

Proceedings  
OF THE  
*Most Puissant Grand Council*  
OF

ROYAL AND  
SELECT  
MASTERS

OF THE  
STATE OF NEW YORK

*August 31st, 1897*



Press of JOHN F. BALDWIN  
188 & 190 Greenwich St.  
New York

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
MOST PUISSANT GRAND COUNCIL  
OF  
ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS  
OF THE  
STATE OF NEW YORK.

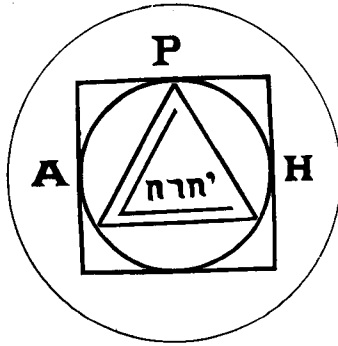
AUGUST 31ST, 1897.

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NEW YORK :

JOHN F. BALDWIN, PRINTER, 188 & 190 GREENWICH STREET.

1897.



Grand Council

**ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS**

of the State of New York

*Eighty-eighth Annual Assembly,*

*August 31st, 1897,*

*Masonic Hall, New York City.*

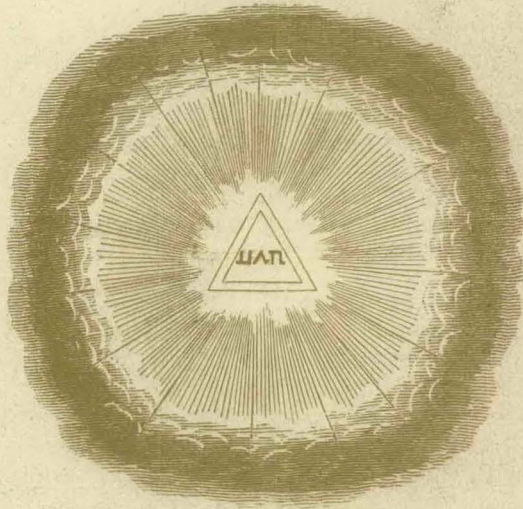
Most Illustrious JOHN F. BALDWIN, - - - - - Grand Master.

OPENING EXERCISES.

Music by Comp. ALBERT C. JOHNSON, Organist to the Grand Council.  
Comp. W. E. SAYERS, Cornetist.

- |  |   |                |
|--|---|----------------|
| 1 Overture,                                    | <i>Tannhauser,</i>                                  | WAGNER         |
| 2 Entrance of Grand Master and Grand Officers. |   |                |
|  | Grand Council Processional March, Organ and Cornet, | JOHNSON        |
| 3 Salutation,                                  |   |                |
| 4 Organ and Cornet,                            | <i>Palm Branches,</i>                               | FAURE          |
| 5 Opening of Grand Council,                    |   |                |
| 6 Cornet Solo,                                 | <i>Lost Chord,</i>                                  | SULLIVAN       |
| 7 Prayer,                                      |   | GRAND CHAPLAIN |
| 8 Chorus,                                      | "Old Hundred."                                      |                |
|  | (Companions will rise and unite in singing)         |                |
|  | <i>Be thou, O God, exalted high,</i>                |                |
|  | <i>And as Thy glory fills the sky</i>               |                |
|  | <i>So shalt Thou be on earth display'd</i>          |                |
|  | <i>'Till Thou art here as there obeyed.</i>         |                |
| 9 Proclamation,                                |   | GRAND MARSHAL  |
| 10 Roll Call,                                  |   | GRAND RECORDER |





88TH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE  
GRAND COUNCIL R.:& S.:M.:  
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

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GRAND COUNCIL ROOM,  
MASONIC HALL, COR. SIXTH AVE. & 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, August 31st,  
1897, Anno.:Dep.:2897, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

## PRESENT :

M. Ill. JOHN F. BALDWIN.....	GRAND MASTER
R. Ill. A. OPPENHEIMER.....	GRAND DEPUTY MASTER
M. Ill. ALEX. B. KING.....	ACTING GRAND P. C. of W.
R. Ill. PETER FORRESTER.....	" TREASURER
R. Ill. GEORGE VAN VLIET.....	" RECORDER
R. Ill. FREDERICK KANTER.....	" C. of the G.
R. Ill. JAMES B. McEWAN.....	" C. of the C.
R. Ill. REV. W. D'ORVILLE DOTY, D.D.....	" CHAPLAIN
R. Ill. JOHN P. DEAL.....	" MARSHAL
R. Ill. GEORGE McGOWN.....	" LECTURER
R. Ill. THEO. M. BARBER.....	" STEWARD
Ill. GEORGE SKINNER.....	" SENTINEL
M. Ill. GEORGE M. OSGOODBY.....	} TRUSTEES
M. Ill. JOHN W. COBURN.....	
M. Ill. JOHN L. BROTHERS.....	

## Together with the Representatives of the following Councils :

COLUMBIAN.....	No. 1	DE WITT CLINTON.....	No. 22
UNION.....	" 2	PALMYRA.....	" 26
BROOKLYN.....	" 4	KING SOLOMON.....	" 31
ADELPHIC.....	" 7	JAMESTOWN.....	" 32
CENTRAL CITY.....	" 13	OLEAN.....	" 33
BLOSS.....	" 14	HORNELLSVILLE.....	" 35
BRUCE.....	" 15	CRYPTIC.....	" 37
SOUTHERN TIER.....	" 16	WASHINGTON.....	" 52
BUFFALO.....	" 17	CORNING.....	" 53
DORIC.....	" 19	PEEKSKILL.....	" 55
KEYSTONE.....	" 20	NEPPERHAN.....	" 70

## And permanent members as follows:

## PAST MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTERS

GEO. M. OSGOODBY	R. C. CHRISTIANCE
JOHN J. MARTIN	JOHN W. COBURN
JOHN L. BROTHERS	GEO. A. NEWELL
ALEX. B. KING	

## PAST THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS

P. M. W. VERHOEVEN.....	No. 1	WM. DOWNES.....	No. 7
GARVEY DONALDSON.....	" 1	GEO. E. W. STIVERS.....	" 7
CHARLES J. HARVEY.....	" 4	WM. H. ANDREWS.....	" 7
FRED. E. DAVIS.....	" 7	W. H. SIMS.....	" 35
EDWIN A. QUICK.....	No. 70		

With Representatives from the following Grand Councils :

ARKANSAS.....	Represented by Comp.	HIRAM A. MATTESON
CANADA.....	“ “ “	GEO. MCGOWN
CONNECTICUT.....	“ “ “	P. M. W. VERHOEVEN
CALIFORNIA.....	“ “ “	THEO. M. BARBER
ENGLAND, WALES, &c...	“ “ “	GEO. M. OSGOODBY
FLORIDA.....	“ “ “	JOHN F. BALDWIN
GEORGIA.....	“ “ “	JOHN W. COBURN
ILLINOIS.....	“ “ “	THOS. J. HODGKINS
INDIANA.....	“ “ “	GEO. A. NEWELL
INDIAN TERRITORY.....	“ “ “	
KENTUCKY.....	“ “ “	
LOUISIANA.....	“ “ “	
MAINE.....	“ “ “	
MARYLAND.....	“ “ “	WM. DOWNES
MASSACHUSETTS.....	“ “ “	JOHN J. MARTIN
MICHIGAN.....	“ “ “	PETER FORRESTER
MISSOURI.....	“ “ “	JOHN L. BROTHERS
MINNESOTA.....	“ “ “	ALEX. B. KING
NEW BRUNSWICK.....	“ “ “	
NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	“ “ “	GEO. VAN VLIET
NORTH CAROLINA.....	“ “ “	Rev. W. D'ORVILLE DOTY
NEW JERSEY.....	“ “ “	
OHIO.....	“ “ “	IRVING L'HOMMEDIEU
OREGON.....	“ “ “	A. OPPENHEIMER
PENNSYLVANIA.....	“ “ “	FRANK E. SMITH
RHODE ISLAND.....	“ “ “	FREDERICK KANTER
SOUTH CAROLINA.....	“ “ “	
SCOTLAND.....	“ “ “	
TENNESSEE.....	“ “ “	GEO. E. W. STIVERS
VERMONT.....	“ “ “	R. C. CHRISTIANCE
WISCONSIN.....	“ “ “	WM. MORGAN LEE

M.·P.·GEO. M. OSGOODBY, Past General Grand Master, and M.·P.·JOHN W. COBURN, Present General Grand Master of the General Grand Council of the U. S. were received and welcomed to this Annual Assembly.

M.·I.·Companions GEORGE SCOTT, JOHN M. KNAPP, and FREDK. A. HAWKINS, Past Grand Masters of the Grand Council of New Jersey, were announced, received and heartily welcomed as visitors to this Annual Assembly.

Comp. JOHN W. PALMER, Deputy Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, and Comp. ROBT. D. BROWN, Past Grand Conductor of W. of the Grand Council of Minnesota, were also received and welcomed to this Annual Assembly.

The Grand Council was opened in ample form as per programme.

The Grand Master received and welcomed the Representatives of the several Grand Councils present, and tendered to them, and through them to the various Grand Bodies they represent, the fraternal greetings of the Grand Council of the State of New York.

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 Eighty-seventh Annual Assembly was dispensed with (printed copies thereof being in the hands of the Representatives).

M.:Ill.:JOHN F. BALDWIN, Grand Master, then delivered the following Address:

## ADDRESS.

### ILLUSTRIOUS COMPANIONS:

With prayer and praise to the High and Holy One who inhabiteth eternity, we come to the eighty-eighth Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York.

While our hearts may glow with gratitude for mercies seen and unseen, we cannot ignore the fact that the year past has been one of sadness and unusual depression, sorely affecting every department of Freemasonry and especially detrimental to the Cryptic Rite in this jurisdiction. Nevertheless we

gladly clasp hands and rejoice with you in the Royal Companionship which neither success nor disaster can destroy—trusting, hoping, praying that the tide of prosperity may soon set in, and the labors of faithful workmen be amply rewarded.

During the year two distinguished Companions have been called to pass through the gate of death to find, we trust, an entrance to the place of refreshment and rest.

Past M.:Ill.:G. FRED. WILTSIE, after long suffering, passed away February 16th. Companion WILTSIE had creditably filled the chief offices in Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery, and at the time of his decease was Grand Representative of the Grand Council of R. & S. M. of Maine near this Grand Council.

Past M.:Ill.:JOHN B. SACKETT died suddenly June 19, 1897. Thorough, devoted, efficient, not only in the great Fraternity of Freemasons—where he had held the highest offices in the gift of brethren and companions—but as educator, and many years Superintendent of Public Schools, President of the Common Council, Postmaster, and Treasurer of Erie County, he had won the hearts of the people of Buffalo.

Our sister jurisdictions report the loss by death of distinguished Companions whose names are here recorded. Our sympathy is fraternally tendered to the Grand Councils afflicted.

*Arkansas.*—Past M.:Ill.:C. W. MILLARD. Rt.:Ill.:FRED. KRAMER, Grand Treasurer. Rt.:Ill.:JOHN H. NEAL, Past P. C. W.

*California.*—Past M.:Ill.:STEPHEN WING.

*Georgia.*—Rt.:Ill.:ANDREW MARTIN WOLIHIN, Grand Recorder, and Grand Representative of this Grand Council near the Grand Council of the State of Georgia.

*Indiana.*—Past M.:Ill.:CHARLES H. BUTTERFIELD. Past M.:Ill.:ALEXANDER THOMAS.

*Louisiana.*—Past R.:Ill.:D. G.: M.: HENRY HAMBURGER.

*Massachusetts.*—Past M.:Ill.:JOHN HAIGH. ~

*Michigan.*—Comp. ALEXANDER MCGREGOR, Grand Sentinel.  
Past M.:Ill.:RUFUS C. HATHEWAY. Past M.:Ill.:  
GARRA B. NOBLE, Grand Recorder.

*New Jersey.*—Past M.:Ill.:GEORGE W. STEED. Past M.:  
Ill.:JEROME B. BORDEN.

*North Carolina.*—Rt.:Ill.:R. B. DEVAULT, Grand C. of G.

*Ohio.*—Rt.:Ill.: and Rev. THOMAS J. MELISH, G. Chaplain.

*Pennsylvania.*—Past M.:P.:DAVID A. STEVENSON.

All these Illustrious Companions had labored long and diligently in quarry and crypt, and their zeal and devotion had been recognized by the royal craft while living, and now their memory is held sacred by the Companions who are bereft of their presence and counsel. It may truly be said that the lessons of our Rite found them prepared to say exultingly

“Forever with the Lord!

Amen, so let it be!

Life from the dead is in the word,

“Tis immortality.”

It will be observed, by reference to the obituary roll, that by the death of M.:Ill.:G. FRED. WILTSIE, the Royal and Select Masters of the State of Maine is without a Grand Representative near this Grand Council. Also, by the death of R.:Ill.:ANDREW M. WOLIHIN, this Grand Council is without a Grand Representative near the Grand Council in the State of Georgia. The vacancies will be filled in due time, as this Grand Council has always shown a laudable desire to be in fraternal relations with Grand Councils of the Cryptic Rite.

While on the subject of Grand Representatives, my thanks are herewith given to our Representatives near other Grand

Councils for an occasional remembrance in communicating memoranda of the work of Grand Councils to which they were appointed. It is to be regretted that the Right Illustrious Companions have not more fully appreciated and magnified their Representative positions by more frequent correspondence with the Grand Master or Grand Recorder of the Grand Council accrediting them.

Following out the wish of the Grand Council, the assignments for visitations by Grand Officers were made as follows:

GRAND COUNCIL  
ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS  
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.  
NEW YORK, Oct. 15, A. Dep. 2897.

*To the Officers of the Grand Council and to the Councils of Royal and Select Masters in the State of New York:*

**RIGHT ILLUSTRIOUS COMPANIONS:**

The usual request of Grand Council is hereby complied with in apportioning Councils for visitations by Grand Officers.

Now that the strain of a Presidential Campaign is over let us with freedom, fervency and zeal, show our interest in the Cryptic Rite by visitations, encouragement, and the cultivation of social and friendly intercourse with the Royal and Select.

Please make early arrangements, to the end that visitations may be successfully and agreeably made.

REPORTS from visiting Officers should be made to the Grand Master not later than the fifteenth day of August, 1897, that proper compilation may be made for their publication in the Proceedings.

R. I. A. OPPENHEIMER, G.D.M., Buffalo, N. Y.

DUNKIRK, No. 25 .....Dunkirk.  
JAMESTOWN, No. 32.....Jamestown.  
CRYPTIC, No. 37.....Saratoga Springs.

R. I. ALBERT W. FORCE, G.P.C. of W., Ithaca, N. Y.

CENTRAL CITY, No. 13.....Syracuse.  
DORIC, No. 19.....Rochester.  
UTICA, No. 28.....Utica.

R. I. FRED. KANTER, G.C. of G., 852 Broadway, N. Y. City.

BROOKLYN, No. 4.....Brooklyn.  
HORNELLVILLE, No. 35.....Hornellsville.  
NEPPERHAN, No. 70.....Mount Vernon.

- R. I. JAMES B. MCEWAN, G.C. of C., Albany, N. Y.  
 BLOSS, No. 14..... Troy.  
 CORNING, No. 53..... Corning.  
 ITHACA, No. 68..... Ithaca.
- R. I. AND REV. W. D'ORVILLE DOTY, D.D., G. Chap. Rochester, N. Y.  
 BRUCE, No. 15..... Lockport.  
 PALMYRA, No. 26..... Palmyra.  
 JOHNSTOWN, No. 72..... Johnstown.
- R. I. JOHN P. DEAL, G. Mar., Troy, N. Y.  
 SOUTHERN TIER, No. 16..... Elmira.  
 ALPH-OMEGA, No. 71..... Albion.  
 GOUVERNEUR, No. 73..... Gouverneur.
- R. I. GEORGE MCGOWN, G. Lect., Palmyra, N. Y.  
 KEYSTONE, No. 20..... Buffalo.  
 OLEAN, No. 33..... Olean.  
 WASHINGTON, No. 52..... Whitehall.
- R. I. THEO. M. BARBER, G. Steward, Syracuse, N. Y.  
 BUFFALO, No. 17..... Buffalo.  
 DE WITT CLINTON, No. 22..... Albany.  
 BINGHAMTON, No. 24..... Binghamton.
- R. I. GEORGE VAN VLIET, G. R., 16 Eighth Ave., N. Y. City.  
 COLUMBIAN, No. 1..... New York.  
 UNION, No. 2..... New York.
- R. I. PETER FORRESTER, G. T., 18 Broadway, N. Y. City.  
 ADELPHIC, No. 7..... New York.  
 KING SOLOMON, No. 31..... Poughkeepsie.
- M. I. JOHN F. BALDWIN, G. Master, 188 Greenwich St., N. Y. City.  
 PEEKSKILL, No. 55..... Peekskill.

Fraternally yours,

Attest,

GEORGE VAN VLIET,  
*Grand Recorder.*

JOHN F. BALDWIN,

*Grand Master.*

#### DISPENSATIONS

In all cases requiring that due notice be given to the Companions of the Councils interested as to time and purpose of Special Assembly were as follows:

October 31, forwarded to Washington Council, No. 52, through M.:Ill.:A. B. KING, a certificate of authorization to continue work as under original warrant—the writing of which warrant has completely faded away. We expected that the faded writing might be restored, but there does not appear to be any way to do it. I therefore recommend that a new warrant be given.

November 12, to Buffalo Council, No. 17, to hold a Special Assembly on Wednesday, November 18, at which to receive and act upon petitions and confer degrees upon accepted candidates.

November 20, to Adelpic Council, No. 7, to hold a Special Assembly on 24th inst., at Scottish Rite Hall, at which to confer the degree of Super Excellent Master.

December 14, to Gouverneur Council, No. 73, to hold a Special Assembly on Friday, 18th November, at which to elect and install officers for the coming year.

December 15, to Bloss Council, No. 14, to hold a Special Assembly on Wednesday, December 30th, at which to install officers, receive and act upon petitions, and confer degrees upon accepted candidates.

January 7, 1897, to Bloss Council, No. 14, to hold an Assembly on Friday, January 29th, at which to do all regular Council work.

January 16, to Bruce Council, No. 15, to hold the election of officers at Stated Assembly on Monday, January 25th—having failed to elect at December Assembly.

February 9, to Union Council, No. 2, to elect and install officers at the Stated Assembly on February 20th—having failed to elect at proper time.

The warrant of Jamestown Council, No. 32, was forwarded on the 19th September through R.:Ill.:A. OPPENHEIMER, D. G. M.

## WAIVERS.

September 21, 1896.—At request of Adelpic Council, No. 7, asked the Grand Master of Grand Council of R. & S. M. of New Jersey, M.:Ill.:FRED. C. HAWKINS, for waiver of jurisdiction over Royal Arch Companion *A. M. Woodworth*, of Passaic, N. J. The request was complied with, and on March 22, 1897, M.:Ill.:A. G. YOTHERS forwarded the waiver.

February 10, 1897, on behalf of Union Council, No. 2, asked M.:Ill.:A. G. YOTHERS, Grand Master of Grand Council of R. & S. M. of New Jersey, for waiver of jurisdiction over Royal Arch Companion *William J. Pinckney*, a resident of South Orange, N. J.

March 30, on behalf of Adelpic Council, No. 7, asked for waiver of jurisdiction over Royal Arch Companions *Jos. W. S. Gardner*, *George B. Gardner* and *A. W. Swain*, all of Newark, N. J.

Both of above requests were granted, of which official notification was given by M.:Ill.:ALGERNON G. YOTHERS, Grand Master, on April 23d.

March 31.—M.:P.:G. M. WEST, Gr. Master of the Grand Council, R. & S. M. of Connecticut, asked for waiver over Royal Arch Companion *William S. Finch*, of Barkerville, within our jurisdiction, in favor of Washington Council, No. 6, of Stamford, Conn., which was granted by Nepperhan Council, No. 70, and official notice thereof given to the Grand Master applying on May 13th.

## VISITATIONS.

Physical disability has hindered making the visitations contemplated at the beginning of the year.

In company with a goodly number of Illustrious Companions, among them M.:P.:JOHN W. COBURN, General Grand Master of the Grand Council R. & S. M. of the U. S., Peekskill Council, No. 55, was officially visited on the evening of

May 10th. A number of candidates were in waiting. The various offices being filled by officers of the Grand Council, the Grand Master presiding, the degrees of Royal and Select Master were conferred—after which symposium at hotel, and there listened with interest to a thoughtful and intelligent address by the Veteran Companion G. DICKENSON BATES, of Peekskill Council, the subject being “The Needs of the Craft for a Masonic College in the Empire State.” The advantages to the Craft of such an institution needs no argument. In the language of the earnest speaker “complete this College and you place in the Masonic crown the largest, the brightest and the best jewel that was ever set there.” He also said, “the zeal of this enterprise is eating me up, yet I take great pleasure, and do it with cheerfulness, in subscribing for the erection of a Masonic College \$100 in gold.”

I also officially attended the Special Assembly of Adelpic Council, No. 7, in Scottish Rite Hall, on the 24th November, and witnessed the conferring of the degree of Super Excellent Master, in full form, with all the paraphernalia complete, on 90 candidates—R. Ill. A. OPPENHEIMER, D. G. M., as Gedaliah. Of course the work was like the degree, super-excellent.

