), all Past Grand Masters, and all Masters, Deputy Masters, and Principal Conductors of the Work, for the time being, of the several Councils under its jurisdiction, with all Past Masters of such Councils, so long as such Past Grand and Subordinate officers shall remain members of any Council under the jurisdiction of this Grand Council.

§ 2. Each officer and permanent member of this Grand Council is entitled to one vote, and the acting Grand Master to an additional vote in case of an equal division; and each Council of fifty members or less shall be entitled to three votes if duly represented, and an additional vote for each additional fifty members. Grand Officers and permanent members may vote as such and as Representatives.

§ 3. Each warranted Council within this jurisdiction is entitled to be represented in this Grand Council by its first three officers, but in case either of them cannot attend, the Council (or in case of its failure so to do, its Master or acting Master) may appoint in place of the absent officer a proxy, who shall be a member of a Council under the jurisdiction of this Grand Council, and shall furnish said proxy a certificate of appointment over the signature of the Master (or acting Master), attested by the Recorder, and under the seal of the Council.

§ 4. The first five officers of this Grand Council shall be elected at the Annual Assembly, by ballot, and by a majority of votes; and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master, and hold office during his pleasure. But no Companion shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Grand Deputy Master, or Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Grand Captain of the Guard, Grand Conductor of the Council, Grand Lecturer, Grand Marshal, and Grand Steward, unless he shall be a present or Past Master of a Subordinate Council; provided nothing herein shall be so construed as to render ineligible any Companion who has heretofore served in either of those offices.

§ 5. The Grand Council shall have the sole government and superintendence of the several Councils under its jurisdiction; shall have power to assign their limits, prescribe the fees for admission, and settle controversies that may arise between them. It shall also have power to grant Warrants to new Councils within the State of New York, or in any other State or Territory unoccupied by a Grand Council, or, by a General Grand Council for the time being.

§ 6. The Grand Master has power to convene any Council within this jurisdiction, to preside therein, to inspect its proceedings, and require its conformity to Masonic rules; he may require the attendance of, and information from, any Grand Officer respecting his office; he may make Royal and Select Masters at sight, in a Council; he may grant Dispensations for new Councils, on proper application, when the Grand Council is not in session; he may appoint and accredit foreign Representatives to and from this Grand Council, and during the recess of the Grand Council may exercise all its executive functions.

§ 7, SUB. 1. The Grand Deputy Master shall exercise a general supervision over all Subordinate Councils and affairs of the Cryptic Rite in such portion of the jurisdiction nearest his residence as may be designated by the Grand Master, subject, however, in all cases to the approval of the Grand Master; and in case of the death, absence, or inability of the Grand Master, will succeed to his powers, duties, and prerogatives for all purposes.

SUB. 2. In case of the death, absence, or inability of the Grand Master and the Grand Deputy Master, the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work will succeed to the powers, duties, and prerogatives of Grand Master.

§ 8. It shall be the duty of the Grand Recorder:

1. To record the transactions of the Grand Council.
2. To register the members of Councils under this jurisdiction, returned to him for that purpose, with the particulars set forth in such returns.
3. To receive, duly file, and safely keep all papers and documents of the Grand Council.

4. To sign and certify all instruments from the Grand Council.
5. To prepare, for the Annual Assembly, a correct list of the officers, past officers, and members of the Grand Council entitled to vote, together with the names and numbers of all Subordinate Councils entitled to representation in this Grand Council.
6. To receive and keep a proper account of all moneys belonging to the Grand Council, and pay over the same, without delay, to the Grand Treasurer.
7. To report annually to the Grand Council the amount of moneys received by him, by items, and the specific sources from which it was received; also the Councils that have neglected to render proper returns of their elections, members, and dues, and such general information as to the state of the Councils as may be proper for the information or action of the Grand Council.
8. To conduct the correspondence of the Grand Council, under the direction of the Grand Master, and in a Masonic manner.
9. To attend, with all necessary writings, papers, and documents under his control, on all assemblies of the Grand Council, on requisition of the acting Grand Master; and also to attend upon the Grand Master, or Grand Deputy Master, on Masonic business, when required.
10. To transmit to the several Grand Councils in correspondence with this Grand Council, a certificate of the election of the Grand Officers, immediately thereafter, containing their signatures respectively, and authenticated under his hand and the seal of the Grand Council, with a request for a similar document from each of said Grand Councils; and,
11. To attend to all such other matters and duties as, by Masonic usage, appertain to his office.

§ 9. It shall be the duty of the Grand Treasurer :

1. To take charge of all the funds, property, securities and vouchers of the Grand Council.
2. To pay all orders duly drawn and attested, under general regulations, or special directions of the Grand Council.
3. To attend on the Grand Council or its presiding officer, when required, with the books and all necessary documents relating to his office; and to attend, when required, the meeting of any Committee whose duty it may be to act in relation to the fiscal affairs of the Grand Council.
4. To report annually to the Grand Council the amount of his receipts and expenditures, by items, and from whom received, and to whom paid; and the amount of securities in his hands, for funds invested by the Trustees.
5. To execute and file with the Grand Recorder an official bond, with two or more sufficient sureties, to be approved by the Grand Master conditioned that he will pay or deliver on demand to the Grand Council, or to his successor in office, all funds and property of the Grand Council that shall come into his possession as Grand Treasurer; and,
6. To pay and deliver, at the expiration of his term of office, to his successor, or such person as shall be designated by the Grand Council, all moneys,

securities, evidences of debt, books, writings, and property of the Grand Council under his control, with all proper assignments, when necessary.

§ 10. It shall be the duty of the Grand Officers whose duties have not been hereinbefore specifically set forth, to discharge such functions as, by ancient usage, pertain to their offices.

§ 11. The Grand Council shall, by resolution, at each Annual Assembly, fix the time and place for holding the next Annual Assembly, and the presence of one of the first three Elective Officers of this Grand Council, and the representatives of five Subordinate Councils, shall be necessary to constitute a quorum ; but a Special Assembly may be called, whenever the Grand Master may deem it necessary ; and, also, whenever it shall be required by five Councils under this jurisdiction, provided such requisition be made in writing to the Grand Master.

§ 12. It shall be the duty of the Grand Master, as soon after his installation as may be practicable, to appoint a committee of three, to be called the Finance Committee, whose duty it shall be to superintend the financial concerns of the Grand Council, to audit all bills against it, and to certify them by their signatures, when correct, and to report at the Annual Assembly, or whenever required by the Grand Council.

§ 13. The Grand Master shall appoint, at the Annual Assembly, as soon after his installation as may be practicable, a Grand Lecturer, whose duty it shall be to attend the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council, and he shall be a member thereof, and shall, during the session, exhibit to the members the standard work, which is approved and determined by the Grand Council for the practice of the Councils under its jurisdiction, unless the Grand Council shall otherwise order. It shall also be his duty to impart said Lectures to the said Councils, or to Companions authorized to receive them, whenever he shall be invited so to do ; and he may receive such compensation therefor as may be fixed by the Grand Council. He shall make an annual report of the state of proficiency of the Councils he may visit.

§ 14. The Grand Recorder, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Sentinel shall receive such compensation as this Grand Council may, from time to time, determine upon.

