



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

✦ MOST ✦ PUISSANT ✦ GRAND ✦ COUNCIL ✦

OF

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS

OF THE

State of New York,

SEPTEMBER 9, 1884.

PRINT OF JOHN F. BALDWIN,  
NEW YORK.

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NEW YORK:

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

1884.

Council by M. .III. . CHARLES W. BROWN, the associate grand officers under his direction made an united and zealous effort to resuscitate several of these so-called dormant Councils. The effort was almost entirely fruitless.

When we met in annual assembly in this place one year ago, twenty-six subordinate Councils made returns to the Grand Recorder. This was fully up to the average of several years past, and the Grand Council was in no way discouraged with the outlook as it presented itself at that time. The report of the Grand Recorder will to-day show as favorable a year's work as any during the past decade. It will be seen that at least *two* of our subordinate Councils have not by any means been idle. Through the well-directed energy of T. .I. . Comp. JOHN F. SHAFER, at Troy, Bloss Council, No. 14, renders a report that must be entirely satisfactory, because it demonstrates an abiding faith in the beauty and perpetuity of the inculcations of the S. .V. . The other Council to which I refer is Doric, No. 19, at Rochester, which is now presided over by the indefatigable and devoted T. .III. . Comp. WILLARD S. BRADT. From the moment of his installation as my successor, Comp. BRADT has manifested an unwavering zeal and intelligent enthusiasm in the success of the Council which, it is not too much to say, he has been largely instrumental in bringing to the top of the roll, and persisting in maintaining its proud position as the banner Council of the State. I commend with my warmest thanks these two Councils and their presiding officers and associates for the admirable examples they have set to the companions intrusted with the important privilege of maintaining and extending the sublime lessons of this branch of our beloved Masonic vineyard throughout the jurisdiction.

#### OFFICIAL VISITING.

Upon my elevation to this high office, I determined that I would at least show as much devotion, and work as industriously, as I had while holding subordinate offices in this Grand Council. To exhibit my sincerity in this determination, I early sent out a list of assignments for the associate grand officers, attaching to the same the proffer of my assistance to every official visitation. In response to kindly invitations, in company with R. .I. . Comps. CHRISTIANCE, HINMAN and WEBSTER, I have been present at interesting assemblies of the Councils of Royal and Select Masters located at Palmyra, Troy and Ithaca. R. .I. . Comp. CHRISTIANCE also visited Doric Council, No. 19, on which occasion it pleased me very much to be able to be present with him.

The reports of our associate grand officers indicate the work they have performed. From these reports I give a synopsis, and also desire to direct your earnest attention to the statements made :

R. .I. . Comp. KING, Grand Marshal, informs me that De Witt Clinton Council, No. 22, at Albany, "maintains the enviable position it has long held as one of the brightest and most efficient working Councils in the jurisdiction. It is in a healthy and prosperous condition, and under the management of its present corps of officers you need have no fears of its future prosperity." Concerning

## 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. GEORGE 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	} CHAPLAINS.
R. III. " F. W. RAIKES	
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	HORNELLSVILLE	" 35
ADELPHIC	" 7	KONHOCTON	" 40
BLOSS	" 14	CORNING	" 53
BRUCE	" 15	PEEKSKILL	" 55
SOUTHERN TIER	" 16	SING SING	" 64
BUFFALO	" 17	ITHACA	" 68
DORIC	" 19	ADDISON	" 69
KEYSTONE	" 20	NEPPERHAN	" 70
DEWITT CLINTON	" 22	ALPH-OMEGA	" 71
ONTARIO	" 23		

And permanent members as follows:

M. III. JOHN HOOLE	PAST G. M.
M. III. GEO. M. OSGOODBY	"
M. III. JOHN J. MARTIN	"
R. III. D. B. HOWELL	P. G. TREASURER.
R. III. P. W. VERHOEVEN	P. G. C. OF THE C.
R. III. A. OPPENHEIMER	P. T. I. M.
R. III. JOHN G. BARKER	"
R. III. GEO. W. THORNE	"
R. III. LYMAN COBB	"

the future of Zabud, No. 46, and Hudson, No. 62. He has no encouragement to offer. He fears they will, through lack of local energy and interest, be allowed to become dormant.

R. . Ill. . Comp. DOWNES, Grand Steward, reports cordial receptions at his official visits to Sing Sing Council, No. 64, and Brooklyn Council, No. 4. The Councils assigned to him for visitation are all in fair working condition.

R. . Ill. . Comp. CHRISTIANCE, Grand Captain of Guard, reports remarkable success in Doric, No. 19, at Rochester, and revived interest in Palmyra, No. 26. Also, the usual prosperity in Ithaca, No. 68.

R. . Ill. . Comp. HINMAN, Grand Conductor of Council, dwells with pleasure upon his visit to Ithaca, No. 68, in company with the Grand Master and Grand Captain of the Guard.

R. . Ill. . Comp. BROTHERS, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, was unfortunately prevented from making the official visitations assigned him through a serious accident, which confined him for a long time to his home. His zeal, however, was unflagging in Keystone, No. 20, at Buffalo, the Council over which he has the honor to preside.

R. . Ill. . Comp. COBURN speaks only of the performance of local duty, and says the Councils in the metropolis are in the average condition of the reports of former years.

#### GRAND LECTURER.

Just before Christmas, R. . I. . Comp. JOHN N. MACOMB, Jr., Grand Lecturer, called upon me at my office in Rochester, and informed me that the condition of his health required a change of climate; hence his determination to spend the winter in a distant jurisdiction. For this reason he verbally tendered me his resignation of the office of Grand Lecturer. Believing his absence would be only temporary, I did not feel at liberty to deprive this Grand Council and the companions of the Cryptic rite throughout the State of New York of the services of one so capable and so zealous in the special duty for which he had been so judiciously selected, therefore I declined to accept the proffered resignation. Comp. MACOMB recently returned to his home in Yates County, imbued with the same enthusiasm and devotion that has marked his brilliant Masonic career, and of course we trust with health fully restored. Herewith is his report to the Grand Council:

"BRANCHPORT, N. Y., August 30, 1884.

"M. . I. . THOMAS GLIDDON, GRAND MASTER GRAND COUNCIL OF R. . AND S. . M'S. . OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

"M. . I. . COMP. : I regret to be obliged to report that the state of my health and my consequent absence from this grand jurisdiction during the greater part of the past year has prevented me from taking part in the work which the Grand Council has been carrying on during that time. The only official act which I am able to report is the installation of T. . I. . FRANKLIN E. SMITH as Master of Ontario Council, No. 23, at Penn Yan, on Friday evening, December 12, 1883.

"I have the honor to be very respectfully and fraternally,

"JOHN N. MACOMB, Jr.,

*"Grand Lecturer."*

With Representatives from the following Grand Councils:

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

MICHIGAN,  
MINNESOTA,  
MARYLAND,  
NEW HAMPSHIRE,  
NEW BRUNSWICK, CAN.,  
NEW JERSEY,  
OHIO,  
ONTARIO, CAN.,  
PENNSYLVANIA,  
RHODE ISLAND,

TENNESSEE.

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.

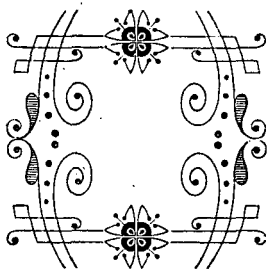
On motion, the reading of the Minutes of the previous Assembly were dispensed with (printed copies being in the hands of the Representatives.)

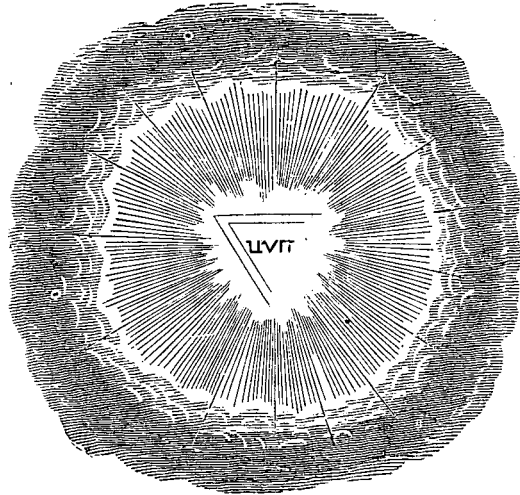
M. I. THOMAS GLIDDON, Grand Master, then delivered the following

## ADDRESS.

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

The annals of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, reveal the fact that during the years from 1869 to 1874 were the palmy days of the Cryptic rite. The reason is not difficult to discover. The appointment of JACKSON H. CHASE, as Grand Lecturer, by M. I. CHARLES H. PLATT, with the approval of the Grand Council, explains the cause of the wonderful revival, and easily accounts for the impetus given to the organization of a large number of new Councils in almost every portion of the grand jurisdiction. For reasons which I cannot give any adequate explanation, nearly every one of these worried through a sickly infancy, and died at a singularly early age. During the incumbency of the office of Grand Master of this Grand





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 9th, A. D. 1884, Anno.  
Dep.: 2884, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

## HEALING.

The following correspondence between T. I. Comp. WILLIAM SHERER and myself forms a part of the history of this Grand Council, and as such appropriately finds a place in this address :

“NEW YORK CITY, March 19th, 1884.

“M. I. THOMAS GLIDDON, GRAND MASTER :

“I have the honor to request your official decision of the following questions :

1st. “A companion has received the Cryptic Degrees in a R. A. Chapter (in West Virginia, I believe ; ) he is now a resident of this State, and wishes to connect himself with Brooklyn Council. What is his status, and how should we proceed ?”

*Answer.*—A companion who has received the Cryptic Degrees in a R. A. Chapter in West Virginia must be *healed* before he can legally be admitted to your Council, either as a visitor or member. I have never seen this ceremony, but I take it Healing consists of reobligating the companion, and correcting what was done amiss at the time of his receiving the degrees to conform to our Constitution and Regulations.

2d. “As H. P. of the Chapter he conferred the Cryptic Degrees. If he becomes a member of the Council, will he be entitled to the rank of T. I. Master without election to that office by the Council ?”

*Answer.*—No. My reason is that the fact that he conferred the Cryptic Degrees in another jurisdiction with different regulations to the well-defined provisions of the Grand Council of the State of New York, gives him no official rank among our companions. I do not find any precedent to guide me on this point, but I believe the Grand Council will sustain me in this ruling.

## NINE THE NUMBER.

An inquiry was made—“Has the T. I. Master the right to open a Council of R. and S. M. if there is a less number than *nine* present ?”

*Answer.*—The rule seems to be rigid and explicit that it requires nine select companions to open a regularly constituted Council and transact business.

## AMENDMENT.

Comp. W. M. POSTLEY offered the following amendment to Section 6 of Article 1 of the Constitution (see p. 43, Proc. of 1883 :

Strike out the following words in the fifth line : “He may make Royal and Select Masters at sight in a Council,” so that the section shall read as follows :

Sec. 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 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.

This amendment was laid over for consideration at this Annual Assembly. There is no intricate point involved. It is simply a question whether this Grand Council will prefer to abolish a power that has long been held by Grand

Masters as a time-honored prerogative. For myself, I am free to confess that I would be pleased to see the clause stricken out on the amendment of Comp. POSTLEY.

#### GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

The commission of Representative of the Grand Council of Vermont near the Grand Council of New York, had long been held by the lamented Comp. CHARLES CRAIG, of Lockport. During the winter I took pleasure in recommending to the Grand Master of that jurisdiction to fill the vacancy by the appointment of R. I. Comp. RALPH C. CHRISTIANCE, of Ithaca, who now, I am glad to report, holds the commission as Grand Representative.

For reasons which I deemed satisfactory, about one month since I communicated the fact to the grand officers of the Grand Council of Alabama that the commission held for several years past by one of our former grand officers must be revoked, and recommended that R. I. Comp. JOHN W. COBURN, of Morrisania; be commissioned as Representative of the Grand Council of Alabama near this Grand Council.

#### SUPER-EXCELLENT MASTER.

Intelligent Cryptic Masons have made inquiry of me as to the duty of Councils conferring the Degree of Super-excellent Master. The answer to these queries has caused me more perplexity than all of the other official work pertaining to the office of Grand Master. If I am correctly informed, there are only two Grand jurisdictions—Pennsylvania and Massachusetts—where this degree is made obligatory, and until the neophyte has regularly received the degrees of Royal, Select and Super-excellent Master, he cannot take rank as a member of the Council. And even in these two jurisdictions they differ in the order in which these three degrees should be conferred.

In the Constitution of the Grand Council of the State of New York there is not the slightest allusion to the degree of Super-excellent Master. Hence, the only answer I could give to the question has been, "The conferring of the degree is merely permissive on the ground of precedent."

Confirmatory of this opinion, I quote the resolution offered by R. I. JOHN N. MACOMB, JR., in 1880, to wit:

"Resolved, That any subordinate Council within the jurisdiction of this Grand Council may confer upon any R. and S. M. in good standing, hailing from a jurisdiction of a Grand Council in which the degree of S. E. M. is not worked, the said degree of S. E. M." (See p. 71, Proc. 1880.)

The resolution was, by unanimous consent, referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws, and by this committee—Comps. MARTIN, BROTHERS and WOOD—reported upon it in this wise:

"On the resolution offered by Comp. MACOMB, we are of the opinion that as the S. E. M. is not a regular degree, it can be conferred on any companion whenever greeted." (See p. 74, Proc. 1880.)

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 for 1883.....	\$1,124 50
Dues of Comp. J. W. Hall, late of Alanson Brown Council .....	1 50
For seal to 6 certificates during the year.....	3 00
	\$1,129 00

I have entered in the Grand Council Registry to the present date the names of..... 3,806 Companions.  
among whom the following changes have occurred :

Suspended for non-payment of dues.....	711
Died.....	229
Dimitted .....	179
Expelled.....	4 1,123

Leaving a registered membership in good standing of..... 2,683 Companions.

Respectfully submitted,



*Grand Recorder.*

M. I. Comp, ALFRED SHAW, G. M. of the Grand Council of Louisiana, was announced, introduced and heartily welcomed by our G. M. to this session of the Grand Council.

The Grand Master appointed the following Committees :

*On Credentials and Returns.*

GEO. VAN VLIET, W. S. BRADT, P. L. HINMAN.

*On Warrants and Dispensations.*

GEO. MCGOWN, J. HOLLY PLATT, J. A. DAVIS.

*On Constitution and By-Laws.*

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

*On Finance and Accounts.*

JOHN W. COBURN,

A. B. KING,

WM. DOWNES.

*On Unfinished Business.*

R. C. CHRISTIANCE,

JOHN HODGE,

C. WEHNES.

M. · Ill. · GEO. M. OSGOODBY, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the report of said Committee, which was, on motion, received and ordered printed with the transactions. (See Appendix.)

Comp. JOHN N. MACOMB, JR., presented the following amendment to the Constitution, which was received and laid over for final action until our next Annual Assembly :

Amend Section 11 of Article 1 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.

The election of officers was, on motion, made the special order for this afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

Comp. A. B. KING offered the following resolution, which was received and referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws :

*Resolved*, That the following be, and the same is, hereby enacted as a General Regulation :

" Each officer and permanent member of this Grand Council, and the representatives of subordinate Councils who shall be entitled to pay, or traveling expenses from the funds of this Grand Council, shall on, or before, the opening of the second session on the first day of the Annual Assembly, furnish to the Finance Committee a certificate in which shall be stated the place of his residence, the amount of the regular fare charged by the most direct public conveyance from his place of residence to the place in which the Annual Assembly is held.

" The Grand Recorder shall provide printed blanks for such certificates."

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

tion he was recognized as a ready and able writer, and through his energy and high character became widely known and greatly beloved in the fraternity.

"So, when a good man dies,  
For years beyond his ken,  
The light he leaves behind him lies  
Upon the paths of men."

R. Ill. Comp. KING, of Troy, kindly furnishes me the following obituary :

"It is with sadness that I announce to you the death of Past T. I. Comp. WILLIAM R. HYDE, of Bloss Council, No. 14, who died suddenly of heart disease while sitting at his desk writing a letter on August 3, 1884. He was for two years W. M. of King Solomon's Primitive Lodge, No. 91; three years H. P. of Apollo Chapter, No. 48; three years T. Ill. Master of Bloss Council, No. 14, and for the past seven years, and at the time of his death, Prelate of Apollo Commandery, No. 15. Comp. HYDE was a whole-souled, genial gentleman, faithful and zealous in the discharge of all his Masonic duties; an earnest and impressive worker. His many years of service in the several branches of our beloved fraternity, his courteous manner, his kind and obliging disposition, endeared him to all who knew him. But, alas! his career has ended, and our hearts are riven with pain when we remember that we shall see him no more."

#### CONCLUSION.

Companions: The record of the work of the year is before you. Perhaps but few of us have accomplished as much as we ardently desired, and it may be that we have met with serious discouragements in the duty of disseminating the doctrines of Cryptic Masonry, but we should never forget that in a righteous cause well-directed effort requires no feeble energy. Situated as we are in the framework of the grand Masonic institution, to our hands has been committed the especial privilege of keeping the flame in full combustion. Carelessness, lukewarmness, or indifference on our part, and the fire will be quenched, perhaps not to be rekindled in our day. Of course, we all realize that it is no trifling duty to which we have legitimately fallen heirs. The best we have received from our predecessors, we are bound by the most sacred obligations to transmit to our successors unimpaired, or else be judged as being unworthy of the honors that have been showered upon us by a confiding companionship. Look over the borders, and you will discover that our neighbors in Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts have steadily kept the lights burning in the secret recesses of their S. V. With indomitable courage and unwavering devotion the work has progressed in most of the Councils in those States. This certainly ought to be an incentive to more energy and labor in our own more extended jurisdiction.

The work that has actually been done in our subordinate Councils during the past year will be made plain in the report of your efficient Grand Recorder. So far as I have been instrumental in accomplishing the task assigned me by the partiality of your choice as presiding officer, you must be the most competent judges. My several terms as a Grand officer have been a period of unalloyed pleasure. Everywhere throughout the jurisdiction I have been received and greeted with the utmost cordiality. This fact I take pleasure in alluding to as

a demonstration of the loyalty of the companions toward this Grand Council and its official representative. To my associate Grand officers I desire to return my hearty thanks for their numerous responses to my requests, and the alacrity and cheerfulness with which they have uniformly aided me in the performance of duty. In the course of a few hours the year in which we have done our part to make history will be closed, and our successors will doubtless scan closely how we accomplished our purpose. To give you back the emblem of authority unsullied has been my best endeavor. Again thanking you for your patience and courtesy, I now invite you to the business of this assembly, which requires your most serious consideration.

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

EDWARD M. L. EHLERS, GEO. A. NEWELL, GEO. NICHOLSON.

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.....	\$134 75
Received from the Grand Recorder .....	1,129 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,263 75

DISBURSEMENTS.

Warrant 525 Grand Recorder's Salary and Expenses.....	\$263 00
“ 526 “ Master's Expenses.....	9 00
“ 527 Chairman Committee on For. Cor.....	50 00
“ 528 Rent of Room and Safe.....	20 00
“ 529 Grand Sentinel.....	7 25
“ 530 Pay of Representatives.....	454 42
“ 531 Library Committee.....	100 00
“ 532 Printing Proceedings 1883.....	202 87
	<hr/>
Balance on hand.....	\$157 21

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN F. BALDWIN, *Grand Treasurer*

NEW YORK, *Sept. 9, 1884.*

Now, I do not pretend to be sufficiently versed in our legendary lore to give a satisfactory reason for discarding from or incorporating this particular degree into our Cryptic system, but my mind is clear that this Grand Council, in assenting to the committee's report (see p. 74, Proc. 1880), has placed itself in an anomalous position; that is to say, it thereby encourages our subordinate Councils to continue the work of conferring a degree that is practically called *irregular*. Moreover, it should guard our Grand Lecturer from the suspicion that the ritual for the grade, which he doubtless obtained from a reliable Masonic source, is not a legitimate symbolism for him to disseminate.