As a matter news, I find that in the Province of New Brunswick the Degrees of Royal, Select and Super-Excellent Master, and the Illustrious Order of Red Cross, are conferred in the Council of R. & S. M.—thus accomplishing in one way what we tried to reach in another.

Some years ago, like many another Companion of the Cryptic Rite, I was impressed with the thought that the Council degrees should be made prerequisite to admission to a Commandery of Knights Templars; and in my enthusiasm presented a resolution in this Grand Council which was intended to bring about the supposed desirable result. Well, discussion was aroused all over the United States, and petition made to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templars

to have the Council degrees made a condition precedent to Knighthood. How ignominiously the matter failed is known to most of you. Now after years have gone by I am glad that the movement did not obtain. We have won a place in a better way.

During the past winter invitations were extended to the Grand Council to attend the social entertainments of York, Morton and Palestine Commanderies.

The invitations were received, and it is a pleasure to be able to say that a very large representation of the Grand Council was present on each occasion, accompanied by M.:P.: GEORGE M. OSGOODBY, Past G. M., and M.:P.: JOHN W. COBURN, present G. M. of Grand Council of the R. & S. M. of the United States, and were courteously escorted through the lines. It is something to have won the way to such knightly public recognition.

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In the early part of January last a complaint was forwarded to me charging certain officers of the Council of which plaintiff was a member with "conduct entirely unbecoming any man or Mason," &c., &c., by said officers ignoring a written protest which had been filed in the Council against a prospective candidate, and by said officers receiving the protested application, electing the candidate and conferring upon him the Council degrees.

Upon due examination, I dismissed the complaint—deciding that neither a written or oral protest acts as a bar to the reception of a petition or candidate.

The complaint is herewith submitted to this Grand Council.

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The reports of Grand Officers are not encouraging. "Hard times" has been the cry. A few—very few—Councils have

had marvelous success in adding to their rolls of membership, but the great majority have no rosy reports to make. The reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder will succinctly present the condition of the affairs of the Grand Council.

Now, Companions, let us take heart and endeavor to encourage each other. Tides do not always ebb. Perhaps when twelve months pass my successor may have the proud satisfaction of telling you of such revival of interest and increase of membership as will enable us to congratulate ourselves upon splendid results produced by persistent efforts.

To our Grand Recorder, R.:Ill.:GEORGE VAN VLIET, I again make acknowledgment for his uniform courtesy and patience. In the oriental manner of giving expression to admiration and affection, I will now say "May his shadow never grow less."

For your continued fraternal regard and consideration, Illustrious Companions, I again give heartfelt thanks. Although it will not be my lot to hold official relations with this Grand Council, the remembrance of the intercourse of many years with you will bind and command me in loving service.

We are now ready to enter upon the work of this Grand Council, and "May the blessing of the Lord, which maketh rich and addeth no sorrow" be with and direct us in our duties.

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On motion, the Address was referred—for sub-division and reference of its several parts to appropriate Committees—to Companions P. M. W. VERHOEVEN, ALEX. B. KING, JOHN L. BROTHERS.

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

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

Your Grand Treasurer respectfully reports

The balance on hand as per last report.....	\$327 40
Received from Grand Recorder during the year.....	1,854 50
"    for Interest .....	18 72
	<u>\$2,200 62</u>

Disbursements.

On Warrant No. 666—Grand Recorder, Salary and Expenses	\$328 43
"    "    667—Grand Sentinel.....	10 00
"    "    668—Ass't to Grand Sentinel.....	2 00
"    "    669—Rent of Safe and Room.....	20 00
"    "    670—Music .....	8 00
"    "    671—Printing .....	78 00
"    "    672—Foreign Correspondence.....	75 00
"    "    673—Payment of Representatives .....	481 15
"    "    674—Grand Master's Expenses .....	20 00
"    "    675—Cancelled.....	
"    "    676—Donations .....	10 00
"    "    677—Entertainment.....	40 50
"    "    678—Grand Treasurer's Expenses.....	8 25
"    "    679—Geo. McGown.....	5 00
"    "    680—General Grand Council Dues.....	14 50
"    "    681—To Trustees of Permanent Fund.....	518 72
"    "    682—Printing Proceedings.....	298 50
Collection on Checks.....	2 45
Postage, Grand Treasurer.....	62
	<u>\$1,921 12</u>
TOTAL .....	\$1,921 12
Balance August 31, 1897.....	279 50
	<u>\$2,200 62</u>

Fraternally submitted,

PETER FORRESTER,

*Grand Treasurer.*

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

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

The Receipts of the Grand Council for the current year have been as follows:

For dues, as acknowledged in printed Proceedings of 1896 .....	\$1,792 50
“ “ from Union Council, No. 2, for year ending August 1st, 1896	37 00
“ “ “ Olean Council, No. 33, “ “ .....	12 50
“ “ “ Gouverneur Council, No. 73, “ “ .....	12 50
	<u>\$1,854 50</u>

Interest on deposit in Savings Bank on money received from Library Committee.....	\$105 96
Amount originally deposited .....	462 71
Makes the amount on deposit .....	<u>\$568 67</u>

The number of Companions received and greeted during the year has been .....	216
Affiliated .....	5
Restored .....	7 228
Suspended during the same period.	31
Dimitted.....	20
Died.....	43 94

Net increase.....	134
Number in good standing as per last report.....	3931
Making a registered membership of.....	4065 Companions.

Fraternally submitted,

GEO. VAN VLIET,

*Grand Recorder.*

The Trustees made the following report, which was referred to the Finance Committee:

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

The Trustees of the Permanent Fund report amount of the funds on deposit with the East River Savings Bank :

Amount as per last report .....	\$1,590 35
Interest thereon .....	61 68
Deposit as ordered last Assembly .....	500 00
Interest thereon .....	18 72
Amount in Savings Bank .....	\$2,170 75

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN L. BROTHERS, }  
GEO. M. OSGOODBY, } Trustees.  
JOHN W. COBURN, }

The Grand Master appointed the following Committees:

<i>Credentials and Returns.</i>		
GEO. VAN VLIET,	FRED. E. DAVIS,	THEO. M. BARBER.
<i>Warrants and Dispensations.</i>		
GEO. L. KINGSTON,	JOHN R. GARDNER,	WM. L. HYLEN.
<i>Constitution and Laws.</i>		
GEO. M. OSGOODBY,	GEO. A. NEWELL,	JOHN J. MARTIN.
<i>Finance and Accounts.</i>		
JOHN W. COBURN,	WM. M. BLOOMER,	E. R. WILLERTON.
<i>Unfinished Business.</i>		
JOHN B. SHAW,	THOS. J. HODGKINS,	JOHN W. PALMER.
<i>Grievances and Appeals.</i>		
ALFRED C. HOPKINS,	DERRICK BROWN,	ISAAC S. LANNING.
<i>Fraternal Dead.</i>		
Rev. W. D'ORVILLE DOTY,	EDWARD J. BARRETT,	ALEX. B. KING.
<i>Foreign Correspondence.</i>		
GEO. M. OSGOODBY,	JOHN W. COBURN,	JOHN J. MARTIN.
<i>Library Committee.</i>		
GEO. M. OSGOODBY,	PETER FORRESTER,	GEO. VAN VLIET.
P. M. W. VERHOEVEN,	WM. H. ANDREWS.	

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 as an appendix to the Proceedings.

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

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

Your Special Committee to whom was referred the Address of the M. Ill. Grand Master for sub-division and reference of its several parts to appropriate Committees, respectfully recommend:

That so much as relates to deceased Companions be referred to the Committee on Fraternal Dead.

That so much as relates to a complaint against the officers of a Council, and the decision of the Grand Master thereon, be referred to the Committee on Constitution and Laws.

That so much as relates to the Charter of Washington Council, No. 52, be referred to the Committee on Constitution and Laws.

Fraternally submitted,

P. M. W. VERHOEVEN, }  
A. B. KING, } Committee.  
JOHN L. BROTHERS, }

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

TO THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL OF R. AND S. M.  
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, 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.	Robert Neil.....	T. I. M.
Brooklyn .....	" 4.	John W. Palmer.....	Proxy.
Adelphic .....	" 7.	John R. Gardner.....	T. I. M.
Central City .....	" 13.	Theo. M. Barber.....	"
Bloss.....	" 14.	Edward J. Barrett.....	"
Bruce .....	" 15.	Fredk. E. Davis.....	Proxy.
Southern Tier.....	" 16.	Wm. L. Hysten .....	T. I. M.
Buffalo .....	" 17.	Geo. L. Kingston.....	"
Doric.....	" 19.	Willard S. Bradt.....	"
Keystone.....	" 20.	Wm. M. Bloomer.....	"
De Witt Clinton.....	" 22.	Edmund R. Willerton.....	"
Dunkirk .....	" 25.	Hiram A. Matteson.....	"
Palmyra.....	" 26.	Alfred C. Hopkins.....	"
King Solomon.....	" 31.	Derrick Brown .....	"
Jamestown .....	" 32.	John B. Shaw.....	Proxy.
Olean .....	" 33.	C. S. Hanks.....	"
Hornellsville.....	" 35.	Isaac S. Lanning.....	T. I. M.
Cryptic.....	" 37.	Frank M. Adee.....	Proxy.
Washington .....	" 52.	John W. Eddy.....	"
Corning .....	" 53.	Wm. Homan.....	"
Peekskill.....	" 55.	Thos J. Hodgkins.....	Proxy.
Ithaca.....	" 68.		
Nepperhan .....	" 70.	Franklin T. Davis.....	T. I. M.
Nepperhan .....	" 70.	Edgar T. Stewart .....	Proxy for D. M.
Johnstown .....	" 72.	Harwood Dudley.....	T. I. M.
Gouverneur.....	" 73.	John Webb, Jr.....	"

Fraternally submitted,

GEO. VAN VLIET,  
FRANKLIN T. DAVIS, } Committee.  
THEO. M. BARBER,

M. Ill. GEO. M. OSGOODBY offered the following amendment to Article I, Secs. 1 and 4, of the Constitution :

That the Sections be amended by inserting in the list of Officers thereof the words Grand Standard Bearer immediately after the words Grand Marshal, and preceding the words Grand Steward.

which was received and referred to the Committee on Constitution and Laws.

**M.:Ill.:GEO. M. OSGOODBY** offered the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed by this Grand Council and instructed to procure a design for a Standard for this Grand Body and report at our next Annual Assembly.

A letter was received from **M.:Ill.:JOHN D. WILLIAMS** announcing his inability to be present at this Annual Assembly.

A cablegram was received from Comp. **ALFRED B. PRICE**, from France, announcing his regrets at his absence.

The following petition from Companions of **Alph-Omega Council, No. 71**, was received and referred to the Committee on Warrants and Dispensations.

MEDINA, N. Y., August 30th, 1897.

TO THE GRAND COUNCIL, OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS  
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

Your petitioners respectfully represent that they are Royal and Select Masters and members in good standing of **Alph-Omega Council, No. 71**, Royal Select Masters, now located at Albion ; that said Council has held no meetings since the second Wednesday in December, 1895 ; that the then elected officers have never been installed ; that, although requested, no meetings have been called or held since that time ; that the members residing at Albion, and the officers thereof, are averse to keeping the Council alive ; that the letter hereto attached was received from the last installed **Thrice Illustrious Master** ; that no returns have been made for the years 1896 and 1897, and no dues paid during that time, and that there is no prospect of any further activity in said Council at its present location.

Your petitioners therefore pray that the Warrant of said Council be declared forfeited for non-payment of dues for the last two years ; that the incoming Grand Master be directed to recover the Warrant, property, moneys and paraphernalia of said Council ; that the same may then be restored to your petitioners herein and authority given them to carry on the Work of said Council at Medina, in the County of Orleans.

FRED. L. DOWNS,	GEORGE A. NEWELL,
JUSTUS E. DIDAMA,	IRVING L'HOMMEDIEU,
FRED. T. GATES,	HOMER J. LUTHER,
DON J. BIGELOW,	F. W. SCOTT, M. D.,
H. A. ACER.	

A petition from the Companions of Johnstown Council, No. 72, was received and referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion the Election of Officers for the ensuing year was made the special order for this afternoon's session at 2.30 o'clock.

On motion it was decided that when the Grand Council is called from labor to refreshment it shall be until 1.30 o'clock, P. M., and that on re-assembling the session be continued until the business of the Grand Council is completed.

At 12.30 o'clock the Grand Council was called from labor to refreshment.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 31st, 1897—1.30 o'clock P. M.**

The Grand Council resumed its session.

Officers and Representatives as at the morning's session.

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

The Committee on Finance and Accounts reported, recommending that the petition of the Companions of Johnstown Council, No. 72, asking that the Grand Council accept \$42.50 in settlement of all dues owing from them to August 1st, 1897, be accepted by the Grand Council, which was on motion received and their recommendations adopted.

The Committee on Finance and Accounts also recommended that a donation of \$10 be made to Comp. JACOB REGUS, acting Assistant Sentinel, and \$25 as a donation to the widow of our late M. Ill. Comp. G. FRED. WILTSIE, which was received and their recommendations adopted.

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. .  
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

Your Committee on Unfinished Business respectfully report that there is no business to bring before the Grand Council under this heading.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN B. SHAW,  
THOS. J. HODGKINS, } Committee.  
J. W. PALMER,

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals presented the following report, which was on motion received :

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

Your Committee on Grievances and Appeals congratulate the Grand Council on the tranquil existence of the Craft under its jurisdiction, as nothing of the nature of an appeal or grievance has been presented for our consideration.

Fraternally submitted,

ALFRED C. HOPKINS, } Committee.  
DERRICK BROWN,  
ISAAC S. LANNING,

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. .  
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

Our M. . I. . Grand Master has appointed the undersigned as a Committee on Fraternal Dead, and as such we would respectfully report, that we have listened with unfeigned sorrow to the long list of Companions which has been presented to us by our Exalted and Most Illustrious Head—some of whom were Companions most dear, and all of them were noble representatives of such qualities of manhood which is expected of those who enter the portals of the glorious temple of Ancient Masonry. The list is as follows :

<i>New York</i> . . . . .	Past M. . Ill. . G. FRED WILTSIE.
	Past M. . Ill. . JOHN B. SACKETT.
<i>Arkansas</i> . . . . .	Past M. . Ill. . C. W. MILLARD.
	Rt. . Ill. . FRED. KRAMER, G. Treas.
	Rt. . Ill. . JOHN H. NEAL, Past P. C. W.

<i>California</i> .....	Past M. · Ill. ·	STEPHEN WING.
<i>Georgia</i> .....	Rt. · Ill. ·	ANDREW M. WOLIHIN, G. Rec.
<i>Indiana</i> .....	Past M. · Ill. ·	CHAS. H. BUTTERFIELD.
	Past M. · Ill. ·	ALEX. THOMAS.
<i>Louisiana</i> .....	Past R. · Ill. ·	HENRY HAMBURGER.
<i>Massachusetts</i> .....	Past M. · Ill. ·	JOHN HAIGH,
<i>Michigan</i> .....	Past M. · Ill. ·	RUFUS C. HATHEWAY.
	Past M. · Ill. ·	GARRA B. NOBLE.
	Rt. · Ill. ·	ALEX. MCGREGOR.
<i>New Jersey</i> .....	Past M. · Ill. ·	GEO. W. STEED.
	Past M. · Ill. ·	JEROME B. BORDEN.
<i>North Carolina</i> .....	Rt. · Ill. ·	R. B. DEVVAULT
<i>Ohio</i> .....	Rt. · Ill. ·	Rev. THOS. J. MELISH, G. Chap.
<i>Pennsylvania</i> .....	Past M. · P. ·	DAVID A. STEVENSON.

It will be noticed by this that our own Grand Council has been called upon to part with two Past Grand Masters—G. FRED. WILTSIE and JOHN B. SACKETT. The first, in point of service, stood at the head of the list, he being one of the oldest Past Grand Masters of this Grand Council. In his day he served this Body with ability, and conducted its business with an eye to the extension of the Cryptic Rite. The second was a man whose reputation extended beyond Masonry, for in the great City of Buffalo he was so “Known and read of all men” that he was called to several positions of prominence, and in filling these he acquitted himself with integrity and honor. With tearful sorrow we now commit them into the hands of that God who is the Great Architect of the Universe—the unerring Judge of all.

To our sister Grand Councils—Arkansas, California, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio and Pennsylvania—we extend our fraternal sympathy, for they too have been called upon to part with dear, and some of them, aged Companions, and we trust that they have passed the Ninth Arch, bearing with them the full ten talents accrued from their years of faithfulness and integrity; and may we the surviving Companions so strive to emulate the virtues of the dead, that when our summons shall come, it may be said of us as of these and so many others who have passed on within the veil—he was a pure and noble specimen of true manhood, unswerving in his devotion to God and true to the principles of the Cryptic Rite of Masonry.

Fraternally submitted,

WM. D'ORVILLE DOTY,	} Committee.
ALEX. B. KING,	
EDWARD J. BARRETT,	

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

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

Your Committee on Warrants and Dispensations respectfully report as follows:

In the matter of the petition of Companion Fredk. L. Downs and others, for the issue of the Warrant of Alph-Omega Council, No. 71, of R. & S. M., to them in the event of that Warrant being forfeited for non-payment of dues and failure to make returns:

In this matter the Grand Recorder appeared before the Committee and stated that Alph-Omega Council, No. 71., R. & S. M's, had failed to make returns and pay dues to the Grand Council for two years; and also appeared M. I. GEORGE A. NEWELL (a Past Grand Master of this Grand Council), one of the petitioners, and verified the statements alleged in said petition, and upon deliberation we would respectfully recommend that the Warrant of Alph-Omega Council, No. 71, R. & S. M., be forfeited on the ground of failure and neglect to make returns and pay dues for two years to this Grand Council; and also, that the said Warrant be restored to the nine Companions who are petitioners in said petition, with authority to carry on the Work of the Council at Medina, Orleans County, N. Y. And we also recommend that the incoming Grand Master be directed and empowered to recover the books, funds and other property of said Council now in possession of the Companions at Albion, and in his discretion restore them to the said petitioners.

Fraternally submitted,

GEORGE L. KINGSTON, }  
JOHN R. GARDNER, } Committee.  
WM. L. HYLEN, }

The Committee on Constitution and 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.  
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

Your Committee on Constitution and Laws would respectfully report:

I.—That the propositions for the amendment of Sections 1 and 4 of Article I. of the Constitution of this Grand Council, lie over under the provisions of

the Constitution until the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council, to be then acted upon.

II.—That your Committee heartily approves of the resolution in reference to procuring a design for a Standard or Banner for this Grand Council as presented, and recommend its adoption.

III.—That your Committee approves of the decision of the M. .III. Grand Master that neither a written or oral protest prior to the reception of a petition will act as a bar to the reception and greeting of a candidate for the degrees conferred under the authority of this Grand Council, and recommend the approval thereof by this Grand Council.

IV.—Relative to the faded Warrant of Washington Council, No. 52, we recommend that the Grand Recorder supply the missing portions, and after certifying thereon to the facts, return it to the said Council as its authority for conducting the business therein specified.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

GEO. MELVIN OSGOODBY, }  
 GEORGE A. NEWELL, } Committee.  
 JOHN J. MARTIN, }

The time (as fixed by special order) for the election of Officers for the ensuing year having arrived, the Grand Master appointed as tellers Comps. R. C. CHRISTIANCE and FRANKLIN T. DAVIS, when the Grand Council proceeded to the election with the following result:

Comp. A. OPPENHEIMER, of Buffalo.....	Grand Master.
“ FRED. KANTER, of New York.....	“ Dep. Master.
“ JAMES B. MCEWAN, of Albany.....	“ P. C. of W.
“ PETER FORRESTER, of New York.....	“ Treasurer.
“ GEO. VAN VLIET, of New York.....	“ Recorder.
“ JOHN W. COBURN, of New York.....	Trustee for 3 years.

The Grand Master made the following appointments:

Comp. THEO. M. BARBER, of Syracuse.....	Grand C. of the G.
“ JOHN P. DEAL, of Troy.....	“ C. of the C.
“ W. D'ORVILLE DOTY, D. D., of Rochester.....	“ Chaplain.
“ WILLARD S. BRADT, of Rochester.....	“ Marshal.
“ GEO. MCGOWN, of Palmyra.....	“ Lecturer.
“ WM. H. SIMS, of Hornellsville.....	“ Steward.
“ GEO. SKINNER, of New York.....	“ Sentinel.

The thanks of the Grand Council were tendered to the Committee who had the banquet in charge for the able and satisfactory manner in which they discharged their duties.

The Officers (elected and appointed) were duly installed by M.:P.:GEO. M. OSGOODBY, as Installing Officer, and M.:I.: ALEX. B. KING, as Grand Marshal.

The Grand Master was requested to apportion the several Councils in this Jurisdiction to the Grand Officers for official visitation.

On motion it was decided that the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council shall be held on the last Tuesday in August, 1898, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at the Masonic Hall, in the City of New York.

The thanks of the Grand Council were tendered to M.: Ill.: JOHN F. BALDWIN for the very able, efficient and satisfactory manner in which he had discharged the duties of Grand Master during his term of office.