§ 15. The revenues of this Grand Council shall be derived from the following sources :

For every Warrant.....	\$30 00
For every Dispensation to form a new Council .....	20 00
And if a Warrant is afterward granted, the additional sum of .....	10 00
For every other Dispensation .....	50
For affixing the Seal to every Grand Council Diploma.....	50
For every Companion received and greeted in a Subordinate Council..	1 00
For adjoining fee of every Select Master.....	50
Every Council shall pay for each of its members, annually. ....	50

§ 16. Every Council shall be accountable to the Grand Council for the dues of each of its members embraced in its returns.

§ 17. The management of the Permanent Fund is vested in a Board of Trustees, denominated the "Trustees of the Permanent Fund," whose duty it shall be to take the best measures for the security and increase of said fund, and of all the invested funds of this Grand Council, and to invest, from time to time, as a majority may decide upon, all money which shall come into the hands of the Grand Treasurer, after paying the necessary current expenses, and after leaving in his hands such sum or sums for contingent purposes as the Grand Council may, from time to time, direct. The said Trustees shall deposit in the hands of the Grand Treasurer the securities and vouchers of the said invested funds, and shall not have the power to transfer, sell, dispose of, or appropriate any part of the invested or permanent fund, without a vote of the Grand Council, at its Annual Assembly. Said Board of Trustees shall consist of three members of the Grand Council, and shall be elected annually at the Annual Assembly, by ballot (unless it be unanimously resolved at the time to take the vote by show of hands), and by a majority of votes.

§ 18. There shall not be a greater number of Councils established in the State than there are Royal Arch Chapters, nor more than one Council within the jurisdiction of each Chapter; and a Council shall not confer the degrees upon a candidate who resides nearer some other Council without the consent of such Council; nor upon a candidate who resides in another State, without the consent of the Council in whose jurisdiction he resides; but two or more Councils located in the same city or village shall be accounted as equally near, and shall hold concurrent jurisdiction; except that the Councils in the cities of New York and Brooklyn shall have one and the same jurisdiction.

§ 19. Any Council neglecting or refusing to make returns and pay dues for two years, may be punished by the forfeiture of its Warrant, and only restored by paying all back dues, and offering sufficient apology for violation of the constitutional regulations of this Grand Council.

§ 20. All governmental powers, whether executive, legislative, or judicial, not expressly delegated by the Grand Council, are inherent in and reserved to it, as the supreme governing body.

## ARTICLE II.

### REGULATIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS.

§ 21. A Council of Royal and Select Masters shall consist of a Master (whose style is Thrice Illustrious), a Deputy Master (whose style is Illustrious), a Principal Conductor of the Work (whose style is Illustrious), a Recorder, Treasurer, Captain of the Guard, Conductor of the Council, Steward, and Sentinel, and as many members as may be convenient, congregating and working by virtue of a Warrant held under the Grand Council, and at the place designated in the Warrant, or by the Grand Council.

§ 22. No Council of Royal and Select Masters in this State shall be considered legal unless it has a Warrant from this Grand Council, or a Dispensation from the Grand Master; and no Dispensation shall be granted to form a new

Council, unless upon the application of not less than nine Royal and Select Masters in good standing, who must be vouched for as such, and who shall furnish evidence that all dues to the Council to which they formerly belonged are paid, or their connection therewith severed by lawful authority; nor within sixty days next preceding the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council. No Warrant shall be granted to any such body, until it shall have given proof of its skill, by labor under Dispensation, and shall have furnished a certificate from the Grand Lecturer, or other Grand Officer, of its ability to confer the degrees of the Cryptic Rite, and shall have obtained the consent and recommendation of the nearest Council; and Masonic communication is hereby forbidden between any Council under this jurisdiction, or any member thereof, and any Council or Assembly that may be working without such Warrant or Dispensation, or with any of the individual members of such illegal Council or Assembly, or with any Companion, received or greeted therein, until such Council or Councils, person or persons, shall have been regularly healed.

§ 23. The powers and privileges of a Subordinate Council are such as are defined in its Warrant, by this Constitution, or by the Ancient Landmarks.

§ 24. No Warrant of a Council can be forfeited for cause other than that mentioned in § 19, except upon charges regularly made in the Grand Council, at the Annual Assembly, of which due notice shall be given the Council, and an opportunity of being heard in defence, and then only for disobedience to this Constitution, ceasing to meet for one year or more, or for contumacy to the authority of the Grand Master or Grand Council; but a Warrant may be suspended by the Grand Council or Grand Master at any time, upon proper cause, which suspension shall not extend beyond the next Annual Assembly.

§ 25. The first five officers of a Subordinate Council, hereinbefore named, must be chosen annually, by ballot, and by a majority of the votes cast at the regular Assembly immediately preceding the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, and must be installed on or before the next regular Assembly thereafter; and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the Master, and hold office during his pleasure.

§ 26. A Master may fill vacancies in office, except those of Master, Deputy Master, and Principal Conductor of the Work, Treasurer, and Recorder, at any stated Assembly; but, in case of vacancy in the offices in this section mentioned, an election can only be held by virtue of a Dispensation from the Grand Master, which is to be applied for by the Master of the Council, and is to be so certified by the Recorder.

§ 27. The Master shall not be responsible for his official acts, or otherwise, to the Council over which he presides; but shall be at all times subject to discipline from the Grand Council or Acting Grand Master.

§ 28. It shall be the duty of the Recorder of a Council:

1. To record the proceedings of the Council, under the direction of the presiding officer, which shall be read and approved by the Council before it is closed; and such proceedings shall be submitted to the Grand Council whenever required.

2. To receive all moneys paid into the Council, and pay the same to the Treasurer.
3. To transmit, immediately after every election, a certificate thereof to the Grand Recorder.
4. To make a full and complete return to the Grand Council, annually, of all the members of the Council, in such form and at such time, as may be required by general regulation.
5. To certify and affix the seal of the Council to all returns and certificates of election rendered to the Grand Council; and,
6. To attest the official signature of the Master to all other Masonic documents, when necessary.

§ 29. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer of a Council :

1. To receive all moneys paid into the Council from the hands of the Recorder.
2. To keep a just and correct account thereof; and,
3. To pay them out by direction of the presiding officer, and consent of the Council.

§ 30. A Council has full power and authority to enact By-Laws for its own government, not inconsistent with this Constitution.

§ 31. No Council under this jurisdiction shall confer the degrees for a less sum than ten dollars, nor upon any one who shall not have received, in a regular manner, the several Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason.

§ 32. The returns to the Grand Council shall contain the following items, viz. :

1. Council number of each Companion.
2. Name.
3. Age.
4. Occupation.
5. Birthplace.
6. Residence.
7. Time of receiving the degrees.
8. Time of adjoining.
9. Lodge.
10. Chapter.
11. Council in which degrees were received.
12. Connection dissolved—when, and by what.
13. Dues, viz. : Reception fees, adjoining fees, and annual dues.

### ARTICLE III.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

§ 33. Vacancies in Elective Offices can only occur by death or by removal after election beyond the jurisdiction of this Grand Council, by promotion at an election to fill vacancies, and by suspension or expulsion.