#### PAST MASTERS.

At the Annual Assembly of 1880 the Grand Council passed an important amendment to the Constitution, by which the privileges long enjoyed by Past Masters of all our subordinate Councils were seriously restricted. Perhaps I shall be more clearly understood by specifically stating that all the Past Masters of our subordinate Councils installed prior to January 1st, 1881, were confirmed in their right to permanent membership in this Grand Council, and that those who succeeded them would be denied this important and valuable reward for honors earned in local duty. Looking carefully over this whole subject, I am resolutely in favor of this Grand Council receding from the restrictive policy, by again amending our Constitution, with the avowed object of restoring the time-honored privilege of permanent membership in this grand body of all who have been regularly installed and presided over a Council as T. I. M.

#### DISPENSATIONS.

Early in December last I granted a dispensation to Buffalo Council, No. 17, on the urgent request of the Thrice Illustrious Master, to receive, refer and vote upon petitions for the degrees at a special assembly. The companions will remember that M. I. Comp. MARTIN last year gave it as his view that "it is irregular to propose or ballot for a candidate at a special assembly." Desirous of respecting all precedents and the opinions of my illustrious predecessors, I hesitated in granting the dispensation alluded to, but the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws, in their report to the Grand Council, 1883 (see page 41), doubtless after canvassing the possible necessities of the future, laid down this formula: "That the proposing and balloting for a candidate at a special assembly is not legal, or in the usual order of business; but that such course can only be taken by procuring a dispensation therefor, upon a proper representation of the case to the Grand Master." This was adopted by the Grand Council, on the recommendation of M. I. Comps. OSGOODBY and WILTSIE, and R. I. Comp. CHRISTIANCE. With this in my mind, I felt I had ample authority to grant the dispensation called for.

Dispensation was also granted to T. I. Comp. M. A. LEWIS, to hold an election and installation of officers in Utica Council, No. 28, that Council having failed to elect at the constitutional time. In this connection, I may properly

add that I subsequently visited the city of Utica; held a consultation with Comp. LEWIS and other Cryptic Masons, hoping thereby that with a renewed start good results might be obtained. The visit and interview proved a fruitless one. To give up such a fertile field as Utica seems to me is no credit to the companions of that neighborhood, and I can assure the Grand Council I was reluctant to leave with such an ignominious failure to my mission. To resuscitate Utica Council will perhaps not be a difficult task in the near future.

“THE WISEST KNOWETH NOT HOW SOON.”

The reaper Death has not been wholly inactive since our last Annual Assembly. From our own immediate number, the most conspicuous loss was that of JASON COLLIER, a frequent attendant at these sessions. For the interesting particulars of his grand career I am indebted to the courtesy of VAN NESS DOUGLAS, the efficient Recorder of Bruce Council:

“JASON COLLIER was born in Bennington, Vermont, November 23, 1814, and died in Lockport, N. Y., June 24, 1884. Over the rugged pathway of an active and busy life, he had attained the threescore years and ten allotted to man. Punctual and faithful in the performance of duty, he was successful as a merchant and banker, and finally died highly esteemed as a citizen. His Masonic career began with his initiation in Niagara Lodge, No. 375, at Lockport, August 18, 1862. He was exalted in Ames Chapter, No. 88, January 15, 1863; greeted a Royal and Select Master in Bruce Council, No. 15, May 6, 1863; created a Knight Templar in Genesee Commandery, No. 10, stationed at Lockport, January 13, 1864; and finally received the grades of the Ancient-Accepted Scottish Rite in the co-ordinate bodies at Lockport and Rochester in 1878. JASON COLLIER was chiefly instrumental in organizing Red Jacket Lodge, No. 646, and was its first W. M., continuing such for five years. He was elected High Priest of Ames Chapter, No. 88, for three consecutive years. Deputy Master of Bruce Council, No. 15, from 1865 until 1880; Thrice Illustrious Master from 1880 until his death. Prelate of Genesee Commandery from 1867 till his death. He was also District Deputy Grand Master for the 24th Masonic District in 1881. In all of these several offices Comp. COLLIER proved himself fully competent and popular. By nature and acquirements he was thoroughly equipped for the best work required in the several duties he essayed to fulfill. To us in the Cryptic rite his demise comes with a serious shock.

“From his bright life example take,  
From his blest grave let hope awake.”

It is also with a severe pang that I now announce the death of Judge GROVE B. COOLEY, at his residence in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on the 14th of August, 1884. This lamented most illustrious companion was born in Attica, N. Y., December 10, 1827. Just when he removed to that distant jurisdiction I am not informed; neither have I sufficient data to give an adequate sketch of his zealous Masonic career. However, this much I am safe in recording: Comp. COOLEY served for five years as Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence of the Grand Council of Minnesota, and at the time of his death was Grand Master of the Grand Council, having been re-elected at the 14th Annual Assembly, held in St. Paul, October 8th, 1883. He was also an active member of the General Grand Council at the triennial assembly in Denver last year. In this jurisdic-

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 decisions made by the Grand Master during the past year, be referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

So much as relates to the degree of Super-Excellent Master, to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

So much as relates to permanent membership of Past Masters, in the Grand Council, to a Special Committee of three.

So much as relates to the "fraternal dead," to a Special Committee of three.

The Committee cordially commend the Address of the Grand Master to the careful consideration of the Grand Council.

Fraternally submitted, .

EDW'D M. L. EHLERS, }  
GEO. A. NEWELL, } Committee.  
GEO. NICHOLSON. }

In accordance with the recommendations of the Special Committee, the Grand Master appointed the following Committees :

*On Fraternal Dead.*

JOHN G. WEBSTER, JOHN L. BROTHERS, GIRARD McVICAR.

*On Permanent Membership of Past Masters.*

GEO. MCGOWN, A. B. WOOD, P. W. VERHOEVEN.

On motion, it was decided to continue this afternoon's session until all the business of this Annual Assembly is concluded.

The Grand Council was then called from labor until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th, 1884—2 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Council resumed its session.

Officers and Representatives as at the morning's session.

The Minutes of the morning 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.	E. W. Bradley.....	P. C. of W.
BROOKLYN.....	" 4.	Wm. Sherer.....	T. I. M.
"	"	Geo. Nicholson.....	Dep. M.
ADELPHIC.....	" 7.	Edw'd M. L. Ehlers.....	T. I. M.
BLOSS.....	" 14.	Alex. B. King.....	Proxy
BRUCE.....	" 15.	John Hodge.....	Dep. M.
SOUTHERN TIER.....	" 16.	Conrad Welnes.....	T. I. M.
BUFFALO.....	" 17.	Girard McVicar.....	"
DORIC.....	" 19.	W. S. Bradt.....	"
KEYSTONE.....	" 20.	John L. Brothers.....	"
DE WITT CLINTON.....	" 22.	John A. Davis.....	"
ONTARIO.....	" 23.	John N. Macomb, Jr.....	Proxy
DUNKIRK.....	" 25.	B. Rathbun.....	"
PALMYRA.....	" 26.	Geo. McGown.....	"
HORNELLSVILLE.....	" 35.	John I. Bentley.....	T. I. M.
KONHOCTON.....	" 40.	Isaac J. Merrill.....	"
CORNING.....	" 53.	Truman S. Pritchard.....	"
PEEKSKILL.....	" 55.	Geo. D. Sanford.....	"
SING SING.....	" 64.	J. Holly Platt.....	"
ITHACA.....	" 68.	A. B. Wood.....	"
ADDISON.....	" 69.	H. J. Blanchard.....	"
NEPPERIAN.....	" 70.	G. D. Pond.....	"
ALPH-OMEGA.....	" 71.	Geo. A. Newel.....	"

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. VAN. VLIET, }  
 W. S. BRADT, } Committee.  
 P. L. HINMAN. }

The Committee on Unfinished Business 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 :

The Committee on Unfinished Business report that they find no business un-

finished, except the amendment\* offered at our last Assembly by Comp. W. M. POSTLEY\* to Section 6 of Article 1 of the Constitution.

Respectfully submitted,

R. C. CHRISTIANCE, }  
 CONRAD WEHNES, } Committee.  
 JOHN HODGE. }

Comp. R. C. CHRISTIANCE, recently appointed by the Grand Council of Vermont as its Representative at our Grand Council, was announced, received and welcomed accordingly.

Comp. GEO. M. OSGOODBY offered the following resolution, which was, on motion, received and 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.

Comp. A. B. KING, from the Committee on Finance, 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 accounts :

Salary of Grand Recorder.....	\$250 00
Expenses " .....	10 41
Grand Master for expenses. . . . .	10 00
Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence. . . . .	50 00
Rent of Room and Safe. . . . .	20 00
Grand Sentinel for Services. . . . .	5 00
" " Washing. . . . .	2 50
Pay of Representatives (mileage and per diem). . . . .	366 33
John F. Baldwin for Printing. . . . .	6 25

And of such an amount as is necessary to cover the cost of printing 500 copies of the Proceedings of our present Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN W. COBURN, }  
 A. B. KING, } Committee.  
 WM. DOWNES. }

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 EDW'D. M. L. EHLERS and JOHN J. MARTIN, when the Grand Council proceeded to the election, with the following result :

Comp. THOMAS GLIDDON, of Rochester,	electd. . . . .	M. I. Grand Master.
“ JOHN W. COBURN, of Morrisania,	“ . . . R. I. :	“ Dep. Master.
“ JOHN L. BROTHERS, of Buffalo,	“ . . . “	“ P. C. of W. . .
“ JOHN F. BALDWIN, of New York,	“ . . . “	“ Treasurer.
“ GEO. VAN VLIET,	“ . . . “	“ Recorder.

The Grand Master made the following appointments :

Comp. RALPH C. CHRISTIANCE, of Ithaca . . . . .	Grand C. of the G.
“ PORTE L. HINMAN, “ Elmira . . . . .	“ C. of the C
“ ALEX. B. KING, “ Troy . . . . .	“ Marshal.
“ REV. JOHN G. WEBSTER, “ Greenbush . . . . .	“ Chaplain.
“ JOHN N. MACOMB, JR, “ Branchport . . . . .	“ Lecturer.
“ WM. DOWNES, “ New York . . . . .	“ Steward.
“ JOHN HOOLE, “ “ “ . . . . .	“ Sentinel.

*Committee on Foreign Correspondence.*

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

*Committee on Library.*

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

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations 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 Warrants and Dispensations respectfully report that no business requiring their action has been submitted for consideration.

GEO. MCGOWN,	} Committee.
JOHN A. DAVIS,	
J. HOLLY PLATT.	

The “Special Committee on Permanent Membership of Past Masters” 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 :

Your Special Committee appointed to consider so much of the Grand Master's Address as relates to the status of Past Masters of Councils in this jurisdiction, respectfully report that, after due consideration, they are constrained to believe, with the Grand Master, that the time-honored privilege of membership in this Grand Council should be accorded to all Past T. · I. · M. · 's. Such membership is, in the judgment of your Committee, an honorable recognition of the services rendered by such Past Officers, and a desire upon the part of the Grand Council to avail itself of the experience of such officers in the legislative duties devolving upon the Grand Council, by according to them a voice and a vote in its deliberations. We therefore respectfully submit the following amendment to Section 1 of Article I. of the Constitution : strike out the words, " who shall have been installed as such prior to January 1st, 1881."

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. MCGOWN, }  
P. VERHOEVEN, } Committee.  
A. B. WOOD. }

Rev. Comp. JOHN G. WEBSTER, from the Committee on " Fraternal Dead," 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 which was referred so much of the M. · I. · Grand Master's Address and accompanying documents as relates to the Fraternal Dead, would respectfully submit the following : With regard to the demise of T. · I. · Companions COLLIER and HYDE, members at the time of their death of this Grand Council, since their Masonic history and virtues are fully set forth in documents before referred to, and ordered to be incorporated in our proceedings, it only remains for this Committee to recommend that our fraternal sympathies be extended to the respective families of our departed Companions, JASON COLLIER and WM. R. HYDE, and that memorial pages to their memories be inserted in the published records of this Assembly.

Your Committee would further recommend that this Grand Council extend to the Grand Council of Minnesota and its constituents our most heartfelt sympathies and fraternal condolence, because of the bereavement they have sustained in the decease of their illustrious Companion COOLEY, assuring those fraters of our sensibility that the loss of such worthy Companions from any portion of the Cryptic Brotherhood is felt and lamented by all.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN G. WEBSTER, }  
JOHN L. BROTHERS, } Committee.  
GIRARD MCVICAR. }

Comp. GEO. M. OSGOODBY, from the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws, 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 upon Constitution and By-Laws, to whom was referred the subjects hereinafter mentioned, most respectfully report :

1st. The proposed amendment to our Constitution offered at our Annual Assembly in 1883, and laid over under the Constitution to the present Assembly, providing that Section 6 of Article I. be amended by striking out the following words : " He may make Royal and Select Masters at sight in a Council."

We report that we disapprove of such proposed amendment, and recommend that the same be rejected.

2d. That the resolution offered by Comp. A. B. KING, making it necessary for Representatives to notify the Finance Committee of the amount of their traveling expenses, etc., upon blanks furnished for that purpose, be adopted.

3d. Upon the subject of the Super-Excellent Master's Degree, your Committee would express its approval of the action taken by so many of our sister Grand Councils in reference to the Degree of Super-Excellent Master, and would recommend that this Grand Council do so amend its Constitution as to recognize that Degree as appendant or auxiliary to the Degrees of Royal and Select Master—such Degrees to be conferred by the subordinate Councils in this jurisdiction under the express sanction of this Grand Council, and that this Grand Council most heartily recommends to its subordinates that they work this degree in full as frequently as may be convenient.

4th. In reference to the decisions made by our Grand Master, and referred to in his Address, upon the questions submitted by T. I. Comp. SHERER, we can only say that we heartily approve of the decisions made by him, and believe that the same, as made, embody the true Cryptic Masonic law, as recognized by all of our regular sister Grand Councils, and recommend that the same have the approval of this Most Puissant Grand Body.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

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

Comp. WM. SHERER offered the following amendment to Section 6 of Article I. of the Constitution : Strike out the following words which appear in the fifth line thereof : " He may make Royal and Select Masters at sight in a Council," which amendment was laid over under the rules until our next Annual Assembly.

On motion, the second Tuesday in September, 1885, 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.

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. :s of the U. S., as Installing Officer, assisted by M. :P. : JOHN J. MARTIN, as Grand Marshal.

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

Comp. Wm. SHERER presented the following resolution, which was, on motion, received and adopted :

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Three be appointed for the purpose of compiling our Constitution, said Committee to report at our next Annual Assembly.

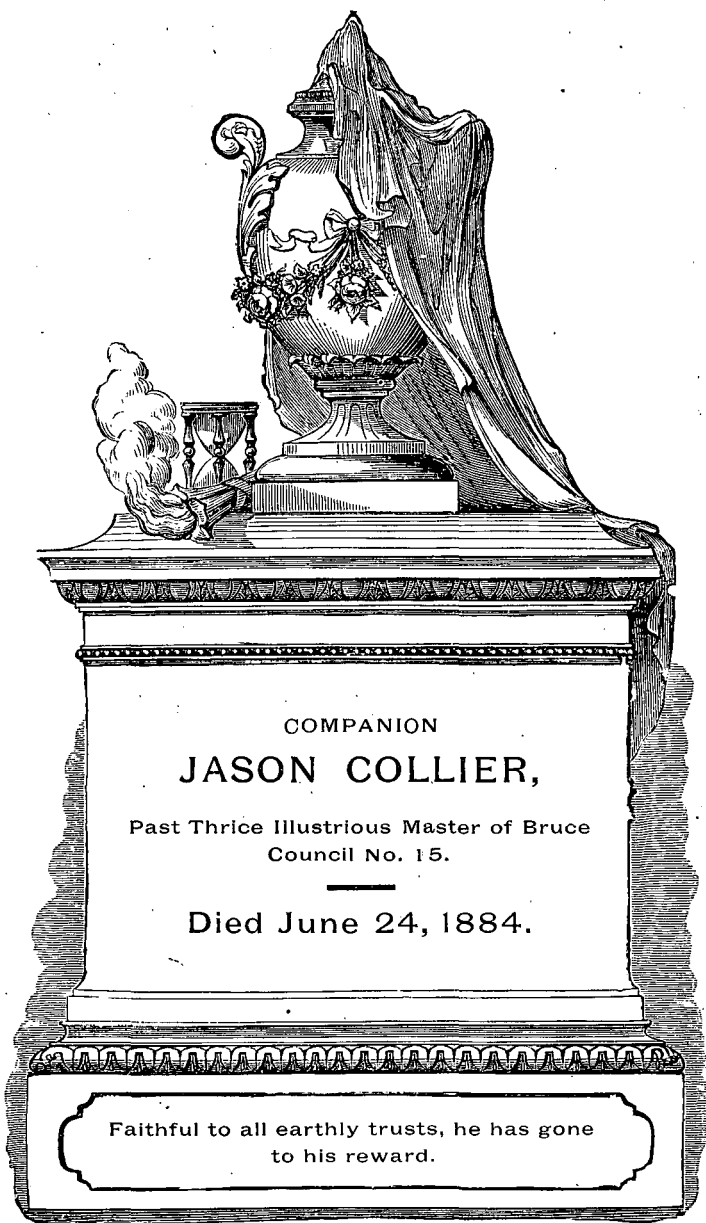
Companions GEO. VAN VLIET, Wm. SHERER, and EDW'D M. L. EHLERS were appointed as the Committee called for by the above resolution.

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.*

(Next Annual Assembly, September 8th, 1885, at 10 o'clock, A. M.)



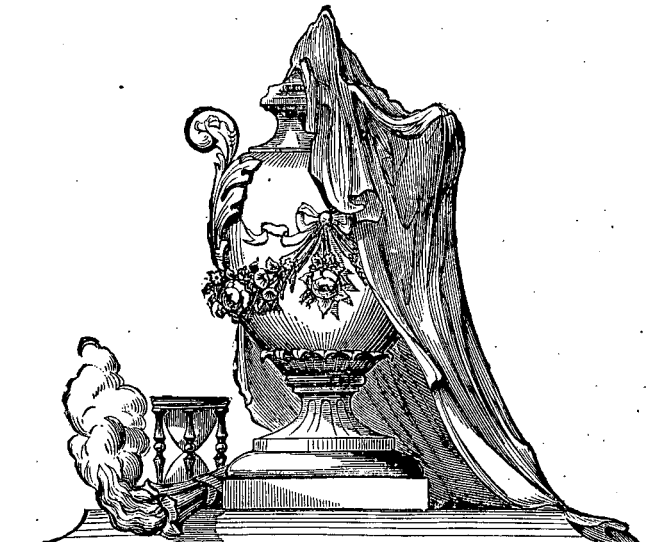
COMPANION

**JASON COLLIER,**

Past Thrice Illustrious Master of Bruce  
Council No. 15.

—  
Died June 24, 1884.

Faithful to all earthly trusts, he has gone  
to his reward.



COMPANION

WILLIAM R. HYDE,

Past Thrice Illustrious Master of Bloss  
Council No. 14.

—  
Died August 3, 1884.

He wears the crown, not for a day, but  
for all time.