The Grand Recorder was instructed and authorized to procure and present aprons to Past Grand Masters JOHN J. MARTIN, JOHN L. BROTHERS and RALPH C. CHRISTIANCE, and the present Grand Master, A. OPPENHEIMER.

The Deputy Grand Master was requested to see that the Officers' Jewels were put in proper condition.

Comp. GEO. MCGOWN offered the following resolution which was on motion adopted:

*Resolved*, That Sub-division 2 of the Address and Charge to the Master in the Installation Ceremonies be amended by striking out the words "or more than twenty-seven," so that sub-division shall read: 2.—That you will not suffer your Council to be opened when there are less than nine Select Masters present.

The Grand Master appointed Comps. GEO. E. W. STIVERS, WM. H. ANDREWS and THEO. M. BARBER as the Special Committee on Standard, with instructions to have a design prepared and present it at our next Annual Assembly.

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

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

Your Committee on Finance and Accounts herewith report that they have carefully examined the accounts of the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer and find them correct.

We recommend the payment of the following sums:

Grand Recorder for Salary and Expenses.....	\$316 10
Grand Sentinel for Services .....	10 00
Expenses.....	2 00
Assistant to Grand Sentinel .....	2 00
Trustees of Hall and Asylum Fund for Rent of Room and Safe.....	20 00
Music at Opening Exercises.....	8 00
Printing and Stationery.....	9 00
Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.....	75 00
Pay of Representatives.....	508 24
Grand Master for Expenses.....	20 00
Treasurer's expenses for the Year .....	8 65
Balance of expenses attendant upon Reception tendered Grand Council, as per Grand Master's Report.....	38 50
Entertainment of Representatives.....	47 90
Flower Tribute, Funeral Past Grand Master Sackett.....	7 00
	\$1102 39

We also recommend that the Grand Recorder be authorized to print 500 copies of the Proceedings of this Annual Assembly.

We also recommend that \$500 be added to the permanent fund.

We also recommend that the Grand Recorder be authorized to pay the Annual Dues to the General Grand Council.

The Committee further report that they have examined the Report of the Trustees of the Permanent Fund, and find the same correct by comparison with the pass-book of the East River Savings Institution of the City of New York.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN W. COBURN, }  
E. R. WILLERTON, } Finance  
WM. M. BLOOMER, } Committee.

The Grand Master appointed the following Companions as the Committee on Finance and Accounts for the ensuing year: JOHN W. COBURN, WM. H. BLOOMER and ROBERT NEIL.

No further business being presented these minutes were read and approved, and the Grand Council closed in ample form.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. Van Hook".

*Grand Recorder.*

# RECEIPTS.

From Columbian	Council No.	1,	for dues to August 1st, 1897.....	\$7 50
“ Union	“ “	2,	“ “ “ .....	36 00
“ Brooklyn	“ “	4,	“ “ “ .....	38 50
“ Adelpic	“ “	7,	“ “ “ .....	216 50
“ Central City	“ “	13,	“ “ “ .....	89 00
“ Bloss	“ “	14,	“ “ “ .....	333 00
“ Bruce	“ “	15,	“ “ “ .....	21 50
“ Southern Tier	“ “	16,	“ “ “ .....	17 50
“ Buffalo	“ “	17,	“ “ “ .....	93 00
“ Doric	“ “	19,	“ “ “ .....	135 00
“ Keystone	“ “	20,	“ “ “ .....	76 50
“ DeWitt Clinton	“ “	22,	“ “ “ .....	245 00
“ Dunkirk	“ “	25,	“ “ “ .....	51 50
“ Palmyra	“ “	26,	“ “ “ .....	33 00
“ King Solomon	“ “	31,	“ “ “ .....	31 50
“ Jamestown	“ “	32, bal.	“ “ “ .....	1 50
“ Olean	“ “	33,	“ “ “ .....	14 00
“ Hornellsville	“ “	35,	“ “ “ .....	31 00
“ Cryptic	“ “	37,	“ “ “ .....	97 50
“ Washington	“ “	52,	“ “ “ .....	16 50
“ Corning	“ “	53,	“ “ “ .....	30 00
“ Peekskill	“ “	55,	“ “ “ .....	27 00
“ Ithaca	“ “	68,	“ “ “ .....	—
“ Nepperhan	“ “	70,	“ “ “ .....	33 50
“ Johnstown	“ “	72,	“ “ “ .....	42 50
“ Gouverneur	“ “	73,	“ “ “ .....	12 50

\$1,731 00

## OFFICERS, LOCATION AND DATE 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	G. W. Anderson.	T. Cunnington.	M. Q. Good.	P. M. W. Verhoeven.	New York.	New York.	2d and 4th Mondays.
UNION.....	2	Robert Neill.	Lemuel Russell.	Howard Fuller.	Alex. P. Milligan.	New York.	New York.	3d Saturday.
BROOKLYN.....	4	Chas. G. Little.	C. F. Winkermeier.	G. H. Konecke.	Chas. J. Harvey.	Brooklyn.	Kings.	3d Saturday.
ADELPHIC.....	7	John R. Gardner.	J. Harris Balston.	Benno Loewy.	John W. Coburn.	New York.	New York.	1st Saturday.
CENTRAL CITY.....	13	Theo. M. Barber.	Horace G. Stone.	Edwin C. Hall.	Edwin C. Tallcott.	Syracuse.	Onondaga.	1st Wednesday.
BLOSS.....	14	Edw. J. Barrett.	Chas. E. Shaver.	Henry Calhoun.	Frank A. Andros.	Troy.	Rensselaer.	1st Friday.
BRUCE.....	15	Edwd. J. Taylor.	Wm. J. Jackman.	Charles W. Palmer.	Van Ness Douglas.	Lockport.	Niagara.	1st & 3d Wednesdays.
SOUTHERN TIER.....	16	W. L. Hylan.	Chas. L. Hart.	Alden Derby.	W. A. Kingsbury.	Elmira.	Chemung.	1st Friday.
BUFFALO.....	17	Geo. L. Kingston.	C. E. Markham.	Pliny Miller.	Wm. J. Donaldson.	Buffalo.	Erie.	2d Thursday.
DORIC.....	19	Willard S. Bradt.	P. R. Woodcock.	G. B. M. Patterson.	John Alexander.	Rochester.	Monroe.	1st & 3d Wednesdays.
KEYSTONE.....	20	Wm. M. Bloomer.	John C. Gager.	Paul W. Bullard.	W. S. Riselay.	Buffalo.	Erie.	3d Saturday.
DEWITT CLINTON.....	22	E. R. Willerton.	Benj. Strasser.	Geo. C. Bishop.	Geo. C. Bishop.	Albany.	Albany.	3d Thursday.
BINGHAMTON.....	24					Binghamton.	Broome.	2d Friday.
DUNKIRK.....	25	H. A. Matteson.	Theo. Suenarley.	Edward L. Clement.	O. M. Haller.	Dunkirk.	Chautauqua.	1st Wednesday.
PALMYRA.....	26	A. C. Hopkins.	W. W. Greenwood.	Geo. R. Brown.	George McGown.	Palmyra.	Wayne.	2d Monday.
KING SOLOMON.....	31	Derrick Brown.	Willet Titus.	Albert R. Haskin.	Warren S. Herman.	Poughkeepsie.	Dutchess.	
JAME TOWN.....	32	Jos. Whittaker.	Harry Brown.	Samuel W. Sample.	David E. Merrill.	Jamestown.	Chautauqua.	
OLEAN.....	33	M. Southeron.	John L. Eddy.	Wm. L. Myrick.	A. A. Swarts.	Olean.	Cattaraugus.	1st Wednesday.
HORNELLVILLE.....	35	I. S. Lanning.	Wm. H. Prangen.	Samuel Erlich.	W. E. Waldorf.	Hornellsville.	Steuben.	2d Friday.
CRYPTIC.....	37	John Bennett.	W. W. Allerdice.	C. W. Collins.	R. C. Fonda.	Saratoga Spr'gs.	Saratoga.	2d & 4th Thursdays.
WASHINGTON.....	52	Warren F. Bascom.	Sidney B. Watkins.	Thos. A. Paterson.	John W. Eddy.	Whitehall.	Washington.	
CORNING.....	53	John Comosh.	Hugh H. Kendall.	Joseph C. Moore.	Geo. Hitchcock.	Corning.	Steuben.	1st & 3d Thursdays.
PEEKSKILL.....	55	N. H. Freeland.	Edwd. F. Hill.	Wm. R. Thorne.	T. J. Hodgkins.	Peekskill.	Westchester.	2d Monday.
ITHACA.....	68					Ithaca.	Tompkins.	2d Monday.
NEPPERHAN.....	70	F. T. Davis.	M. E. Close.	John Pickels.	Edgar T. Stewart.	Mount Vernon.	Westchester.	
JOHNSTOWN.....	72	Harwood Dudley.	John A. Karg.	Chas. A. Miller.	John G. Buchanan.	Johnstown.	Fulton.	2d Wednesday.
GOVERNEUR.....	73	John Webb, Jr.	Edward H. Neary.	Joseph V. Baker.	A. B. Cutting.	Gouverneur.	St. Lawrence.	2d Wednesday.

## ADDRESS OF GRAND RECORDERS AND REPRESENTATIVES.

GRAND RECORDERS.	ADDRESS.	REPRESENTATIVES TO GRAND COUNCIL OF N. Y.	ADDRESS.	GRAND COUNCIL.	REPRESENTATIVES FROM GRAND COUNCIL OF N. Y.	ADDRESS.
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### General Grand Council and its Constituents of the United States.

Henry W. Mordhurst.....	Fort Wayne, Ind.	.....	.....	Gen. Grand Council	.....	.....
H. Clay Armstrong.....	Montgomery.	.....	.....	Alabama.	.....	.....
James A. Henry.....	Little Rock.	H. A. Matteson.....	Dunkirk.	Arkansas.	J. H. Kennerly.....	Sulphur Rock.
Thomas H. Caswell.....	San Francisco.	Theo. M. Barber.....	Syracuse.	California.	Chas. Lord Field.....	San Francisco.
John Carlovitz.....	Milton.	John F. Baldwin.....	New York.	Florida.	James A. Chaffin.....	Milton.
.....	.....	John W. Coburn.....	New York.	Georgia.	Wm. A. Wolhin.....	Macon.
.....	.....	Geo. A. Newell.....	Medina.	Indiana.	Lucienne A. Foote.....	Crawfordsville.
Wm. H. Smythe.....	Indianapolis.	Alfred B. Price.....	New York.	Indiana Territory.	.....	.....
Joseph S. Murrow.....	Atoka.	John D. Williams.....	Elmira.	Kansas.	John H. Spencer.....	Independence.
A. M. Calahan.....	Topeka.	John F. Shafer.....	Troy.	Louisiana.	Richard Lambert.....	New Orleans.
Richard Lambert.....	New Orleans.	.....	.....	Maine.	Josiah H. Drummond.....	Portland.
Stephen Berry.....	Portland.	William Downes.....	New York.	Maryland.	James W. Bowers.....	Baltimore.
Geo. L. McCahan.....	Baltimore.	John J. Martin.....	Albany.	Massachusetts.	Wm. B. Lawrence.....	Medford.
Seranus Bowen, M.D.....	Boston.	Alex. B. King.....	Troy.	Minnesota.	Geo. W. Cooley.....	Minneapolis.
Thos. Montgomery.....	St. Paul.	John L. Brothers.....	Buffalo.	Missouri.	Noah M. Given.....	St. Louis.
Wm. H. Mayo.....	St. Louis.	Horace M. Hibbard.....	Ithaca.	Nebraska.	Wm. R. Bowen.....	Omaha.
Wm. R. Bowen.....	Omaha.	Geo. Van Vliet.....	New York.	New Hampshire.	Henry P. Glidden.....	Dover.
Geo. P. Cleaves.....	Concord.	.....	.....	Ohio.	.....	.....
Geo. Van Vliet.....	16 Eighth Ave., N. Y. City.	Irving L'Hommedieu.....	Medina.	Oregon.	Wm. M. Cunningham.....	Newark.
Wm. E. Evans.....	Chillicothe.	A. Oppenheimer.....	Buffalo.	South Carolina.	Milton S. Woodstock.....	Corvallis.
Seth L. Pope.....	Portland.	Albert W. Force.....	Ithaca.	Tennessee.	H. F. Miller.....	Charleston.
Zimmerman Davis.....	Charleston.	Geo. E. W. Silvers.....	New York.	Vermont.	.....	Nashville.
W. A. Clendening.....	Nashville.	Ralph C. Christiance.....	Ithaca.	Washington.	K. Haskins.....	Brattleboro.
Warren G. Reynolds.....	Burlington.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Edward R. Hare.....	Tacoma.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

### Independent Grand Councils.

James McCormick.....	Hartford.	P. M. W. Verhoeven.....	New York.	Connecticut.	James S. Gould.....	Bridgeport.
Gil. W. Barnard.....	Masonic Temple, Chicago.	Thos. J. Hodgkins.....	Peeckskill.	Illinois.	John O'Neill.....	Chicago.
Lorenzo D. Croninger.....	Covington.	Wm. H. Sims.....	Hornellsville.	Kentucky.	Wm. Ryan.....	Louisville.
.....	.....	Peter Forrester.....	New York.	Michigan.	H. Shaw Noble.....	Monroe.
J. L. Power.....	Jackson.	.....	.....	Mississippi.	.....	.....
Charles Bechtel.....	Trenton.	A. P. Knapp.....	Saratoga Sps.	New Jersey.	James B. Small.....	Newark.
James C. Munds.....	Wilmington.	Rev. W. D'O. Doty.....	Rochester.	North Carolina.	E. S. Martin.....	.....
J. L. Lyte.....	Lancaster.	Frank E. Smith.....	Lockport.	Pennsylvania.	Geo. C. Johnstone.....	Allegheny City.
William R. Greene.....	Providence.	Frederick Kanter.....	New York.	Rhode Island.	A. H. Cushman.....	Providence.
John W. Laffin.....	Milwaukee.	Wm. Morgan Lee.....	Poughkeepsie	Wisconsin.	W. W. Dagett.....	Oshkosh.

### Foreign Grand Councils.

Sydney J. Sanford.....	Barrie, Ont.	George McGown.....	Palmyra	Canada.	Daniel Spry.....	Toronto, Ont.
Charles F. Matier.....	{ Mark Mason's Hall, Great	George M. Osgoodby.....	New York.	England, Wales, &c.	Nathaniel G. Phillips.....	London.
Robert Marshall.....	Queen St., London, W. C.	T. A. Williamson.....	Albany.	New Brunswick.	J. V. Ellis.....	St. John.
Robert S. Brown.....	{ 5 Marchmont Terrace,	William Sherer.....	Brooklyn.	Scotland.	David B. Clark.....	.....
.....	Edinburgh.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

## At Rest from Their Labors

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Columbian No. 1.....Comp.	WM. F. J. THEIRS.....	Died August 12th, 1896.
Union No. 2.....	CHAS. T. McCLENACHAN	“ Dec. 19th, 1896.
Adelphic No. 7.....	BLOOMFIELD USHER.....	“ Dec. 10th, 1896.
“ “.....	J. S. AUGUR.....	“ June 9th, 1891.
“ “.....	C. C. LITTLE.....	“ April 24th, 1897.
“ “.....	JOSEPH S. CONWAY.....	“ March 9th, 1897.
“ “.....	LOUIS F. KIEFER.....	“ July 23d, 1897.
Central City No. 13....	MORTIMER SILAS RUST..	“ August 10th, 1896.
“ “.....	WILLIAM WALL.....	“ Oct. 28th, 1896.
“ “.....	JAMES MASON SHAW....	“ Feb. 7th, 1897.
“ “.....	MARTIN STILL.....	“ April 5th, 1897.
“ “.....	JAMES JUDSON TAYLOR..	“ July 23d, 1897.
Bloss No. 14.....	CHARLES W. BILLINGS..	“ June 28th, 1896.
“ “.....	LEVI H. BUTON.....	“ July 10th, 1896.
“ “.....	NICHOLAS VASEY.....	“ August 2d, 1896.
“ “.....	JOSEPH H. SCUSKY.....	“ Oct. 30th, 1896.
“ “.....	WILLIAM COLLINS.....	“ Nov. 1st, 1896.
“ “.....	WM. V. V. REYNOLDS ..	“ Jan. 7th, 1897.
Southern Tier No. 16	SEYMOUR SMITH.....	“ April 13th, 1897.
Buffalo No. 17.....	CHARLES P. HOLLSTEIN.	“ Dec. 7th, 1896.
“ “.....	JAMES P. BENNETT.....	“ May 21st, 1897.
“ “.....	WILLIAM H. KURTZ.....	“ July 20th, 1897.
Doric No. 19.....	P. S. WILSON.....	“ Dec. 18th, 1896.
“ “.....	LEWIS C. LEIST.....	“ Oct. 3d, 1896.
Keystone No. 20.....	J. M. HENDERSON.....	“ Sept, 1896.
“ “.....	JACOB BEIER, JR.....	“ Oct. 15th, 1896.
“ “.....	JOHN B. SACKETT.....	“ June 19th, 1897.
DeWitt Clinton No. 22	HIRAM HEVILLES.....	“ Sept. 26th, 1896.
“ “.....	E. W. PURINTON.....	“ Dec. 31st, 1886.
“ “.....	ADDISON D. COLE.....	“ Jan. 7th, 1897.
“ “.....	JOHN C. RICHARDS.....	“ Feb. 7th, 1897.
“ “.....	LUTHER F. FOX.....	“ July 23d, 1897.
“ “.....	DAYTON BELL.....	“ July 25th, 1897.
Palmyra No. 26.....	EUGENE NICHOLS.....	“ Sept. 3d, 1896.
“ “.....	ALEX. P. MILNE.....	“ June 6th, 1897.
Corning No. 53.....	DANIEL F. BROWN.....	“ Feb. 22d, 1897.
Peekskill No. 55.....	ROBERT J. POST.....	“ Sept. 5th, 1896.
Johnstown No. 72....	JAMES H. PIKE.....	“ Dec. 20th, 1894.
“ “.....	GEO. H. PLANTZ.....	“ March 10th, 1897.
“ “.....	NICHOLAS WEMPLE.....	“ Nov. 1896.
Gouverneur No 73....	OSCAR P. FULLER.....	“ Nov. 1896.

## Permanent Members of the Grand Council, Past Masters of Subordinate Councils.

### COLUMBIAN COUNCIL No. 1.

William S. Patterson.	John G. Barker.	Garvey Donaldson.
Peter M. W. Verhoeven.	Peter Forrester.	Thos. Cunningham.
		Geo. W. Anderson.

### UNION COUNCIL No. 2.

Henry C. Parke.	L. K. Goldsmith.	Chas. E. Lansing.
John F. Baldwin.	W. M. Postley.	Samuel W. Wiley
John S. King.	William H. Smith.	Geo. H. Toop.
J. Martin Layman.	Marvin H. Conklin.	Andrew Blake.
		Robert Neil.

### BROOKLYN COUNCIL No. 4.

Claudius F. Beatty.	Wm. M. Smith.	Joseph H. Truman.
Albert E. Leach.	Wm. P. Howell.	Adolph C. Wenzel.
Wm. Sherer.	Jno. B. Harris.	Charles J. Harvey.
Geo. Nicholson.	Samuel Bennet.	

### ADELPHIC COUNCIL No. 7.

George Van Vliet.	Wm. Downes.	Frederick Kanter.
Charles F. Emerson.	E. M. L. Ehlers.	George E. W. Stivers.
Horace Metcalf.	Royal E. Deane.	T. F. Russell.
John W. Coburn.	Thomas Darling.	Fred. E. Davis.
		Wm. H. Andrews.

### CENTRAL CITY COUNCIL No. 13.

Stiles M. Rust.	Edwin H. Brown.	Abel G. Cook.
Charles W. Snow.	Austin C. Wood.	Theodore M. Barber.

### BLOSS COUNCIL No. 14.

Alexander B. King.	John F. Shafer.	R. B. Stiles.
Edward B. Coxe.	D. D. Houghtaling.	Arthur MacArthur.
Jesse B. Anthony.	William M. Peckham.	T. Campbell Collin.
	Joseph A. Leggett.	John P. Deal.

### BRUCE COUNCIL No. 15.

Charles W. Palmer.	Rollin B. Moore.	Wm. J. Jackman.
		Frank E. Smith.

## SOUTHERN TIER No. 16.

John D. Williams.	John S. Bartlett.	J. A. Baty.
F. D. Ramsdell.	S. D. Wadhams.	Conrad Wehnes.
David S. Door.	P. L. Hinman.	Chas. L. Hart.
		Wm. L. Hylan.

## BUFFALO COUNCIL No. 17.

A. Oppenheimer.	Cyrus K. Porter.	Wm. H. Cass.
Gerard McVicar.	Theo. L. Wadsworth.	Geo. W. Voss.
	Wm. J. Donaldson.	Henry R. Clark.
	DORIC COUNCIL No. 19.	

A. J. Werner.	William C. Brown.	E. A. Stallbrodt.
Henry M. Plant.	E. C. Peck.	Edward Schafer.
Thomas Seed.	Willard S. Bradt.	Wm. H. Maston.
James T. Southard.	Samuel C. Pierce.	A. D. McMaster.
John W. Merriam.	Ezra M. Sparling.	Edward Edwards.
	E. W. Horne.	