§ 34. Each Subordinate Council within this jurisdiction shall make annual return to this Grand Council of all its work, as provided in § 32, up to the time fixed for its annual election, together with a certificate of the officers elected, and cause the same to be transmitted to the Grand Recorder, at such time as may be fixed by general regulation.

§ 35. A member of a Council may present his application to another Council for affiliation therein, and such last mentioned Council may receive the application, and refer it to a committee of investigation, and upon the report of the committee take a ballot. And if thereupon such application be accepted, the Companion shall become a member of the Council so accepting him, when it shall receive a certificate that such Companion has been regularly discharged from membership in the first-mentioned Council.

§ 36. No member shall be permitted to dimit from the Council of which he is a member, until he shall present a certificate from some warranted Council that he has been accepted for membership therein; on presentation of such certificate, and upon the written request of the Companion, the Council at a stated Assembly may, if the member is not an elective officer of or indebted to the Council, or under charges, issue a certificate of dimit, which shall not be delivered to the Companion, but shall be transmitted by the Recorder of the Council, to the Council from which said certificate of acceptance came; which dimit shall not become operative, or the Companion's membership in the Council issuing the dimit terminated until the Companion shall have consummated membership in the other Council. But any member of a Council against whom charges are not pending, and whose dues and indebtedness to the Council are paid, may withdraw from membership by presenting a written application therefor at a stated Assembly. The Council shall grant the request of the Companion by dropping his name from the rolls, and his membership shall thereby be terminated, and he shall be subject to the disabilities of an unaffiliated Royal and Select Master; provided, however, that an elected officer cannot withdraw during his term of office; provided, also, that when any member shall be, or become a resident, in the jurisdiction of another Grand Council, a dimit may be granted to him direct, and without compliance with the foregoing provisions.

§ 37. The compensation of the Officers of the Grand Council, and Representatives of Subordinate Councils, shall be fixed by the Grand Council, from time to time, as the state of its funds may warrant; but no Representative of a Subordinate Council shall receive pay or mileage in excess of the amount of dues paid in by the Council which he represents

Past Grand Masters of this Grand Council shall be entitled to the same compensation for attendance as Officers and Representatives.

§ 38. This Grand Council shall pay for each year towards the support of the General Grand Council the sum of Fifty (50) Cents for each working Council within its jurisdiction.

## ARTICLE IV.

## A M E N D M E N T S .

§ 39. This Grand Council is competent at any time to alter or amend this Constitution on the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present at an Annual Assembly ; provided the proposed alteration shall have been submitted in writing at one Annual Assembly, and laid over until the next for consideration.

§ 40. No general regulations shall be adopted inconsistent with this Constitution, and all former written Constitutions and General Regulations heretofore made and adopted are hereby repealed.

# GENERAL REGULATIONS.

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## STATIONS, INSIGNIA, AND JEWELS OF THE OFFICERS OF THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL.

### STATIONS.

1. The Station of the Grand Master is in the East ; of the Grand Deputy Master, on the right of the Grand Master ; of the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, on the left of the Grand Master ; of the Grand Recorder, in front of the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work ; of the Grand Treasurer, in front of the Grand Deputy Master ; of the Grand Captain of the Guard, in the West ; of the Grand Conductor of the Council, in the South ; of the Grand Chaplain, on the left of the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work ; of the Grand Marshal, in the South ; of the Grand Steward, at the door inside ; and of the Grand Sentinel, at the door outside.

### INSIGNIA.

2. The Insignia of each of the officers of this Grand Council consists of a Collar, or hanging for the jewel, of purple velvet, trimmed with gold lace and fringe, and of an Apron of the same material, with the appropriate jewel wrought in the centre thereof.

### JEWELS.

3. The Jewels of all the officers of this Grand Council are inclosed in a Triangle, which is encircled by a wreath, the whole to be of gold or some metal resembling it in color. In the Triangle worn by the Grand Master is suspended the Square, Compasses, and Trowel ; in that of the Grand Deputy Master, a Square and Trowel ; in that of Past Grand Masters, the Compasses extended upon an arc of sixty degrees, with the Trowel in the centre ; in that of the Grand P. C. of the Work, the Trowel and Level, in that of the Grand Recorder, the Trowel and Cross Pens ; in that of the Grand Treasurer, the Trowel and

Cross Keys ; in that of the Grand Captain of the Guard, the Trowel and Battle-Axe ; in that of the Grand Conductor of the Council, the Trowel and Baton ; in that of the Grand Chaplain, the Trowel and Holy Bible open ; in that of the Grand Marshal, the Trowel and Baton crossed upon the scroll ; in that of the Grand Steward, the Trowel and Cross Swords ; and in that of the Grand Sentinel, the Trowel and Cimeter crossed.

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STATIONS, INSIGNIA, DRESSES, AND JEWELS OF  
OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS.

STATIONS.

4. The station of the Master is in the East ; of the Deputy Master, on the right of the Master ; of the Principal Conductor of the Work, on the left of the Master ; of the Recorder, in front of the Principal Conductor of the Work ; of the Treasurer, in front of the Deputy Master ; of the Captain of the Guard, in the West ; of the Conductor of the Council, near the South, on the right ; of the Chaplain, on the left of the Principal Conductor of the Work ; of the Marshal, near the South, on the left ; of the Steward, at the door inside ; and of the Sentinel, at the door outside.

INSIGNIA.

5. The hangings for Jewels are of purple, and may be trimmed with gold ; the Aprons are of lambskin, trimmed with purple.

DRESSES.

6. The Master is clothed in a Robe of royal purple trimmed with ermine, a Crown upon his head and a Sceptre in his hand ; the Deputy Master, in a Robe of scarlet trimmed with ermine, a Crown upon his head and a Sceptre in his hand ; the Principal Conductor of the Work, in a Robe of yellow, a Turban on his head and a Trowel in his hand ; and the Captain of the Guard, in the military dress of the Eastern nations 3,000 years ago. All the other officers are clothed in purple Tunics and Turbans, with a Trowel in one hand and a Sword in the other.

JEWELS.

7. The Jewels of each of the Officers of a Subordinate Council are suspended in a Triangle, and are as follows, viz. : that of the Master, the Square, Compasses, and Trowel ; that of the Deputy Master, the Trowel and Level ; that of the Principal Conductor of the Work, a Trowel and Plumb ; that of the Past Master, a Trowel and the Compasses extended on an arc of sixty degrees ; that

of the Recorder, the Trowel and Cross Pens ; that of the Treasurer, the Trowel and Cross Keys ; that of the Chaplain, the Trowel and open Bible ; that of the Captain of the Guard, the Trowel and Battle-Axe crossed ; that of the Conductor of the Council, a Trowel ; that of the Marshal, the Trowel, Baton, and Scroll ; that of the Steward, the Trowel and Cross Swords ; and that of the Sentinel, the Trowel and Cimeter crossed.

#### INSIGNIA OF MEMBERS OF COUNCILS.

8. The members of a Subordinate Council wear a lambskin or white Apron, trimmed with purple.

#### HEALING.

9. The Grand Master alone shall direct the process of healing such Companions as have been irregularly made Royal and Select Masters.

## RULES OF ORDER.

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1. At the stroke of the Grand Master's gavel there shall be a general silence, and he who breaks silence without leave from the presiding officer shall be subject to a public reprimand.