## RECEIPTS FOR DUES.

From Columbian	Council No. 1,	for dues to August 1st, 1884 . . .	\$15 00
“ Union	“ “ 2,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	43 00
“ Brooklyn	“ “ 4,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	35 50
“ Adelpic	“ “ 7,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	76 50
“ Bloss	“ “ 14,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	154 50
“ Bruce	“ “ 15,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	26 00
“ Southern Tier	“ “ 16,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	39 50
“ Buffalo	“ “ 17,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	86 00
“ Doric	“ “ 19,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	163 50
“ Keystone	“ “ 20,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	73 50
“ DeWitt Clinton	“ “ 22,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	97 50
“ Ontario	“ “ 23,	“ acct. “ “ . . . .	11 50
“ Dunkirk	“ “ 25,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	44 50
“ Palmyra	“ “ 26,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	16 50
“ Hornellsville	“ “ 35,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	13 00
“ Konhocton	“ “ 40,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	10 50
“ Corning	“ “ 53,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	15 50
“ Peekskill	“ “ 55,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	13 00
“ Sing Sing	“ “ 64,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	16 00
“ Ithaca	“ “ 68,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	34 50
“ Addison	“ “ 69,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	12 50
“ Nepperhan	“ “ 70,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	18 50
“ Alph-Omega	“ “ 71,	“ “ “ “ . . . .	27 00
			\$1,043 50

## OFFICERS, LOCATION AND TIME OF MEETING 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. Cunnington.	Wm. F. J. Thiers.	P. M. W. Verhoeven.	New York.	New York.	2d or 4th Monday.
UNION	2	W. P. Worster.	W. H. Smith.	Edwd. W. Bradley.	W. Walcott Marks.	New York.	New York.	3d Saturday.
BROOKLYN	4	Wm. Sherer.	Geo. Nicholson.	W. M. Smith.	E. S. Van Orden.	Brooklyn.	Kings.	3d Saturday.
ADELPHIC	7	Ed. M. L. Ehlers.	Alex. B. Butts	Philip C. Benjamin.	John W. Coburn.	New York.	New York.	1st Saturday.
BLOSS	14	John F. Shafer.	Samuel Judd.	S. V. Startevant.	Geo. Lobdell.	Troy.	Rensselaer.	1st Friday.
BRUCE	15		John Hodge.	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	Willard S. Bradt.	Fred. H. Beach.	Ezra M. Sparlin.	John Alexander.	Rochester.	Monroe.	1st & 3d Wednesdays.
KEYSTONE	20	John L. Brothers	Wm. Hengerer.	Goodrich J. Bowen.	John H. Boshier.	Buffalo.	Erie.	3d Saturday.
DEWITT CLINTON	22	John A. Davis.	H. J. McDonald.	A. M. Mull.	J. E. Atkinson.	Albany.	Albany.	3d Thursday.
ONTARIO	23	Franklin E. Smith	Andrew McKay.	Edward Kendall.	James Cairns.	Penn Yan.	Yates.	Last Tuesday.
DUNKIRK	25	T. H. Morian.	B. L. Harrison.	J. Hilliard.	Charles Blood.	Dunkirk.	Chautauqua.	1st Thursday.
PALMYRA	26	Mark C. Finley.	Charles Deyo.	Edwin B. Anderson.	Geo. McGown.	Palmyra.	Wayne.	2d Monday.
OLEAN	33	John A. Taylor.	Alfred H. Abbey.	Harrison Pullman.	LaGrange F. Moore.	Olean.	Cattaraugus.	1st Wednesday.
HORNELLSVILLE	35	John I. Bentley.	Daniel F. Cridler.	Philip M. Nast.	W. H. Van Dusen.	Hornellsville.	Steuben.	1st Wednesday.
PENTALPHA	36	Thomas Darling.	Jas. T. Chapman.	Fred. P. Morris.	W. L. Seaman.	Flushing.	Queens.	2d Friday.
KONHOCTON	40	Isaac J. Merrell.	Wm. H. Shepard.	H. R. Phillips.	V. Brother.	Bath.	Steuben.	4th Friday.
CORNING	53	T. S. Pritchard.	Edwd. Clisdell.	Geo. B. Hill.	Geo. Hitchcock.	Corning.	Steuben.	1st & 4th Thursdays.
PEEKSKILL	55	Geo. D. Sanford.	John Hancock.	John Halsted.	Thos. J. Hodgkins.	Peekskill.	Westchester.	2d Monday.
SING SING	64	J. Holly Platt.	Smith Lent.	John W. Losse.	Geo. Lockwood.	Sing Sing.	Westchester.	1st & 3d Fridays.
ITHACA	68	A. B. Wood.	R. C. Christiance.	Geo. W. Melotte.	C. C. Garrett.	Ithaca.	Tompkins.	2d Monday.
ADDISON	69	H. J. Blanchard.	J. L. Wombough.	B. C. Wilson.	D. M. Darrin.	Addison.	Steuben.	2d Tuesday.
NEPPERHAN	70	G. D. Pond.	John E. Murphy.	Jos. M. Tompkins.	Edwin A. Quick.	Yonkers.	Westchester.	1st & 3d Wednesdays.
ALPH-OMEGA	71	Geo. A. Newell.	Alex. Hays.	Charles D. Ross.	John Bidelman.	Albion.	Orleans.	2d Wednesday.

## REPRESENTATIVES

OF OTHER

GRAND COUNCILS NEAR THE GRAND COUNCIL  
OF NEW YORK.

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ALABAMA.....		
CONNECTICUT.....	P. M. W. Verhoeven.....	New York City.
ENGLAND, WALES, &C.....	Albert G. Goodall.....	“
FLORIDA.....	John F. Baldwin.....	“
GEORGIA.....	Geo. M. Osgoodby.....	Buffalo.
INDIANA.....	Hawley Klein.....	“
KANSAS.....	John D. Williams.....	Elmira.
LOUISIANA.....	Philander Reed.....	New York City.
MAINE.....	G. Fred. Wiltsie.....	Albany.
MASSACHUSETTS.....	John J. Martin.....	“
MICHIGAN.....	Thomas Gliddon.....	Rochester.
MINNESOTA.....	Alex. B. King.....	Troy.
MARYLAND.....	Geo. M. Osgoodby.....	Buffalo.
NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	George Van Vliet.....	New York.
NEW BRUNSWICK (CAN.).....	G. Fred. Wiltsie.....	Albany.
NEW JERSEY.....	Charles H. Thomson.....	Corning.
OHIO.....	Darwin E. Morgan.....	Buffalo.
ONTARIO (CAN.).....	James McCredie.....	“
PENNSYLVANIA.....	Robert McCoy.....	New York.
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.
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.
LOUISIANA.....	Rev. Thos. D. Lawson.....	Bastross.
MAINE.....	Josiah H. Drummond.....	Portland.
MASSACHUSETTS.....	Wm. Porter Anderson.....	Boston.
MICHIGAN.....	H. Shaw Noble.....	Monroe.
MINNESOTA.....	Geo. W. Cooley.....	Minneapolis.
NEW BRUNSWICK (CAN.).....	D. R. Munroe.....	St. Johns.
MEW HAMPSHIRE.....	Henry P. Gliddon.....	Dover.
NEW JERSEY.....	Marcus Higginbotham.....	Jersey City.
OHIO.....	Henry Newbegin.....	Circleville.
ONTARIO (CAN.).....	Daniel Spry.....	Toronto.
PENNSYLVANIA.....	Geter C. Shidle.....	Pittsburgh.
RHODE ISLAND.....	A. H. Cushman.....	Providence.
TENNESSEE.....	John Frizzell.....	Nashville.
VERMONT.....	Geo. H. Bigelow.....	Burlington.

## OFFICERS FOR 1884-5.

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THOMAS GLIDDON	.....of Rochester	.....M. I.	Grand Master.
JOHN W. COBURN	.....of Morrisania	.....R. I.	Grand Deputy Master.
JOHN L. BROTHERS	.....of Buffalo	.....“	“ P. C. of W.
JOHN F. BALDWIN	.....of New York	.....“	Treasurer.
GEO. VAN VLIET	.....of New York	.....“	Recorder.
RALPH C. CHRISTIANCE	.....of Ithaca	.....“	C. of the G.
PORTE L. HINMAN	.....of Elmira	.....“	C. of the C.
ALEX. B. KING	.....of Troy	.....“	Marshal.
REV. JOHN G. WEBSTER	.....of Greenbush	.....“	Chaplain.
JOHN N. MACOMB, JR.	.....of Branchport	.....“	Lecturer.
WILLIAM DOWNES	.....of New York	.....“	Steward.
JOHN HOOLE	.....of New York	.....“	Sentinel.

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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, Min.,	<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	.....Terre Haute, Ind.,	<i>P. General Grand C. of the G.</i>
JOHN HAIGH	.....Sommerville, 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>

# APPENDIX.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

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

Your Committee upon Foreign Correspondence respectfully and fraternally report they have been scissoring around among the proceedings of such sister Grand Bodies of the different jurisdictions in our own and other lands as have come to their hands. Where we have been unable to use our scissors, we have sought the best sources of information that it has been in our power to obtain, and we herewith present to you the result of our researches in the Crypt. We have found many gems and jewels scintillating with rays of light of varied hues, making darkness light before us. We have taken much pleasure in placing these jewels in settings as appropriate and fitting, to their respective merits, as has been possible for us as craftsmen laboring a field in which but little experience has been had.

Trusting that we may receive Masonic forbearance, and that wherever we have failed to meet your expectations you will ascribe such failure rather to inexperience in this department than to any intentional neglect or omission upon our part, we furnish you at this time with a report upon the following jurisdictions and territories, in all numbering forty-one :

ALABAMA.....	1883	MARYLAND.....	1883
ARIZONA.....	1884	MASSACHUSETTS.....	1883
ARKANSAS.....	1883	MICHIGAN.....	1884
CALIFORNIA.....	1883-4	MINNESOTA.....	1883
CANADA.....	1883-4	MISSISSIPPI.....	1883-4
CONNECTICUT.....	1884	MISSOURI.....	1883
ENGLAND AND WALES.....	1883	NEBRASKA.....	1883
DELAWARE.....	1883-4	NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	1884
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.....	1884	NEW JERSEY.....	1884
FLORIDA.....	1884	NEW MEXICO.....	1884
GEORGIA.....	1883-4	NORTH CAROLINA.....	1883
ILLINOIS.....	1883	OHIO.....	1883
INDIANA.....	1883	OREGON.....	1884
INDIAN TERRITORY.....	1884	PENNSYLVANIA.....	1884
IOWA.....	1883-4	RHODE ISLAND.....	1883
KANSAS.....	1884	SCOTLAND.....	1883-4
KENTUCKY.....	1883	SOUTH CAROLINA.....	1883-4
LOUISIANA.....	1884	TENNESSEE.....	1883-4
MAINE.....	1883	VERMONT.....	1883
MALTA.....	1883	WISCONSIN.....	1883-4

And GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STATES.....1883

## ALABAMA—1883.

Always first at hand, always first on our list, and always true as steel to the principles of our Rite. Can we say more? Its 46th Annual Assembly was held at Montgomery, December 3-5, A. D. 1883, A. L. 5883, A. Dep. 2883, a constituent of the General Grand Council, M. I. WILLIAM WALLACE MCCOLLUM, G. M., presiding. Seven Subordinate Councils represented. The address of the G. M., in addition to the history of its usual routine of work, contains some passages which apply with so much force to other jurisdictions, as well as to his own, that we feel constrained to quote :

“Our country during the past year has been reasonably prosperous, and if the husbandman's returns have not been as large and exuberant as he could desire, at least the wolf has been kept from the door, and food and clothing for all have been sufficiently abundant. But Masonry only flourishes in prosperous times. We should keep this fact in mind always. When the fleecy staple is whitening in our fields; when the great ears of corn are bending over with their excess of grain; when the wheat, and the oats, and the other great food-crops of our country are full and exuberant, then Masonry is in the ascendant; because, although Masonry is particularly the great thing for the poor, yet it only flourishes when times are rich. Brethren, I repeat, we should keep this great fact always in our minds, that so, when the wolf is at the door, when the keen North wind is whistling its melancholy anthems around the houses of the poor, when hunger perishes and the faces of our brethren grow sharp with famishment, we may be able to relieve their necessities, to bind up their wounds, to clothe their limbs, and to bid them to remember that there is One above that is watching over them in their necessities, and whose hands are always stretched out to prevent their falling. Brethren, if for nothing else, if not for its social element, if not for the delightful intercourse of the lodge room, we should cultivate Masonry for the great opening it gives us to do good.”

The Rite in this jurisdiction seems reasonably prosperous. If work, perseverance and industry will make it advance, Alabama deserves unmeasured success. Harmony prevails within its Temples. Its receipts being \$159 50, its appropriations \$104 50, leaving a balance of \$55 00 in its treasury. The proceedings of New York for 1883 have brief mention. The correspondence report is from a veteran of the quill, Comp. DANIEL SAYRE, who has many sparkling gems that we would give if space permitted.

M. I. WILLIAM WALLACE MCCOLLUM, of Selma, re-elected G. M. R. I. DANIEL SAYRE, of Montgomery, re-elected G. R.

Next Assembly at Montgomery, December 1, 1884.

## ARIZONA—1884.

There is at present no Council in this Territory. Exclusive jurisdiction in this Territory is claimed by the General Grand Council, and steps are now being taken by a zealous companion to have a Council instituted under dispensation of the General Grand Master there, and probably ere another year rolls around another lusty bantling from the loins of the General Grand Council will be working around the secret vaults of the Temple in course of erection in Tucson. Where one falls by the wayside from weariness, there are several to spring forward to make our circle complete with increased numbers and strength.

## ARKANSAS—1883.

Annual Assembly held at Little Rock, Nov. 30. M. I. SAMUEL W. WILLIAMS, G. M., presided, with the representatives of six Councils present—one more than were present in 1882.

The proceedings, chiefly of local interest, are published in connection with the Grand Chapter proceedings of this State. The present state of the Cryptic Rite appears to be appreciated by the companions of this body, as action was taken tending to reorganize Councils, and to heal such companions as had had the Cryptic degrees conferred upon them in a chapter. The constitution in full is printed with their proceedings.

M. I. GEORGE THORNBURG, G. M. ; R. I. JAMES A. HENRY, G. R. , both of Little Rock.

## CALIFORNIA—1883.

From the Golden Sands of this State comes their report. Time has been when it was almost, if not quite, impossible to get the proceedings of this jurisdiction, but that time has passed, and we trust forever. Its proceedings came promptly, are well got up, are readable and interesting, and impress on one's mind that their workers in the S. V. are in earnest. M. I. JOHN WILLIAM ROCK, G. M. , presided, with the representatives of seven warranted subordinates, and of one U. D. Council present—a constituent of the General Grand Council. One new Council was warranted, and the expenses of its representative to attend the General Grand Council were directed paid. Some changes were made in their Constitution, and, if we could be allowed to suggest another, we would intimate that the title of the Grand Master be changed from "Most Puissant" to "Most Illustrious," so as to correspond with the *title* as fixed upon by other Grand Councils for their chief officer. The Grand Master gives a good address, places before the Companions a *resume* of its work and progress, and gives a retrospect of the past, and with a prophetic eye sees what the future has in store for their faithful workers, and we quote from it. It will do good in every jurisdiction—in very many it is peculiarly applicable, and in our own we need not close our eyes to its suggestions :

"Companions, let us one and all put our shoulders to the wheel, and assist the officers we select as overseers of our respective Councils, as it is a well-known fact that, unless we render them aid, it is impossible for them to push forward the work. To have your Council flourish you must attend its meetings, and I would recommend that they be held at least twice a month, if for nothing else than practice and drill, and in order to make ourselves proficient and be of assistance to your Illustrious Master. Nothing is more humiliating to your officers than not giving them your assistance and support. It stimulates them to be zealous and watchful, and to have your best interests uppermost in their minds. By doing this you will see a marked change in your Council, the numbers will increase far more than you expect, and your Secret Vaults will be busy with the sound of the trowel and working implements of the Craft, and your edifice will attain that rank that it is justly entitled to. One of the principal complaints with a number of our Companions who have received these de-

grees is that we do not meet often enough. A few of our subordinate Councils, realizing this fact, called meetings twice a month, and found that by so doing the work increased to such an extent that they were compelled to meet oftener. They were astonished themselves at the number of applicants for the degrees when it became known that they were a live body. It has become so now in several of the Councils that as soon as a Companion has been exalted in the Chapter he sends in his petition for the Council degrees, which has been the means of causing a number of older members to do likewise. All that have taken them say they are far more beautiful and instructive than they expected, and that the missing link which has lain hidden for a period of over three thousand years is brought to view, and the causes fully explained why treasures were thus deposited by our three Grand Masters, and the precautionary measures they had taken in leaving a clue to be handed down to future generations, with all necessary explanations. The thoughtful and thinking man never fails to be deeply impressed by the sublimity of these degrees."

We could not help this quotation. It is replete with too much good to be kept on the Pacific Shore, and we pacific(ally) take and appropriate it for the Atlantic Shore. There were eighty-three greeted during the year. This jurisdiction is advancing. It is no Ahisha. The balance in its treasury was \$548 29. The last Assembly was held in San Francisco, April 10, 1884, of which we have no account as yet.

M. P. DANIEL POTTER BYSTHE, Shasta, G. M. R. I. THOMAS H. CASWELL, San Francisco, G. R. New York has no mention of its Reports.

#### CANADA—1883.

The Fourteenth Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Canada, often mis-called of Ontario, was held at Toronto on the 12th day of July. M. I. J. ROSS ROBERTSON, G. M., presided, with the representatives of fifteen subordinates present.

The address of the Grand Master shows that he is hopeful of the future of the Rite in Canada, but he places the facts before the Companions that they may not feel unduly encouraged or be lax in their labors. By a personal letter, and also from a personal interview had the present year at Toronto with the Grand Master, we think he is greatly encouraged, and with good reason, for the advancement of the Rite in Canada. From his address we quote :

"A frank explanation of the actual state of affairs will, although not so agreeable to members, yet be more beneficial to the Rite, and perhaps be the means of enabling us to discover the weak points and may be apply the remedy. Rose-colored statements sound well to the ear of the listener, and look well to the eye of the reader ; but it is an injustice for the members of the Rite to deceive themselves, and it would be a still greater injustice to me as chief officer of the body to allow this pleasant dream to continue undisturbed. Let us be just. Some of our Councils are in good working order, and their members are slowly increasing ; others are in a state of lethargy, and are not making any progress, while a few are practically dormant. I confess that I am at a loss to comprehend the causes which have led to this result ; and yet, from general inquiries made, I fancy that the impetus which has been given to benefit orders and to

the higher rites of Masonry, in which direction the tide of Masonic feeling is flowing, partly explains the lack of interest shown in a rite that certainly stands without a rival in the field of Masonry. I am afraid that some of the fault lies at the door of the Inspectors-General of the various divisions, who appear to have discharged their duties in a manner which would indicate that while content to receive the rank and honor at the hands of their companions, they have looked upon their office as a sinecure, the duties of which need not necessarily be discharged. There is no justification for this, and I trust that in future the office will not be offered to any companion who is not prepared to conscientiously fulfil its duties. While in the foregoing I have looked rather on the dark than on the bright side of the picture, I still have faith in the success of our Rite, and feel conscious that renewed and well-applied energy and care will in a very short time produce the most beneficial results. He is a poor physician who only points out the evils without giving a remedy, and I should have hesitated to point out the defects had I not been prepared to at least recommend measures which should be adopted in removing them. In the first place, I think that an officer of the Grand Council should be especially detailed to at once visit all Councils, examine the state of each Council, and report to the Grand Master; and if it appears that the Council so reported on is in a state of torpor, or actually dormant, that either means be taken to give it new life or withdraw the warrant and have it transferred to another district, or returned to the proper officer of the Grand Council. There should be no drones in the hive of Cryptic Masonry. Better have a dozen working Councils than fifty in a state of coma. In the second place, greater care should be exercised in the selection of Inspectors-General. Only those who can give a positive pledge that they will faithfully perform their duties should be installed. In the third place, an effort should be made to put the 'Cryptic Rite' before our Royal Arch companions in the proper light. It is the coping-stone of capitular Masonry, and the key-stone is not firmly set unless it has been placed in its position by the hands of a Cryptic Mason. Lastly, I recommend that the Grand Council meet every year in the City of Toronto. I am not an advocate of centralization in all things, although I think that Masonry would be more generally prosperous if it revolved round a pivotal point; but I am fully satisfied, not only from my own observation, but from conversation with leading members of the Rite, that the present system of following Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, and the Great Priory in their perambulations from place to place is not beneficial to the Grand Council. Our attendance at Grand Council is not increasing—in fact, it has rather diminished—and there is not the interest taken in our annual meetings that there was when in the olden times it met annually in the provincial metropolis. I have sometimes thought that if the proposal made years ago in the United States, of making Cryptic Masonry a pre-requisite to Knight Templarism, were carried out, it might bear good fruit; but while the rule would no doubt work well in the United States, where Knight Templarism flourishes so luxuriantly, the result would be different here, where that branch is not so extensive or full of vigor. I commend these remarks to the careful consideration of all who have the interest of the Rite at heart, and who desire to see it take the position to which it has a just claim."