## KEYSTONE COUNCIL No. 20.

David F. Day.	James M. Henderson.	Warren F. Chandler.
Stephen M. Ratcliffe.	Warren A. Woodson.	H. McMichael.
Darwin E. Morgan.	E. A. Rockwood.	Robt. T. Walker.
John L. Brothers.	Levi S. Gates.	Fred. E. Ogden.

## DEWITT CLINTON COUNCIL No. 22.

Frank Chamberlain.	William H. Whish.	Alfred A. Guthrie.
James W. Morange.	John A. Davis.	T. Austin Williamson.
John J. Martin.	Thomas J. Bishop.	Geo. R. Hodgkins.
	James B. McEwan.	Willard S. Gibbons.

## ONTARIO COUNCIL No. 23.

William P. Durrant.	Edward Kendall.	J. Henry Smith.
John N. Macomb, Jr.	Orville F. Randolph.	Henry R. Sill.

## BINGHAMTON COUNCIL No. 24.

Clinton F. Paige.	Abner P. Kelsey.	Fred. W. Putman, M.D.
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## DUNKIRK COUNCIL No. 25.

Charles H. Sherman.	B. L. Harrison.	H. J. Gibbs, Jr.
C. E. Hequembourg.	B. Rathbon.	F. B. Barnard.
	Elijah Harris.	Hiram A. Matteson.

## PALMYRA COUNCIL No. 26.

Elijah Ennis.	George McGown.	S. Nelson Sawyer.
Mark C. Finley.	John C. Coates.	Edwin B. Anderson.
	Alfred C. Hopkins.	

## UTICA COUNCIL No. 28.

Martin A. Lewis.	Henry C. Welton.	James T. Thoires.
Edward B. Cash.	Byron S. Frisbie.	James V. Anthony.
	G. C. Morehouse.	

## KING SOLOMON COUNCIL No. 31.

Charles Estabrook.	Wm. B. Hull.	Edgar M. Weeks.
Wm. Morgan Lee.		Derrick Brown.

## OLEAN COUNCIL No. 33.

C. S. Stewell.	C. S. Hanks.	J. Arthur Corbin.
J. A. Taylor.	M. Southeren.	Albert. A. Swarts.
	W. L. Myrick.	John Sloane.

## HORNELLSVILLE COUNCIL No. 35.

John I. Bentley.	Wm. H. Sims.	H. T. Harris.
		O. E. Elwell.

## CRYPTIC COUNCIL No. 37.

Charles H. Sturgis.	J. Marshall Colcord.	A. P. Knapp.
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## CORNING COUNCIL No. 53.

Edward Clisdell.	W. A. Wicks.	Herbert C. Austin.
T. S. Pritchard.	T. S. Billington.	Chas. E. Greenfield.
G. B. Hill.	John Comosh, Jr.	H. H. Kendall.
		E. B. Seymour.

## PEEKSKILL COUNCIL No. 55.

David Griffin.	Valentine Hauf.	George D. Sanford.
John Halstead.	George Sykes.	Thos. J. Hodgkins.
		C. W. Wadsworth.

## ITHACA COUNCIL No. 68.

R. C. Christiance.	George W. Melotte.	H. M. Hibbard.
A. B. Force.	A. H. Estey.	Charles C. Garrett.
A. B. Wood.	H. L. Esterbrook.	John Barnard.

## NEPPERHAN. COUNCIL No. 70.

Ralph E. Prime.	John E. Murphy.	M. D. Getty.
Lyman Cobb, Jr.	Edwin A. Quick.	Franklin T. Davis.
G. B. Balch.	Henry S. Sproull.	Rufus B. Disbrow.
G. D. Pond.	James H. Jenkins.	Thos. R. Hodge.

## ALPH-OMEGA COUNCIL No. 71.

George A. Newell.	Charles D. Ross	Irving L'Hommedieu.
		Isaac S. Signor.

## JOHNSTOWN COUNCIL No. 72.

Philip Keck.	Frank Hanson.
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## GOUVERNEUR COUNCIL No. 73.

John McCarty	Chas McCarty.
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APPENDIX



FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

## FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

M. P. GEO. M. OSGOODBY, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the Report of said Committee as follows, which was on motion received and ordered printed in the Proceedings:

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

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence would most fraternally report: That your Committee has *not* been favored with the reception of the Proceedings of as many of our sister Grand Councils as has been usually the case. In former years we have made it a practice to write personal letters to such as were on our list as did not forward their Proceedings, or such other information relative to their respective Assemblies, as was necessary in order to present a full roster to our own Grand Body. This practice became more and more onerous as the years rolled by; often we would be compelled to write and then re-write, and *de capo*, before we would succeed in getting the desired information with which to complete our report. This year we concluded to apply once only, and then let those that did not *ante* be noticeable by their absence. Our Report, therefore, is not as full as it has ever been in times past. We have taken especial pride in having our reports cover every known jurisdiction in the world for many years past, and it is with regret that we are not able to make the present one equal in that respect with those reports which have preceded it for so many years past. If, however, we receive any information which is not already presented herein before these Proceedings go to press, we shall take pleasure in giving the same to you at the closing of this review.

For many years past the practice of placing the Report upon Correspondence in the Proceedings as an "Appendix," has been gaining ground until there remains, we believe, but one jurisdiction, besides our own, which incorporates such report in the body of the Proceedings. We believe our practice in the past, to have it inserted in the body, to be the best, and that in that position they are in the proper place; for the sake of uniformity, we have concluded to

follow the prevailing custom and place our Report in as an "Appendix," reserving the privilege, however, of returning to our old custom at a future day.

The very serious financial condition of our country for several years past, and the long continued run of disasters, one following in the wake of another until it has seemed that there was no end to them, blighting the hopes and bright expectations, not only of our subordinate bodies, but reaching within the veil of our Grand Bodies as well, reaching out in its ruinous march to individual members of our fraternity by multitudes, and to the people at large, bringing troubles and sorrows to all sections of our land, has greatly impeded the advancement of, not only our own Rite, but has extended its serpentine trail into each of the other branches of Masonic bodies, but not to the extent of stopping its growth altogether. Masonry has survived the violence of the storm, and now, when the raging winds are getting more quiet, as prosperity begins to resume its rounds, we should rejoice in the change and in the outlook for the future which bids so fair to bring in its train a large growth in a most substantial advancement of interest in the fraternity. There is no cause for real alarm; individuals and families have been sacrificed and caused to lose the savings of a lifetime, and in very many instances reduced to penury; business interests have been wrecked, and the dark clouds of despair have covered as with a funeral pall the anticipations built up and based upon what was deemed a solid foundation; and still Masonry continues to erect its head upward from its ever living foundations, perpetual in its youthful vigor though ancient in its origin.

Built upon the solid rock, blessed by the Fatherhood in the great brotherhood of humanity, working out its great plan of benevolence and good, it has held out against the financial storm and remains to continue its work of love and humanity. It has made a substantial advance, not equal to former years, but of such a character as to awaken lively thoughts of thanksgiving and gratitude to the Supreme Master of all.

Masonry is, we might almost say, eternal in its attributes; it will survive the rough storms that beset us and will prosper and advance in its work of benevolence and in the uplifting of humanity as long as the sphere upon which we live remains, and when the end will come, then will its fruits be discovered in the living truths upon which its foundation is laid, in that better existence to which we are advancing. Let us then gird up our loins for the work which remains for us to do as individuals as well as bodies of *Royal and Select Companions*, chosen from the many for the most important duties of life. We have everything to encourage us in our work and nothing to warrant us in becoming lukewarm in the performance of the duties which, imposed upon us, remain to be done. The blessings of the Fatherhood that watches over and guides our paths awaits us if we but do our duty in the work of raising to a higher plane of existence our fellows, according to our respective talents, given unto us to use in the purifying and elevating in the knowledge of truth, being ourselves made better and happier by the lessons of life that we learn, we are the better adapted to be helpful to others. Let us therefore do our work, that it may be

well done and entitle us to each receive the "Well done good and faithful servant," etc.

The following is a list of those bodies presented by our review :

Arkansas, - - - 1896	Maine, - - - - 1896	North Carolina, 1896-97
California, - - - 1897	Maryland, - - - - 1896	Ohio, - - - - - 1896
Connecticut, - - 1897	Massachusetts, - 1896	Oregon, - - - - 1897
England and Wales, 1897	Michigan, - - - - 1897	Pennsylvania, - - 1897
Georgia, - - - - 1897	Minnesota, - - - - 1896	Rhode Island, - - 1897
Illinois, - - - - 1896	Mississippi, - - - 1897	Tennessee, - - - 1897
Indiana, - - - - 1896	Missouri, - - - - 1897	Vermont, - - - - 1897
Kansas, - - - - 1897	New Brunswick, Pro-	Washington, - - - 1897
Kentucky, - - - 1896	vince of - - - - 1896	Wisconsin, - - - 1896
Louisiana, - - - 1897	New Jersey, - - 1897	General Grand Council of the United States.

If other Proceedings come to hand they will be presented in a further list, coming in after the closing of those above enumerated.

#### ARKANSAS—1896.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council met at Little Rock, November 20th, M. .I. .REUBEN J. LAUGHLIN, Grand Master, presiding. Ten subordinate Councils were represented and representatives of fifteen sister Grand Councils were present. New York was not represented. The proceedings were principally of the usual routine, being devoted to matters of local interest. This body seems to have a credit upon the right side of its cash book. The death of R. .I. .FREDERICK KRAMER, late Grand Treasurer of this body, was eulogized by the Grand Master and by the Committee on "Memorials of the Dead."

The Rite appears to be in a fair condition, but has with all other Masonic bodies suffered from the financial crisis of the past few years.

M. .I. .JOHN P. FARRAR, of Clifton, was elected Grand Master and R. .I. .JAMES A. HENRY, Little Rock, was re elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held during the week of the meeting of the Grand Lodge of this State, the date to be fixed by the Grand Master.

#### CALIFORNIA—1897.

The Thirty-seventh Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at San Francisco, April 19th, M. .I. .WILLIAM H. DAVIS, Grand Master, presiding. The Representatives of seven subordinate Councils, together with one U. D. were present, as well as seventeen Representatives of sister Grand Councils.

The Address of the Grand Master shows that the Rite is in a prosperous condition in this jurisdiction, and that one new Council has been instituted. He

particularly mentions the large additions in membership in Sacramento Council during the past year, and speaks of the intense Masonic interest, etc., in reference to the Cryptic Rite.

He also refers to the communication received by him from Helena Council, No. 9, of Helena, Montana, which was instituted by the authority of the Grand Council of California, and is one of its present subordinate Councils. By this communication a protest was made against the invasion of territorial jurisdiction, and by the institution of Councils by "Missionaries" of the General Grand Master of the General Grand Council, U. S. A. The Grand Master, after a full investigation of the facts, came to the conclusion that the matter complained of was entirely within the province and authority of the General Grand Council, and recommended that the complaining Council second all efforts for the progress of Cryptic Masonry in Montana in the interest of Masonic union and harmony. We think this was just right.

The Grand Master anticipates much further increase and more substantial prosperity.

The proceedings were of the usual routine.

Companion EDWIN A. SHERMAN presented a Correspondence Report in which he includes the proceedings of twenty-four Grand Councils, including New York for 1896, to which he gives four pages, and also including the Body in Colorado claiming to be a Grand Council. Under the heading of Colorado he says:

"The Grand Council of Colorado, after having been organized as it was, should then have applied for and demanded its admission to be received into the General Grand Council with all its rights co-equal with the other Grand Councils therein represented, and awaited the action of that General Grand Body. State Grand Councils of the jurisdiction of the General Grand Councils are not chartered bodies. All just powers of government in a free country are derived from the consent of the governed, and there can be no just government whether within or outside of the Constitution without that consent. If, as is alleged, the General Grand Master assumed powers not actually delegated to him by the Constitution, then it was usurpation on his part, and it was tyranny to exercise it, which met with resistance in the wrong way by secession, and taking advantage of the technicality which existed, and placing the General Grand Council with its twenty-three State Grand Councils in the same category and on the same plane as the Grand Councils of a single State. It is a little singular that there are nine Grand Councils in the Southern States among the twenty-three which form the General Grand Council, while there are but three Grand Councils of the Southern States which are found among the twelve Independent Grand Councils, that of Colorado included. The States' rights doctrine is being shifted from the South to the North. Connecticut, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Wisconsin, besides Colorado which was organized to secede from authority alleged to be arbitrarily or offensively exercised. Colorado was encouraged by evil instigators in the

State of Illinois, and the General Grand Council would have an equal right to retaliate by chartering subordinate Councils and encouraging a rival State Grand Council in that State for such an act of unfriendliness. Other independent Grand Councils in recognizing the Grand Council of Colorado, have done so in the abstract proposition, that the General Grand Council, like that of an independent State Grand Council, has lost its territorial jurisdiction when its own subordinate Councils formed a State Grand Council and declared itself independent. A State Grand Council in name is a noun of singular number. The General Grand Council, embracing Grand Councils of twenty-two States is a noun of multitude and of plural number of *E pluribus unum*. The true remedy is to bide the legal time, and then fail to re-elect arbitrary or obnoxious officers who have given offense."

See further comments upon this subject under Pennsylvania.

Under Connecticut he says :

"The Grand Council of California assumed to act as a Sovereign Council by granting a Charter to Helena Council, No. 9, at Helena, Montana, October 22d, 1868, and which is still borne upon the roll of the Grand Council of California ; but the General Grand Council has never yet demurred or protested against it, though it is the prerogative reserved to the General Grand Council either direct or implied."

Of course, the General Grand Council cannot if it would, and it would not if it could, demur or protest against the continuance of Helena Council, Montana, upon the roll of the Grand Council of California.

It was instituted by authority of the Grand Council of California long before the General Grand Council had an existence, and it belongs *as a matter of right* to the Grand Council of California. Still we believe that if a Grand Council was to be organized for Montana, Helena Council would unite with other subordinate Councils in taking a part of such new Grand Body, even to the uniting with Councils instituted by the authority of the General Grand Council.

In commenting upon the Colorado question he further says :

"The recognition of the Grand Council of Colorado by independent State Grand Councils are acts of unfriendliness to the General Grand Council, and invites retaliation by invasion and the organizing of subordinate and Grand Councils subject to itself within the jurisdictions, and would cause subterranean explosions of mines that would blow the Sacred Vault into irretrievable ruin.

"Don't destroy the ship while at sea because the captain and mates are tyrants, for there are passengers on board who are helpless and silent ; but wait until after arrival in port, and then either get rid of the captain or leave the ship without taking one of the boats to go to sea again at your own risk."

Under Illinois, in noting the official letters addressed to the Grand Master, M. M. LORD, he says the effect became rather amusing and it reminds him of an incident which he relates as follows :

"We were reminded of what occurred at the palatial residence of the late Governor and U. S. Senator of California, the Hon. LELAND STANFORD, when entertaining Lord GROSVENOR, on Nob Hill, some years ago, on his visit to California. Gov. STANFORD had an Irish servant by the name of Dennis McCarthy, who stuttered, but was a good waiter at the table. The Governor, who was also President of the Southern and Central Pacific Railroad Companies, was very courteous and attentive to his noble guest, and the other members of the family were profuse in their attentions at the table, addressing "My Lord" so frequently during the various courses which appeared upon the table, and the servants generally adopted the same manner in addressing his Lordship so obsequiously and so frequently that it was somewhat puzzling to Dennis at this innovation upon customary manners. His Lordship, being a good liver, ate bountifully of every dish set before him, and when there came a lull, Dennis, who had remained silent until then, in his stuttering manner and anxious to serve the distinguished guest still further, said to him: "M——"—L—— Lord G——God, phawt will you have now?" at which the whole of the household burst out with uncontrollable laughter, his Lordship enjoying the merriment caused by the questioner as well as the rest of them. It stopped the addressing the guest as "Lord," and plain Mr. GROSVENOR was the title he went by as long as he remained with his host."

We quote this incident as it is too good to be allowed to remain in the Golden State.

Under Kansas, speaking of the grades and degrees in Free Masonry, he says:

"There is no higher degree in Freemasonry than the 'Sublime degree of Master Mason.' The apex of the Masonic pyramid is then complete at its high twelve; 'The beauty and glory of the day,' and for all time. There is nothing to be added to or taken from it to complete its sublimity—the birth, the life, the death, and the resurrection, is full and complete and a rounded whole, and until the ascension of the purified body and soul combined has been completed from the alembic of the grave and placed where it was originally designed by their Creator, the Grand Master Mason of the Universe, the sublimity and sovereignty of the Master Mason's Degree will retain its power and beauty and glory until the sun shall fail to rise in the East, ascend to its zenith of splendor in the South, completing the first arc of its quadrant or square of ninety degrees, and when it sets in equal glory on the West with which it rose in the East. No, Companions, there is no grade or degree in Masonry higher than that of Master Mason. The decalogue of Moses is the constitution of all law, and has never received but one amendment, and that given by the most Illustrious and Divine Master, who said 'A new commandment give I unto you, that you love one another, and whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you, do ye even so unto them. Upon this hangs all the law and the prophets.'

“All other so-called degrees or grades are but veniers or sub-divisions of the great protractor or quadrant of one-fourth of the circle, the great square of the Master's Degree, and he who has passed that square as the Master of his Lodge is reduced thirty degrees, or one twelfth of the circle, and one-third of the square by which he reached the Master's station in the Oriental Chair, the cradle of the sun which never shines in the subterranean vault—no, not even in the ninth arch. The entrance to the great pyramid of Cheops in Egypt was but the underground telescope to observe the North Star when on the meridian with that of Alioth in the constellation of Urso Major or the Great Bear, while the great pyramid itself was an elevated dial for the sun to measure its inclination and shadows from its rising in the East until its going down in the West, the great symbol of the Master Mason's Degree, of the course of human life represented on the Master's tracing board, and so truthfully described by Shakespeare in his ‘Seven Stages of Man.’

“The Cryptic degrees are below and not above; they in part measure the shadow and the darkness of the earth, caused by the absence of the sun, and if the earth did not revolve upon its axis there would be eternal death from the extremes of heat and cold, by fire and shadow. It is in the contemplation of this great truth as taught in the symbolism of the Cryptic Degrees, of the course of time and of the fate of man, represented in that of the Master Builder of the Temple, and the search for the missing, or lost Square of the Circle, and represented by the Lost Word, which is the Key-stone of the Arch and the completion of the Circle, unlawfully taken from the Master's Degree itself, originally a perfect whole; all other degrees are but decimal fractions in comparison, and are of the earth earthy, and we labor in the Cryptic Degrees, like the mole, to recover that which was hidden and buried, to restore it to the sunlight above.”

Under Maine, in commenting upon the Colorado question, he says:

“Colorado was open to every Independent Grand Council that might have desired to create subordinate Councils within it, as well as by the General Grand Council, which had no monopoly of the territory. The Independent Grand Councils are now debarred by the creation of the Grand Council of Colorado, which is a sufficient notice to them to keep out, until it shall have been dissolved. If Independent Grand Councils had granted Charters in Colorado, which they had a perfect and legitimate right to do, whether there were three or more of one or several jurisdictions, and they came together and formed a Grand Council, then any other subordinate Council created by the General Grand Council would have had to recognize the authority of such new Grand Council so created, and the General Grand Council would have had to withdraw its jurisdiction, or its subordinate Councils declared clandestine that it had created. This is Masonic law, custom and *usage*. This may seem strange to Companion CHASE, yet it is nevertheless true, as the following statements of the facts will show:

“The Grand Lodge of Washington chartered *Lewiston* Lodge, No 10, in Lewiston, Idaho Territory, in 1863, and in 1867, by those acts, claimed exclusive

jurisdiction in that Territory. The Grand Lodge of Oregon paid no attention to this claim, and proceeded to grant Dispensations and Charters to Lodges at Bannock City, Boise City, Placerville and at Silver City during these years, and on December 16th, 1867, these Oregon created Lodges assembled and organized the Grand Lodge of Idaho, which did so without asking the consent of either of the Grand Lodges or Grand Masters of Washington or Oregon, between which all intercourse had been interdicted. The true principle of American Masonry is that it is built from the ground up, and that its governing powers derive their authority from the people themselves who are governed. California never claimed exclusive jurisdiction of Nevada or Arizona, though she chartered no less than eight Lodges in the former when a Territory, and three or four in the latter. California herself had no less than *seven* mother Grand Lodges to grant Charters and Dispensations, and perhaps more which did not come to light, and not one of them ever put up a claim of exclusive jurisdiction. Missouri, District of Columbia, Connecticut, Illinois, Wisconsin, New Jersey and Louisiana took Masonic possession of California, which in turn, immediately after the organization of its own Grand Lodge, granted Charters for two Lodges in Oregon, enabling them, with that Chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri, to organize the Grand Lodge of Oregon, the parent of two others.

“In 1843 the Supreme Council of the 33° of France chartered the Lodge ‘*Le Progress de L’Oceanie*,’ at Honolulu, in the Hawaiian Islands, and on May 5th, 1852, and October 18th, 1873, the Grand Lodge of California chartered ‘Hawaiian, No. 21,’ at Honolulu, and ‘Maui, No. 223,’ at Wailaku, Hawaiian Islands, and there is no conflict, but fraternal, amicable joint occupancy of that field, which is still open to the Grand Lodges of any other jurisdiction.”