2. Under the same penalty, every Companion shall keep his seat, and observe strict silence whenever the Grand Master shall call to order.

3. No Companion is to speak more than once to the same question, unless by permission.

4. If, in the Grand Council, any member is twice called to order, at one Assembly, for transgressing these rules, and is guilty of the third offence of the same nature, the Grand Master may peremptorily order him to leave the Council Chamber for that session.

5. Whoever shall be so rude as to ridicule any Companion, or what another says, or has said, may be forthwith solemnly excluded the Assembly, and declared incapable of ever being a member of this Grand Council, unless he publicly own his fault, and he be excused.

6. All motions are to be decided by a majority of votes, each member having one vote, and the Grand Master two votes, in case that an equal number shall require his decision.

7. The opinions or votes of the members may be signified by holding up the left hand, unless some member shall call for a vote by Councils, which shall be sustained by at least three members.

8. All members shall keep their places, except the Grand Captain of the Guard and Grand Marshal, who are allowed to move from place to place, in the discharge of their duties.

9. Every one who speaks shall rise and remain standing, addressing himself to the Grand Master; and no member shall interrupt him, unless to call him to order; but after he has been set right he may proceed, if he observe due order and decorum.

10. Every proposition offered for consideration shall be in writing, if required by any member.

11. At any Annual Assembly of the Grand Council, the following Standing Committees shall be appointed, to consist of three members each:

1. A Committee on Credentials of Members and Returns of Councils.
2. A Committee on Warrants and Dispensations.

3. A Committee on Foreign Correspondence.
4. A Committee on the Constitution and By-Laws of Councils. To this committee shall be referred all propositions to amend the Constitution, General Regulations, and Rules of the Grand Council; also all questions relative to the usages, privileges, customs, and work of the fraternity.
5. A Committee on Grievances and Appeals.
6. A Committee on Finance.
7. A Committee on Unfinished Business of the previous Annual Assembly.

12. The Standing Committees shall not sit while the Grand Council is actually in session, unless on leave obtained, and shall all report at the same Assembly at which they were appointed, and be discharged at the close thereof, unless otherwise ordered, except the Committee on Foreign Correspondence and the Committee on Unfinished Business.

13. The following shall be the Order of Business and proceedings of the Grand Council, at each session of the Annual Assembly, except that the second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth shall not be observed after the first session.

1. Calling the Roll of Councils by the Grand Recorder.
2. The usual ceremonies of opening the Grand Council in ample form, and with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.
3. Reading and approving the Minutes of any previous Special Assembly of the Grand Council not before read and approved.
4. Address of the Grand Master, and action thereon.
5. Reports of the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer, and action thereon.
6. Appointment of Committees.
7. Reports upon Credentials of Members.
8. Reports on Unfinished Business of the previous Assembly.
9. Presentation and reference, or other disposition of Memorials, Petitions, and Communications.
10. Motions and Resolutions, and reference or other disposition of the same.
11. Reports of Standing Committees, and action thereon: the Committees on Foreign Correspondence and Constitution and By-Laws having the preference.
12. Reports of Special Committees, and action thereon.
13. Special Orders (if any).
14. Consideration of Amendments to the Constitution, General Regulations, and Rules (if any).
15. Unfinished Business of previous sessions (if any).
16. Miscellaneous Business, not included in the above.
17. Reading and approval of the Minutes of the session.

14. Should the Order of Business not be concluded at the session at which it is first called, it shall be commenced at the succeeding session where it was left off, and so on throughout the Assembly, taking up the Order of Business, as in Rule 13, again when once finished, and going through with it in the same manner ; provided, nevertheless, that the reading and approval of the minutes shall be the last business in order at each session, and that the appointment of a time for the election and installation of officers, and for the lectures, shall be in order at any time designated by the Grand Council.

15. At each session of the Annual Assembly, the Grand Council shall determine the time of holding the next session.

16. The Rules of Order shall not be suspended at any time, except by unanimous consent.

17. These Rules may be amended at any time, by a vote of two-thirds of the Grand Council.

18. All former Rules of Order of the Grand Council, inconsistent herewith, are hereby abrogated.

INSTALLATION  
OF THE  
OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.

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At the time appointed for the Installation, the Grand Council being regularly opened, the Chair must be taken by some Grand or Past Grand Master ; or, if none be present, by the highest Grand or Past Grand Officer, who is, or has been, a presiding officer in a Subordinate Council.

The R. P. Grand Marshal shall then introduce the Grand Master elect to the Installing Officer, saying :

MOST PUISSANT—I present to you Companion ——, who, having been duly elected Grand Master of the Grand Council of the State of New York, for the ensuing Masonic year, now declares himself ready for installation.

*The Installing Officer shall then address the members of the Grand Council, saying :*

COMPANIONS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL—Companion —— having been duly elected to preside over you, as your Grand Master, now declares himself ready for installation. If any of you can show just cause why he should not be installed, you will make your objections now known, or forever after hold your peace.

*If objections are made, the Grand Council shall proceed at once to hear and determine the same.*

*If no objections are made he shall continue to say :*

No cause being shown to the contrary, I shall now proceed to install him.

*The Installing Officer shall then administer the following obligation of Office, all the Companions standing :*

I, ——, do solemnly promise and swear that I will serve as Grand Master of the Grand Council of the State of New York, for the term for which I have been elected, and will, to the best of my abilities, faithfully discharge

the duties appertaining to that office. I do furthermore promise and swear that I will support and maintain the Constitutions of the General Grand Council of the United States and of this Grand Council, and inviolably preserve the ancient landmarks of the Order. So help me God.

*The Grand Chaplain shall then offer the following prayer :*

O thou most holy and omnipotent Lord God of heaven and earth ! we do most humbly beseech thee to smile upon and bless this Grand Council now assembled. Sanctify unto each one of us now present the transactions of this hour. Make us humble and thankful recipients of all the bounties thou art continually bestowing upon us, and move our hearts with impulses of tenderness and charity toward all men, and especially toward those who have wrought with us their regular hours in the secret vault. Bestow upon us, we beseech thee, a portion of thine infinite wisdom, and especially upon him who has been selected to preside over this Grand Council. Take from him all pride of heart, stubbornness of will, and self-sufficiency of understanding, and all vanity, ostentation, and arrogance, if any such he have ; and give him in their stead a meekness and lowliness of heart, and a kindness and gentleness of disposition, that shall cause him to rule and govern his Companions with love and affection, and in thy fear.

And we pray thee, O Lord God, that, when our labors here are ended and the hour of everlasting rest has arrived, we may be received into the Grand Council above, and hear the thrilling welcome, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, into the mansions prepared for you from the beginning of the world." Amen.

*Response by the Companions.*—So mote it be.

*The Installing Officer then invests the Grand Master elect with the insignia of his office, and proceeds with the following*

#### CHARGE.

By the voice of your Companions, you have been elevated to the highest office within their gift ; and as they rely with entire confidence upon the rectitude of your intentions and the integrity of your character, it becomes your duty to set them an example of diligence, industry, and fidelity ; to see that the officers associated with you faithfully perform their respective duties, and that the reputation and interests of this Grand Council are not endangered by imprudence or neglect.