An interesting item can be found under Minnesota relating to the Red Cross Degree or Order, as conferred under the control of this Grand Council, and which was probably relegated to the Grand Priory at the Assembly in 1884, where it properly belongs.

The proceedings for this year have a good portrait of M. I. Comp. J. ROSS ROBERTSON, who was re-elected G. M. Ill. Comp. J. G. BURNS, of Toronto, was elected G. R.

## CANADA—1884.

The Assembly was held July 10th. We have advices of its proceedings, although not published. The writer had expected until the day preceding the Annual Assembly for 1884 to have been present thereat, having planned such a visit for weeks before its session; but press of business unexpectedly arising, he was prevented from such a pleasure for the present year, and consequently had to depend upon our "telephonic" connection with Toronto, which at first missed fire, as Grand Master ROBERTSON was in Europe when we attempted to "call" to him; but after getting our "wire" attached to a "cable" we succeeded in getting our desired information.

The Council work is improving and advancing. The Annual Assembly is changed from July to January, and not only a large increase of membership, but greater zeal and activity is expected from this change. The Grand Master and Grand Recorder were both re-elected, which shows that the representatives appreciate their respective labors.

## CONNECTICUT—1884.

A special Assembly was held May 12, 1884, at Hartford, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at which the "work" was exemplified and then "called off."

The 66th regular Annual Assembly convened at 2 o'clock, P. M., of the same day. M. P. BURTON C. BRYAN, G. M., presided, with the representatives of 19 Councils. The G. M.'s address was purely of a local character. Nothing was said or done in reference to the subject of becoming connected with the General Grand Council. It will continue to stand, like a tub, on its own bottom. The Report on Foreign Correspondence is from our old friend and companion, WILLIAM WALLACE LEE, who has so long and who will continue to drive the quill and scissors in that line, in all probability, whilst he lives. His reports are always readable and good, and while one sometimes dissents from his conclusions—for instance, in reference to the General Grand Council—still we always like to read them, for we are sure to rise from the perusal instructed and refreshed. He reports this year on other Grand Bodies, among which New York has a brief mention for 1883. Under Maine, some comments are added by Comp. DRUMMOND.

M. P. ALEX. B. SHUMWAY, G. M., Litchfield. R. I. JOSEPH K. WHEELER, G. R., Hartford.

## DELAWARE—NO GRAND COUNCIL.

As our mission is to give what information and afford what light we can upon the subject of the Cryptic Rite, it will not, we trust, be deemed out of place in us to refer to Masonic news in this State, which, while it has no Grand Council, still takes such an interest in the Cryptic Rite as to devote considerable space to its progress and condition in its Report upon Foreign Correspondence. We most earnestly wish that it would seek light upon the subject where it is sure of having it trustworthy—from the fountain itself—instead of taking it

filtered through channels that cannot know or understand its workings. A long extract from the Grand Chapter Proceedings of Texas, in reference to the General Grand Council, would be decidedly amusing if it were founded in fact; but so many errors have crept into the comments, that while we don't really think we are in the position of the frogs that were being stoned by the boys as related in the old fable, still we would like to be correctly reported.

Come up, companions of Delaware, and organize some Councils. We will furnish you all the light we can, and to that end shall send you some of the proceedings of the General Grand Council, its Constitution, etc., so you can see what terrible fellows we are, how we would tyrannize over you, and bind the chains around you as you traveled along, captives in the wilderness. Now do not think this an invitation, such as was extended to the fly by the spider—"Come into my parlor," etc.? If the proceedings we send you do not change off your Texas information we miss our "spell" and go down one. Texas is in a fair way to learn something about the pure rite, as it is expected that a Council, U. D. C., is ere long to be established there. What then?

Let us here from you, Delaware.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

A dispensation was granted by M. P. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, as General Grand Master, to P. I. M. JOSEPH S. M'COY and others for a Council in this city of magnificent distances, June 30, 1883, under the name of Washington Council. Considerable work was done in this Council, U. D. C., and an application was made to the General Grand Council at its first triennial, held at Denver, August 14, 1883, for a charter, which was referred to the M. P. General Grand Master, with power, etc., and which was granted after due consideration by him. The Cryptic Rite is advancing, not fast, but with steadiness and a strength honestly to be expected in Washington—a city of strangers as well as of magnificent distances. The Cryptic rite has now got a good foothold in this District, and will surely take its proper position with the other Masonic bodies there. The field is a good one, the harvest is ripening, and the Temple in course of erection will have, as time rolls on, large accessions to its roll of select workmen in the Crypt.

T. I. Comp. JOSEPH S. M'COY, Master, Washington, D. C.

#### ENGLAND AND WALES—1883.

This body continues to meet with a fair degree of prosperity. We had expected to have had full advices relating to it, but are disappointed. Its proceedings are not yet printed, but we are encouraged to expect them printed ere long.

M. I. Comp. Rev. G. R. PORTAL continues as G. M., and DON M. DEWAR as G. R. Address, No. 8 Red Lion Square, High Holborn, London, W. C., Eng.

Since writing the above we have received the further information by letter from M. I. Grand Master GEORGE RAYMOND PORTAL that the Annual Assem-

bly of this Grand Body is to be held in October of this year, and that full particulars would then be given to us. And we have to announce that R. I. DON M. DEWAR, Grand Recorder, has been called from his labors in the Temple by the inexorable hand of death to receive his reward in the Temple above. A good and faithful worker in the Crypt; a man among men; a select companion among the Select has departed. His memory will remain enshrined in the hearts of the fraternity. His work is completed. The approach of the night found him prepared, and one more is rejoined to the Celestial circle of those who have gone before.

#### FLORIDA—1884.

The 15th Annual Assembly of this small but magnificent jurisdiction was held June 18, 1884, at Pensacola, with a full representation of all the Councils, even to Monroe Council, No. 8, of Key West, being represented.

M. I. GEO. S. HALLMARK, G. M., presided, and delivered an address that has the snap and ring of one who realizes the duties and obligations imposed more particularly by the higher degrees of Masonry. We can hardly refrain from giving it entire. Understanding by a letter account of its proceedings of 1883, as published in the report of M. I. G. FRED. WILTSIE, in the correspondence of that year of New York, that the future proceedings of this jurisdiction are not likely to be printed soon, and possibly not for years, we arranged to have a telephone put into their Temple at the time of the delivery of this address, so we could get hold of the "good things" which we knew would be presented in it; and having had our ear to the "conduit" so long, we are inclined to give it all to our readers, but time and printers will forbid. For an address calling our attention to the duties imposed upon our fraternity in its higher degrees, it is not to be excelled. We quote as follows:

"The flight of time, the march of events, with the sacred memories they enshrine, have added another year to the responsibilities and duties of our lives, which we may venture to hope have been well and truly fulfilled. As we once more meet together in solemn conclave this day to transact the business of our order, and to review the history of our Masonic career for the past year, it behooves us to consider how we may 'best work and best agree' in promoting the interests of our time-honored and venerated Institution for the future. To our hands, through the lapse of ages, has been the sacred trust of guarding and preserving the Mystic traditions of our order, and 'woe worth the day' that beholds our magnificent Temple in ruins, and its shattered wrecks the mournful monument of our indifference and neglect. We have seen it like the ark of revelation, floating proudly above the floods of time and the desolations and ruins of earth, and bearing in its sacred archives the germ seeds of the world's future moral life, and the treasured emblems of light and truth to its coming generations; and it is ours to watch its progress, and to waft it onward in its blessed mission of love and charity to the children of men, far down the ages to come.

"We are here to-day, my brethren, not only to exchange fraternal greetings, and to enjoy the pleasures of fraternal intercourse one with another, but we have met to take counsel together in the interest of one of the most sacred institutions outside of the church of God—in the moral history of the world—the interests of Ancient Cryptic Masonry. The mission of this noble and almost

holy order is a sacred one, and enshrines in its archaeological records the solemn truths associated with its preservation of the Divine law, and the sacred emblems of the Ark of the Covenant, over which was strewn the dust of centuries, and where lingered the mists and haze of long-departed years. It had its origin amid the scenes and in the days of the grand old Temple builders, and of the grand old Temple itself—reared in the pious offerings and prayers and labors of the people of God—consecrated to the worship of the Infinite One, and the hallowed Monument, proclaiming His glory throughout all generations.

“In our last annual address we discussed the general principles of Masonic symbolism and their application to the great objects and ends of moral instruction, together with the process of induction by which these Masonic symbols are made to speak a universal language of their own, appealing to all minds and in all nations wherever their language has been heard. We now propose to review the emblematic and ceremonial teachings of Ancient Masonry, as related to the higher degrees of Royal Arch and Cryptic mysteries in the sublime import, as the instruments of a higher knowledge and more practical moral results.

“In pursuing this inquiry, we may safely postulate the self-evident proposition, that if Higher Masonry be not an advance in its moral and social influences, it is nothing but an empty formula without aim or purpose. Such a supposition would involve the deepest absurdity. Assuming, therefore, that Ancient Cryptic or Council Masonry is invested with a real object and a real interest, it behooves us to inquire briefly what that object is, and how that interest is to be effected. In looking at the lower forms of Masonry, two facts are at once apparent to the intelligent inquirer: First, That we find in examining these incipient and initial forms, our attention is directed to a sort of organic unity of construction and design—a complete whole—a finished Temple, with all its ceremonials and symbolisms pointing to certain ends and conveying certain lessons drawn from the implements of architectural construction; and, Second, That in all these primary degrees there is a constant appeal to the senses through these visible symbols and implements, and certain supposed relationships which they bear to the moral qualities which they are thought to represent.

“But as we pass upward to the sublimer revelations of Cryptic Masonry, all these material emblems and types begin to disappear, and are replaced by the sublime and more abstract truths of traditional and archaeological research and discovery, and both heart and mind are led to a higher field of thought and contemplation. Here the process of analytical research begins; and the pursuit of knowledge—through rugged paths and dark, mysterious caverns and labyrinthian passes—sets in, and the seeker of knowledge is led up to the most sublime and wonderful discoveries of traditional light, leading back to very primeval sources of Masonic history. Here, like the adventurous traveler who climbs the lofty height of some Alpine peak, the sphere of his vision becomes enlarged as he ascends, and the whole panorama is spread out before him—grand, beautiful, and sublime. Here the teachings of Masonry assume a more intense, direct, and impressive aspect. They are invested with an earnestness and reality far more impressive than at any previous stage of his progress. Let us take, for example, the great principles of Brotherly Love and Charity. These are the grand fundamental objects of Masonry, and enshrine its most sacred sentiments and teachings. In these higher degrees the sentiment of Brotherly Love becomes more earnest and real. Its ties are indefinitely strengthened and intensified, and are drawn more closely around our hearts. We not only become Brethren, but Companions—friends, associates, helpers in every emergency and to the last extremity of our ability. This, at least, is the great object and design of our Masonic co-fraternity, and it culminates in these higher degrees, or was so intended to do. Oh! my brethren, if this grand de-

sign was only carried out in our daily lives, what a sublime and noble spectacle would our Order present to the world! What a beautiful and glorious truthfulness would crystalize around the words of the grand old Psalmist of Israel, as they rolled along the ages: 'Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.' But is brotherly love an exemplified and realized fact in our hearts and lives and daily experience? Alas! we dare not urge the response.

There are members among us who love a great deal, ardently and intensely; their hearts are filled to overflowing with all-abounding love, but is for—*themselves*. This is the centre around which all their affections revolve, the nucleus of all their aspirations. Such people are apt to remind us of the lion in the fable, who, meeting his friend, the dog, on the highway, earnestly pressed him to pay him a visit in his den. The dog at length consented, but had not proceeded far before he suddenly hesitated; and on the lion's asking the reason, he replied, 'Because I perceive the tracks to your den all *go one way: all go in, and none come out.*' So it is with these men: the tracks *all take one direction*, and that is into themselves and their own selfish purposes. This is their conception of brotherly love—a love that absorbs all into itself and gives nothing in return. With them brotherly love means loving a brother as long as he serves their purposes. You are a very good sort of a fellow—all well enough in your way, as far as they can use you, and then their friendship evaporates into 'thin air,' and you may go your way. If you want a favor in return, that is altogether another matter, and it is not to be taken into account. This is a very cheap and inexpensive kind of affection, but it is too one-sided and narrow and selfish to meet the demands of a noble, generous, true-hearted, brotherly love, such as attaches to the advanced teachings of Royal Arch and Council Masonry. This teaches us the equitable lesson that we are to make ever for the good of our brethren and companions, even without return. But the sacrifice must be mutual on occasion and not all on one side.

There is another form of this same species of brotherly love which it is difficult to classify in our Masonic nomenclature, and that is brotherly swindling, and brotherly malice and wrong. The Mason that can knowingly defraud another is like Shakespeare's villain, 'with no music in his soul, only fit for treason, stratagem, and spoils'—the vilest of human kind. And the Mason that can find it in his heart to defame and traduce another, and assail his reputation and character behind his back, is but little better. 'From all such,' friends and brethren, 'may the good Lord ever deliver us,' as sayeth the prayer-book. A man with a soul in him, who has risen to the purer and sublimer degrees of the Chapter and Council, ought not only to prove himself generous in all brotherly kindness, but also just in all his dealings and deportment—more especially toward his companions of the Order. Such Masons as these can only be characterized as 'unmitigated humbugs,' and are so numerous, we fear, as to be had for the asking, and not far to seek. They are but poor, mean, pitiful, shriveled, contracted burlesques of true manhood, clouds without moisture, wells without water, moral deserts that yield no verdure: time-serving and selfish idolators that know no Deity but their own lusts, and who bow in blinded adoration to the omnipotent dollar.

Another vital principle in our higher Masonic life is Charity. This is the chief corner-stone of our Mystic Temple, the most exalted of all human virtues—the charity that suffereth long and is kind; 'that suffereth not her own;' that 'beareth all things, hopeth all things,' and that 'endureth forever.' The sainted apostle of old tells us that 'without this we are nothing;' that all our wisdom, all our knowledge, all our virtues and sacrifices are as nothing. We have already postulated that if the higher degrees of Masonry meant anything at all, they meant a higher life, a clearer unity, a more diligent cultivation and practice of all the nobler qualities of which our nature is capable, and which

our sublime Order inculcates and was intrusted to develop—not in name only, but as a living reality. So that, as we advance in Masonic light, we must also advance in these ennobling traits that make up a true and exalted manhood. Are we doing this, and seeking to conform ourselves to the divine and apostolic model briefly indicated above? There are plenty among us who are loud in their praises of charity. It is a lovely and beautiful thing, and, of course, some good old men and women and preachers who don't know any better ought to practice it; but as for me—really you must excuse me, gentlemen. I know the world too well for that, and prefer the greenbacks to that kind of sentimentality. 'Besides,' they tell us, 'charity, you know, begins at home,' and so forth, and so it does—that is, their sort of charity does—and it stays there, too. It never ventures abroad. It has already stayed at home in sickly, selfish seclusion until one solitary excursion out into the broad open fields of God's beautiful world of goodness and loving kindness to others would prove the death of it at once. Oh! my brethren, the true, real, earnest charity of heaven neither begins at home nor remains there. It moves abroad like the sun of righteousness, scattering gladness and peace, and brightness and beauty in all its course—the emblem and harbinger of hope to the world. It knows no home but the home where the suffering, sorrowing children of earth repine in their sadness and distress, and where the burdens of human affliction are to be lifted, and good is to be accomplished. Here she dwells in happy seclusion, and sheds her benignant smile on the weary, hardened hearts that languish in the gloom and shadow of worldly care and trouble. No, my brethren, this pocket edition of human selfishness is but a snare and a delusion, a hiding-place of iniquity, a cloak for much of the mean, pitiful, parsimonious hypocrisy that passes current in marts of contemptible selfishness; and the Masonry that can parade no better pretext than this for its empty pretensions deserves to be buried a thousand fathoms deep in the abyss of endless forgetfulness. What true Masonry demands, is *reality, earnestness, sincerity*; and without this all its symbols and ceremonies, its forms and pretensions, are but a magnificent fraud; 'a sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal,' that clash upon the ear with discordant din, without melody or meaning. We need not be reminded, brethren, that signs and ceremonies, words and symbols, can never supply the place of *active benevolence*; can never feed the hungry, clothe the destitute, allay the pangs of a wounded spirit, nor bind up the broken heart. And the charity that contents itself with empty forms and hollow pretensions, in lieu of good deeds and beneficent sympathies, is a ghastly mockery of all that is true and generous and real in true and noble Masonry; and from the bottom of my heart I say, 'away with it and all its hollow pretensions forever.'

"In this connection it affords me great pleasure to be permitted to bear testimony to the recent beautiful demonstrations of Masonic charity in the fearful calamity which visited our sister city, when the fever plague was sorest in its sad work of desolation and destruction, and when dire disease hung like a pall of death over every household and home, when the wail of sorrow was heard in many habitations, and the cry of alarm resounded from house to house, and the voice of weeping was heard in the streets; then it was that Masonry, in that hour of trouble and distress, raised the arm that had seemed cold and feeble in apathetic slumber, and stretched forth the hand that had appeared dormant in its charities, and went forth to the performance of deeds of loving kindness and devotion, that sent gladness and comfort to many a heart and home, in their sadness and gloom, and reflecting a halo of regal light and beauty upon her own radiant brow. Amid these painful scenes of distress our noble Order made her sublime record of loving, pitying charity to the suffering, and inscribed her name high in the rolls of honor with her sister institutions who came to the rescue of the plague-smitten sufferers. Over these scenes we delight to linger with feelings of mingled sorrow and pleasure—sorrow for the afflicted, and pleasure at the remembrance of the generous charity that hastened to their re-

lief; that nursed the sick, soothed the dying, clothed the naked, fed the hungry, and poured the balm of sympathy into the hearts of the pining children of affliction.

"But let us not forget, my brethren, that while we have reason to congratulate ourselves on the generous deeds and beautiful tokens of Masonic charity, that this is not the whole of our duty nor the end of our mission. We have other duties to perform, other obligations to fulfill. It is not alone in seasons of *great public calamity* that we are to evince our benevolence, and show forth our good works in administering relief to the suffering. This is all right and well in its place; but 'do not even the Publicans (or public corporations) the same?' There are many good men, worthy but unfortunate brethren in private life, whose sufferings no eye sees but God, who pine in secret, in poverty and affliction, and to whom a small relief or a few words of fraternal sympathy would often prove a boon: and yet no hand of kindness is stretched out, no cheering tokens of brotherly interest extended. We may pass along the high-ways of life, as numbers do, and mark for a moment the unfortunate sufferer, but like the Priest and the Pharisee of old, we gather up our ample robes and 'broad phylacteries,' and 'pass by on the other side,' and generously keep our money, with the comfortable assurance that 'charity begins at home.' Oh, shameless hypocrisy! thou art a precious jewel to them that love thy deceitful ways and the glitter of thy false and delusive light.