New York is given some four pages in a pleasant and fraternal strain. Commenting upon the Address of the Grand Master, BALDWIN, he says :

“The Address of the Grand Master is not only a thorough, complete, and business-like document, but beautiful, eloquent and sublime in its utterances, in its conclusion with expressions of profound fraternal gratitude to his Illustrious Companions of that Grand Secret Vault.”

And then proceeds to make extracts from the Address.

“The first page is adorned with a fine steel engraving of a thoughtful, reflecting and intelligent appearing gentleman, with a lofty forehead and pleasant countenance, which confirms all the good words spoken of him by the Grand Master in his Address. This fine portrait is the likeness of R. I. Companion GEORGE VAN VLIET, the Grand Recorder of the Grand Council of New York, an ornament to Free Masonry in general, and to the Cryptic Rite in particular.”

Speaking of the Report on Correspondence we may be excused for presenting his words :

“The Report on Correspondence is by that able, square-dealing and just M. P. Companion GEORGE M. OSGOODBY, his last name being the abbreviation of

an exclamation of approbation—' *O, such a good boy*'—which his mother, no doubt, frequently used to say, and in which we heartily concur. His report covers seventy-two pages of finely printed matter, with liberal quotations and comments thereon."

And upon the Colorado question he says :

"The General Grand Master being from New York, and who has exercised the powers of General Grand Council *ad interim*, it will not be considered out of place to consider briefly the *status* between himself and the Grand Council of Colorado, which is a Grand Council *defacto* if it not be *jure*. We hold to the same opinion as expressed in our Report of last year, and so fully quoted by Companion OSGOODBY in his Report for 1896. In our review of Maine he will find it generally set forth. Independent Grand Councils being sovereign within their own jurisdictions in the exercise of their powers may exercise their rights of recognizing the Grand Council of Colorado as one of themselves, upon taking an advantage of a technicality in the Constitution of the General Grand Council not expressly delegating its supreme authority to the General Grand Master over subordinates during the interim between its sessions. Such recognition in effect is an act of unfriendliness to the General Grand Council, which, if it occurred in international affairs, there would be a withdrawal of representatives of government, warranted by such unfriendliness if the General Grand Council should require the several Grand Councils of its jurisdiction to withdraw their representatives and interdict intercourse between its own subordinates and those of Independent Grand Councils, the latter would have no reasonable right to complain, and they should have withdrawn their own at the time of recognizing the Grand Council of Colorado to have been consistent.

"The General Grand Council is unfortunate that there are so many Grand Councils who bear no allegiance to it, and while it claims to be 'General' in name yet it is not so in fact, nor is it national, which it ought to be to enforce its decrees; yet in principle it is the same so far as its subordinates are concerned, either in subordinate Councils created by it or their members. We think the principle is wrong that either the General Grand Council or the General Grand Master should have the sole power *within the State* to say that the subordinate Councils of a sufficient number to organize a State Grand Council cannot organize without previous consent. It destroys the principle of self government upon which all true Free Masonry rests, and when such superimposed power is pushed forward and made to be arbitrarily exercised it will naturally beget resistance, and insubordination is the result as appears to be the case in the Colorado imbroglio. Free Masonry has the base of its pyramid on the ground and not in the air. The four Lodges which formed the Grand Lodge of England reserved their separate rights and privileges as before, and they created the Grand Lodge of England and were not created by it, and no matter what the form may be, the same spirit of liberty must be maintained or there is no Free Masonry, and the 'Mystic Tie' of fraternity and brotherhood would be changed into a steel wire of tyranny, converting brethren into abject slaves to

obey the will and *dictum* of a despot which no free American citizen would submit to."

We have quoted freely the views of Companion SHERMAN upon this Colorado question, and it is unnecessary to add comments of our own as our views have been very freely and fully expressed in our preceding reports and supplemented in other places herein.

Under Ohio, speaking of the reference by that Grand Council of the Address of the Grand Master to a Special Committee which was composed of three members each of whom had as a surname "WILLIAMS," gives the following amusing story :

"We have put in all the names of this committee to whom it was referred, copying from the record. This WILLIAMS family apparently are the chief managers and directors of the Grand Council of Ohio, which ought to be called the 'WILLIAMS' GRAND COUNCIL,' for it is such *de facto* in reality, which shapes its legislation, is behind the executive, and uses it for the WILLIAMS interest and to accomplish the plans designed, conceived by the WILLIAMS in chief and supported by the WILLIAMS' clan.


"We are reminded by these circumstances of what once occurred in a regiment of volunteers during the late civil war. This regiment was composed entirely of Scotchmen. A gentleman went to the Colonel, a braw old Scotchman, to enquire about a certain man in the regiment who had enlisted to get out of the way and thus avoid paying his debts. He said to the Colonel: 'I want to find a man in your regiment by the name of MCPHERSON.' The Colonel replied: 'Over half the regiment are MCPHERSONS, sir.' The gentleman said: 'I want to see SANDY MCPHERSON.' The Colonel replied: 'Two-thirds of them are SANDY MCPHERSONS, sir.' The gentleman then said: 'But the SANDY MCPHERSON I want to see is red headed.' The Colonel replied: 'The most of the MCPHERSONS are red headed, sir.' The gentleman, getting a little impatient, said: 'But the SANDY MCPHERSON and red headed who I want to see *has got the itch.*' The Colonel then replied: 'Allow me to inform you, sir, THAT ALL THE MCPHERSONS HAVE THE ITCH, SIR.'"

Under his "Conclusion" he says:

"It is gratifying to know that the Cryptic Rite is able to proceed alone. There is no longer the wail and its echoes reverberating through the Nine Arches, clamoring for Pre-requisition. That question is settled for all time.

"General prosperity prevails throughout the jurisdiction of the General Grand Council and most of the Independent Grand Councils of the Cryptic Rite. It is properly named the 'Cryptic Rite,' though there are several writers who cavil at the name. It is Cryptic because its ceremonies pertain to that which is secret, hidden, covered, or concealed. The Royal Arch Degree is equally Cryptic to which the Degrees of Royal Select Masters are now made to apply to the American Rite as they formerly did to the Fourteenth Degree of the old

Rite of Perfection and now of the A. . and A. . S. . Rite, which in 1870 ceased by its own legal enactments to have any further control over it, and that road now to that entrance of the Secret Vault is through the American Royal Arch Chapter. The Lodge of Perfection is still the Secret Vault, but makes no complaint or protest to its being used to illustrate another tradition or legend different from and more modern than its own. Each have their lessons and moral truths to be inculcated, and he who cannot discriminate and learn them both without bias or prejudice is incapable of receiving the truth. It is, perhaps, a fortunate thing in some respects that there are so many different branches of the Masonic Fraternity. In a great many instances it gratifies the ambition for office and power among so many admitted to the Craft, who might explode with unsatisfied aspiration and vanity on the tessellated pavement of the Temple, and the pressure is relieved in that quarter. Neither WARREN or FRANKLIN, the first American Grand Masters, nor the immortal WASHINGTON himself, knew anything of Masonry above the Master's Chair in the Blue Lodge, and yet there are no Masons to-day or since then who have been able to surpass or even equal these three great lights of Masonry among whom the world have delighted to honor and their memories cherished by their grateful brethren and countrymen."

The Report on Correspondence is well written and we have been much interested therein. We lay it by with regret that we cannot give more of this interesting matter, and we extend our  in a warm fraternal greeting to our esteemed Companions.

The Correspondence Report has been published by a few of the Grand Councils in and as a part of the Proceedings of their respective Bodies. One by one this custom has been dropped, and even Maine has succumbed to the pressure and publishes its Correspondence Report as an appendix. California and New York still remain in the list of those who have held steadfast to the old custom; but to make uniformity and harmony we have concluded in New York that we will hereafter publish our report as an appendix instead of its being injected in the body of the Proceedings, and therefore, it will for the first time make its appearance as an appendix.

Now, Companion SHERMAN, will you follow suit?

The Proceedings of this State are full of interest. M. I. HENRY ASCHROFT, of San Francisco, was elected Grand Master, and our old friend, that veteran of Grand Recorders, THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, San Francisco, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held at San Francisco, April 18th, 1898.

#### CONNECTICUT—1897.

The Seventy-ninth Annual Assembly was held in New Haven, May 10th, M. I. EDWARD E. WEST, Grand Master, presiding. Twenty subordinate Councils were represented, and there were fourteen Representatives from sister

Grand Councils, *not* including New York. The Address of the Grand Master was a purely business report and is principally devoted to local interest. The Rite appears to be in a fairly prosperous condition.

A resolution was adopted authorizing the Grand Recorder to sell copies of the Grand Council's Proceedings, which in his judgment could be spared from and without injury to the library, at the price of twenty-five cents each. No such rule has ever been adopted in New York but it might well be.

The proceedings were of the usual routine order. The Correspondence Report was presented by Comp. JOHN H. BARLOWE, who reviews the Proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Jurisdictions, including Colorado, and also New York for 1896, which has a pleasant review of over four pages, and therein, speaking of our last report, he says :

"The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. GEORGE M. OSGOODBY, who has performed this duty for many years, and the present is an able review of the Proceedings of thirty-six Grand Councils, including the General Grand Council, the most complete list of any correspondent.

"In his review of Connecticut he, like several others, accuses us of endeavoring to separate the sheep and the goats by first reviewing the Independent Grand Councils and then those under the General Grand. As we have stated elsewhere, this was for general information and the sheep and the goat question did not present itself; we presume, however, he would class as 'goats' those without the fold of the *General Grand*.

"We rather supposed when we presented the sheep and goat question that our esteemed Companion classed the constituents of the General Grand Council as 'goats' and the Independents as 'sheep.' Therefore we are glad to know that there was no particular meaning to the classification according to the ancient interpretation as to sheep and goats."

Under different jurisdictions considerable of his space is occupied by comments upon the Colorado differences which have already been presented, and we believe the views of all interested are now before the fraternity for consideration and is hardly necessary to say more on that subject.

In reference to the Grand Council of Canada, Comp. BARLOWE says that he has had no Proceedings from it later than 1885, and has no certain knowledge of its present existence. We are glad to be able to inform him that it still has an existence, although its Proceedings have not been published for several years past.

In his "Conclusion" he states that there is an improved condition of Cryptic Masonry as compared with the preceding year. This conclusion is arrived at from the Proceedings which have been placed before him, and speaking of Colorado he says :

"We trust the subject will receive careful attention at the coming Triennial Assembly, and Councils desiring to form Grand Councils be allowed free choice whether they will or will not become constituents of the General Grand Council.

The three-fold cord of Friendship, Fraternity and Willing Obedience is not easily broken, while the seeming strong arm of Arbitrary and Oppressive Legislation is the rule of fear not love, and may burst out in open rebellion."

M. . I. . REUBEN H. TUCKER, Ansonia, was elected Grand Master, and R. . I. . JAMES McCORMICK, Hartford, was elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held at Hartford, on Monday preceding the second Tuesday in May, 1898.

#### ENGLAND AND WALES—1897.

This Grand Council held its Annual Assembly at Mark Mason's Hall, Great Queen's Street, London, W. C., March 11th, R. . I. . CHARLES F. MATIER, Past Deputy Grand Master (present Grand Recorder), as Grand Master, presiding. Representatives from eleven Grand Councils were present, but the Representative of the Grand Council of New York was not present, nor have we been able to note his presence for many years past. Under the Standing Resolution in force in our own Grand Council another Companion should be appointed as our Representative to the Grand Council of England and Wales, etc. A new Council has been Warranted at Durban Natal, South Africa, and the Grand Recorder states that from the zeal and activity of the founders success seems assured.

The Officers of this Grand Council are principally appointed by the Grand Master, and his appointment of R. . I. . Comp. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND as Deputy Grand Master in the place of R. . I. . Comp. VISCOUNT DUNGARVAN was announced, and he was accordingly duly installed.

Comp. B. R. BYRANT, who has filled the position of Grand Lecturer since 1884, with the utmost skill and ability, having voluntarily retired from that office, the Grand Master was pleased to confer on him the rank of "Past Principal Conductor of the Work.

After the re-election of the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Officers were duly installed.

The Degree of Royal Master was exemplified by the Grand Recorder, assisted by other Grand Officers, immediately prior to the opening of the Grand Council, and after the close of the Council a banquet was held at "Free Masons' Tavern," under the Presidency of the Deputy Grand Master.

There are twenty-two subordinate Councils upon the roster of this Grand Council, of which twelve are in England and Wales, and eleven are in the Provinces and located at great distances from the Mother Body, at the following locations:

Tunis, Malta; Taunceston, Tasmania; Melbourne, Australia; Port Chalmers, New Zealand; East London, South Africa; Madris, Calcutta; Colombo, Bombay; Durban, Natal.

Many of these Provincial Councils have not made returns for several years past and are practically dormant.

The M. . I. . the EARL OF EUSTON is the Grand Master, and R. . I. . CHARLES F. MATIER, address: Mark Mason's Hall, Queen's Street, London, W. C., is the Grand Recorder.

## GEORGIA—1897.

The Fifty-fourth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Macon, April 27th, M. I. HENRY C. BURR, Grand Master, presiding. The Representatives of seventeen subordinate Councils, together with the Representatives of fifteen sister Grand Councils were present.

The address, proper, covers about seven pages, to which is added a review upon Correspondence by the Grand Master. In the course of his address he says :

“Throughout the jurisdictions the best of feeling animates the membership, always zealous in the discharge of the duty they owe the Rite, and displaying that energy so consistent with the enthusiastic worker. While our accession has not been as large as we expected, I am gratified to report that a healthy improvement is shown in all that pertains to Cryptic Masonry, which gives evidence of a solid advancement with all the elements that go to make up a permanent establishment. Do not forget, my Companions, that the future is to be decided by the past, and we should resolve for the future, using energy and determination with the experience that has been gained by past exertion. Be patient and Cryptic Masonry in Georgia will yet rank with any of the other departments of Masonry. The founders of this Rite were men who were given wisdom to frame it upon a solid foundation that would stand the test of all time to come.

“We hope for greater success yet. Considering what has been accomplished, we may confidently believe that we are nearer the period in the history of Cryptic Masonry we have so earnestly desired to obtain—that of the independence of the Rite above all others. With all the reverses and discouragements the Rite has been called upon to encounter, our progress has been continually forward and our strength gradually increased. We love the Rite for its grandeur and the sublimity of the degrees, and for the great effulgent light it has shed upon our imperfect Masonic knowledge. This becoming known to our Royal Arch Companions, they, like all, wish the light, and are pressing forward for the purpose of ascertaining where this great knowledge and light are to be found and for what purpose.

“The general appearance indicates that Cryptic Masonry in our jurisdiction is now on a sure foundation. During the past year our subordinate Councils have, with few exceptions, done well. From the returns you will see that some have made rapid progress, while nearly all have held their own. I have found that the officers are taking more interest in the study of the ritual, and in a few instances the work cannot be excelled by any Council in the Union. I am glad to know that our Councils are guarding well the portals of the Secret Vault, and only those who are found worthy are known.

“The power and influence of Cryptic Masonry are sure to strengthen with the increase of years. The more we advance in Cryptic Masonry the more we are convinced that the ties of our fraternity are those of fraternal friendship, good will, and charity toward all.

“The Rite was not instituted for the base purpose of personal, political or business emolument, but for the advancement of mankind to that high elevation of social life and duty to God and fellow men. Cryptic Masonry is in a healthy condition in this as well as in other Grand Jurisdictions.”

The decease of our late friend and Companion, ANDREW M. WOLIHIN, who was for many years the esteemed Grand Recorder in this jurisdiction, was announced and his memory eulogized.

Two new Councils were instituted under Charters formally granted. Two other Councils were organized U. D., and for which Charters were directed.

Arrangements were made for the attendance of Representatives at the coming Triennial Assembly of the General Grand Council. The Correspondence Report covers twenty-six jurisdictions, including New York for 1896, to which one page is devoted, and in the course of which our esteemed Companion takes it upon himself to make the following comment :

“The review on Correspondence is by GEORGE M. OSGOODBY, who reviews the Proceedings of thirty-four Grand Councils. He gives a thorough review. They will afford much pleasure as well as information. The Grand Council of Georgia is mentioned in a very complimentary manner. The Grand Master of Georgia sincerely thanks him for the generous compliment paid him. It is more highly appreciated for coming from a Mason who is not surpassed in Masonic literature and general information, upon one who is now in his infancy and could never expect to gain the summit reached by this Illustrious Companion of New York.”

This report, while but brief in its reference to the different jurisdictions, is very readable and pleasant as well as interesting, and a sound review of current Cryptic proceedings, and it is a credit to our M. .I. .Comp. BURR.

The proceedings of the Body were of the usual routine.

A memorial upon the decease of R. .I. .ANDREW M. WOLIHIN was presented by a committee, which was adopted by a rising vote.

A worthy son of the deceased was appointed to the office of Grand Recorder in the place of his father, and was afterward elected as his own successor.

The Grand Master, whose address is Griffin, and the Grand Recorder, whose address is Macon, were each re-elected.

The next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council will be held at Macon, April 26th, 1898.

#### ILLINOIS—1896.

The Forty-fourth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Chicago, October 28th, M. .I. .MARCUS M. LORD, Grand Master, presiding. Forty three subordinate Councils were represented and there were twenty-one Representatives of sister Grand Councils present, not including New York.

The Proceedings contain a very good picture of Grand Master LORD. The Address by the Grand Master covers six pages and is principally devoted to matters of local interest. In speaking of the condition of the Rite he says :

“General appearances would indicate that Cryptic Masonry in this jurisdiction was on a sure foundation, and now we only need earnest, true hard workers to complete the designs.”

The Reports for the several officers whose duty it is to visit the different subordinate bodies show that the Rite is in a fairly prosperous condition.

A Report from Correspondence was presented by Comp. GEORGE W. WARVELLE, covering twenty-seven pages, and in which twenty-three jurisdictions are, and also has the “Case of Colorado,” so termed, reviewed; and in which the feeling of interest upon the part of Companion WARVELLE is opposed to the General Grand Council and to those of its constituents who have passed upon the subject of the regularity of the action in Colorado relative to the organization of what they are pleased to term a “Grand Council.”

The review by Companion WARVELLE is exceedingly brief. New York has a pleasant review of about one and a half pages, in the course of which the Report of the writer of 1895 in reference to the “Memorial and Protest of 1880” is referred to and the differences are deprecated.

This review covers the same years which were reported upon in our review of last year, for which reason we do not give it as much space as we otherwise would.

M. I. G. M. GROSS, Chicago, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. GIL. W. BARNARD, Chicago, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held at Chicago, October 27th, 1897.

#### INDIANA—1896.

The Forty-first Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Indianapolis, October 20th, M. I. THOMAS R. MARSHALL, Grand Master, presiding. Forty-six subordinate Councils were represented, including one U. D. The Representatives of nineteen sister Grand Councils were present, including M. I. LUCIEN A. FOOTE, the Representative of New York, being present.

The Proceedings have a fine portrait of Grand Master MARSHALL. The Address of the Grand Master covers about seven pages, principally devoted to matters of local interest, and the proceedings were of the usual routine.

A memorial upon the degree of Super-Excellent Master was presented by Past M. I. THOMAS B. LONG, and which being of considerable historical interest to the Rite, we quote it entire :

“The writer of this memorial takes the present occasion as an appropriate time to call the attention of the Councils of Royal and Select Masters in this Grand Jurisdiction to a few facts concerning the degree of Super-Excellent Master. This really interesting degree is recognized as a legitimate part of

Cryptic Masonry by the Constitution of the General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the United States, where, in fixing the fees that may be charged by the several Councils under its immediate jurisdiction, it is provided that the fee 'for conferring the degrees of Royal and Select Master, and the appendant degree of Super-Excellent Master, shall not be less than ten dollars.'—Article I., Section 11. And its importance is further acknowledged in the General Regulations prescribed for the government of these Councils, where it is enacted that—

“The degrees recognized by the General Grand Council are as follows: First—Royal Master; Second—Select Master, and the appendant degree of Super-Excellent Master, and *must* be conferred in the order here enumerated.’—Section 47.

“In this connection it is also immediately provided in these General Regulations that ‘The ceremonies and rituals in conferring the several degrees of the Council, as well as the opening and closing ceremonies, *must* conform in each particular to that arranged and adopted by the General Grand Council.’—Section 48; in pursuance of which provision a ritual for the degree in question is furnished by the General Grand Council to each of its immediate subordinates. These requirements, too, are enacted along with and under a Constitutional provision in which the General Grand Council assumes the duty ‘to watch over and protect the interests of Cryptic Masonry,’ and to ‘give such advice and instructions as may seem most conclusive to the peace, advancement and *perpetuation* of Cryptic Masonry *in its original integrity.*’—Article I., Section 9.