The important trust committed to your charge will call for your best exertions, and the exercise of your best faculties. As the Representative of the wise King of Israel, it will be your duty to recite the secret traditions, to illustrate the moral principles of the Order, to cherish the worthy, and to hold in due veneration the ancient landmarks of our time-honored institution.

The purple robe, the crown, and the sceptre are emblems of union and authority. They are to indicate to you that, while you govern your Companions with mildness, firmness, and impartiality, you are to teach them lessons of

union and harmony, which are the chief supports in our great Masonic edifice. And as you are seated in the East, the place of light and heat, so you are to be the source of light and heat to those under your charge. Enlighten them with a knowledge of our traditions, our forms and ceremonies; the signification of our tools and emblems, and the general arts and mysteries of our craft; and impart to them a portion of the warmth of zeal and devotion that burns in your own bosom.

By a frequent recurrence to the Constitutions of the General and State Grand Councils, and the general regulations of the fraternity, together with a constant observance of the great principles inculcated in the various lectures and charges, you will be enabled to fulfil the important obligations resting upon you with honor to yourself and credit to the craft. And may He, without whose approving smiles our labors are all in vain, give strength to your endeavors, and support to your exertions.

*The Grand Master elect shall then take his seat in the East, and assume the gavel. After which (all the Companions standing) the Grand Captain of the Guard shall make proclamation, thus:*

COMPANIONS: In the name of the Most High God, I do proclaim Most Pious Companion, ——, Grand Master of the Grand Council of the State of New York, for the term prescribed by the Constitution.

*The remaining officers elect, standing in order before the officiating officer, shall then make the following declaration:*

I, ——, do solemnly promise that I will faithfully, and to the best of my ability, discharge the duties of the office to which I have been elected, and that I will strictly conform to the requirements of the Constitutions of the General Grand Council of the United States and of the Grand Council of the State of New York, together with the general regulations of the Order, so far as they may come to my knowledge.

*After which the officers elect shall kneel (the rest of the Companions present standing), while the R. P. Grand Chaplain repeats the following*

#### PRAYER.

Most holy and glorious Lord God, the great architect of heaven and earth, we approach thee with reverence, and implore thy blessing on these Companions, selected to assist our presiding officer in conducting the business of this Grand Council, and now prostrate before thee. Fill their hearts with thy fear, that their tongues and actions may promote thy glory. Make them steadfast in thy service. Grant them wisdom, that they may teach thy judgments and thy laws. Animate their hearts, and strengthen their endeavors. Bless them, O Lord, and bless the work of their hands. Accept us in mercy. Hear thou, from heaven, thy dwelling-place, and forgive our transgressions. Amen.

*Response.*—So mote it be.

*The R. P. Grand Marshal will now present each of the remaining Grand Officers elect in order, according to rank, when they shall be charged by the Installing Officer, respectively, as follows:*

*(After each charge, the R. P. Grand Marshal shall conduct the officer elect, so charged, to his proper position in the Grand Council Chamber.)*

#### CHARGE TO THE GRAND DEPUTY MASTER.

**RIGHT PUISSANT COMPANION:** Have you attended to the important obligation taken by your superior, and do you promise to support all the ancient charges and regulations as freely and fully as he has done?

*Answer.*—I do.

The duties of the important office to which your Companions have elected you will require your constant and earnest attention. You are to occupy the second seat in this Grand Council, and it will be your duty to aid and support your Chief in all the requirements of his office. In his absence, you will be called upon to preside in the Grand Council and to discharge all those important duties which now devolve upon him. Let it, therefore, be your unremitting study to acquire such a degree of knowledge and information as will enable you, when called upon, to discharge with promptness and propriety all the important duties annexed to your station.

#### CHARGE TO THE GRAND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORK.

**RIGHT PUISSANT COMPANION:** As the third officer of this Grand Council, it will be your duty to sound the silver trumpet at early dawn and eve of day, when the sun's first and last beams gild the mountain-tops, to announce high noon, and proclaim the time of rest and labor.

In the absence of your superiors, you will be required to perform their duties; and as the interests of the Grand Council should never be permitted to suffer through want of intelligence in its officers, you will allow me to urge upon you the necessity of being always qualified and prepared to meet the emergency, should any such arise.

Having been admitted to the fellowship of kings, you will be frequently reminded that the office of *mediator* is both honorable and praiseworthy. Let it, therefore, be your constant care to preserve harmony and unanimity of sentiment among the members of the Grand Council. Discountenance whatever may tend to create division and dissensions among the Companions in any of the departments of Masonry. And as the glorious sun at its meridian dispels the mists and clouds that obscure the horizon, so may your exertions tend to dissipate the mist of jealousy and discord, should any such ever unfortunately arise.

## CHARGE TO THE GRAND RECORDER.

RIGHT PUISSANT COMPANION : It is with much pleasure that I install you into the office to which you have been elected by your Companions. The qualities which should recommend a Recorder are : *correctness* in recording the proceedings ; *judgment* in discriminating between what is proper and what is improper to be written ; *regularity* in attendance upon the Grand Council ; *integrity* in accounting for all moneys that may pass through his hands, and *fidelity* in paying the same over to the Grand Treasurer. The possession of these qualities, I have no doubt, has designated you as a suitable Companion for this important office. I have the utmost confidence, therefore, that you will discharge all the duties incumbent on you with fidelity and honor. May God grant that, when you shall have completed the record of your transactions here below, you may be admitted into the Grand Council above, and find your name recorded in the Book of Life.

## CHARGE TO THE GRAND TREASURER.

RIGHT PUISSANT COMPANION : You have been elected to an important and responsible station in this Grand Body. It will be your duty to number and weigh out the shekels of the sanctuary, and to provide for the helpless and the destitute. The qualities which should distinguish you are *accuracy* and *fidelity*—accuracy in keeping a true and fair account of the receipts and disbursements; fidelity in carefully preserving the property and funds of the Grand Council, and in rendering a just account of the same when required. Your interest in this Grand Council, your attachment to the craft, and your known integrity of character are a sufficient guaranty that these duties will be faithfully performed.

## CHARGE TO THE GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD.

RIGHT PUISSANT COMPANION : Having been appointed Captain of the Guard of this Grand Council, I present you with the insignia of your office. Guard well your post, and suffer none to pass it but the select, the faithful, and the true. Be ever attentive to the commands of your Chief, and be always near at hand to see them duly executed.

## CHARGE TO THE GRAND CONDUCTOR OF THE COUNCIL.

RIGHT PUISSANT COMPANION : Having been appointed Conductor of the Council of this Grand Council, you are now presented with the jewel of your office. Your duties are none the less important because they are subordinate in character. In your discharge of those duties which you now assume, be fervent and zealous ; let uprightness and integrity attend your steps, and let justice and mercy mark your conduct.

## CHARGE TO THE GRAND CHAPLAINS.

RIGHT PUISSANT AND REV. COMPANIONS: You have been appointed Chaplains of this Grand Council. Your good inclinations will undoubtedly aid you in the performance of those solemn services which created beings should constantly render to their Great Creator, and which, when offered by one whose holy profession it is *to point to Heaven and lead the way*, may, by refining our morals, strengthening our virtues, and purifying our minds, prepare us for admission into the presence of our Supreme Grand Master, where happiness will be as perfect as it is endless.