"Companions and Brethren, in conclusion allow me to remind you from my place to-day that our noble Order is not what it ought to be—a pattern to the world of good deeds and generous sympathies and charities. With grief and shame I have watched its slow and gradual decadence, and the steady decimation of its members until the spirit of apathy has almost culminated in a moral paralysis. With great desire I have longed to see the day of her glorious deliverance set in, and to behold the rejuvenation of her strength and the restoration of her 'former glory,' as in the ancient days when the old Temple arose from her ruins, and the foundations were 'rebuilt in troublous times,' and her walls were restored to their former grandeur. I long to see the day when she shall arise in her majesty and 'shake herself from the dust,' and 'put on her beautiful garments,' and stand forth 'the beauty and glory of the whole earth.' And then when the hour has come that shall witness the inauguration of zeal and fidelity in 'building up the waste places of Zion,' and restoring the banished 'Ark of the Lord' to its 'ancient habitation,' and when her willing sons shall go forth to work for the Lord without 'the hope of fee or reward,' and the priests and scribes shall again bring in the consecrated vessels of the Temple, and her altars shall again smoke with holy incense of a heaven-born charity that makes glad the hearts of the children of men. Then shall she send forth the sweet odor of brotherly love and fraternal unity among all the joyful hosts of her liberated captives that fill her courts and through her tabernacles of worship. 'Then shall they bring forth the capstone with shoutings, crying grace, grace unto it.'"

There, we have done it! just as we expected, when we got into it there was no good stopping-place; we didn't feel like getting off to walk, nor seem to need any call from refreshment to labor while we could give you from another that which is so much better than we could do ourselves, and—you have it. Comp. HALLMARK, shake! If we can all take those words to heart, and so live and so act in the spirit they inculcate, the world will be the better for our having been in it, and our fraternity will take its higher, nobler, purer, and better position, "for the chiefest of all these is Charity." No wonder that the Companions of Florida kept their noble head still at the front. When you meet again

in Annual Assembly look out for eavesdroppers, and remember "there's a chiel among ye takin' notes, and faith he'll prent 'em."

M. I. GEORGE S. HALLMARK, G. M., Warrington. R. I. JOHN CARLOVITZ, G. R.

#### GEORGIA—1883.

Annual Assembly held April 25th, at Atlanta. M. I. C. F. LEWIS, G. M., presided. Representatives of ten Councils present. The Rite in this jurisdiction is not in as flourishing a condition as it deserves. The officers are from all appearances workers, and willing to labor for its advancement, but the "merger" plan, though never adopted, had its following, and its effect upon the body was unfortunate, as it invariably has been wherever it gained a foothold—but we all make mistakes—"to err is human, to forgive divine." Bind up the broken links, renew the circle and all join hands in a strong, earnest effort to advance and put a new life and vigor into the work, and the grand old jurisdiction of Georgia will be again at the front in the Rite. The Grand Master and Grand Recorder were re-elected.

#### GEORGIA—1884.

Met in Grand Assembly, April 30, at Macon, M. I. C. F. LEWIS, G. M., presiding. Representatives of nine Councils present.

The address of the G. M. is much more cheerful than it was in 1883, and the pulse of the body at large showed that from some cause or other there appeared to have been a revivifying of its vital forces. The tide has turned, and Georgia begins to be Georgia again. This shows what a few good, earnest workers can do. There is much to look for in the future of the Rite that is bright to the zealous worker. Steps were taken to have the proceedings from 1871 to 1879 inclusive printed, they never having been printed before. 'Tis well. We rejoice when you rejoice, and your sorrows are ours. The proceedings of New York were not received in time for review.

The Grand Master, whose address is Augusta, was re-elected. R. I. A. M. WOLIHAN, re-elected G. R.; address, Albany, Ga.

#### ILLINOIS—1883.

Welcome, Grand Old Sister, into full communion again. What was called, and, according to the mind of at least one Companion of high standing of this jurisdiction, was, in fact, its 31st Annual Assembly, was held Oct. 24, 1883, at Chicago. M. P. JOHN O'NIELL, G. M., presided. Representatives of 21 Councils present.

The address of the G. M. is one of peculiar interest, it being the first address from this jurisdiction which we have seen (and probably the first delivered) since 1877. It gives a brief history of the domestic relations between the Grand Chapter and the Grand Council for the time they were joined in bonds of matrimony, and the divorce that had been decreed by mutual consent of the

parties to the alliance, and the reorganization or resumption of the Rite by the Grand Council, together with the edicts promulgated and voluminous correspondence, which is all of very great interest. Would that we could place it all on record here, but from the rather "left-handed" compliment given us under "New York, 1883," in the middle of the second paragraph, we are inclined to hesitate, else we be said to have "little fraternal zeal." At the risk, however, of another "compliment," we will presume to proceed in another direction.

The G. . M. . divided the State into six districts for visitation. Four new Councils were instituted, in reference to one of which the G. . M. . says :

"Shortly after issuing the dispensation for the organization of Palestine Council, at Chicago, I was informed that some of the officers mentioned in the dispensation had received the degrees of R. . and S. . M. . in a Council in connection with a Chapter, and that the question might not be raised as to the legality of their work, I called the officers and members of the new Council together, and healed them in due form."

This seems to imply a doubt in reference to the degrees being legally conferred in a Council working in connection with a Chapter. It is best to have all things perfect in the eye of the law. There should be some existing arrangement by which any question of that kind could be forever quieted and put to eternal rest. Very many special Dispensations were issued by the Grand Master during the year, as was required to get the vast machinery of such a great jurisdiction in working order again, after a Rip-Van-Winkle sleep of seven years, but the work appears to have been well done, and the workers at their labors in due order. The name and zeal of G. . M. . O'NEILL will be hailed in future ages by the Companions of Illinois as one entitled to the foremost position in the Crypt—the position of honor. Companions of Illinois, will you not give us his portrait in your next Proceedings? Put him on record that way. If we had a chance we would gladly "chip in."

The following decision was recorded :

"A companion R. . A. . M. ., who has been duly elected in a regular Council of R. . and S. . M. ., but did not receive the degrees before the consolidation of the Council degrees with the Chapter in 1877, but received them under the conjoint union of the two bodies, cannot be a member of the Council that elected him to receive the degrees until the ballot again be spread for membership, and the applicant duly declared elected."

The Grand Master expresses his special obligations to Grand Recorder GIL. W. BARNARD for his untiring labors in conjunction with the Grand Master in the efforts to restore Cryptic Masonry to the position it once occupied in Illinois—an honorable recognition of the indefatigable labors of a prince among men ; one worthy of honor and thanks, full of vim, always ready, in season and out of season, to work for the advancement of the fraternity in any of its branches. The Grand Council manifested its appreciation of the great interest taken by its Grand Master in the faithful discharge of his duties during the dark and trying hours of the Body, in placing its approval thereof and thanks upon the record.

The Grand Recorder has a good word for the General Grand Council, which he attended. He says in his report, speaking of it: "There was a large attendance and much enthusiasm apparent. The reports from the States represented were such as to give encouragement and hopes for the future prosperity of the Cryptic Rite."

There was a balance in the treasury of \$253 68 after all bills were paid, which, considering that all supplies, etc., were bought anew, is very good.

The Constitution was amended to suit the new order of things under the Grand Council organization, *vice* Grand Chapter.

The whole question arising upon the "matter of the mode and manner in which the Companions made in Chapter Councils should be healed, and if any further legislation was necessary upon the subject," was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, with instructions that they report to the Grand Master as soon as possible. New York is mentioned in the Correspondence Report, and the information is conveyed to the Companions of Illinois that we in New York had given us in 1882 by Grand Master MARTIN, and is thus reported: "That the earth had traversed its yearly orbit during the year, and that in 1865 the world acknowledged our ability to care for our National interests." He then alludes to the strangling of Guiteau, and the adjustment of the Chinese problem. Well, was not that enough? You ought to have taken it as a joke. We did. What else could we do with it?

Quite a lengthy quotation is made from the writer's comments upon the then position of matters relating to the Merger, and we are glad that in part, at least, we are in harmony. We will try to invoke to our aid harmony, even if we have but "little fraternal zeal." In fact, it was hardly necessary to inform us that, "if necessary, Illinois Masons can do good fighting, and will be very apt to strike back if *persistently* assailed;" for don't we know that you have just ironically struck at our Grand Master MARTIN, as well as striking a blow right from the shoulder at the writer, without having been assailed at all. But, then, while we don't fear a fight, we had a good deal rather dine with a gallant foe. Shall we toss a penny to see which?

M. P. GEORGE W. CURTIS, Washington, G. M. R. I. GIL. W. BARNARD, G. R., Chicago.

Next Annual Assembly, Oct. 29th, 1884. May we be there to see.

#### INDIANA—1883.

The 28th Annual Assembly of this Jurisdiction was held at Indianapolis, October 16th.

M. I. ALBERT HAYWOOD, G. M., presided, with Representatives of 39 Councils present. A strong, live body is the Grand Council of Indiana. It is full of vigor and in a most prosperous condition. One new Council was instituted, and two dormant Councils applied for reinstatement. The General Grand Council received a kindly mention in the address, which is chiefly devoted to business matters—terse but expressive. The treasury has a balance of \$1,072 73.

The Report of Companion AUSTIN on Correspondence is, as it always is, replete with good things, and full of interest. We are tempted to quote it entire; but realizing that unless we put quotation marks on each side, we would be caught in the act, we shall not attempt to palm it off as our own. We fear that we would be as badly scared as the colored gentleman from Africa, who visited a water-melon patch in the absence of the owner, and after succeeding in concealing several "inards" *in* or about his person, retired to sleep and dreamed over his the next projected visit to the same locality. But the concealed water-melons, disliking their close quarters, commenced playing "tag" with each other, to the great inconvenience and discomfort of the appropriator of others' goods. For fear of a game of "tag" we will be honest, however tempting the goods are.

New York is handsomely referred to, and the writer bows his head and pulls his top-knot—see?

#### IOWA.

"Still dead?" See our Report for 1882 for further information—hardly so.

The Grand Council; in imitation of the darkey's water-melon, is playing "tag" in the bowels of the Grand Chapter, and although the "movements" are slow, an eruption may be expected any time—and resurrected—like Jonah from the belly of the whale. Look for a Grand Council to spring into new existence in Iowa. Come along! the vacant seats are fast filling up in our circle, and ere many years it will be again perfect and complete. Living on husks must be poor "fodder," when Iowa has so much corn to the acre—solid, not liquid, refreshments, etc.!

#### INDIAN TERRITORY—1884.

We have to report that a lusty pappoose has been given birth at A-to-ka, Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory, under dispensation of the present General Grand Master. Its name is Ok-la-ho-ma (red men's) Council, and T. I. Comp. J. S. MURROW is its present Master.

It was instituted during the present year, and already gives promise of growing into a strong body. This is the youngest bantling of the G. . G. . C. .

#### KANSAS—1884.

Proceedings not yet printed. We, however, are informed by letter from Ill. Comp. JOHN H. BROWN, G. . R. . , that no business of particular importance, beyond the usual routine, was transacted. Next Assembly in February, 1885. We wish the few Grand Councils who print their Proceedings triennially would take a step forward and print them annually. The news would not then grow stale from long keeping. If real good, they are at all times interesting; but very often interest in a particular subject has passed away long before the Proceedings appear. Ice is one of the few things that will not grow stale from long keeping, but that is because it keeps cool. Interest in Masonic proceedings, to

be kept alive, has to be *hot*, and the greater heat the better. Red hot will do, but in our particular Rite, if we keep the interest at a white heat it is much better for us; therefore, proceedings to be of general, *present* interest must be published annually, and should be as soon after the Assembly is held as possible. (Wonder if a jurisdiction in the Empire States will notice this last clause.) Ice may not grow stale from long keeping, but even red-hot proceedings will pall upon the taste and become stale, to a certain extent, after long keeping.

Take our advice and publish annually, and it will build up your own interest in your work. Cost no more, and add greatly to your strength and influence.

M. I. JACOB DE WITT, G. M., Salem. R. I. JOHN H. BROWN, G. R., Wyandotte.

#### KENTUCKY—1883.

Held its Annual Assembly, Oct. 17th, 1883, in Louisville, M. I. CHARLES E. DUNN, G. M., presiding. Representatives from 11 Councils were present.

The Grand Master's address is particularly devoted to the "new order of things" in that jurisdiction, consequent upon the assumption of the Cryptic Rite by the Grand Council again. It is pleasant to know that the Rite is in such good hands. We feel most decidedly encouraged at the out-look for Kentucky. There is considerable in this address that we would like to abstract bodily, but we must keep our fingers (scissors) off and give the kernel—the condensed milk of the cocoanut.

The decisions upon the questions submitted were as follows:

"If a member demits from the Chapter while the Chapter had jurisdiction over the Council degrees, does it act as a demit from the Council? I do not mean those who were made in the Chapter, but those who were members of the Council before the Chapter had jurisdiction."

Decided that it did not. (With which we agree.)

"Will those who have received the Royal and Select Masters' degrees in the Chapter have to be elected and obligated again before they are considered members of the Council?"

"My answer and decision was, that this Grand Council, at its Assembly on November last, declared those Companions who received the degrees in Councils under the authority of the Chapter, to be non-affiliated Royal and Select Masters. (See page 9, published Proceedings of 1882.) It is, therefore, only necessary for them to petition for membership and be elected, to become members of the Councils—but not obligated."

We think the obligation should also be taken anew—especially if taken before an unauthorized body.

On November 25th, 1882, an edict was issued by M. E. H. R. FRENCH, G. H. P., of Kentucky, to subordinate Chapters to refrain from conferring or communicating the Cryptic degrees, and to hold all paraphernalia, books, and other property placed in their hands by Councils, subject to the order of such Councils respectively. We understand that these effects have all been delivered over to the Councils.

Danville Council, No. 48, to which was issued a dispensation by General Grand Master DRUMMOND, has resumed labor under its old charter, and is a lively constituent of this body again.

A circular letter was issued by G. M. DUNN to all subordinate Councils, stating the "new regime," and they are earnestly requested to convene their Councils under their old charters. His letter closes with this stirring appeal :

"Companions, let us with one consent give the actions of the Grand Council our hearty approval and support. With 'Fervency and Zeal, and every Companion at his station,' let us 'Resume our Labors,' preserve the Rite in all its beauty, and place it on such a foundation that it will equal in strength any of the branches of our Order."

This was followed by another letter of August 22d, 1883, more at length.

The Grand Chapter promptly paid over the Grand Council funds which it had. Nothing else could be expected from a Kentucky body—characteristic of what has gone into history and is world-known. The pride of Kentucky, above all else, is "honor."

It was recommended and adopted, that Grand Representatives be appointed to fill all vacancies existing near other Grand Councils. Reference was made to the action of other Grand Councils touching the action of the Grand Council of Kentucky in resuming control of the Rite. New York occupies an honored position in this list, and copious extracts from what your present Committee had to say upon the subject in 1882 are made, to which we can only add, as we felt then and, as we then expressed ourselves, we now feel—*still more so*, and both hands are reaching out in gladness of heart; and we now sincerely say, "Welcome, honored and loved Sister." Pleasant reference is made to the first triennial of the General Grand Council, held August 15th, 1883, at Denver, at which Grand Master DUNN was present as an honored visitor. In closing his address, he says :

"For the future new hopes are inspired; then let us press forward, feeling that our labors shall not go unrewarded. But we cannot prosper without zeal and labor; therefore, let each repair to their several stations, and with energy resume our labors, that we may return to our homes with the full satisfaction of having faithfully discharged our duty to the Craft."

A dispensation was issued for a new Council at De Koven, upon petition of thirty Companions.

A balance was left in the treasury of \$74 95.

The kind expressions of other Grand Councils for this body, as mentioned in the Grand Master's Address, (New York included,) was sincerely appreciated and recognized by adoption of a resolution to that effect. A new Constitution was adopted. No report or Correspondence received. This will come in due time.

We quote Sections 1 and 2 of Article I. of the new Constitution, as follows :

"Sec. 1. The name of this body of Royal and Select Masters is 'The Grand Council of Kentucky.'

"Sec. 2. It is the only legitimate source of authority under which a Council of Royal and Select Masters can assemble in Kentucky, and then only by virtue of a Dispensation or Charter granted in conformity with its regulations. In it resides the power to enact laws for the government of Royal and Select Masters, and to alter or repeal such laws; to investigate and determine all matters relating to the Cryptic Degrees in general, to particular Councils and individual Companions, either directly or by delegated authority, all being within its territorial jurisdiction."

Subordinate Councils are authorized to confer the Super-Excellent degree as honorary.

We close under Kentucky with a feeling of satisfaction and joy at the outcome, and in the bright prospects of the future of Cryptic Masonry in that jurisdiction. The new Constitution puts an end forever to any other than the Grand Council of Kentucky ever presuming, or assuming, to take control of the Rite in that State. We wish the Companions of "Old Kentuck" all success, and feel assured it will be achieved. Its officers appreciate the responsibility of their positions, being earnest and faithful. Such workers will never stop short of seeing the old standard erected and maintained in that grand old jurisdiction. While we greet you and welcome you back to our circle, we would be delighted to see your Grand Council enrolled as a member of that inner circle having a supreme head, only instituted for the better preservation of the Rite and for mutual good.

M. I. CHARLES E. DUNN, re-elected G. M., Louisville. N. I. LORENZO D. CRONINGER, G. R., Covington.

#### LOUISIANA—1884.

Annual Assembly held February 14, 1884, at New Orleans. M. I. ALFRED SHAW, G. M., presided, with Representatives of three Councils present. The address was of a purely local character, excepting the decided opinion, as expressed, that the General Grand Council should meet at a separate time from the National bodies. Well, in good time it may.

There was \$83 23 left in the treasury after payment of bills. No report or correspondence received, which is to be regretted. R. P. Comp. PINCKARD always has given us such a fine dish for our dessert that we hardly know how to get along without it. Next year we are promised a full report, however. Good enough! we trow to make our mouths water in anticipation.

M. I. ALFRED SHAW, re-elected G. M., New Orleans. R. I. RICHARD LAMBERT, G. R., New Orleans.

Next Assembly, February 12, 1885, at New Orleans.

#### MAINE—1883.

Annual Assembly held at Portland, May 2, M. I. ARLINGTON B. MARSTON, G. M., presiding, with Representatives of 8 Councils, 28 permanent members, a full corps of Grand Officers and Grand Representatives from 13 States, including New York.

The Grand Master reports the constitution of one new Council, and brings up the old subject, *i. e.*—

“Some think that if these degrees were made prerequisite to the Orders of Knighthood, we should be rid of all the evils accruing from the lack of interest; while others, equally honest, no doubt, wish to make Master Masons eligible to these Orders.

“For myself, I think that the great good would result to Cryptic Masonry from the prerequisite scheme, if the Grand Encampment would adopt it, and I cannot see where evil would result to that body.”

This subject is again brought to the front, and from one of the strongest jurisdictions in the country. A communication recently reached the writer on this subject. For ourselves, we have had a hand at it: worked long and faithfully, and have never given it up as a forlorn hope, but believe that the day will come, not far in the future, when the Cryptic Rite will be recognized as a prerequisite to the Orders of Knighthood. When the Rite had a separate, independent head in every State—at sixes and sevens, as we might say—there could be and was no concerted action in reference to it. Spasmodic efforts were made from time to time, but they were of no permanent value. They resulted simply and only in showing that success was so far off in the future, if it was to be attained at all, that the prospects were more favorable of the Rite getting struck by lightning than it was of being made prerequisite. Well, it did get struck by lightning in the shape of the Merger plan, generally known in Masonic history now as the “Mississippi Plan,” (a more proper name might be now to call it the “Microscopic Plan,” but the lightning only succeeded in burning off some dying and decaying branches; others, affected for a time, stood still, stunned by the stroke, but only for a little while, and then springing forth in renewed beauty. The rest of the tree put forth its greatest efforts, sent its life-giving juices up into the furthestmost branches, and by a strong concerted action all the main branches united in the effort to save the trunk; and in August, 1880, at Detroit, a plan was adopted—in fear and trembling, possibly—but as the only and last resource to save the tree. And, to the happy surprise of all, the little branches and twigs, the larger main branches, and the trunk, the soil in which it was placed having the dews of heaven’s blessing on the efforts made, sent through the tree new strength and vitality; and almost in a night it sprung up into new life, and has now become to be a thing of beauty, to be a joy forever. Now, with this influence, this additional strength of the Rite, with its permanency of position, its solid foundation, the time will come, we believe, in the near future that it will have its just reward and position. Now we are in a condition where we can work together. The organization of the General Grand Council saved the Cryptic Rite to Masonry, and the General Grand Council is now, we believe, possessed of and controls influences which will incite the kindly wishes of the Knights to perfect the American system of Masonry into one perfect harmonious whole, united as one chain—link to link, extending from E. A. to K. T. indissoluble and permanent—each bearing its proper relation to the other, and each in its order to be taken by the seeker after Masonic light before being advanced to any higher rank or order of a Ma-

sonic character. It is eminently fitting and proper that these remarks be made under "Maine," for the Cryptic Rite owes much, very much indeed, to its most accomplished jurist and scholar, the particular One who has fought the good fight for it, and who still lives to see the success which has been achieved, and upon whose brow is placed by universal consent, there to remain, the laurel wreath of the victor. Unnecessary though it be to give the name, for it is as familiar as 'household words' in every Masonic body of the country, we give it, that the united praise and honors of the Companions of the Rite may ever be awarded to M. P. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, first General Grand Master of the United States.