“At this point it is proper to state that the degree in question was never named in the Constitution of the Grand Council of Indiana, nor was it ever, in any manner, provided for in the General Regulations for the Government of its Subordinate Councils. The question of the propriety of adopting it in this Grand Jurisdiction was first raised by M. . P. . Grand Master THOMAS NEWBY, in his official address to the Grand Council at the Annual Communication of 1867, where he called attention to the fact of its recognition by the Grand Council of Pennsylvania, as legitimately belonging to and explaining Cryptic Masonry, and requiring its subordinates to incorporate it as the *Second Degree* of the system, and at his recommendation a committee was appointed to at once exemplify it; but this committee plead want of time in declining this unexpected duty, and reported a resolution, which was adopted, declaring it ‘inexpedient for this Grand Body to express an opinion on the merits, claims, or beauty of the so called Super-Excellent Degree’ at that time. In a somewhat doubting strain the subject of the propriety of its adoption was next referred to by M. . P. . Grand Master THOMAS PATTISON in his official Address in 1868, and during the proceedings of that session Companion WILLIAM HACKER, who was in possession of the degree, was, on motion of Companion ALEXANDER THOMAS, ‘requested to exemplify the same before the Grand Council, in order that we (they) may be prepared to vote upon the subject understandingly,’ and accordingly ‘Companion HACKER, assisted by Companions HAZELRIGG, SCHMIDLAP, PATTISON and BRAMWELL proceeded to exemplify and communicate the degree

of Super-Excellent Master to the members of the Grand Council then present.' If this was a lawful communication of the degree, such prominent members of our Grand Council, yet living, as THOMAS PATTISON, WILLIAM W. ASTIN, MARTIN N. RICE, ALEXANDER THOMAS, THOMAS NEWBY, and SAMUEL B. RICHARDSON, were at that time invested with it, though at least two of them, Companions THOMAS and RICE, have since received it at the writer's hands—the first, together with Companions ROBERT B. WHITSETT and ISAAC SHIDLER, by communication by me in this hall, on April 18th, 1895, in Terre Haute Council, No. 8, on a class of eight Companions from Indianapolis, among whom were also our respected Grand Recorder, WILLIAM H. SMYTHE, and that faithful Companion, Past Illustrious Master HERMAN WEINBERGER, so constantly present at every Annual Meeting of this Grand Council. Immediately after such exemplification of the Work to the Grand Council by Companion HACKER, a resolution was adopted declaring that they could see nothing in it to justify its adoption either as a Constitutional or a Supplemental Degree, and expressing the belief that whatever merit it had was already 'contained in a preceding degree in the Chapter organization.

"At the next Annual Communication it was again alluded to in M. . P. . Grand Master PATTISON's second Address, in which he stated that he had learned from Companion DRUMMOND's Report on Correspondence that it was then recognized in Maine, and also, in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Ohio, Kansas, and New Brunswick. The committee to whom the subject was then referred endorsed the action taken at the preceding Annual Session; but after making the statement that Grand Master PATTISON additionally informed them 'that the degree in question is a regular Constitutional Degree in the Chapter Organization as practised in the several Grand Chapter jurisdictions in Europe, and especially in Ireland where he received his degrees;' they make this statement the basis of an argument that it would be an unlawful invasion of the Constitutional rights of these foreign Grand Bodies to assume control of the degree, and that the Grand Council of Indiana could not justify itself in such an act by the example of the other Grand Councils in America.

"And here the matter rested, so far as our Grand Council was concerned, until after the adoption of the Cryptic Rituals by the National Convention Work, and were subsequently adopted by the General Grand Council as the Work of the Supreme Body. The Grand Council of Indiana was represented in the New York Convention by Past M. . P. . Grand Master WILLIAM HACKER, as the proxy of M. . P. . Grand Master ALEXANDER THOMAS, who made an exhaustive report of its transactions to his Chief, which appears in the Proceedings of our Grand Council for 1873, showing that at the first session of the Convention it was decided 'that the order in conferring the degrees should be: first—Royal Master; second—Select Master, and that it be left optional with each Grand Council to confer the Super-Excellent Master's Degree as an honorary degree.' In direct connection with this established order, Companion HACKER's report says: 'This being entirely in harmony with the practice in

this jurisdiction, the vote of Indiana was cast in favor of the proposition.' At the next session of the Convention, held on the succeeding day, the Rituals of the Royal Master's Degree and the Select Master's Degree were adopted, after which 'the Work of the Super-Excellent Master's Degree, as reported to and adopted by the Convention which met one year since (June 12th, 1872), was then on motion adopted by this Convention; South Carolina, Indiana and Mississippi declining to vote on the question, as they had not yet received and officially adopted the degree.' The committee to whom this report of Companion HACKER was referred, by its Chairman, ERASTUS W. H. ELLIS, made a somewhat elaborate report, approving the course pursued by the Representative from our Grand Council, but expressing doubts as to the wisdom of a hasty approval of the Convention's Ritual; having reference, doubtless, to those of the Royal and Select Degrees, 'as the simplicity and beauty of our own Ritual have endeared it to our Companions and Councils, and recommend 'that the subject be taken into careful consideration by the Grand Officers of our Council, and that they be requested to report thereon at our next Grand Annual Communication.'

"In his Address at the next Annual Session of the Grand Council M. P. Grand Master GEORGE H. FISH, alluded somewhat briefly to the subject, expressing his belief that through the work of the New York Convention uniformity might be obtained, since 'the difference in the Esoteric Work is but slight;' but agreeing with the stricture upon it in the HACKER report, which the present writer has not deemed it important to specify in this paper. This part of the Address of Grand Master FISH was not made a subject of reference, and neither the transactions of that session, nor of any succeeding meeting of our Grand Council for many years, contain any further action upon the subject now under consideration.

"In the meantime and probably both before and after the holding of the New York Convention, Companion HACKER, while Custodian of the Work in this Grand Jurisdiction, communicated the degree both to individual Companions, Royal and Select Masters, and to some of the subordinate Councils in Indiana; and it has already been shown that he so exemplified and communicated it in open Grand Council to the members present at our Annual Assembly of 1868. When, where, or how Companion HACKER obtained the degree there is probably no one living who can tell; but that he was in lawful and regular possession of it his great Masonic integrity precludes all question. He was the author of the report made to this Grand Council in 1868, already referred to, against the adoption of the degree as a part of our system, because it would be an invasion of the Constitutional rights of certain foreign Masonic organizations, and the stirring language there used by him furnishes the strongest possible evidence that he would be the last of all persons to handle the degree unlawfully.

"The organization of the General Grand Council in August, 1880, the approval and ratification of the formation of that Supreme Body by the Grand Council of Indiana in October, 1880, and the Proclamation of March 1st, 1881,

by General Grand Master JOSIAH A. DRUMMOND, declaring its existence as the governing body of the Rite in the United States, necessarily invested our Grand Council with the right to assume the promulgation of the degree, and authorize its Work in the several subordinate Councils whenever the proper steps could be taken in that direction. And yet the subject remained unmentioned, if not unthought of, until 1885, when Companion HENRY W. MORDHURST, then Third Officer of this Grand Council, offered a resolution proposing a consideration at least of 'the advisability of permitting the Councils of this jurisdiction to confer' the degree. 'Past Illustrious Grand Master MARTIN H. RICE, moved the adoption of the resolution; but, 'after some discussion of the question, its further consideration was indefinitely postponed.' But Companion MORDHURST had probably given more thought to the subject than had some of those who opposed his resolution, and though defeated then, he renewed his efforts when he became Illustrious Grand Master, and in his Address to the Grand Council in 1888, he gave cogent reasons why the degree should be adopted in this Grand Jurisdiction, at least to the extent of *permitting* its Councils to confer it. Upon a reference to them of this part of his Address, the Committee on Jurisprudence recommended, that 'the several Councils of this jurisdiction have the right to confer or communicate the Degree of Super-Excellent Master to such of their members as each Council for itself may deem advisable.' And here again the matter rested for several years, as there was no existing procedure prescribing the manner in which any Companion or Council could obtain and impart it.

"In August, 1894, the writer hereof was an attendant as one of the Representatives of this Grand Council at the Fifth Triennial Assembly of the General Grand Council, held at Topeka, Kansas, and on the 20th of that month he received the degree in a just and lawful manner in Zabud Council, No. 4, working under the Grand Jurisdiction of Kansas; and having long appreciated the insufficiency of the action of our Grand Council in 1888, in not providing some code or line of procedure through which the degrees could be lawfully taken in charge by the Councils of our jurisdiction, upon his return he at once addressed a series of questions to Illustrious Grand Master SIMEON B. JOHNSON, tending to lead to some elucidation of the subject of the procedure necessary to the proper promulgation of the degree, which questions were promptly responded to, and, together with the answers to them, incorporated with his Address to the Grand Council in 1894. The Committee on Jurisprudence for that session, in considering that portion of Companion JOHNSON'S Address appreciated the requirements demanded by the existing situation, and through their Chairman, Past Illustrious Grand Master ALEXANDER THOMAS, reported a plan of procedure by which it was provided 'that either of the first three Grand Officers of this Grand Council, or either of the first three officers of a subordinate Council, they having received the degree in a regular manner, be authorized to communicate the Super-Excellent Degree to the Illustrious Master of the Council, or to a working quorum only of the Councils in this State, in order that such Council may be enabled to Work the degree in a regular way.'

This, it will be observed, limits the communication of the degree to the Illustrious Masters or working quorum of the several Councils as the only 'proper manner of disseminating the Ritual;' as appears from another part of the report, and it follows as a matter of course, that after a Council had obtained the Ritual the degree must ever after be 'Worked,' and can never again be communicated to its candidates or its members not yet in possession of it. In view of the discussion that arose at this time as to whether certain Companions throughout the State were lawfully invested with the degree, and in order to establish its legitimacy to them on the part of those who had previously received it by communication from Companion HACKER while custodian of the Work for this Grand Council, a resolution was then adopted declaring 'all Companions of record who have had said degree communicated to or conferred upon them in Councils, so receiving it from said Companion HACKER, to be in full and lawful possession of said degree.'

"Under the procedure thus prescribed, the undersigned, as Illustrious Grand Master, communicated the degree on the 9th of April, 1895, to a working quorum of Terre Haute Council, No. 8, which at once prepared itself to confer the degree fully in accordance with its Ritual, and to that end, and at considerable expense, procured all the paraphernalia and appliances necessary for its successful rendition, and invited the Officers and members of Councils throughout the State to receive the degree at its hands free of charge. What was done in that direction was fully reported in the writers Official Address last year, at which time the Grand Council also accepted the proposition of its said subordinate to continue such service in disseminating the degree during the year now current. The exigencies and excitements of a Presidential campaign made it impracticable for Companions to accept the Council's invitation to attend its meetings during the several months recently preceding, but on the 11th day of January last the degree was conferred upon a class of eight Companions from Indianapolis, as already stated, among whom was the Deputy Illustrious Master of Indianapolis Council, No. 2, and on June 23d, there were present to receive it Companions from Brazil and Salem—from the latter place, Companion E. H. BRISTOL, Illustrious Master of Salem Council, No. 61. And the Council which has thus rendered gratuitous and willing service in promulgating the degree, holds itself in readiness to continue these labors upon the same terms if the Grand Council will still permit it to do so.

"Now, the undersigned, having been zealously instrumental in securing the present status to the degree in this Grand Jurisdiction, most earnestly urges the several Councils of the State to take further and early steps toward its adoption and Work. Its beauty, its interest, and its importance are in no way to be underestimated. He is fully satisfied that its employment, while justly finishing the Cryptic education of our Companions, will restore the flagging energies of many of our Councils, and enhance the interest of the Companions of those that are flourishing and prosperous. While it is entertainingly diversified, it is also dramatic, serious and instructive. Remember that the degree is old and respectable, having been a part of a system consisting of the degrees of Excel-

lent Master, Super-Excellent Master, Royal Arch, and Knights Templar, and was so conferred at Charleston, South Carolina, as long ago as 1783, a date even earlier than that given by the undersigned in his Address already referred to. It has of late years been almost universally adopted by the Grand Jurisdictions entirely surrounding us, and it has already been shown by Grand Master PATTERSON'S Address what extensive acceptance it had in America as far back as 1869; and it was well said by Companion MORDHURST in 1888, that 'members of our subordinate have been placed in embarrassing positions when visiting Councils in other States by not being in possession of the degree.' Our Grand Treasurer has recommended its adoption and Work on numerous occasions, and our Grand Recorder has been constrained to say at a Masonic banquet where no stronger exhilarant than coffee was partaken of, that he had experienced more interest and pleasure in its reception than had been afforded him in receiving another degree exceedingly coveted, to procure which he had travelled a much greater distance and paid the highest known consideration."

This memorial was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, by whom it was approved and recommended. The Grand Council adopting the report.

This jurisdiction is in a prosperous condition and the Cryptic Rite is progressing substantially therein.

A Report from Correspondence was presented by M. I. Comp. MORDHURST, covering about forty-eight pages, and in which he reviews the proceedings of twenty-nine jurisdictions, including New York for 1895, to which is given five pages. The Report of the Committee on Constitution and Laws in relation to Colorado matters is quoted entire, with approval, and Comp. MORDHURST says in relation to it:

"This report is here given in full because it is the best exposition of the case yet presented, which encomium the writer appreciates."

Other quotations are made from our review of that year, and altogether it is a pleasant presentment of New York in a brief manner.

I regret that the Proceedings of the Grand Council of Indiana follow so closely upon our own Proceedings each year, as it prevents the writer from making as much use of Comp. MORDHURST'S review as he would otherwise be very glad to do. The years reviewed by Comp. MORDHURST are years which have already been presented in our report of last year.

The Colorado differences are fully reviewed in the "Conclusion" of this most interesting review; but as the subject has already been fully discussed and presented in our own Grand Council, we omit further reference thereto.

M. I. ANDREW J. ROBINSON, Logansport, was elected Grand Master; and R. I. WILLIAM H. SMYTHE, Indianapolis, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held October 19th, 1897, at Indianapolis.

#### KANSAS—1897.

The Twenty-ninth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Salina, February 15th, M. I. ARCHIBALD A. CARNAHAN, Grand Master, presiding.

Eight subordinate Councils were represented, and thirteen Representatives from sister Grand Councils were present, not including any Representative from New York.

The Address of the Grand Master covers nearly six pages, largely devoted to an exposition of Free Masonry, and the remainder devoted to matters of local interest. The Proceedings tend to show that the Rite in this jurisdiction is in a fairly prosperous condition. The Work of the Body was of the usual routine.

A Report from Correspondence was presented by Comp. CALLAHAM, covering about forty-nine pages, in which the Proceedings of twenty-five jurisdictions were reviewed, including New York for 1896, which is given about two pages. A review is written by each of the individual members of the committee, so that we have three different Companions as co-laborers in the field instead of one as is usual in most of the jurisdictions. From the comment on New York in reference to the Colorado matter, our Companion expresses a doubt as to the regularity of the organization in that State, and withdraws his former opinion to that effect, and under Illinois our Companion says :

“When the writer of that paragraph made the statement Comp. WARVELLE quotes, it was assumed from all the information then at hand that a Convention of the Councils of Colorado has been regularly convened for the purpose of organizing a Grand Council, that all of the proceedings had been regularly gone through with, and that the only difficulty was in the defiant way in which the Companions sought to separate themselves from the parent tree. Later information causes the writer to withdraw the statement as to the regularity of the procedure, as he finds that in the very inception of the convention the Companions proceeded in an irregular way. It was at the best but a caucus of the presiding officers of a few Councils, some of whom had no authority or expression from their Councils or requesting such action. The whole action of that caucus, or alleged convention, was irregular.

“When they sought to set aside their obligations of allegiance to the General Grand Council without first returning the charters which they held from that Body, and which gave them the only Masonic authority they could claim to have, they made a breach, which, assuming all their previous procedure to have been regular, did not heal. They are in the wrong, at least so far as breaking away from the allegiance which they owe to the General Grand Council, and to each Companion who owes the same allegiance. And the action of the Grand Council of Illinois, and each other Grand Council that has recognized the Grand Council of Colorado, is an unfriendly act, not only to the General Grand Council, but to each constituent Grand Council that holds allegiance to it, as was the recognition of the Confederate States of America by the foreign Governments an unfriendly act to the Government of the United States. What a great difference there would be in the position taken by Comp. WARVELLE should the Councils of one of the Arches of Illinois attempt to set up an Independent Grand Council of Illinois, and then should ask recognition from the General Grand Council.

“The Companions of Colorado have had bad advice, which in their calmer thoughts they themselves may see. It is the province of Masonry to heal, not to engender strife. Hurling epithets will not make friends nor undo an alleged wrong, and while the smart of rebellion is rankling it is not wise to sit on the fence and applaud the rebelling one. The solicitude which some Illustrious Companions outside the General Grand Council feel for those who owe it allegiance is unnecessary. We are getting along very well under vassalage. The fact that some of them don't like our way does not concern us in the least, nor cause us to lay awake nights. Even Comp. WARVELLE believes the General Grand Council is doing a good work for Cryptic Masonry, and he should direct his energies to healing the breach instead of justifying and continuing unfriendly action.”

Under Indiana our Companion states that in entering Colorado in the list of Grand Councils that it was purely an accident, being unintentional and as much the fault of the printer as of Comp. CALLAHAM, and if it had been noticed in the proofs it would have been stricken out.

Speaking of the relation of Kansas to the General Grand Council, Companion SEABROOK says :

“Situated as close as Kansas is to Colorado, it is desirable on the part of both parties that entire amity and good fellowship shall exist between them and that she will do all in her power to effect an amicable arrangement that the Companions of Colorado may be satisfied and the dignity of the General Grand Council may be maintained. Kansas is a constituent member of that Body. She is not complaining nor suffering under her membership, is as tenacious as any other member over the rights and prerogatives of the General Body and her own, but thinks there is some way out of the difficulty without compromising herself or her friends. Some of the Colorado Companions received their degrees and instructions in the Councils of Kansas, and she wants to see them having a legitimate home.

“The Cryptic Rite in some jurisdictions is flourishing, while in others it is holding its own. Other few are having a hard struggle to live. Our opinion is that we make it too cheap. If fees and dues commensurate with the value of the degrees were charged, the officers and members would not treat these degrees in such a manner as to produce the feeling upon the candidate that they are only one side degrees. Instead of charging enough fees and dues to live comfortably, the vast majority of Councils, and the majority of Grand Councils, have a sort of precarious existence—a living from hand to mouth sort of way. The Cryptic Rite has sufficient merit to command sufficient funds so that it should be in a position to pay its own way without any dead-head business, and should be able to pay for services rendered it in proportion to other Masonic bodies. When it reaches this status, it will no longer grope—it will stand up and walk by its own light.”

Many other interesting matters are contained in this review which we would be glad to present at large, but our space will not permit, and we regret that we cannot give more of this report so full of good things.

M. I. FRANK E. DOW, Atchinson, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. A. M. CALLAHAM, Topeka, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held at Wichita, February 14th, 1898.

#### KENTUCKY—1896.

This Grand Council met in Annual Assembly at Louisville, October 19th, 1896, M. I. CHARLES C. VOGT, Grand Master, presiding. Thirteen subordinate Councils were represented, several others made returns—some of which paid their dues; others did not and were not represented. Representatives from seventeen sister Grand Councils, including New York, were present.

The address of the Grand Master is very brief, and entirely devoted to matters of local interest. The Proceedings show that the Rite in this jurisdiction is holding its own in spite of the adverse financial times. The Report upon Correspondence was presented by M. I. Comp. JAMES W. STATON, which I received with much pleasure, for it is not often that we have a review of this kind presented from this jurisdiction. New York was included in this report, being given about two pages. This review covers about thirty-nine pages and includes thirty-three jurisdictions: Some of which are quite brief.

Under New York many pleasant things are said, and our esteemed Companion VAN VLIET, of whom, referring to his likeness contained in our Proceedings of last year, he says :

“His hair and whiskers does not represent him to be so young as when we first met him at Buffalo, 1887. Alas! alas! the years do steal upon us.”

He also says :

“Our good friend and Companion, GEORGE M. OSGOODBY, presented another of his admirable Reports on Correspondence, embracing seventy-two pages, which includes as an addenda the Address of Comp. WARVELLE, of Illinois, referred to in this report in several places. He has given to Kentucky Proceedings for 1895 something over a page of very kind and fraternal review. He urges this writer to give them another ‘old-time’ review. Well, he will get one this time, but whether we will be granted another privilege to write an extended report we cannot tell. We suppose we can though, provided we go to the expense of printing it on our own book.

“We love to read the reports of Comp. OSGOODBY, and while we do not always agree with him, we entertain for him personally the most profound respect and fraternal regard. We would like to notice more of this excellent report, but at this late hour when the printer awaits what we have written with some impatience, we cannot dwell longer. We bid our excellent friend and esteemed Companion a most fraternal adieu for the present.”

We thank our esteemed Companion for his kind sentiments and assure him that they are reciprocated in all respects, and we hope to see and read many more reports from his pen, and trust that the years to come will bear so kindly toward us that we may again clasp hands in a close fraternal greeting, expressive of the love and esteem which we bear for each other.

M. . I. . JOHN C. MCKEE, London, was elected Grand Master, and R. . I. . LORENZO DOW CONINGER, Covington, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held at Louisville, October 18th, 1897.

#### LOUISIANA—1897.

The Forty-second Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at New Orleans, February 11th, M. . I. . GEORGE O. ELMS, presiding in place of M. . I. . Comp. DUNCAN, Grand Master, who was prevented from being present by severe illness in the family of one of his parishoners. Six subordinate Councils were represented, and seventeen Representatives from sister Grand Councils, including New York, were present.

The Address of the Grand Master covers a trifle over one page—very brief and given to matters of local interest only. The proceedings were of the usual routine. There is no Report from Correspondence.