## CHARGE TO THE GRAND LECTURER.

RIGHT ILLUSTRIOUS COMPANION: To you is assigned the important duty of imparting instruction to the officers and members of Subordinate Councils. To this end it will be necessary for you to prepare yourself by careful study of the forms and ceremonies that have been enjoined upon us to preserve, so that your instruction may at all times be ready and accurate. In your examinations of the proficiency of our officers, you will see that due attention be paid to our rules and regulations that the ancient landmarks be not infringed, and in case you shall observe any failure on the part of any Council to pay strict obedience to our laws, you are to report the same to the proper authority.

## CHARGE TO THE GRAND MARSHAL.

RIGHT PUISSANT COMPANION: The office to which you have been appointed is one of much importance in the proceedings of this Grand Council. In the discharge of the duties appertaining to it, and with which you are familiar, be fervent and zealous. Let uprightness and integrity attend your steps; let *justice* and *mercy* mark your conduct, and predominate in all your actions through life. You will now assume your station.

## CHARGE TO THE GRAND STEWARD AND SENTINEL.

PUISSANT COMPANIONS: You are appointed respectively to the office of Grand Steward and Sentinel of this Grand Council, and I now invest you with the implements of your office. As the sword is placed in the hands of the Sentinel to enable him to guard the sanctuary and entrance to the secret passage with sleepless vigilance against intruders, so should it morally serve as a constant admonition to us all to set a guard at the entrance of our thoughts, to place a watch at the door of our lips, to post a sentinel at the avenues of our actions, thereby excluding every unworthy thought, word, and deed, and enabling us to preserve our consciences void of offence toward God and man. You will now assume your respective stations.

## CHARGE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.

COMPANIONS: From the nature of the constitution of every society, some must of necessity *rule* and others *obey*. And while justice and moderation are required of the *officers* in the discharge of their official duties, subordination and respect for their rulers are equally demanded of the *members*. The relation is reciprocal; the interests of both are inseparable, and without mutual co-operation the labors of neither can succeed. A house divided against itself cannot stand. Let, therefore, brotherly love prevail among you; let each be emulous of the others in all good works, and *in no other way*. Let the avenues of your passions be strictly guarded; let no *curious intruder* find his way into the *secret recesses* of your retirement, to disturb the harmony which should ever prevail among the *select* and *chosen*. In so doing, you will secure the prosperity of this Grand Council, the respect of your Companions, the commendation of your own consciences, and, finally, the approval of your Supreme Grand Master and a Crown of Life.

*The Grand Marshal shall then make the following proclamation:*

I am directed by the Most Puissant Grand Master to proclaim, and I do hereby proclaim, the officers of the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York duly and regularly installed, in ample form.

*The Right Puissant Grand Chaplain shall then offer the following or some suitable prayer, which shall conclude the ceremonies of installation of the Grand Officers:*

To thee, O God, we now commend ourselves, and the varied interests committed to our charge. Ever keep and preserve this Grand Council in purity and usefulness, and may its proceedings tend to thy glory and the benefit of our race. Amen.

*Response.*—So mote it be.

ORDER OF CEREMONIES IN  
CONSTITUTING AND DEDICATING COUNCILS  
OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS.

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The new Council shall assemble in their hall, and be called to order by their presiding officer.

The Grand Council will meet and open in an adjoining room.

A committee from the new Council shall inform the Grand Marshal that the new Council is prepared to receive the Grand Council. The Grand Marshal will announce the same to the Grand Master.

The committee shall then conduct the Grand Council to the hall of the new Council, where they shall be received with the usual honors.

The officers of the new Council shall then resign their seats to the Grand Officers, and cause their jewels to be laid upon the altar and covered.

An ode shall then be sung, or an appropriate piece of music be performed, after which the Grand Chaplain shall repeat the following or some other suitable form of

P R A Y E R .

Almighty and Supreme Architect of the Universe, maker and ruler of all things, who is there in heaven but thee, and who upon earth can stand in competition with thee? Thine omniscient mind brings all things in review, past, present, and to come. Thine omnipotent arm directs the movements of the vast creation. Thine omnipresent eye pervades the secret recesses of every heart. Thy boundless beneficence supplies us with every comfort and enjoyment. Thy unspeakable perfections and glory surpass the understanding of the children of men. We do most humbly invoke thy special blessings upon the purposes of our present assembly. Let this Council be established to thy honor and glory. May its officers be endowed with wisdom to discern and fidelity to pursue its

true interests. May its members be ever mindful of the duty they owe to their God, the obedience they owe to their superiors, the love they owe to their equals, and the good will they owe to all mankind. May this Council be erected to thy glory, and may its members ever exemplify their love to thee by their beneficence to their fellow-man, and eventually enjoy the rewards of a well-spent life in the sacred sanctuary on high. Glory be to God, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*Response.*—So mote it be.

*Should time permit, an oration or some suitable address may now be delivered.*

*The Grand Marshal shall then address the Grand Master in the words following, viz.:*

**MOST PUISSANT GRAND MASTER:** A constitutional number of Companions, duly instructed in the sublime mysteries, having received from the Grand Council a Charter, authorizing them to open and hold a regular Council of Royal and Select Masters in this place, are now assembled for the purpose of having the same legally constituted and solemnly dedicated, in *ample* form.

*The Charter granted the new Council shall then be read by the Grand Recorder.*

*The Grand Master will then address the Companions forming the new Council, as follows:*

**COMPANIONS:** Do you accept the Charter which has just been read in your hearing by the Grand Recorder, and do you promise to perform all the requirements therein contained, conforming in all your Masonic workings to the Constitutions, By-Laws, and General Regulations of the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York, and of the General Grand Council of the United States?

*The answer being in the affirmative, the Grand Master shall proceed as follows:*

By virtue of the high power in me vested as Grand Master of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, I do now form and constitute you, my worthy Companions, into a regular Council of Royal and Select Masters, by the name of ——— Council, No. —; and I hereby authorize and empower you and your successors to open and hold said Council, and to do and perform all such things as may appertain thereunto, conforming in all things to the Constitutions, By-Laws, and General Regulations of the Most Puissant Grand Council of the State of New York, and of the General Grand Council of the United States. And may the God of our Fathers be with you to guide and direct you in all your doings. Amen.

*Response.*—So mote it be.

*An Ode or Hymn shall then be sung, or a suitable piece of music performed, during which the Grand Marshal shall uncover the jewels.*

*The following Dedicatory Declaration shall then be pronounced by the Grand Master:*

To our Ancient and Most Puissant Grand Master Solomon, King of Israel, we solemnly dedicate this Council. May the blessings of him who presides in the Grand Council above rest upon all the members thereof, and may he so direct their labors that his name may be magnified, now and ever. Amen.

*Response.*—So mote it be.

*The following proclamation shall then be made by the Grand Marshal:*

I am directed by the Most Puissant Grand Master to proclaim, and I do hereby proclaim, this Council, by the name of \_\_\_\_\_ Council, No. \_\_\_\_\_, duly constituted and dedicated, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A. D. \_\_\_\_\_.