There was \$183 59 balance left in the treasury. The Correspondence Report of 21 pages is from M. P. Comp. DRUMMOND, which, as is the case with all his Masonic writings, is thoroughly perfect and complete—a beautiful piece of work—and which entitles him to the appreciative thanks of all Companions of the Cryptic Rite. Under Connecticut he has Comp. LEE on the hip, and we quote from him in his comments upon the position of Comp. LEE as follows :

"He devotes considerable space to the defense of a report he and others made the year before, against becoming a constituent of the General Grand Council, because it recognizes as regular Cryptic Masons only those made in regular Councils.

"In his opening paragraphs he substantially argues that regularity is of no consequence.

"When he comes to Maine, after declining to answer some questions proposed by us touching the point in controversy, he says :

"I am told 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?"

"Most certainly, and because when we were made a Mason, we took an obligation that we would not recognize any one as a Mason unless he was made in a regular and duly constituted lodge; and in each body in which we took any of the 'so-called higher degrees,' we made the same promise as to that body. Evidently this law does not prevail in Connecticut; for Comp. LEE teaches that if a man goes through the 'same forms and ceremonies, with the same methods of instruction,' he is to be recognized just the same as if he was made in a regular body.

"He says that they in Connecticut are in love with non-intercourse, and cites the recent troubles between the Grand Lodges of Connecticut and New York; but he is not well-informed in this matter. He says that the Grand Master of New York issued his edict of non-intercourse, because Connecticut claimed that two Masons were members of the Connecticut Lodge. In this statement he is in error: the edict was issued because the Grand Master of Connecticut decided that when two Masons became Charter Members of the Connecticut Lodge, their membership in the New York Lodge was thereby terminated, and they were no longer under obligation to pay dues to the New York Lodge.

"But he says that Chapter-made Cryptic Masons are not irregular because they are made according to the law of their jurisdiction: he fails to touch the point that we have presented, that that law is void because in conflict with the higher law of Masonry. 'No man, or body of men, can make innovations in the body of Masonry' is a higher law than the enactments of modern times. In Connecticut there are Bodies of men, claiming to be Masons, who were in precise accordance with the law under which they act, and undoubtedly go through the same forms and ceremonies, and receive the same teachings, that Comp. LEE

did. Now, does he recognize them as Masons? 'If not, why not?' From his argument in this report, and the one above alluded to, we should conclude that if he does not recognize them, he must do so to be consistent—and yet we do not believe that he does. The only reason why they are not recognized is, because it is decided that they were not made in a regular Lodge. This is the only flaw in their title to recognition. Now, we hope Comp. LEE will not dodge this issue by remarking, 'I never cross a bridge before I come to it,' but will either frankly admit he was in error, or show how, consistently with his obligations, he can recognize Masons made in any but regular bodies of the degrees which are in question."

To which we might add the conundrum, Comp. LEE, do you recognize a colored man—*i. e.*, an African, born a slave by fortunate circumstances, made free—as a Mason, because he has secured so-called degrees in a clandestine colored Lodge?

M. I. MARQUIS F. KING, G. M., Portland. IRA BERRY, G. R., Portland.

Its next Assembly held May 7, 1884. Proceedings not yet received.

#### MALTA—1883.

This is not, as we understand, an independent Grand Council, but a Provisional Council, subordinate to the Grand Council of England and Wales. We have no news of this Body, except that derived through the report of Comp. S. STACKER WILLIAMS, of Ohio, and from which we quote:

"The Grand Master of the Grand Council of England and Wales, having established subordinate Councils at Tunis and Malta, an alliance was formed, and three subordinate Councils were organized into a Provincial Grand Council on the 19th of October, 1880. Though of such recent planting, the Councils of this remote region begin to show good fruits. The aggregate membership at the time of the organization of the Provincial Grand Council was about fifty. All funds beyond current expenses and dues are devoted to the aid of the charitable funds of craft lodges in the district.

"The degrees controlled by this Grand Council are those of Excellent, Royal, Select, and Super-Excellent Master.

"The following is the organization of this young Grand Council: R. W.: Bro. A. M. BROADLEY, P. G. M.; R. W. Bro. C. E. COFFEY, R. A. D. P. G. M.; R. W. Bro. Major EWING, S. W.; R. W. Bro. Dr. MACKINNON, J. W.; Bro. Rev. F. D. BACKHOUSE, Chaplain; Bro. Dr. WALKER, Secretary; Bro. Sir F. BLACKWOOD, Bart., D. of C.; Bro. Dr. GRIER, S. D.; Bro. Captain BANNISTER, J. D.; Bro. Captain BRIDGER, Organist; Bro. Captain FORD, R. A., Inner Guard; Bro. R. BECK, Tyler; Bro. Captain SANFORD and Bro. Dr. DONOVAN, Grand Stewards."

However, we gladly extend our fraternal greetings to Malta, and wish our Companions a long, long life of prosperity and usefulness.

#### MARYLAND—1883.

From a letter from our esteemed Companion, GEORGE L. MCCAHAN, we are informed that the proceedings of this jurisdiction are not yet printed. The Rite is advancing slowly. The Assembly was well attended, and of much interest

and enjoyment. "Maryland, my Maryland," must resume the publishing of its proceedings. We can't half do our duty by it without them.

M. I. Comps. LARRABEE and MCCAHAN were re-elected as G. M. and G. R. respectively. Addresses, Baltimore.

#### MASSACHUSETTS—1883.

Annual Assembly held at Boston, December 12th, M. I. JOHN HAIGH, G. M., presiding, with Representatives of 15 Councils present.

The address of the Grand Master states that the Companions "have cause to rejoice at the continued prosperity of Cryptic Masonry in this grand old commonwealth;" and that "the past year shows marked improvement in all that pertains to the Rite, and gives great promise to the future."

No discordant sounds come to us, but peace and prosperity prevails throughout this jurisdiction.

The expenses of the Grand Master to Denver to attend the General Grand Council, amounting to \$100, were paid, and after paying all expenses, together with an old loan of \$253, and purchasing a bond of \$500, the treasury held a balance of \$226 30, in addition to \$200 in U. S. bonds. So this Grand Council has got to be one of the "bloated bond-holders." Well, we can't help it, and if we could we wouldn't. It's a comfortable way to live, we are informed, by "cutting off coupons." Not having had any experimental knowledge of the truth of the saying, we cannot vouch for it; but it strikes us that there must be something pleasant about it.

Comp. Rev. JOHN W. DADMUN, Committee on Correspondence, has no report published, which we regret, having considered Boston as the "Hub," and having been taught from our boyhood days, when the writer lived at Fall River, in the old Bay State, that the "Hub" was the central pivot around which the intelligence and cultured refinement of the nation revolved, it is a disappointment not to have "returns" from there. Comp. DADMUN is an old Masonic writer, alive to the interests of Cryptic Masonry, and his light should not be hid under a bushel, but placed where all can see; and seeing, improve and advance in one common cause. Next year give us a report which will make up for the disappointment of the present.

We have to assume that there will be another Assembly of this Grand Council in 1884, as there is nothing to be found in the proceedings indicating any preparations for a funeral, but we could not find that any date was fixed for the next Assembly to be held.

M. I. JOHN HAIGH, re-elected G. M., Somerville. ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, Boston, re-elected G. R.

#### MICHIGAN—1884.

Annual Assembly held at Detroit, January 14th, M. I. GEORGE H. GREENE, G. M., presiding, with Representatives from 42 Councils present.

The Grand Master's address shows one new Council instituted in Bay City, a lively town where a Council ought to prosper. One more gone to join the vast

majority—Past M. I. Grand Master MORTIMER MANSFIELD, who laid down his working-tools and was called from labor to refreshment, Dec. 20, 1888, by the Supreme Master.

Action was taken toward a reprint of its proceedings of 1871 to 1876 inclusive, copies of these years being scarce, and for some years rarely to be had, but ended with being laid upon the table. The Grand Master was most decidedly in favor of this body becoming a constituent of the General Grand Council, and recommended it to do so, and devoted about one-fourth of his address to that subject; but the resolution favoring such action was "taken from the table and indefinitely postponed." Sorry to see Michigan take a back seat upon this subject. The birthplace of the General Grand Council, the jurisdiction which, in future years, we predict will delight in taking to itself honors from such fact, turning away from that which it concedes was the only way to be taken to keep the Cryptic Rite from utter chaos and ruin. Well, so be it. New Jersey and Rhode Island and—the—the Providence plantations all unite in their action, join hands and swing the circle. But after a little the cry will be, "One, two, three, out goes (s)he." The G. G. C. will then have one more constituent, and the two may again repeat the circle and doggeral; but which one will be the "Titman?" Not a wolverine—or we miss our guess. A balance in the treasury of \$454 15.

The Correspondence Report is from Comp. GARRA B. NOBLE, who does up 21 jurisdictions, including our own, for 1882 with the skillful hand of a practical surgeon working on a "subject." Under New York, Comp. NOBLE says some pleasant things to tickle the ear, for which we bow our acknowledgments. Under North Carolina, speaking of its recent Merger, he says:

"So the Grand Council of North Carolina has Merger, or she thinks she has, but don't really know. Well, try it, and if it does not work to her liking, she can back out and try it again. She started out in 1822, and 1823 ceased to exist, (went to sleep;) roused up in 1860, reorganized, but failed to hold its Annual 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."

In closing his valuable comments, Comp. NOBLE says:

"Companions, in reviewing the proceedings received, we find a generally healthy reaction in the Cryptic Rite throughout the whole country; and, as we said last year, we still believe the organization of the G. G. Council has placed Cryptic Masonry upon solid footing. The statistics given all tend to show an advance in membership, and a disposition to place the Rite equal to Capitular or Chivalric Masonry."

This, coming from a jurisdiction which declines to become a constituent of the G. G. Council is praise, indeed, for those who in the heat and burden of the day took upon themselves the launching of a new Masonic bark upon this Cryptic sea. It is true that the storm has been weathered, oil has been poured upon the madly raging waves, and the bark is gliding peacefully onward toward the haven of rest in the East, to which we are each striving to attain. With a steady, propitious breeze coming strong from the West, filling the sails to their

utmost capacity, is it strange or to be wondered that the promoters of this, their candidate for Masonic favor, may each murmur to themselves, "I may now return to my own country with the satisfaction of having faithfully discharged my duty to the Craft."

But now, good-bye, Michigan. When next we hear from you, may it be that it will be in a clasping of hands and in exchanging congratulations over the cementing of the bonds of alliance between the Grand Council of Michigan and the General Grand Council of the United States. Shall it be so? We pause for a reply.

M. I. JAMES H. CUMMINGS, G. M., Holly. R. I. GARRA B. NOBLE, G. R., Detroit. Next Assembly, January 19th, 1885.

#### MINNESOTA—1883.

14th Annual Assembly held at St. Paul, Oct. 8th, M. I. GROVE B. COOLEY, G. M., presiding, with Representatives of four Councils present.

The Grand Master in his address notes the decease of R. I. Comp. JOSHUA B. CULVER, Grand Conductor of this Body. He passed beyond the veil at Buffalo, N. Y., July 17, 1883, and was accompanied to his last resting-place by mourning relatives, friends, and Companions. A good man, a true friend, a loving companion has gone to his reward.

The Rite appears to be fairly prosperous in this jurisdiction, and new accessions are being made to the ranks of the Select. Balance in treasury, \$94 15.

The Report on Correspondence is from M. I. Comp. GROVE B. COOLEY, who has for several years spread before the Companions of the Cryptic Rite a fresh compound, not only of the more substantial and life-sustaining elements, but has also invariably prepared and presented a choice dessert for after consideration. He reviews twenty-eight Bodies, including New York, in his lively, trenchant manner.

Under "Canada, 1882," he says that "the Grand Council resolved in future to discard the Red Cross Degree," which was a mistake, as the resolution moved to that effect was held to work an amendment of the Constitution, on which due notice had not been given, and the resolution was held by the Grand Master to be unconstitutional and inoperative, and the Councils were therefore directed to continue to confer the Red Cross Degree. However, in 1883, the year after, "due notice" was given for a proposed amendment, to be offered in 1884, to effect this object.

Under Illinois the muse gets hold of Comp. COOLEY, and makes him speak his welcome and blessing.

We shall have to make use of this Report in other places for reference. It is too good to be let alone. Would that space would let us "take it all in."

M. I. GROVE B. COOLEY, re-elected G. M. R. I. WILLIAM CHESNEY, G. R. Both at Minneapolis. Next Assembly, Oct. 6th, 1884.

Since writing the above, and just as our Report was to be presented, we learned of the death of our dearly loved Companion, R. I. GROVE B. COOLEY, Grand Master, which occurred at Minneapolis, August 14, 1884. We have not the data at hand to give it extended notice.

## MISSISSIPPI—1883.

We gather our information from the Grand Chapter Proceedings. It is unnecessary to quote or state at length the action had. In brief, the Special Committee, referred to in our Report of 1882, to which was referred the subject of a reorganization of the Grand Council, etc., made its report, the preamble to which is only adopted and approved by *two* of the Committee of Eight, the others all dissenting; and for a dish-water argument it will take premium anywhere. The resolutions reported, and which were recommended by these two of the Committee, and also by three others, are:

*Resolved*, That whenever any nine members of any one of the Councils of Royal and Select Masons, formerly existing in this State, shall assemble and elect officers, on application of the Grand Secretary, he be and is hereby directed to return to them the charter and other effects in his possession of such Council, and it shall thereby be authorized to resume its labors as a Council of Royal and Select Masters, and that thereafter no Chapter within the county in which a Council has resumed labor shall confer the Degrees of Royal and Select Master; and

*Resolved further*, That whenever nine Councils shall have resumed labor as prescribed in the foregoing resolution, the Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council be requested to convene the same, and when said Grand Council shall officially inform the Grand Chapter that it has resumed labor, the Grand Chapter will not thereafter exercise any jurisdiction over the Degrees of Royal and Select Master, and the several subordinate Chapters will be prohibited from conferring these Degrees.

*Resolved further*, That until otherwise ordered by the Grand Chapter, the several subordinate Chapters, except where Councils are revived in the county in which said Chapters are established, are directed to continue to confer the Royal and Select Master Degrees upon all those members who may desire them."

A minority report was made as follows:

"The undersigned of Special Committee, to whom was referred the memorial of sundry Companions in relation to the Merger of Capitular and Cryptic Degrees, would respectfully report that, in their judgment, no good reason exists for disturbing the action heretofore taken by this Grand Body."

The minority report was adopted. The status of the Cryptic Rite remains in this State as it has been for some years past, but its friends there will not rest sleeping. They are as desirous as ever of a return to the regular system, and they will succeed. But see below.

## MISSISSIPPI—1884.

Most Excellent B. T. KIMBROUGH, G. H. P., in his address to the Grand Chapter upon the "Merger" subject, speaks as follows:

"I do not feel at liberty to dodge or ignore so important a question as that of the Merger or consolidation of Cryptic and Capitular Masonry. This is one of the questions that will not down. That the action of this Grand Chapter on the subject has proven to be unsatisfactory to at least some who favored it, and that the Merger did not bring the results or bear the fruits anticipated for it by its advocates, is not now a matter of doubt. That all acted from the purest motives, with but one object in view—the good of Masonry—is equally true. But

I insist, my Companions, without laying any censure any where or to any one, that it is our duty as honest, earnest men and Masons, Companions, to review this question, and then do what is right, according to our convictions of duty, whether that action be considered consistent or inconsistent. The question is not so much, 'Was that Merger action right or wrong, when had, with the lights then before us?' but is rather, 'What ought now to be done?' In the first place, I ask you this pertinent question: Is the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Mississippi still alive, and the organization preserved? By reference, to the proceedings of the Grand Council at Vicksburg in 1877, (page 11,) it will be seen that the last item of the Merger resolutions, adopted by both Grand Chapter and Council, is couched in the following language: 'The officers of the Grand Council shall be elected in order to preserve the organization pending the approval of the action by the General Grand Chapter of the United States;' and, in pursuance of this resolution, the Grand Council proceeded to elect officers as usual, (see page 12, Proceedings 1877.) I now submit that the Merger did not destroy the Grand Council; for by the Merger resolutions themselves, its—the Grand Council's—organization was to be preserved, pending a certain event to take place after that, to wit: the approval of that action by the General Grand Chapter of the United States. Again, after the Merger resolutions were adopted, the Grand Council elected and installed its officers. Thus showing it was not the intention of either party to the Merger, nor the understanding of the Grand Council, that the Merger rendered it defunct. Even after this, on the 24th of February, 1877, Companion W. G. PAXTON sent out an edict, or official communication, which he signs 'Grand Master,' and to which the Great Seal of the Grand Council was affixed by J. L. POWER, as 'Grand Recorder,' in which communication H. W. WALTER, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, joined, showing all these Companions then regarded Companions PAXTON and POWER as officers of the Grand Council—at least for eighteen days after the Merger. (See Appendix to Council Proceedings, 1877, page 15.)

Again, on the 5th of May, 1877, just three months after the Merger, Comp. PAXTON heads a communication thus: 'Office of M. I. Grand Master,' and addresses it to 'Comp. J. L. POWER, Recorder Grand Council of R. S. Masters,' and signs 'W. G. PAXTON, M. I. G. M.' (See page 17, Appendix Proceedings 1877, Grand Council.) But both the Grand Chapter and Grand Council, in Merger resolutions as quoted, declared the organization of the Grand Council should be preserved pending—that is, until the General Grand Chapter of the United States approved the Merger. This event never happened. The General Grand Chapter of the United States never approved 'the action,' though there has been three convocations of that Body since, and at two of them this matter was thoroughly discussed, and at the second finally disposed of. Then, when and by what action of this Grand Chapter, or the Grand Council of this State, did the latter become defunct? As by the very terms of the attempted Merger itself, the Grand Council is not defunct, but only dormant. The constitutional question, whether the Grand Council could destroy itself legally by Merger may be pretermitted. If the Grand Council did not become defunct by the Merger, did it intend to give its subordinates away without their consent? For it is known that the subordinate Councils have never instructed for the Merger, nor had an opportunity to act on this very vital question touching their very existence. Why 'preserve the organization' of the Grand Council unless the subordinates are preserved also? Over what has the Grand Council jurisdiction, if its subordinates are given away? Just here I might ask, Could the Grand Council have given away or transferred legally the subordinate Councils or their degrees without the consent of the subordinate Councils? Is not the Grand Council the creature of its subordinates? Has the creature become greater than the creator? Did the Constitution of the Grand Council provide for and authorize the Merger? If not, by what authority did the Grand

Council act? If by no authority granted in the Constitution, was not the act, whatever its intention and however wise its policy, utterly void?