M. . I. . GEORGE O. ELMS, Opelousas, was elected Grand Master, and R. . I. . RICHARD LAMBERT, New Orleans, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held at New Orleans, February 10th, 1898.

#### MAINE—1896.

The Forty-second Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Portland, May 6th, M. . I. . ORESTES E. CROWELL, Grand Master, presiding. Fourteen subordinate Councils were represented. Twenty-two Representatives from sister Grand Councils, including New York, were present.

The Address of the Grand Master covers about six pages and is of local interest.

A lively interest was evinced during the proceedings of this Body, and the Rite seems to be fairly prosperous in this jurisdiction. A very interesting Report from Correspondence was presented by Comp. ALBRO E. CHASE, covering thirty-nine pages, including New York for 1895, to which is given three pages, containing many pleasant things and copious extracts.

This review covers twenty-six jurisdictions, but as it covers the same period of time for which our report was made last year, we do not feel at liberty to again go over the matters then discussed. This Grand Council was held in May, 1896, and its report for that year did not get to the printer until the last of September, a period of at least five months, and it does seem as if the Proceedings of this jurisdiction could be got out a little more promptly, so that the Grand Councils who hold their assemblies in September and October of each year could have the benefit of an examination of its Proceedings, while the matters therein

discussed and referred to are of lively interest. We hope that we may receive these Proceedings earlier in times to come, that we may give our own Companions the benefit of the views of our esteemed and able Companion who writes the Correspondence Report.

M. . I. . HUGH R. CHAPLAIN, Bangor, was elected Grand Master, and R. . I. . STEPHEN BERRY, Portland, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held at Portland, May 5th, 1897,

#### MARYLAND—1896.

The Twenty-second Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Baltimore, November 13th, M. . I. . HENRY C. LARRABEE, Grand Master, presiding. Eight subordinate Councils were represented, and the Representatives of nineteen sister Grand Councils were present, including New York.

The Address of the Grand Master is of local interest only, and covers two pages.

From the report of the Grand Lecturer we are informed that the Rite is in excellent condition; some Councils being in better shape than for many years past, with indications for continued improvement. There is no Report upon Correspondence, which we much regret. We trust that our esteemed friend and Companion, McCAHAN, Chairman of the Correspondence Committee will give us a lively report at an early day.

M. . I. . HENRY C. LARRABEE was re-elected Grand Master, and R. . I. . GEO. L. McCAHAN, Baltimore, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held at Baltimore, November 10th, 1897.

#### MASSACHUSETTS—1896.

The Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held December 9th, at Boston, M. . I. . J. ALBERT BLAKE, Grand Master, presiding. Twenty-two subordinate Councils were represented, and Representatives from eighteen sister Grand Councils, New York included, were present.

The Address of the Grand Master covers five pages, and is devoted to local matters. One new Council was instituted U. D. during the year preceding, and a Charter was directed to be issued to it at this Assembly. The Rite is always prosperous in this jurisdiction.

The Proceedings of two Special Assemblies are also included in the printed book before us. A very fine steel engraved likeness of M. . I. . J. ALBERT BLAKE adorns these Proceedings.

We regret that M. . I. . JOHN HAIGH deceased August 20th, 1897. The acquaintance of the writer with this Companion commenced in 1877, ripening into a warm friendship which has continued from that time down to his decease. His death is noted and a very well written memorial is given of him from which we quote:

“Companion HAIGH was one of the most genial of men, greeting his friends with a warmth of welcome that we all remember shining in his eyes and expressed by the grasp of his hand. He always strongly attracted his Companions, and a friendship once formed, he was steadfast to the end.”

This is so expressive of our late Companion that we can add nothing to it.

A Report upon Correspondence was presented by our esteemed Companion, SERANUS BOWEN, covering forty one pages, and in which twenty-five jurisdictions are covered, *not* including New York, probably from the fact that our Proceedings of last year had not then been delivered.

The review of Comp. BOWEN contains much of interest, and were it not that our report of last year covered the same period of time we should be very glad to quote liberally from it.

M. I. SAMUEL G. LYMAN, Malden, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. SERANUS BOWEN, of Boston, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

#### MICHIGAN—1897.

The Thirty-ninth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Saginaw, January 18th, M. I. GEORGE P. McMAHON, Grand Master, presiding. Fifty-two subordinate Councils out of fifty-four were represented. Eleven Representatives from sister Grand Councils, not including New York, were present. The Address of the Grand Master starts out with a description of the year which is applicable to many other jurisdictions and replete with sorrowful experience even in our own jurisdiction.

“The year which has just passed has been one of unusual business depression. Thousands, who a year ago were filled with proud and confident hope, are to-day reduced to poverty. It has been a year of trial, of frustrated purposes and blasted ambitions in the business world. It has been a year of distress for those engaged in operative Masonry. Their working tools have rusted in idleness, and they have listened in vain for the hushed music of their industry. Many walls have indeed crumbled and fallen—but few have been builded. Want has invaded many homes, even those of the thrifty, the industrious, the willing and the eager toilers, who only sought a task and scorned to eat the bread of idleness or charity.”

The Address is well written and contains much of interest which we would gladly make use of here did we have the space so to do. Three new Councils were organized during the past year, and the Rite, despite the depressive times, appears to be quite prosperous.

The Proceedings are replete with matter of interest and show that the Companions of this “Wolverine” jurisdiction are aggressive, enthusiastic and indefatigable in the advancement of the Cryptic Rite.

The Correspondence Report covers thirty-eight pages, in which the Proceedings of seventeen jurisdictions are reviewed, New York *not* included. R. I.

JEFFERSON S. CONOVER, the Committee upon Correspondence, is an adept for a new comer in this line, he having taken the place of the veteran, GARRA B. NOBLE, who was seriously ill at the time the report was prepared. Comp. CONOVER being new at "Cryptic" reviews, comes well prepared for the transaction of this kind of work, as he has been Chairman of the Correspondence Committee in the Grand Chapter of that jurisdiction for many years. We regret that New York did not occupy its position in this review. The Proceedings are adorned with an excellent likeness of M. I. Grand Master MCMAHON.

Under Oregon our Companion expresses his disapproval of the views entertained by Grand Master HURLBURT, of Oregon, in reference to the Colorado matters, but belittles his position of any dignity in his disapproval by the manner in which he expresses himself.

M. I. LOYD B. HESS, Grand Rapids, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. JEFFERSON S. CONOVER was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held at Grand Rapids, January 17th, 1898.

#### MINNESOTA—1896.

The Twenty-seventh Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at St. Paul, October 12th, M. I. ALONZO BRANDENBERG, Grand Master, presiding. Representatives from nine subordinate Councils were present, and Representatives from nineteen sister Grand Councils, including New York.

The Address of the Grand Master covers about five pages and is of local interest. The Rite appears to be prospering in this jurisdiction, all things considered, and to be encouraging for the future.

The proceedings were of the usual routine. The Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. R. I. THOMAS MONTGOMERY, covering twenty-six pages and reviewing the proceedings of twenty-two jurisdictions, New York being left out in the cold.

This review is well written, and we would be glad to quote from it largely did it not cover the same period of time which has already been covered by our report of last year.

M. I. JOHN H. RANDALL, Minneapolis, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. THOMAS MONTGOMERY was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held at St. Paul, November 8th, 1897.

#### MISSISSIPPI.

We are in receipt of a pamphlet embracing the proceedings of the Grand Council of this jurisdiction from 1856-1866, inclusive, and it also contains the proceedings of the Grand Council organized in 1855, re-printed from the originals. We are not in receipt of the Proceedings of this Grand Council for 1897, and have no information in reference to its proceedings at this last assembly. We desire to give our acknowledgments for the re-print which we have received, and which is adorned with many likenesses of its particular officers from time to time during the period of time covered by it.

## MISSOURI—1897.

The Thirty-second Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at St. Louis, April 21st, M. I. EMANUEL H. HARTZELL, Grand Master, presiding. The Representatives of ten subordinate Councils were present, together with Representatives from twenty sister Grand Councils, including New York.

The Address of the Grand Master covers eight pages, and is a readable business document. One new Council was instituted and a charter was directed to be issued at this assembly. The Rite appears to be progressive and prosperous in this jurisdiction. Much interest is taken in the Masonic Home in that State, and its success is a living monument to the energies and abilities of the faithful brethren who have been chosen from time to time as its directors, as the Grand Master well says.

The proceedings of this Body were of the usual routine. A fine portrait of M. I. Comp. HARTZELL, immediate Past Grand Master, adorn the Proceedings, and also one of M. I. THOMAS E. GARRETT, Grand Master in 1867-68, is also a part of these Proceedings. These two portraits are each of them indicative of bright, enthusiastic men and Masons.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. R. I. WILLIAM H. MAYO, who reviews the Proceedings of twenty-four Grand Jurisdictions, including New York for 1896, which covers about three pages, and in which the musical opening and programme, reception of officers, and proclamation of our Grand Council is presented fully. The review is a pleasant one as regards our own jurisdiction. This review is well written and a good exhibition of the present status of Cryptic Masonry in the several jurisdictions reviewed. Comp. MAYO is such a veteran amongst the review corps that if we were to have the Proceedings of Missouri sent to us without his report therein, it would be much like Hamlet with Hamlet left out. Considerable space is devoted to the Colorado question, which is in fact the only real question now present, or which has been present for upwards of a year past, for earnest and careful consideration. It is to be hoped that such action will be taken at the coming Triennial Assembly of the General Grand Council, in conjunction with those interested from Colorado, as will harmonize all differences and unite all interests in one grand union to advance Cryptic Masonry. This should be so and we trust it will be.

We have taken so much space in reviewing other Proceedings before we arrived at Missouri we are obliged to cut our review short, but it cannot be helped.

M. I. ELIJAH H. PHELPS, Kansas City, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. WILLIAM H. MAYO, St. Louis, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held at St. Louis, April 27th, 1898.

## PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK, DOMINION OF CANADA—1867-1896.

This Grand Council assembled at St. John, August 17th, 1896, M. I. WILLIAM B. WALLACE, Grand Master, presiding.

From the Address of the Grand Master we gather that three Councils were instituted U. D. during that year, and that the Rite is prosperous in this jurisdiction.

The Proceedings of this Grand Council from 1867 to 1896, inclusive, were directed to be printed and we are in receipt of a copy thereof. Our Companions of New Brunswick are entitled to great credit for this action upon their part. These Proceedings fill a vacancy in the history of the Cryptic Rite which has long been deplored. There is no Report upon Correspondence. The pamphlet before us contains one hundred and one pages, and is adorned with the likeness of Grand Master WILLIAM B. WALLACE.

M. I. WILLIAM B. WALLACE, St. John, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. ROBERT MARSHALL was re-elected Grand Recorder.

#### NORTH CAROLINA—1896.

The Twenty-first Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Newbern, May 14th, M. I. JAMES SOUTHGATE, Grand Master, presiding. The Representatives of four subordinate Councils were present. We do not see that any Grand Representatives were present.

The Grand Master, in his Address, states that the Rite is in much better condition than in the preceding year. The Address is otherwise of local interest. The Grand Master and Grand Recorder were re-elected.

1897.

The Twenty-second Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Wilmington, May 12th, 1897, M. I. JAMES SOUTHGATE, Grand Master, presiding. Four subordinate Councils were represented. Eight Representatives of sister Grand Councils were present, *not* including New York. M. I. Comp. J. T. BARRON, Past Grand Master of South Carolina, was present as a visitor, and was received with Grand Honors.

The Address of the Grand Master is very brief and devoted to local matters altogether. One new Council was instituted U. D., and a charter was directed to be issued thereto.

M. I. W. S. LIDDELL, Charlotte, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. JAMES C. MUNDS, Wilmington, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held May 11th, 1898.

#### NEW JERSEY—1897.

The Thirty-ninth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Trenton, January 26th, M. I. F. C. HAWKINS, Grand Master, presiding. Four subordinate Councils were represented out of seven—three not being represented. Representatives from twenty one sister Grand Councils, New York *not* included, were present. The Address of the Grand Master covers about three

pages and is of local interest, excepting as regards the Colorado differences, in which he says :

“ While I am not prepared to discuss the subject from a local standpoint, my sympathies are largely with the Companions of Colorado, and I am of the opinion the interest of Cryptic Masonry in that jurisdiction would warrant recognizing them as a Grand Jurisdiction; also the interchange of Representatives.”

In other words, his sympathies were allowed to run away with his judgment, and he decides the question without any consideration of the merits or of principles involved as to the legal status of the Body, and also regardless of any equities. With those frank acknowledgments upon his part, accompanied by his request to his Grand Council to that effect, we are not surprised at the recognition by it of the so-called Grand Council of that State.

There was a Report on Correspondence which simply stated matters of history regarding each Council very briefly, and while it covers twenty-three jurisdictions, condenses them in seven pages, New York having ten lines only, which is more than some other jurisdictions have.

M. I. A. G. YOTHERS, Camden, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. C. CHARLES BECHTEL, Trenton, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held January 25th, 1898, at Trenton.

#### OHIO—1896.

The Sixty-sixth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Sandusky, October 6th, M. I. JOHN S. WHITE, Grand Master, presiding. Fifty subordinate Councils were represented, and thirty-one Representatives from sister Grand Councils were present, including New York. Amongst the names of the Representatives present is one as Representative of Tennessee. Our Companions in Ohio might not have been informed of the fact that Tennessee now sends no Representatives and that all commissions as such have been revoked.

The Address of the Grand Master is a strictly business document and devoted to matters of local interest. We gather by it, and by the Proceedings, that the Cryptic Rite continues in its prosperous condition in this jurisdiction.

By resolution, an appropriation of such sum as might be necessary therefor was voted from the funds of this Grand Council to procure and present to each Past Grand Master (who have not already been supplied therewith) a Past Grand Master's Jewel.

As we read these Proceedings and the names of those prominent in the work of this Grand Council, the faces of those connected with the names come up before us in almost every instance as old friends and Companions of years gone by.

The business of this assembly was prolific in business interests and reached out beyond the business routine of such assemblies.

The Proceedings are adorned with the portraits of each of the living "Past Grand Masters" of that jurisdiction, *fifteen in all*. It makes a picture gallery which we are delighted to receive. A report from that veteran of reviewers, M. I. S. STACKER WILLIAMS, covering twenty-seven jurisdictions, including New York for 1895, in sixty pages of print, makes a report filled with good things and worthy of careful perusal by every one interested in Cryptic Masonry. Considerable space is devoted to the Cryptic matters which have already been so fully presented, and in which the Proceedings of our own Grand Council are quoted at length upon its action relating thereto. Comp. WILLIAMS has gathered together upon this subject the opinions of different prominent Cryptic Masons and of different Grand Councils, and presents them altogether, so that the reader can easily form a very good judgment upon the merits of the case.

We trust that these differences will be harmonized and "Peace reign within the walls" after the assembly of the General Grand Council in October next.

The years covered by Comp. WILLIAMS' review are of the same period that we covered in our report of last year, and that is the reason we refrain from making many quotations and comments which otherwise we would be pleased to make.

New York has two and a half pages given to it in this review, and Comp. WILLIAMS' suggestions under New York are as a general thing pleasant and interesting. In speaking of the writer's report for that year he says:

"That it will give his readers a very good idea of what is going on in the Cryptic world for he has penetrated almost every corner thereof."

Comp. WILLIAMS gives a historical sketch of Cryptic Masonry in North Carolina from 1888-1895. This is in continuation of the subject heretofore given by Comp. WILLIAMS. We hope that our Companion (than whom there is no better qualified) will continue this custom and give us year by year historical sketches of Cryptic Masonry in the different States; especially in those where we lack history and documents. Comp. WILLIAMS has access to many sources of information which others of his less fortunate Companions have not, and therefore we say unto him, "Let your light shine," &c.

M. I. ARTHUR P. CRANE, Toledo, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. WILLIAM E. EVANS, Chillicothe, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held at Springfield, September 28th, 1897.

#### OREGON—1897.

The Twelfth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at McMinnville, April 7th, M. I. THOMAS M. HULBURT, Grand Master, presiding. Three subordinate Councils were represented. The Representatives from nine sister Grand Councils were present, including New York. The address of the Grand Master covers about three pages, and it seems that there is good reason for be-

lieving that one new subordinate Council will be soon recognized. Upon the subject of the differences in Colorado, Grand Master HULBURT says:

“The organization of a Grand Council by Colorado still continues to be the theme among the different jurisdictions throughout the United States. Some seem to be inclined to side with our Colorado brethren in their ‘attempt to set up a Grand Council for the State of Colorado without first obtaining the consent of the General Grand Master.’ Let it be remembered that those who side with our Colorado Companions *are deliberately siding with insubordination in Masonry.* Let them remember that insubordination is one of the most grievous offences in Masonry, and that the principle of obedience is one of the most vital in importance in our time honored institution, which admits of no factions. If the Colorado Companions were in the right and the General Grand Master acted unjustly, there is no doubt but the General Grand Council in due time would have rendered its verdict accordingly. While it is true that it is the theory of Free Masonry that all the brethren are on a level of equality, yet subordination of ranks has ever been observed vigorously in accordance with the Old Charges and Regulations; and if the mandate of an officer should be oppressive or unjust, the body of which such person is the officer will ever be found ready to render justice to the injured parties, and the next General Grand Council which convenes this year, will no doubt straighten out this little tangle satisfactory to all, so that peace and harmony will again prevail as in the other jurisdictions, and may it ever so continue.”

This has the ring of the true metal, and we believe and sincerely hope that harmony can be brought out of these differences at the coming Assembly of the General Grand Council. The *italics* are ours.

The proceedings of this body were of the usual routine. There is no Report upon Correspondence.

M. . I. . Comp. O. O. HODSON, McMinnville, was elected Grand Master, and R. . I. . SETH L. POPE, Portland, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held at Corvallis, April 6th, 1898.

#### PENNSYLVANIA—1897.

This Grand Council met in its Fifty-first Annual Assembly at Franklin, Feb. 23d, M. . I. . Grand Master HARVEY A. MCKILLIP, presiding. Fifteen subordinates and the Grand Representatives of thirteen sister Grand Councils (not including our own) were present.

The Address of the Grand Master covers about eleven pages, commencing:

“One of my greatest enjoyments is the pleasure of meeting my Companions at the sessions of this Grand Council. It seems to give my life a fresh impulse after the long separation, to take you by the hand, to look into your faces, and to exchange with you words of fraternal greeting.”

How often we hear our Companions express the same thought. One says, "It's the recreation of my life to attend our assemblies;" another, "This is all the rest I take from my business, and I look forward to our assemblies with an unspeakable longing;" and so on. If we could but read the hearts of our Companions when we meet in Annual Assembly we would see many a one who comes worn out and depressed brighten up, and were the words to flow to their lips we would hear the same thought. It's expression thus by the Grand Master on this occasion must have found many a heart in unison with his own.

The decease of R. I. THOMAS MILLSPAUGH, Deputy Grand Master, and of Past M. I. DAVID A. STEVENSON, Grand Chaplain, were announced with eulogy by the Grand Master. Suitable memorials were entered upon the records.

Considerable activity seems to exist in the subordinate Councils, as the Grand Master granted Special Dispensations to *eleven* subordinates to receive and act on petitions for initiation, etc., without waiting usual time.

The work of the Grand Master was considerable, but was well done. His Address is largely devoted to local matters, but is replete with beautiful thoughts well expressed. The Officers of this Body are all required to make Annual Reports of their stewardships respectively, and they *do* it well, showing that the Rite is prosperous in that jurisdiction and its future brilliant.

A Past Grand Master's Jewel was presented to Past Grand Master WILLIAM L. CARSON.

A revised Ritual was adopted, a copy to be distributed to each of the Grand Officers, District Deputy Grand Masters, Masters of Councils, and to such Grand Masters as make written request for them.

A testimonial was directed to be procured and presented to the retiring Grand Master, HARVEY A. MCKILLIP.

The work at this Assembly was of the usual routine.

A Report upon Correspondence was presented by R. I. Comp. JAMES A. STEVENSON, covering some thirty one pages, in which reviews of Proceedings of twenty-three bodies, including New York for 1896, are presented. New York has a very pleasant and fraternal notice of about two pages which we will refer to later on.

Under California, he quotes from Companion SHERMAN's Report on Correspondence as follows :

"What if the General Grand Council should now Charter Councils in Illinois ; encourage them to form a new Grand Council in that State that would owe allegiance to its creator? It would be a lawful act of retaliation if it were to do so, though it would create further confusion among the Craft by so doing."

And he comments upon it, saying :

"We regret to say that we have seen the same thing expressed elsewhere than in the Proceedings of California ; not quite so bluntly, perhaps, as Comp. SHERMAN expressed it, but having the same meaning although more skilfully concealed.

"This is saying in effect that the General Grand Council *owns* Cryptic Masonry in this country, and that it possesses the *right* to enter upon and occupy any territory not now in the possession of its subordinates.

"We do not think that the General Grand Council makes any such claim; on the contrary, we have the impression that they distinctly disclaim any right to invade the territory of an existing Grand Council," etc.