*Should it be deemed desirable, another suitable piece of music may now be performed, when the ceremonies shall close with the following benediction, to be pronounced by the Grand Chaplain:*

#### B E N E D I C T I O N .

¶ May the blessing of the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob rest upon and be with you always, now and forever. Amen.

*Response.*—So mote it be.

*Should any other officer than the Grand Master officiate at the dedicatory ceremonies, the word AMPLE is to be omitted wherever it occurs in the service, and in place thereof shall be used the words "IN DUE AND ANCIENT FORM."*

I N S T A L L A T I O N  
O F T H E  
O F F I C E R S O F A S U B O R D I N A T E C O U N C I L .

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Officers of Subordinate Councils may be installed by any present or Past Grand Officer, or by any present or Past Master of a Council in good standing in any regularly constituted Council of Royal and Select Masters.

The Council being duly assembled and in working order, the installing officer shall direct the Recorder to read so much of the records as refer to the election of the officers presenting themselves for installation.

*After which he shall say :*

Companions of —— Council, No. ——, do you remain satisfied with the choice you have made in the selection of your officers for the ensuing Masonic year?

*The answer being in the affirmative, the officers elect shall be arranged by the Marshal (an officer to be appointed for the occasion) in due form in front of the installing officer, when they shall be required to make the following*

D E C L A R A T I O N .

I, ——, do solemnly promise that I will faithfully, and to the best of my ability, discharge the duties of the office to which I have been elected in this Council, and that I will strictly conform to the requirements of the By-Laws of this Council, and the Constitutions and General Regulations of the Most Pious Grand Council of the State of New York, and of the General Grand Council of the United States, so far as they may come to my knowledge.

*The officers elect shall then resume their seats among their Companions.*

*The following, or some suitable prayer, shall then be delivered by the Chaplain :*

P R A Y E R.

Most Holy and Glorious Lord God, the Great and Mighty Father of all men, we, thy humble servants, desire to approach thee with all reverence, and to implore thy blessing upon the Companions selected to preside over and conduct the affairs of this Council, and now before thee. Fill their hearts, we beseech thee, with thy fear, that their tongues and actions may promote thy glory. Make them steadfast in thy service. Grant them firmness of mind. Animate their hearts, and strengthen their endeavors. May they be enabled to teach thy judgments and thy laws. Bless them, O Lord, and bless the work of their hands. Accept us in mercy. Hear thou from Heaven, thy dwelling-place, and forgive our transgressions. Glory be to God as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*Response.*—So mote it be.

*The Marshal will then present the officers elect severally, according to rank, for installation.*

*Addressing the installing officer by his proper Masonic title, he shall say :*

——, I present to you Companion ——, for installation as —— of this Council. I find him to be well-skilled in the Royal Mysteries, zealous in diffusing the sacred principles of our fathers, and in whose integrity and fidelity his Companions of —— Council, No. ——, repose the highest confidence.

*The installing officer will then complete the ceremonies by delivering the following Address and Charges severally, to the officers elect, as they are severally presented to him, according to rank, by the Marshal.*

ADDRESS AND CHARGE TO THE MASTER.

THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS COMPANION : I feel great pleasure in receiving you as the presiding officer of this Council. It is a station highly honorable to him who diligently and faithfully performs the duties it imposes upon him. Before investing you, however, with the appropriate insignia of your office, I must require your unequivocal assent to the following interrogatories :

1. Do you solemnly promise that you will use your best endeavors to correct the vices and purify the morals of your Companions, and to promote the peace and prosperity of your Council ?
2. That you will not suffer your Council to be opened when there are less than nine or more than twenty-seven Select Masters present ?
3. That you will not suffer any one to pass the circle of perfection in your Council, in whose integrity, fervency, and zeal you have not entire confidence ?
4. That you will not acknowledge or hold intercourse with any Council that does not work under some regular and constitutional authority ?

5. That you will not admit a visitor into your Council who has not been regularly and lawfully invested with the degrees conferred therein, without his having previously been formally healed?

6. That you will faithfully observe and support such By-Laws as may be made by your Council, in conformity with the Constitution and General Regulations of the Order?

7. That you will pay due respect and obedience to the Grand Officers, when duly installed, and sustain them in the discharge of their lawful duties?

8. Do you submit to these requirements, and promise to observe and practise them faithfully?

*Response.*—I do.

With entire confidence in the rectitude of your intentions, and in the integrity of your character as a Select Master, I now invest you with the appropriate insignia of your office.

Having been honored with the free suffrages of your Companions, and elevated to the highest office within their gift, it becomes your duty to set them an example of diligence, industry, and fidelity; to see that the officers associated with you faithfully perform their respective duties, and that the interest and reputation of your Council are not endangered by imprudence or neglect. The important trusts committed to your charge will call forth your best exertions, and the exercise of your best faculties.

As the representative of the wise King of Israel, it will be your duty to recite the secret traditions, and illustrate the moral principles of the Order, to cherish the worthy, and to hold in due veneration the ancient landmarks.

By a frequent recurrence to the By-Laws of your Council, and the General Regulations and Constitutions of the Grand Council, and of the General Grand Council of the United States, you will be enabled to fulfil the important obligations resting upon you with honor to yourself and with credit to the craft.

And may He, without whose approving smiles our labors are all in vain, give strength to your endeavors and support to your exertions.

#### CHARGE TO THE DEPUTY MASTER.

RIGHT ILLUSTRIOUS COMPANION: Having been elected to the second office in this Council, I, with great pleasure, invest you with the insignia of your office.

The duties of the important office to which your Companions have elevated you will require your constant and earnest attention. You are to occupy the second seat in the Council, and it will be your duty to aid and support your Chief in all the requirements of his office. In his absence you will be called upon to preside in the Council, and to discharge all the important duties annexed to his station.

Although the representative of a king, and elevated in rank above your Companions, yet may you never forget that in all the duties you owe to God, your neighbor, and yourself, you and they stand upon the same level of equality.

Let the bright example of your predecessor in the Grand Council at Jerusalem stimulate you to the faithful performance of every duty, and when the King of kings shall summon you to his immediate presence, may you receive from his hand a crown of glory that shall never fade away.

#### CHARGE TO THE PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORK.

ILLUSTRIOUS COMPANION: As the third officer of this Council, I now invest you with the insignia of your office. It is your duty to sound the silver trumpet at early dawn and eve of day, when the sun's first and last beams gild the mountain-tops, to announce high noon, and proclaim the time of rest and labor.

In the absence of either of your superior officers, you will be required to perform the duties annexed to his station respectively; and as the interests of your Council ought never to suffer from the want of intelligence in its officers, you will allow me to urge upon you the necessity of being always qualified and fully prepared to meet the emergency, should it ever arise.

Having been admitted to the *fellowship of kings*, you will be frequently reminded that the office of *mediator* is both honorable and praiseworthy. Let it, therefore, be your constant care to preserve harmony and unanimity of sentiment among the members of your Council. Discountenance whatever may tend to create divisions and dissensions among the brethren in any of the departments of Masonry. And as the glorious sun at its meridian dispels the mist and clouds that obscure the horizon, so may your exertions tend to dissipate the mist of jealousy and discord, should any such ever unfortunately arise in your Council.