"Suppose that the Grand Lodge to be willing to take charge of the degrees conferred by the subordinate Chapters, would it be contended for a moment that this Grand Chapter could legally, to-day, without ever referring the question to the subordinates themselves, give or transfer the Chapter degrees to the Lodges, call in their charters, strike them from existence, and yet, in the same breath, declare the organization of the Grand Chapter shall be 'preserved'? Now, my Companions, I must be allowed to express my convictions, even if I stand alone; and with me there remains not a doubt that the Merger action, as had, was without constitutional warrant, and wholly illegal and void. Would it not be wise for this Grand Chapter to declare it will attempt to exercise no further jurisdiction over the Cryptic degrees under that action?

"I may add, the General Grand Chapter of the United States, so far from 'approving the action,' till which the Grand Council was to 'preserve' its 'organization,' has, on the contrary, declared with emphasis, it—the General Grand Chapter—has no jurisdiction over the Council degrees, because its Charter or Constitution gives it jurisdiction over only the four degrees of Capitular Masonry. The fact that there was no warrant for it in the Constitution was deemed sufficient reason, after mature deliberation by that learned body—'the American Senate of Masonry'—to decline any jurisdiction over the Cryptic degrees. I find no warrant in the Constitution of this Grand Chapter for receiving the Cryptic degrees. If the Grand Chapter has only the power expressly granted it, I maintain we cannot legally accept and encumber Capitular Masonry with Cryptic Masonry. But aside from all this, I suppose no one will now contend that the Merger has been a benefit to either Chapter or Council. The Council degrees are an incumbrance to the Chapter, and I fear but few H. P.'s are more than able to confer the Chapter degrees properly without the incumbrance. If the plan devised to confer the Royal Master's degree before, and Select Master after, the Royal Arch as part of that degree, had been permitted by the General Grand Chapter as prayed for, I am not prepared to say results would not have been different. As it now is, however, I earnestly believe the proper course for this Grand Chapter to pursue in the premises is to declare that it has no jurisdiction over the Council degrees."

This part of the address contains so much good common sense that we are constrained to give it in full. The subject was referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Comps. P. M. SAVERY, WM. S. PATTON, J. E. LEIGH, JOHN A. GALBREATH, Sen., WM. PRIESTLY, who made the following report:

"We, the Special Committee to whom was referred that portion of the address of the Grand High Priest relative to the Merger of Cryptic and Capitular degrees, fraternally submit the following report:

"We endorse the sentiments expressed by the Grand High Priest. We believe the advocates of the Merger were actuated by the purest and best of motives; that the Merger has not been attended with even temporary prosperity; that since said Merger, the Chapters in Mississippi have not increased either in number, membership, or proficiency, and that the consolidation of said degrees has not proved beneficial. We fraternally submit that sufficient trial has been had, and that the Cryptic degrees should be returned to the custody of the Grand Council, which we submit is still in existence, and cannot be dissolved save by the vote of the subordinate Councils. We recommend that whenever five subordinate Councils shall have signified to the M. I. Grand Master that they have reorganized and are ready for work, that the said M. I. Grand Master be requested to announce the fact to the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, who shall, within sixty days thereafter, declare that the Merger of the Cryptic and Capitular degrees has been dissolved; and, thereupon, the said

M. I. Grand Master of the Grand Council shall declare, by proclamation, that the Grand Council has been restored, and the several Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction shall be barred from the right of conferring said degree or communicating the substance of the same, and that it shall not be lawful for any Companion to receive them except within the body of a just and regular constituted Council of R. and S. Masters."

After considerable discussion, Comp. PAXTON offered the following (which was adopted by the Grand Chapter in 1882) as a substitute for the report of the Committee, and the same was adopted :

"TO THE GRAND CHAPTER: The undersigned of Special Committee to whom was referred the memorial of sundry Companions in relation to the Merger of Capitular and Cryptic degrees, would respectfully report that, in their judgment, no good reason exists for disturbing the action heretofore taken by this Grand Body,"

Which ended the labors upon this subject for 1884. The leaven is working in the measure of meal. Soon, we trust that all may rejoice in the reorganization of the Cryptic Rite under its only proper head—a Grand Council. Why the Grand Chapter will seek to retain what belongs to, and is sought to be possessed by, the rightful owners is more than we can answer, if the Grand Chapter acts according to its convictions of duty in assuming the control of the Cryptic Rite at request of the Grand Council; now, when the Companions of the Rite desire to resume their control and recognize their Councils to be deaied their just right simply from pride, is suggestive of the old saying that "might makes right"—a principle as far removed from the teachings of Masonry as any that could be discovered or broached. But we must pass on. God bless the right, and bring it triumphantly through the valley of the shadow of death, through which it has been called to pass.

#### MISSOURI—1883.

This Grand Council assembled at St. Louis, May 2, 1883. Five Councils represented.

The address of Grand Master WILSON is very brief. He says, "Harmony prevails within our jurisdiction;" that the outlook of the Cryptic Rite is favorable; and that they are making slow but sure progress.

A revised Constitution was adopted and printed with the proceedings.

Companion MAYO presents a Report on Correspondence, acknowledging the proceedings of fourteen Grand Councils. He says:

"The pamphlets from the different States are rather an improvement over former years. The proceedings are short and of local interest. There is a noticeable want of statistics; very few Grand Recorders give a table showing name, number, and location of subordinates, with the work done and showing number of membership. There certainly can be no excuse for such an omission, as it does not take much space or occupy very much time to prepare such a table, so one could tell at a glance the size and condition of the Rite in each State.

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"The General Grand Council is a fixed fact now beyond doubt. To the croakers and constitutional growlers we say, hold your tongues and pens; try

to contain yourselves in peace for a short time, say for a decade, and let us see what will be the result; let the Grand Council have a chance to give its plans a thorough test; it can result in no disaster or damage to the Rite, and may result in good."

The Grand Master and Grand Recorder re-elected. (From Report of New Hampshire, no proceedings having been received by New York.)

#### NEBRASKA—1883.

The Cryptic Degrees are playing "tag" still in the bowels of the Grand Chapter of this State. The Grand High Priest had some questions submitted to him in relation to the Cryptic Rite, and made some decisions, namely: Is it the intention of the order of consolidation that the conferring of the Council degrees is imperative when demanded? Answer: Yes, unless for cause. (Concurred in by the Committee on Jurisprudence.)

"Is it the duty of the officers of the Chapter to confer the degrees. Answer: "Yes." What would they do if the officers had never received the degrees themselves? Do it in the "Oriental" style? make up as they went along?

"Can we open a Council and charge a fee to R. A. Masons for conferring on them the degrees?" Which it was held by the G. H. P. could be done, but was disapproved of by Committee on Jurisprudence and by the Grand Council. These "Dead Sea Flowers" are no longer a source of profit or of pleasure in Nebraska, and to see the Rite again flourish in this State it is only necessary to follow the example of Illinois—"Barkis is willing." When shall we expect you?

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE—1884.

The 23d Assembly was held at Concord, May 19, M. I. GEORGE P. CLEAVES, G. M., presiding, with Representatives from six Councils present.

The Grand Master's address is principally of local interest. He refers in fitting language to the decease of two Past Grand Masters during 1883, namely: JOHN ROBERT HOLBROOK, died at Portsmouth, Oct. 2d:

"In the Grand Bodies he was Grand Master of Masons two years; Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter one year; Grand Master of the Grand Council two years; and Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery one year. . . . Truly he was honored by the fraternity to which he was an honor. He was a man of Christian character, amiable disposition, and beloved by all those who knew his real worth."

RENSSELAER OSBERN WRIGHT, died at Plymouth, Oct. 24th; "He was my immediate predecessor in this office, and of his interest in and zeal for the Cryptic Rite you are all familiar," Memorial pages are set apart to their memory.

One Council resuscitated, and a fair degree of activity and prosperity exhibited in the jurisdiction.

The Super-Excellent degree is attracting considerable attention in this jurisdiction, and will probably be recognized as a proper adjunct to the Cryptic Rite, and be eventually conferred in all Councils. We believe it will result in the

advancement of the interest in the Order and the general Council work. We are no new adherent to this idea, but have always, from our first acquaintance with it, appreciated its merit.

The Correspondence Report embraces twenty-five jurisdictions, including New York. The comments made upon the different bodies are worthy of a more extended circulation than in their own jurisdiction, but space forbids our taking much of it. Under Ohio, he says :

"It is barely possible that the Super-Excellent degree has attained more dignity in our jurisdiction than in some others, but here it is conferred upon all candidates, and is as much a part of the Council system as either of the others, so far as being obligatory upon the candidate to receive it. I would not be understood as giving to that degree any of the importance connecting the Royal and Select with the Capitular degrees. But the morality is good, and if good for one, why not for all?"

M. I. JOHN GILLIS, G. M. Manchester. GEORGE P. GREAVES, G. R., Concord. Next Assembly, May 18, 1885.

#### NEW JERSEY—1884.

Annual Assembly held at Trenton, Jan. 15th, M. I. JEROME B. BORDEN, G. M., presiding, with Representatives of five Councils.

The address of the Grand Master is short and of local interest only. He complains of the "depressing crisis" through which the Rite is passing there, evidently disbelieving his predecessor's colored address; and shortly after says, speaking of the condition of the Rite in other jurisdictions, that he is "much pleased that all report the Cryptic Rite in a flourishing condition;" in fact, to such a state has the Rite been reduced in New Jersey that the G. M. deliberately proposes to grant "indulgences," and condone in advance the violation of obligation taken by the Companions, as follows :

"In view of this state of affairs, I suggest to the Grand Council whether it is not well to so modify the workings of the Rite, that Councils laboring under such disadvantages may be permitted to confer the degrees with a less number than nine—say five—members, and then by communication until such time as they may have a sufficient number of interested members to work them in full. I leave this matter with you, believing that it is better to keep a Council alive, even if it requires extraordinary measures to do so, trusting that you will give it earnest and careful consideration."

Why a Grand Master should recommend such a proceeding is beyond our comprehension. What is the obligation he is under by virtue of his office? What are the obligations of the subordinate Councils? And what of the Companions?

After such an expression we can hardly fail to see why the Rite is passing through a depressing crisis in his jurisdiction. With as much reason and right he might propose to confer the degrees upon those who have only taken the E. A. degree. Masonically considered, one would be as proper as the other; and if such action is taken, it is not hard to determine what position will be taken by other jurisdictions toward New Jersey.

The Grand Master says he "was in Denver when the General Grand Council was in session, but did not attempt to visit, having no part or lot in that organization;" that is, although he claims to be on friendly companionable terms with other Grand Councils who are constituents of the higher body, he cannot even recognize them while engaged in accordance with their own rights, privileges, and duties, so great is his repugnance to the G. G. Council. Well, all we have to say is, if he didn't come in himself, he took extra pains to have a permanent member of his own body there to report to him, and to procure him one of its badges.

The Correspondence Report is from Ill. Comp. BECHTEL, who reviews briefly seventeen bodies, New York not included.

Ill. Comp. COOLEY, of Minnesota, says, "There must be a good many very old fogies in the Grand Council of New Jersey:" and Ill. Comp. CRESWELL, of California, speaking of its action in declining to be a member of the G. G. Council, says: "Well, we did not expect any *foreign* bodies to come into the combination. New Jersey is wedded to its idols. Let her alone. Well, we will—stop.

M. I. LEONARD L. GREAR, G. M., Passaic Bridge. R. I. CHARLES BECHTEL, G. R., Trenton. Next Assembly at Trenton, date unknown.

#### NEW MEXICO.

Under the exclusive jurisdiction of the General Grand Council, seeking after light from the Grand East. A movement is now on foot for the organization of a Council under dispensation of the G. G. Master in Santa Fe. The Companions are anxious to have it, and although there is no "soothing syrup" in ours, the infants cry for it to be administered in large doses—and they grow robust and lusty under the treatment. How would some old dry pasture in a Capitular bosom fit these "little" ones for the select work in the S. V.?

#### NORTH CAROLINA—1883.

Annual Assembly held at Raleigh, May 17th. M. I. J. MACK, G. M., presided, with three Councils represented.

The Grand Council desired some sort of a new pasture to roam in, so they took up with the sterile, flabby bosom of the Grand Chapter, where they have already ceased to breathe, or their pulse to beat, except second-hand. The bed that the Grand Chapter occupies is too restricted in its territory and confines to afford a comfortable resting-place for both bodies; and some day an intent eavesdropper may possibly hear a conversation between the two bodies which might be illustrated in advance by the following incident:

SCENE.—A second-hand furniture store, where the following conversation takes place between an old customer and the proprietor:

*Old Customer.*—"See here, Moses, you remember that bedstead I bought of you last May?"

*Moses.*—"Yesh, mine dear frend, I does; it was berry sheep."

*Old Customer.*—"Well, you told me it was clean and most new, that there were no bugs in it, and I found some this summer."

*Moses.*—"Vos dot so? Vell now, mine freind, I shust tells you, dot bedstead comes from a berry goot family; it was mine own cousin's, and de bugs are not of a low, common kind, and it vos so sheep—only three dollars."

Good-bye, Grand Council of North Carolina. You have entered upon a desert that is wanting food for the hungry and water for the thirsty. Let a casket be prepared with a timely contribution of some "Dead Sea Flowers" from Nebraska, and earth to earth, dust to dust, ashes to ashes, good-bye, sister, your long, long resting-place has been roached through trials and troubles, sorrows and tribulations, but now we sadly give you up to moulder and perish in your untimely grave, whilst the General Grand Council will have to step in and occupy the realty left by the deceased, and bring forth a live, lusty infant as an heir to the departed.

#### OHIO—1883.

Annual Assembly held at Sandusky, Oct. 11th and 12th, M. I. LEVI C. GOODALE, G. M., presiding, with Representatives of 47 Councils present.

The address of the Grand Master is one of much merit. He takes up every question relating to the "Rite" in his jurisdiction, and discusses it thoroughly. He makes a full report of his acts, and gives in detail the condition of the Rite; and, as compared with the addresses of some others occupying like position in other jurisdictions, his address is a gem of the first water. Not to be thought invidious, or that we are making a sweeping charge, we refer to the information on kindred subjects contained in the address in our own jurisdiction for the same year. He finds what New York ascertained some yerrs ago. Speaking of official visitations to Councils, he says:

"One of the results of this visitation is the discovery that Cryptic Masonry, like other branches of the order, is not altogether free from a few Masons who are intensely anxious to retain office in the order, but are unwilling to make the necessary effort to further its growth, and that no little want of the life lies in the custom of retaining in office Companions who, although they have done good service to the order, yet by reason of physical infirmities, or press of business engagements, are unable to continue their activity.

"Another is a system of rotating in office, so that the positions are occupied alternately by two or three, to the exclusion of others equally worthy.

"Moses was succeeded by a Joshua; so may these honored Masons be succeeded by those who, if opportunity is given, can and will keep up the work of the order."

He administers a most deserved rebuke to a T. I. M. who was elected and installed, taking the obligation, when in arrears for his own dues to an amount that it was the imperative duty of the Recorder to enter him as suspended for reason thereof. He also says:

"The Super-Excellent Master's Degree, wherever worked, has met with much favor; the attractiveness of its social feature has made for it many friends, and, I think, renders it a valuable aid in reviving drooping Councils.

I would suggest that it be exemplified by every Council at least once a year, say at the Annual Meeting, when it can be made the last work of retiring officers."

We find that this policy is rapidly advancing in many jurisdictions, and believe that it is of great benefit to the Councils. It has proved so in the Councils of New York which have worked it. We believe that the Ritual for S. E. M. Degree, as worked, was first sent into Ohio by the writer hereof.

Many of the dormant Councils have been brought into life and are doing well, a source of much gratification. He also suggests—based upon the careless handling and frequent loss of Rituals—"that some steps be taken to have any new Rituals issued hereafter printed in cabalistic form"—a good suggestion, and one which is adopted in many jurisdictions, although by some deemed improper and un-Masonic. We see no harm in it.

Another suggestion, one which has been often mentioned in our own body by earnest workers and thinkers, is made, and with which we hastily concur :

"Believing that the interests of this Grand Body would be best served by arranging the Representatives of other Grand Bodies residing near this Grand Jurisdiction so that but one Companion would represent a Grand Council, thereby securing better opportunity for such representation, and sharing the honors among a larger number of workers, who not only advance the interests of this Grand Council, but are in a better position to care for the interests of the bodies they represent, I made a number of appointments."

The reports of the visitations made by the Grand Officers shows that their work was not slighted, and that the Rite has prospered under their administration ; and they note the satisfaction with which the S. E. M. Degree is received by the Companions.

A balance in the treasury of \$639 66. The Super-Excellent Master's Degree was exemplified under direction of the Grand Council upon candidates for work and instruction.

One most important act must be noted. The Grand Master discovered that by the Constitution of the body the proceedings had, in becoming a constituent of the General Grand Council, were repugnant thereto, and recommended that the Constitution be amended accordingly. The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom the subject was referred, coincided with the Grand Master, and reported an amendment to the Constitution, which was duly seconded and lays over under the rule until the next Annual Assembly for final action.

The Super-Excellent Degree is hereafter to be conferred at each Annual Assembly, which we believe will result in good to the Rite.

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Comp. S. STACKER WILLIAMS, who in his lively way and with much zeal reports upon twenty-eight States and three foreign bodies.

Under Alabama, 1882, Comp. WILLIAMS decidedly disapproves of a decision holding that a T. I. M. may, in his discretion, call a Special Assembly on Sunday to confer the degrees, and we must agree with him, "that all such labor, as conferring Masonic degrees, etc., should be done on week-days ;

that the burial of the dead and other religious and charitable duties alone might be attended to on Sunday." And, in this connection, we think the fraternity at large can do much toward inculcating that earliest lesson of the order, "reverence for the Sabbath-day," by their expressed disapproval of allowing excursions and pilgrimages, etc., under the sanction of the order, from starting upon, or in traveling, either going or in returning on the Sabbath-day. It is time that the evil influence of such proceedings is done away with. As a general thing it has only been necessary to call the attention of the fraternity as a whole to an evil or pernicious practice to see it soon abolished. We are satisfied that even in this enlightened, liberal, and progressive age such practices result in most incalculable injury to the order and to good morals.

Under New York, 1882, he gives over two pages of quotations and comments, and is quite complimentary in reference to our work. We shall have to refer to this report under other heads, and must now forbear; but we wish every Companion in our jurisdiction could have the privilege of reading the reports of such correspondents; they would rise from their perusal refreshed and encouraged, and would feel like buckling on the armor for further efforts in the cause. The Report of the proceedings are finely gotten up, and are graced with a good steel-plate of their Grand Recorder, who is eminently worthy of the honor bestowed on him.

This body does not really seem to be in favor of entire "prohibition," as the outer world is discussing that question, for it not only keeps GOOD-ALE present at the head of its assemblies, but has a P. D. Grand Master, who acts also the part of a CHAMBERLIN, and directs those who are thirsty to his left for GOOD-ALE; or still further on, for the wine-GARNER, shall this continue to be Masonically CAL'D-WELL by the body? However, some other jurisdictions that we wot of might possibly profit by having a wine-GARNER and GOOD-ALE present in their hours of labor, as well as when called to refreshment.

M. I. LEVI C. GOODALE, G. M., Cincinnati. R. I. JOHN D. CALDWELL, G. R., Cincinnati. Next Assembly, Sept. 19, 1884, at Tiffin.

#### OREGON—1884.

This State has no Grand Council, but it has three subordinate Councils, duly chartered by the General Grand Council at its first triennial. T. I. Comp. A. M. HODSON, of Pioneer Council, at McMinnville, Yamhill Co., Oregon, was in attendance at Detroit in 1880, at the time of the provisional organization of the General Grand Council, and made application for the degrees which were conferred then. A petition for a dispensation was made to M. P. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, General Grand Master, and granted January 5, 1882. Pioneer Council, U. D., was organized and has now a good membership of enthusiastic workers, of whom Comp. HODSON is at the head.

Oregon Council, U. D., was organized May 4th, 1883, at Corvallis, Benton County.