#### CHARGE TO THE RECORDER.

COMPANION: I now invest you with the insignia of your office. The qualities which should distinguish you in discharging the various duties annexed to your station are, correctness in recording the proceedings of your Council; judgment in discriminating between what is proper and what is improper to be written; regularity in making the returns to the Grand Council; integrity in accounting for all moneys that may pass through your hands, and fidelity in paying the same over to the Treasurer. The possession of these qualities has designated you as a suitable Companion for the important office to which you have been elected, and I entertain no doubt but that you will discharge all the duties incumbent on you with fidelity and honor. And when you shall have completed the records of your transactions here below, and finished the term of your probation, may you be admitted to the Grand Council above, and find your name recorded in the Book of Life.

#### CHARGE TO THE TREASURER.

COMPANION: You have been elected to a very important and responsible office in this Council, and I now, with pleasure, invest you with the insignia of your office. It is your duty to number and weigh out the shekels of the sanctuary,

and to provide for the helpless orphan. The qualities which should distinguish you are accuracy and fidelity ; accuracy in keeping a fair and true account of the receipts and disbursements ; fidelity in carefully preserving the property and funds of the Council, and in rendering a just account of the same when required. Your interest in this Council, your attachment to the craft, and your known integrity of character are a sure guaranty that your duties will be faithfully performed.

#### CHARGE TO THE CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD.

COMPANION : Having been appointed Captain of the Guard in this Council I present you with the insignia of your office. Guard well your post, and suffer none to pass it but the *select*, the faithful, and the worthy. Be ever attentive to the commands of your Chief, and be always near at hand to see them duly executed.

#### CHARGE TO THE CONDUCTOR.

COMPANION : The office to which you have been appointed is one of much importance in the proceedings of this Council. In the discharge of the duties appertaining to it, and with which you are doubtless familiar, be fervent and zealous ; you will thus secure the respect and esteem of your Companions, and the approbation of your own conscience. You will now assume your station.

#### CHARGE TO THE CHAPLAIN.

REV. COMPANION : You have been appointed Chaplain of this Council. Your good inclinations will undoubtedly aid you in the performance of those solemn services which created beings should constantly render to their Great Creator, and which, when offered by one whose holy profession it is *to point to Heaven and lead the way*, may, by refining our morals, strengthening our virtues, and purifying our minds, prepare us for admission into the presence of our Supreme Grand Master, where happiness will be as perfect as it is endless.

#### CHARGE TO THE MARSHAL.

COMPANION : The duties of your office require but little elucidation. It is your duty, in connection with the Conductor, to attend to the examination of visitors, and to take special care that none are permitted to enter but such as have proved their title to our favor and friendship. I present you with the implement of your office, in the confident belief that it is intrusted to competent and faithful hands.

#### CHARGE TO THE STEWARD AND SENTINEL.

COMPANIONS : You have been appointed to the office of Steward and Sentinel, respectively, and I now, with pleasure, invest you with the appropriate insignia of your office. Let the sword placed in your hands serve as a constant admoni-

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## FORM OF A PETITION FOR A NEW COUNCIL.

*To the M. P. Grand Council of the State of ——— :*

The undersigned petitioners, being Royal and Select Masters, having the prosperity of the fraternity at heart, and being willing to exert their best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Cryptic Masonry, respectfully represent that they are desirous of forming a new Council in the town of ———, county of ———, and State of ———, to be named ——— Council, No. —.

They therefore pray for Letters of Dispensation, or a Warrant of Constitution, to empower them to assemble as a legal Council, to discharge the duties of Masonry in a regular and constitutional manner, according to the original forms of the Order and the regulations of the Grand Council, and of the General Grand Council of the United States.

They have nominated and do recommend Comp. A. B. to be the first Master, Comp. C. D. to be the first Dep. Master, and Comp. E. F. to be the first Principal Conductor of the Work of said Council. If the prayer of the petitioners shall be granted, they promise a strict conformity to the Constitutions, Laws, and Regulations of the General and State Grand Councils.

Dated at ———, A. Dep. 28—.

(N. B.—The above petition must be signed by not less than nine Select Masters.)

## FORM OF RETURN OF ELECTION.

The Certificate of Election should be in the following form, and must be filed in the office of the Grand Recorder, before the elected officers of the Subordinate Councils can be recognized as members of the Grand Council :

BE IT KNOWN, that on the — day of —, A. Dep. 28—, at a regular Assembly of — Council, No. —, Comp. — — was elected Master, Comp. — —, Dep. Master, and Comp. — —, Principal Conductor of the Work, for the ensuing year, and that said officers have been duly installed.

In testimony whereof, we, the members of said Council, have  
[L. s.] caused the seal thereof to be hereunto affixed, and our Recorder to sign the same.

— —, Recorder.

## THE PROXY

Of the Subordinate Councils should be in the following form, viz. :

At a regular Assembly of — Council, No. —, held on the — day of —, A. Dep. 28—, Resolved, That our Comp. — — (Present or Past Grand Officer, Present or Past Master, as the case may be) be, and he is hereby appointed Proxy, to represent this Council in the Grand Council of the State of New York ; and he is fully empowered to act in our behalf, in all the transactions of the Grand Council, as effectually as if we ourselves were present.

All which we have caused to be certified by our first three officers,  
[L. s.] and the seal of our said Council to be affixed.

— —, Master.

— —, Dep. Master.

— —, P. C. of the W.

ATTEST :

— —, Recorder.

tion to you to set a guard at the entrance of your thoughts, to place a watch at the door of your lips, to post a sentinel at the avenues of your affections, thereby excluding every unworthy thought, word, and deed, and enabling you to preserve your consciences void of offence toward God and man.

#### CHARGE TO THE COUNCIL.

WORTHY AND BELOVED COMPANIONS: From the nature of our beloved institution, some must of necessity *rule* and others *obey*. And while justice and moderation are required of the officers in the discharge of their official duties, subordination and respect for their rulers are equally demanded of the members. *The relation is reciprocal.* The interests of both are inseparable, and without mutual co-operation the labors of neither can succeed. Let the avenues to your passions be strictly guarded. Let no curious intruder find his way into the secret recesses of your retirement, to disturb the harmony which should ever prevail among the *select* and *chosen*. In so doing, you will best secure the prosperity of your Council, the respect of your Companions, and the commendation of your own consciences.

*The Installing Officer shall then make the following declaration:*

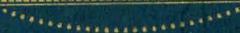
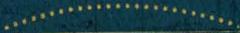
By virtue of the powers in me vested, I do now declare the officers of \_\_\_\_\_ Council, No. \_\_\_\_\_, regularly installed, in due and ancient form.

*The Chaplain shall then conclude the installation ceremonies by delivering the following or some suitable form of*

#### PRAYER.

Eternal and ever blessed Jehovah, most humbly do we beseech thee to look down with an eye of favor upon this Council, now assembled before thee. Bless, if it shall please thee, the proceedings of this hour, and grant that every transaction of this body may tend to thy glory and to our advancement in knowledge and virtue, and to thy great name shall be ascribed eternal praises, world without end. Amen.

*Response.*—So mote it be.



GRAND RECORDER'S ADDRESS:

CORNER OF WEST AND BETHUNE STREETS,

NEW YORK CITY.