To each of these Councils a charter was duly issued by the General Grand Council at Denver, Aug. 14, 1883, and at the same date granted a charter to a

Council to be held at East Portland, Oregon, under the name of Washington Council.

These Councils have all been regularly instituted since the charters were issued, and are now in a prosperous condition, and the Rite is a success there.

A petition for another Council is about being presented from Oregon, and already are the Companions taking steps toward the organization of a Grand Council for Oregon, which will more than fill the vacancy of North Carolina. Thrice Ill. Comp. HODSON is entitled to great credit for his stirring and persevering efforts in this State for the Rite, and will receive the reward not only of an approving conscience, but also the deserved meed of praise and honor from his Companions of Oregon, and also of the other jurisdictions who have been anticipating the arrival of a new sister from this State, and who are not doomed to disappointment.

#### PENNSYLVANIA—1884.

The Grand Body, whose title is "The Grand Council of Royal, Super-Excellent, and Select Masters," held its 38th Annual Assembly at Harrisburg, February 20. M. P. VOSBURG N. SHAFFER, G. M., presided, with the Representatives of seven Councils present, although eighteen Councils are reported as having made their returns and paid their dues, etc.

The address of the Grand Master starts out with words of encouragement. We quote:

"The past year has been one of continued prosperity in Cryptic Masonry, and the prospects for the future are bright, as the Companions of the Royal Arch, searching after further light and knowledge, are unerringly guided to the entrance of the S. V. That they may advance to the Ninth or Inner Arch from among the less-informed brethren to the ranks of those who have solved the great mysteries.

"It is well that the degrees of the Council are explanatory and historical, and without them no Royal Arch Mason can fully understand the degrees he has received."

"The Royal Master discovers much that is hidden in the Blue Lodge. The Super-Excellent Master is an actor in the eventful historical drama that fills the void in the Chapter—a period of 470 years between the events of the Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Degree.

"Perfection is reached in the Select Master, when upon admission to the Ninth or Inner Arch the S. M. is endowed with a full and complete knowledge of all that must have perplexed him as an anxious inquirer after that which would combine the system of Freemasonry into a harmonious whole."

He also states that "the returns received from the subordinate Councils show that there is renewed interest in the Cryptic Degrees."

Balance in the treasury, \$1,427 59. This Grand Council is also one of the "bloated" bondholders of the U. S., and they cut off \$60 in coupons the past year.

The returns show 93 degrees conferred, 22 Companions deceased, 14 resigned, (What's that?) 23 suspended. 1,406 Companions in full membership, with an increase of 63.

The work was exemplified in all three degrees upon sixteen candidates of Harrisburg Council. To visit Councils in this jurisdiction one has to be a Super-Excellent Master, we understand. At the close of the session, "The Grand Council was closed in peace."

No Report of Foreign Correspondence to be discovered with the proceedings, although we put on our other eyes. Now, Comp. MEYER, we want you to take hold of this "Report business," and give us your comments, and not hide your light under a bushel longer.

M. P. ANDREW J. KAUFMAN, G. M., Columbia. III. CHARLES E. MEYER, G. R., Philadelphia. Next Assembly, Feb. 18, 1885.

#### RHODE ISLAND—AND THE PROVIDENCE PLANTATION—1883.

Annual Assembly held March 12th, at Providence, M. I. EDWIN BAKER, G. M., presiding, with Representatives from four Councils present.

In his address, the G. M. says that "The most important item, both to the Grand Council and to Cryptic Masonry in this jurisdiction, is the establishment of a new Council within our borders." He also says:

"The Companions in other jurisdictions are at a loss to understand why Rhode Island refuses to join the General Grand Council, and their comments are in some instances unworthy of them, and are not calculated to influence us to change our mind or purpose.

"The Craft in Rhode Island are not, in the main, believers in the utility or necessity of General Grand Bodies, and having refused for years to become a constituent of the General Grand Chapter, could not consistently become one of the General Grand Council, nor would they be to-day of the Grand Encampment of the United States if the option was with them. We are opposed to the Mississippi plan in toto, are in favor of preserving the integrity of the Cryptic Rite, and think we can do in this State as well without any General Grand Body as with. The time may come when the Craft in Rhode Island may be more enlightened with regard to the utility and necessity of General Grand Bodies. Until that time we hope that the work may prosper, and that we may be at peace with all within or without our Bodies."

And with that hope we most sincerely unite. But remember your jurisdiction is not out of the United States—is not a foreign body—as Comp. CASWELL, of California, mildly insinuates one of the other "non-conformists" is; and we are expecting you in with the rest of us in that inner circle, which is destined to be not only an inner but an outer circle, to embrace in time the whole Cryptic Rite of the United States. There is an error in the mind of the G. M., a misapprehension in regard to the jurisdiction sought to be held by the "General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the United States of America." It was not designed in its inception to take as constituents our neighboring sister Grand Councils in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Ontario, as it appears the G. M. thought was its intention; and as he intimates in his address New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are never heard from, and we fear they are lost sisters. Ontario is not now Ontario, but Canada. If the question should ever arise, we don't see why the General Grand Council could not, upon application, amend its title and Constitution and take in the Grand Council of

Canada, if it was the desire of such body. But it is time enough to discuss that subject when such application is made, if ever.

This jurisdiction is one of those who believe in and work the Super-Excellent Master's Degree, and we should not be surprised if all the Grand Councils resumed it. We wish they would do so.

No Report on Correspondence. Can't you give us one?

Balance in the treasury, \$61 55.

M. I. Rev. WILLIAM N. ACKLEY, G. M., of Warren. Ill. WILLIAM R. GREEN, G. R., Providence. Next Assembly was held March 10th, 1884, of which we have no report, as proceedings are only published triennially.

#### SCOTLAND—1883.

We have sent for information regarding this jurisdiction to the address of the Grand Master given below, but our letter has just been received returned to us as unclaimed; hence our light is dim, the oil running low; and we can only add that M. I. CHARLES HUNTER, of Anglesea, North Wales, is Grand Master, and R. I. Comp. R. S. BROWN, of No. 5 Marchmont Terrace, Edinburgh, is Grand Recorder. Our letter was addressed to Comp. BROWN. We have again written to the Grand Master in person, but are without answer.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA—1883-1884.

Annual Assembly held at Columbia, Feb. 14, 1883. No proceedings are at hand, being published biennially.

M. I. J. E. BRAZEALE, re-elected G. M., Anderson. Ill. Comp. D. D. MOORE, re-elected G. R., Rock Hill.

#### TENNESSEE—1883.

"I come with a pledge and a toast,  
In response to your welcome to me,  
As a guest to a warm-hearted host:  
Here's a health unto old Tennessee.

"Drink deep: for the grasp of your hand  
Remembered and treasured shall be;  
Your Cumberland Mountains shall stand  
As brothers and cousins to me.

"They seem like my own Highland Ridge,  
Where the Hudson flows down to the sea!  
Whose sunsets the distance shall bridge  
And remind me forever of thee."

The 33d Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of this State was held at Nashville, Feb. 1. M. I. ERVIN BURNEY, G. M., presided, with the Representatives of — Councils present.

The address of the Grand Master was principally of local interest, but upon the subject of the condition of the Rite we quote:

"From reports, the condition of Cryptic Masonry, taken altogether, is rather encouraging. While in some sections they have not recovered from the lethargy with which they have been attacked, in others earnest, energetic Companions are at the head and doing good work. In Memphis and Nashville the Councils are the most prosperous of any of the bodies.

"Then, Companions, let me again urge upon you the necessity of holding stated assemblies regularly. Practice your Ritual, and no intelligent Companion who learns it will fail to become interested. Impress upon them the truth that the Royal Arch Degree is incomplete without the Royal and Select Master's Degree. Without your co-operation the Grand Officers can do absolutely nothing. They can lay out the most extravagant plans and draw the most beautiful designs upon the trestle-board, but if the laborers fail or refuse to execute them they are worthless. Then I hope, my Companions, that you will each return to your homes with a determination to rekindle the fires on your Council altars that have lain so long dormant."

Nashville Council exemplified the work of Super-Excellent Masters' Degree before the Grand Council.

The G. M. referred in fitting terms to the General Grand Council, expressing his satisfaction of the good results which had come from its organization, etc., and the Committee of Jurisprudence reported: "We rejoice with him that so many of our sister Grand Councils have become constituents of the General Grand Council."

No Report on Correspondence. How long, oh how long, shall we wait for one?

M. I. WILLIAM S. MATHEWS, G. M., Memphis. III. JOHN FRIZZELL, G. R., Nashville.

#### TENNESSEE—1884.

The 34th General Assembly was held at Nashville, Jan. 28. M. I. WILLIAM S. MATHEWS, G. M., presided. Representatives of 9 Councils present.

The address of the G. M. is worthy of an earnest perusal, and we quote from it:

"Nearly twenty-nine centuries since, three Masons, each Illustrious, formed a secret compact in a sunless Crypt arched in by solid stone; then deposited upon the foundation stone of truth the ark of the law, the heavenly manna that fell as dew, and the budding root of promise—treasures destined to influence mankind to the remotest times. These founders and their acts stand in bold outline upon the roll of immortality, for the name of Solomon is synonymous for wisdom, and his sayings are the intellectual treasures of the world. Hiram, the architect, the personification of integrity; he lived not for himself alone, but for all who should come after him. His noble testimony of the truth, sealed with his blood, has enrolled his name with earth's most hallowed names—King Hiram, the pillar of strength and friendship. It was by his skill and energy that Tyre arose in grandeur, resting one foot upon the sea and the other on the land. Her arms and fleets sailed far beyond the blue Mediterranean, past the pillars of Hercules, even beyond lost Atalantis. Greece was not thought of; Homer had not sung; Rome was unknown; Cyrus nor Alexander had flashed their victorious swords over the nations.

“Our mystic art first quarried on the Nile and blossomed into beauty and works of art that have defied both time and man—as witness the pyramids—then advanced along the Tyrrion Coast, through Gebal, and was crowned on gray old Moriah, and wet with the dews of Zion.

“It was at the Temple that events, incidents, and truths occurred that have crystallized into the present degrees. Masonry’s forms and traditions are of human origin, but her genius, doctrines, and principles are divine. Therefore, it is not strange that we should revert continuously to the Temple and its Crypt, for it was the grandest thought of God ever wrought out by human hands. From there was issued the mandate to travel into foreign countries and dispense Masonic light and knowledge. With the Book of the Law for its guide, Truth for its motto, Masonry has left its chisel marks indelibly indented upon every land where civilization extends. It has survived temples, empires, names, and deeds thought to be immortal that have shown in the meridian dawn, and which, with wars and woes, have all been thrown into the chambers of the forgotten, wrapped with the mantle of oblivion and covered with the dust of ages. Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek, and Roman have plundered and gathered tribute in the cradle of our art, and each in turn have been plundered, and all have returned to the dust whence they came. Masonry is the offspring of truth, that which survives through centuries and overcomes the hostile intellect of generations. It has within it more than the authenticity of vitality. It has kept pace with the marching millions and billions that have journeyed in joy and in sorrow out of mystery into mystery.

“The founder of arts and sciences, the protector of the widow and orphan, the progress of intellect, was its progress. Thus we see what operative and speculative Masonry was; for this we have given a retrospect of the past, and gathered the thoughts of many. Should they inspire a purer thought or a higher aim, we are content.

“Although speculative Masonry has virtually given up architecture, and is no longer the patron of the arts, her mission is the same as in the past—to teach her votaries by tradition, allegories, and secret rites, sublime truths. Her work is the laudable object of doing good, teaching justice, mercy, and fidelity to the right.”

He recommends a system of official visitations of Councils. The G. M. was present at the first triennial of the General Grand Council at Denver, and expresses himself satisfied that more time must be taken at its sessions, and expresses the hope that that will be the case at its next triennial in Washington in 1886.

He also refers to the Super-Excellent Degree, as conferred in their jurisdiction.

The Committee upon Masonic Jurisprudence submitted a report upon a subject of interest everywhere :

“*Question.*—A. B. receives the degrees in a Council in Tennessee, then demits, removes to Mississippi, and becomes a member of a Council which is subsequently merged into the Chapter:

“1. Can he now visit a Council holding allegiance to the General Grand Council?”

“We answer: No.

“2. Can he become a member of a Council holding allegiance to the General Grand Council?”

“We answer: Yes, upon proper petition.

“3. Must he be healed?”

“We answer: Yes.”

This report was adopted and the decision approved, to which we can only add, that it meets our approval.

No Report on Correspondence. When, oh when?

M. I. PITKIN C. WRIGHT, G. M. III. JOHN FRIZZELL, G. R. Addresses, Nashville. Next Assembly, Jan. 26, 1885.

#### VERMONT—1883.

The 30th Annual Assembly was held at Burlington, June 12. M. I. Rev. FREDERICK S. FISHER, G. M., presided, with Representatives of 13 Councils present.

The address is an excellent one, and worthy of a more full presentation to our readers than we can give it here. The Super-Excellent Degree is not only admired but recommended by the Grand Master. He has endeavored to arouse those who are sleeping and bring them up to renewed life and action, but has not always met with success, as see:

"In one case I wrote to the T. I. M. of a Council which had been sleeping for more than two years, to see if it might not be induced to arise, with this result, showing the sad ignorance which springs from neglected opportunities. The Thrice Illustrious Companion wrote to me, after many weeks, and said that neither himself nor any Companion in the town could read my letter."

Ha! ha! that's a good one. We sympathize with you, Comp. FISHER, we have been there ourselves. We remember writing a very plain, legible (to ourself) letter once, and in due course of mail received a letter; upon the envelope inclosing it was our signature to the letter we had sent, which with the name of our residence had been cut out and pasted upon the envelope. The letter itself simply informed us that neither the location or identity of the writer could be ascertained, nor the subject upon which the letter was written, and asked us if there was any one engaged in teaching writing where we lived, which, to our satisfaction, was "showing the sad ignorance which springs from neglected opportunities" in the locality where our correspondent resided. Even more recently we have had occasion to notice the lamentable condition of things. In furnishing the MSS. for this report to our copyist to put through the type-writer for the printer, we have only been asked about a thousand times to tell him what some *unusually well-written* words were; but we excused him, for he says *he was born in Vermont*. We can only condole with Comp. FISHER for this discouraging incident. Don't take it to heart. *We don't.*

Upon the subject of publishing proceedings he very sensibly remarks:

"Yet better let the body die than allow a year to pass without the proceedings, including the correspondence, being published; nor should the burden be thrown on the Grand Treasurer, generous though he be."

Under the heading of "Cryptic Masonry," Comp. FISHER gives a most beautiful description and history. We would like to abstract four full pages, but space forbids; to give less would be so unsatisfactory that we must be content to advise every Companion who can do so to secure the reading of it in full from

the proceedings on file in all our great Masonic centers. The G. M. declined a re-election, to which he was so well entitled.

The officers that were installed by one of our own beloved and highly-respected Companions, as will be seen by the following resolution, adopted on motion of Past M. I. G. M. EDWARD S. DANA:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Grand Council of Vermont are due and are hereby tendered our Most Illustrious Companion, Gen. CHARLES ROOME, of New York, for his beautiful installation of our officers at this time, and that we assure him of our appreciation of his high character as a man and Mason, and our pleasure at his presence as our guest."

The Correspondence Report is from Ill. Comp. W. H. S. WHITCOMB, who reviews 29 bodies, including New York, for 1882, in a thoroughly business way, and which reflects great credit not only upon himself, but upon the body in keeping him in the position he honors by his occupation.

Under "New York," he says:

"Do not see the policy of giving so much space and notice to the sleeping jurisdictions—Mississippi, Nebraska, *et al.* Wait until those dead are alive again."

Well, we think that these "sleeping jurisdictions" should be aroused. We have been taught that a Council comprised of "Ahishars" was worthless; but when aroused they could be even eloquent in their zeal, and willing to work most earnestly and devotedly. We shall not consider our work complete until all these "sleepers" are awakened and stirred up to renewed service and labor in the completion of that glorious Temple whose foundation is built upon the rock, whose magnificence is unequalled, whose towers are to reach into the unknown and beyond of earthly life, and whose builders, being ever faithful unto duty, are to receive the crown of life. There is no reason why those now in a sleep closely akin to death should not be revived, revitalized, and put on the armor of the Lord and go forth with renewed strength of mind and purpose to new victories and successes—whilst the day lasts, ere the night of death approaches when no man can work. This awakening will come, but it may not be whilst the writer is here to see. Know and rejoice with those who will have their hearts made glad when the circle is once more made complete—when each sister jurisdiction is in its proper place—each hand in hand, laboring in loving unity for the common advancement of our great and beneficent principles and objects. But we have faith to believe that such will be the ultimate result; and to that end, Comp. WHITCOMB, let us all unite our energies and labors. The harvest is ripe. Shall the laborers be few? And when the consummation of our wishes is reached, we will have a real old-fashioned house-warming, at which all the family will be present—no vacant seats. We would like to quote more from this report, but our space is more than filled. The measure has been running over some time. We can only add, the Rite is prosperous in Vermont, where the officers are alive and in earnest in doing every duty, both in season and out of season.

M. I. FRANK H. BASCOM, G. M., Montpelier. EDWARD E. GREENLEAF, G. R., Burlington. Its next Assembly was held at Burlington, June 10, 1884, of which we have no advices.

#### WISCONSIN—1883-1884.

We learn from a letter from Comp. J. W. LAFLIN that the proceedings for this year are not published—will probably be some time in the future.

From a careful examination of the General Grand Chapter Proceedings for 1883 and 1884; we cannot see that any progress has been or is likely to be made in the Cryptic Rite in this jurisdiction; even the names of the officers of this so-called Grand Council are not given to the Masonic world. Why hide your light longer under a bushel? In times past it was like a city set upon a hill. Let us again hear from you in earnest. See your work, and delight in old time fellowship.

#### GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STATES—1884.

What shall we add relating to the work of this body? We have under other jurisdictions and under territorial names referred to the work being accomplished by this body. That its organization has resulted in great good to the Cryptic Rite is beyond all question. Even its opponents recognize the fact that its influence has been of incalculable benefit to the Rite, and to those who promoted its being. Their labors have been more than satisfactory. The results have reached out far beyond what the most sanguine of us anticipated at its inception. It is to-day the loved and honored head of every one of its constituents. A unity of purpose and a harmony of execution characterizes the labors of each and every one; and the Cryptic Rite to-day is stronger, better-known, and appreciated, and is working greater advancement than was ever known in its palmy days before the "Merger" plan was first suggested. Were we writing of or reviewing the proceedings of any other body, we should feel much more free in speaking of it. In the dual position of the writer as Committee and as an officer of the General Grand Council, we have thought the better way to be to give under other heads its labors and successes, and let others more impartial than ourselves, perhaps, make the comments necessary in relation to it. Its work is before you; specimens of its skill in architecture have been presented for your consideration and examination, and whether the verdict be, "This is a beautiful piece of work, and the Companion who wrought it is worthy of the confidence of the Craft," or whether the seal of condemnation is to be placed upon it and it be discarded as rubbish, is for the select workmen of the S. V. to determine.

By its fruits let it be known and judged. Let its test be thorough; let it be tried by the fires of tribulation and successes, and when the jewels are finally made up, let it be adopted or rejected as a gem fitting for the crown preparing for the final reward of the faithful as its true merits may deserve.

## IN CONCLUSION.

We have labored in the Quarries, we have brought forth the gleanings of the select work of our craftsmen, and have presented it for your consideration. Many adverse circumstances have interrupted and interfered with our work; but with malice toward none, with charity toward all, we have endeavored to present a fair, impartial *resumé* of our Rite and its condition. If we have afforded any light or information that is pleasant, we shall be satisfied with the result; if otherwise, we ask our Companions of our own Crypt, and those of other jurisdictions who have to criticize our work, to have in mind that "our intentions were honorable," even if a mistake has been made in some of the circles where we have made our visit. And with this we lay aside our quill, and await your pleasure for the future.

GEO. M. OSGOODBY,

*For the Committee.*



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