As we understand the position of the General Grand Council, it is correctly stated by Comp. STEVENSON; and as we understand the meaning of Comp. SHERMAN, he does not claim it different, but expresses the idea, that in effect, the institution of subordinates in territory now exclusively occupied by a Grand Council would be a justifiable return for the discourtesy of such Grand Council in fostering a rebellion or insurrection amongst the subordinates of the General Grand Council, and in this way attempting the disruption of the General Grand Body by furnishing aid and sustenance, ammunition and sharpshooters to those in revolt. Liken it to two Nations; in such a case self preservation is a law of nature as well as of Nations. Why not then of such a Society? We present this in the abstract—not even as a possible outcome. A discourteous act might work much injury and if it come to the point that it was a question of existence, as would be the case in international questions, there would probably result invasions of territory and a state of discord would exist. We have no idea that such a point will ever be reached. The act of an Independent Grand Council in stepping in and interfering between the General Grand Body and one or more of its immediate constituents, and encouraging, "aiding and abetting," as it might be termed, is not only an unwarrantable interference, but in international questions it becomes, when carried to the length that it has with some of the Independent Grand Bodies, a *causus belli*. The General Grand Council has an inherent right to protect itself against interference with its affairs, and if it chose, could if circumstances demanded, issue an edict of interdiction between itself and the Body that stepped over the line. What then would be the situation? It would make trouble, of course, which might last a generation. Take for an illustration our Nation and a Foreign Nation—Spain. If the United States steps in and recognizes the independence of the Province that is seeking its freedom from a tyrannical government, is there any doubt but that it would be a *causus belli* and that war would ensue between the two Nations? And if so, would not either of the two Nations colonize in the territory of its opponent if it could do so with a fair prospect of success? Then, what is there except a desire for and love of the utmost harmony which would prevent the General Grand Body from taking the same course? We suggest these thoughts for consideration. The General Grand Body, if it choose to "carry the war into Africa," could *invade* (we use that term advisedly) the territory of an Independent Body; institute subordinate bodies there; interdict intercourse with the of fending Independent Grand Body and its subordinates, and what then would be the codnition of the latter bodies! A case of a house divided against itself with the usual result. The Independent Grand Bodies generally recognize the good

work done by the General Grand Body; but, with a few exceptions, seem to have a feeling antagonistic to it which inclines them to "draw a shilalah" whenever they see a head, as though they were in attendance at a Donneybrook Fair. In other words, there seems to be a feeling of jealousy pervading. This is not right, as each of these governing bodies should act in unison and harmony. Therefore, we say, understanding its full force and meaning, that the act of recognition of the Body recognized in Colorado was of such an unfriendly nature that an interdiction of intercourse would have been warranted under all the laws governing international questions even if a harsher remedy was not taken. The action of recognition did not have that full, fair and honorable consideration that it should have had before such a step was taken. It might and probably was not intended by those Bodies which took that course to do an act which was unwarranted or wrong; but the effect remains and the wrong has been done. Their acts were hastily done and without full consideration of these questions. Take the governing Body in New Jersey, for instance, it *avowedly* says: that it makes the recognition *without regard to the merits and without consideration*—not as much as they give to the bite of one of their noted mosquitoes. We close upon this subject by saying that we sincerely trust that at the coming Triennial Assembly a way may be opened out of this complication that may be honorably accepted by the principal parties to it. As to those who are not parties to it, it is proper, if they choose to profer their good advice and offices in a *disinterested* manner as far as *rights* are concerned for the harmonious settlement of the difficulties; but they must or should keep their hands off, in order to be fair, honorable and impartial. If it comes to the worst, the General Grand Body is able to protect itself and be at the same time high minded, honorable and fraternally fair and equitable in its course to that end. The General Grand Body is entitled to credit for its forbearance in this matter.

Under Michigan, Comp. STEVENSON says, speaking of the fact that the General Grand Council of that State holding its Assemblies in January, while his own are held in February:

"We do not get a chance for a "whack" at Companion NOBLE for a full year, and by that lapse of time much of the 'bloom is off the rye,' and much of the straw fully threshed over."

That's the case with our reviews; so many of the bodies meeting shortly prior or after our own Assembly, that we have "threshed" the straw a year ahead, and have often to leave out matters that we would otherwise have gladly quoted and commented upon. However, *we* had the idea that it was Comp. STEVENSON was the "feller" who took the "bloom" not only *out* of but *off* the rye, eh! May we see him at Baltimore and greet him with "I'm looking at you," while the "bloom" disappears.

Now we come down to New York in his review:

We have pleasant and favorable mention of our Grand Council and of its acts. In some unaccountable way (the typewriter, probably) an egregious blunder was

made in Comp. STEVENSON's name in our review of last year, which is fully shown by the following quotation, where he says :

"It is when we reach that part of Comp. OSGOODBY's report in which he refers to the writer that we rise up and 'swar.' He calls us *Thomas B. Steven* ; and in another place in his report he calls us 'his friend and Comp. *Stephenson*.' 'Mrs. Toodles, d—— Thompson, Thompson with a p' As this last break was made when Comp. OSGOODBY was speaking of 'bottles' we feel inclined to overlook it ; but 'Thomas !' never. Our name among our friends is Jim, not Tom."

Then he says later on, as though to emphasize the above :

"Comp. OSGOODBY is always *full* (italics ours) in the matter of his reports ; always interesting, has opinions and expresses them, and presents altogether one of the most valuable reports which comes to us for review."

Ah ! thanks ; but honest, "Jim," now didn't you have a double meaning in the first sentence ? Confess and we will both take the "bloom" off of the rye together when we get the chance, and that will lessen the labor, and perhaps Comp. STEVENSON will at that time introduce us to the fine looking gentleman whose portrait embellishes the Proceedings as it is nameless.

We apologize for the blunder. We knew better, the stenographer who took the dictation and used the typewriter, ought to have *done* better ; but we won't say "d—— Thompson, Thompson with a p," or any other man with a *ph* without a *v*.

Several pages are given to quotations and comments upon the "Colorado" question, but as this difference is so soon to come before the General Grand Council for its action, it is hardly worth while to go into it any further.

Comp. STEVENSON's reviews are not only *readable* but *are decidedly good*, and we enjoy them very much. Long may he continue to do such good work for the Cryptic Rite.

We would take more from this report, but we are upon the supplemental part of our report now and time and space is limited.

The next Assembly of this Grand Council will be held at Wilkes-Barre, February 22d, 1898. M. .I. .CHARLES CARY, Philadelphia, and M. .I. .JOSHUA A. LYTE, Lancaster, were respectively elected Grand Master and Grand Recorder.

#### RHODE ISLAND—1897.

The Thirty seventh Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Providence, April 13th, M. .I. .GEORGE W. PETTIS, Grand Master, presiding.

The Proceedings of this year are not printed, and the subordinates which were represented, and the names of the Grand Representatives who were present are not given. At this assembly action was taken to recognize as an independent Grand Council the Body organized in Colorado. We have no information other than that above given, with the exception of the list of officers elected.

M. I. ENNIS A. CLARKE, Woonsocket, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. W. R. GREENE, Providence, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly not given.

#### TENNESSEE—1897.

The Forty-seventh Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Nashville, January 25th, M. I. JOHN M. SEARS, Grand Master, presiding. Twelve subordinate Councils were represented.

The Address of the Grand Master covers three pages devoted to local matters. There being no interchange of Representatives between other Grand Councils and this Grand Body, no Representatives were present. The proceedings are of local interest. The engraving of P. G. M. JOHN M. SEARS adorn these Proceedings. The Rite is as prosperous in this jurisdiction, considering the financial depression of the times, as could be expected.

There is no Report from Correspondence.

M. I. W. B. KINCANNON, Clarksville, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. WM. A. CLENDENING was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held at Nashville, January 31st, 1898.

#### VERMONT—1897.

The Forty-fourth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Burlington, June 8th. Present, M. I. MYRON J. HORTON, Grand Master, presiding. Thirteen subordinates, out of nineteen, were represented. The Grand Representatives of fourteen sister Grand Councils, including New York, were present. The Address of the Grand Master covers about two and one-fourth pages, and from it we learn "That, notwithstanding the extreme financial and business depression, etc., a gain was made in membership and finances." He characterizes the failure to make returns from certain subordinate Councils "As wanton neglect of duty of the officers of such Councils and for which there can be no valid excuse."

We all get such neglect, and when in the height of it, are often asked to advance some Companion of the defaulting Council to position of trust and honor in the Grand Body. The proceedings were strictly routine, and the best part of the book before us is the Correspondence Report of Companion MARSH O. PERKINS which appears therewith, covering thirty seven pages and reviewing twenty-four jurisdictions, including New York for 1896, which has about two pages of pleasant and fraternal review.

Under Connecticut, he congratulates that Grand Council for remaining independent. What's behind this feeling?

Under Indian Territory, speaking of the election of the officers of that Grand Council by *acclamation*, he pertinently inquires: "Does our little sister conduct her business after the manner of New England Town Meetings?"

His principal point of discussion and review grows out of the Colorado matter and a good deal of space is given to that subject under several of the States. We have threshed out all the grain heretofore from that straw and will refrain from going into it at greater length.

We appreciate the kindly feeling of Comp. PERKINS which prompts him to say, speaking of our review of last year, that it is "One of the ablest and most interesting reviews of the year," and only wish that it were better deserved.

But we must end this for the present.

M. I. DON A. STONE and R. I. EDWIN B. TRUE, each of Burlington, were elected as Grand Master and Grand Recorder for ensuing year. The next Annual Assembly will be held at Burlington, June 14th, 1898.

#### WASHINGTON—1897.

The Second Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Tacoma, June 7th. Seven Councils were represented. The returns from six Councils show a gain of seventeen in membership. The Charter of one Council was taken up. The Proceedings not being yet printed, we are without the information we usually give. What information we have has been kindly furnished by R. I. Comp. EDWARD R. HARE, Grand Recorder, in a letter received from him. The business was mostly routine.

M. I. S. HARRY RUSH, Spokane, was elected Grand Master, and Companion HARE—address, Tacoma, was re-elected Grand Recorder,

#### WISCONSIN—1896.

The Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held November 19th, MELVIN L. YOUNG, Grand Master, presiding.

The Proceedings of this Assembly were very briefly printed with the Grand Chapter Proceedings. Eight Councils were represented.

The Proceedings of this Grand Council from 1888 to 1895, inclusive, have been printed, but we have as yet failed to receive any copy of the same. We trust that our friend LAFLIN, the Grand Recorder, will immediately forward us one copy, and we would be pleased to have two copies of these Proceedings, noting the change in our address as given in our Proceedings of this year.

In the Address of the Grand Master, he says :

"For the last two years this Grand Council has been endeavoring by every means within its power to create an interest in Cryptic Masonry in Wisconsin; to divest it of the accumulated 'dead wood' with which we have in the past been burdened; Councils which sprang into existence during the time the degrees of the Rite were under the supervising care of the Grand Chapter, many of whom had proved to be like seed sown by the wayside, which quickly sprung up and for a time flourished, but having no depth of soil, quickly withered and died. At our last Grand Assembly this effort culminated in the adoption of an

Order or Regulation providing for the forfeiture of all charters of Councils which had not at that session made their Annual Report, or which within sixty days thereafter should neglect to do so, and that thereafter only Councils so reporting should be recognized as constituents of this Grand Council."

Eighteen Councils contributed to the printing of these Proceedings. There are twenty-five Councils in existence, having about twelve hundred members. Fifty six Companions were received and greeted during 1895. In reference to the subordinate Councils the following resolution was adopted :

*"Resolved, That the several constituent Councils which have made returns in 1894 and 1895, be recognized as constituent Councils of this Grand Body, and that charters of all other Councils be regarded as surrendered."*

We have not received any Proceedings for 1897, but we live in hopes.

M. I. FRED. RING, La Crosse, and R. I. JOHN W. LAFLIN, Milwaukee, were elected respectively Grand Master and Grand Recorder.

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SUPPLEMENTAL REVIEW.

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## SUPPLEMENTAL REVIEW.

## STATE OF COLORADO—1897.

The situation of the Rite in this State remains unchanged. The Body organized there claiming to be a Grand Council, still assumes to be such, and it held a meeting at Denver, September 24th, and the printed Proceedings thereof are before us. We find therein contained, as a part of the Address, certain correspondence between such Body and the General Grand Master, which is herewith presented with the comment thereon.

The subordinate Council at Greeley, working under authority of the General Grand Council, is also therein stated to have surrendered its Dispensation and taken a Charter from the originally constituted so-called Grand Council.

As we understand the real facts, the present Officers of this Body are not chargeable with the deliberate wrongful acts of those who assumed to organize it in the first instance, and were it possible to recognize this Body as regularly organized under its present officers, none would be more glad to do so than the writer. Such a recognition would, however, be but an inducement to others to follow in the same line, believing that a recognition would after a short interval be accorded to it by the General Grand Council. The wrongful acts of the originator of this designing scheme to become a Grand Master, bears now heavily upon those who are innocent of participation therein. He accomplished the doubtful honor of being "called" a "Grand Master" by a Body irregularly organized by his wrongful acts, and by his direct insubordination to the governing Body of the Rite in that jurisdiction; followed up his disreputable proceedings by continuing his insubordination, and left the Body to struggle under the burdens laid upon it by its originator. There must be a punishment for every wrong. The constitution of society, of municipalities, of nations, is such that the heaviest weight of punishment often falls upon the innocent associates and families of the wrong doers; and so it is in this case; the innocent are caused to suffer for the unbridled ambition of the originator of this scheme, there carried out by him. It is well that there is to be found a remedy easily applied and all powerful to relieve the innocent from the acts of the wrong doer. A new Body can and undoubtedly will be organized in that State and the Companions then be invested with all of the benefits of a legitimate connection with the ruling Body. It is easy to undo the acts so ill-advised in the organization of the present Body there and to organize another body which will be beyond

cavil or doubt. If there could be any way devised by which the present Body could be recognized or "healed" and placed upon a plane equal to the other Grand Councils, none would more cheerfully welcome it than the writer; but, until such a way can be made apparent, he must still hold to the opinions expressed last year as to the organization of that body being *illegal* beyond a mere *irregularity*, and supplemented by deliberate and wilful acts of insubordination repeated over and over again. We confess that we cannot see the way clear to any course except a re-organization *de novo*.

The able Committee upon Jurisprudence in the General Grand Council, Comps. DRUMMOND, COOLEY and PINCKHARD, before whom these Colorado questions will come, are able, fair-minded Companions as well as jurists in Masonry, and their deliberate conclusions upon the subject will have great weight in the settlement of this annoying subject, and we think, speaking in advance thereof, that their decision ought to be conclusive upon the principles involved, and be accepted by all parties interested therein.

Five Councils are said to have been represented; but a resolution adopted to the effect that owing to the small number of Representatives present it was deemed advisable for the proper transaction of the business before them "to accredit as delegates" certain Companions (naming six Companions), makes it difficult to determine how many were really present as accredited Representatives of subordinate Councils. As to a Body, assuming to act as a Grand Body, picking up wherever it can find them, Companions, and accrediting them as delegates to itself as representing certain subordinates, without sanction of such subordinates, we do not believe to be Masonically proper or legal. The same course having, however, been taken in the original organization of this Body, it probably seems hard not to follow a precedent set by itself, even though it be illegal and to be reprobated.

The letters referred to above are as follows:

"PUEBLO, COLORADO, Nov. 3d, 1896.

"JOHN W. COBURN, *General Grand Master, R. and S. M., U. S. A.*

"Dear Sir, and Illustrious Companion:—At the last annual assembly of the Grand Council of Colorado, R. & S. M., I had the honor of being elected Grand Master. Past Grand Master SANFORD, read the correspondence between yourself and Comp. SANFORD, so far as it had been received at that time. Your last letter came to Comp. SANFORD after the session of the Grand Council, and was forwarded to me by him.

"Now Most Puissant Grand Master, I do not intend to go into argument, but wish to recall what Comp. SANFORD has said, viz: That there has never been any antagonism toward the General Grand Council felt by the Colorado Companions. When the Convention was held the question of becoming a constituent of the General Grand Council was not decided, but deferred so that a full ex-

pression of the Companions could be had. They did not doubt their right to organize, and the study of the question since has not changed their views. Yet to fully express the fact that they feel no antagonism toward the General Grand Council, and for the purpose of inducing harmony throughout the Cryptic World of the United States, they did at the Second General Assembly, on Sept. 18th, 1896, by their vote, decide to become a constituent, if accepted by the General Grand Master of the General Grand Council. They amended the constitution of the Grand Council by the addition of a section copied from the constitution of Nebraska, and directed me, as Grand Master to lay this constitution before you and ask that the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Colorado be accepted as a constituent Grand Council of the General Grand Council of the United States. In accordance with the instructions of that Grand Council R. and S. M. of Colorado, I herewith lay before you the constitution of that Grand Council, and ask that you, as General Grand Master of the General Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters of the United States, recognize the Grand Council of Colorado, as a constituent Grand Council.

“Fraternally yours,

“WM. L. SHOCKEY, *Grand Master.*”

“P. S.—I would call your attention, Most Puissant Companion, to the absence of the clauses, and might say that they are particularly obnoxious to the Colorado Companions who would prefer to drop everything rather than adopt them. Kindly advise me of your decision at your earliest convenience.

“Fraternally,

“W. L. SHOCKEY.”

“And received the following reply:”

“NEW YORK, N. Y., Nov. 28th, 1896.

“*My Dear Companion Shockey:*

“Your favor conveying the information that a number of the Companions of Colorado in convention had voted to become a constituent Grand Council of the General Grand Council, if accepted as such by the General Grand Master, with an adopted constitution enclosed, and the request that I as General Grand Master would recognize them as such, was duly received. It is not within the power of the General Grand Master to grant this request. I can only submit it to the General Grand Council which alone has power to waive the irregularity of the formation of the organization by the Companions concerned. I am glad

to receive the reassurance that there has been no feeling antagonistic to the General Grand Council by our Companions named. Its fostering care has ever been freely given to its subordinate Councils, and its action shows it has ever been willing to place the care of Cryptic Masonry fully in their charge when ready and desirous of accepting it, by the organizations of Grand Councils. As the executive, I know in this case there has never been presented an objection, and never for a moment any opposition to the formation of a Grand Council. From the beginning I've held strongly to the belief that honesty of purpose and true loyalty win with the majority of our Companions, but that they were misguided and illy advised in their action. I exceedingly regret that after a full and thorough canvas of the situation they retain the idea they were correct, for such a stand but opens the door for the future entrance of trouble, discord and chaos. I shall be only too happy to do anything, even going to the full extent of my power, to weld this unnecessary break in the chain of friendship, to restore the harmony that should exist, and with this exception does exist throughout the Cryptic Jurisdiction. I urge most strongly that you and all the Companions of Colorado, place yourselves in position to form a regularly constituted Grand Body and I can assure you, should such a Grand Council be formed, uniting all the Councils in the State in the great work of Cryptic Masonry, it would be hailed with greetings of exceeding joy by all our constituents. You refer to the allegiance clauses as being obnoxious although I fail to see them as being any stronger or more binding than the ratification of the constitution of the General Grand Council by the Grand Council which formed the confederacy which act, like the adoption of the named clauses, can only legally be undone by mutual consent. Yet if they are the only stumbling blocks in the way, I will, for the purpose of restoring harmony, change my determination to stand exactly to the precedent given me in their enforcement and will accept a ratification of the constitution of the General Grand Council as stated in their stead. Trusting that the teachings of our beloved branch of Masonry shall prevail, and that the restful music of peace shall replace the discordant notes now heard.

"I am fraternally yours,

"JOHN W. COBURN."

"From the reply, I learned that the M. P. G. G. M. had not the power to grant our request, but would refer the question to the meeting of the General Grand Council for consideration."

Six independent Grand Councils have seen fit to recognize this Body, and thereby may haug a future tale.

The result of the election was that THOMAS E. SHEARS was declared elected as the head of the Body, and ERNEST DENEVE FOSTER as its Recorder. Its next assembly (if held) is appointed for Denver, September 23d, 1898.

## FLORIDA—1897.

There was no assembly of this Grand Council this year, as we learn from our esteemed Companion, R. I. JOHN CARLOVITZ, Grand Recorder, so there is no news to give. He says that a new Council will probably be instituted at Datona in Eastern Florida shortly, and he extends his thanks to our Grand Recorder and others of our Grand Council for fraternal courtesies.

## MISSISSIPPI—1897.

The Forty-second Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Biloxi, February 9-11, M. I. FREDERIC SPEED, Grand Master, presiding. Twelve subordinate Councils, out of seventeen, were represented. The Grand Council not interchanging Grand Representatives with sister Grand Councils had none present.

The Address of the Grand Master covers over ten pages of the printed Proceedings, and like many other of his productions, is ably written and of merit. In speaking of the state of the Craft, he says:

“The total gain in the 39 Chapters reporting last year was but 59 in a membership of 1,388; the number of Royal Arch Degrees conferred being 96, while during the same year (1895) there were 27 Greeted in our Councils, a larger proportion than in some of the neighboring Grand Jurisdictions. Our total membership in 17 Councils is 434, or about one in three of the total number of Royal Arch Masons, a proportion which is in excess of that of most of the Grand Councils and only exceeded in the most favored.”

In his Address he goes back about a score of years to give information regarding an old subject, and we quote as follows:

## “THE SECRET LEVER.

“I have the pleasure of informing you that the sum of four hundred dollars which was owing to the Grand Council by the Grand Chapter at the time we suspended our labors in 1877, has been fully paid. This is the money which it was said in the memorial of the Grand Council of New York presented to the General Grand Chapter of the United States in 1880, constituted one of the ‘reasons actuating the Companions in their labors in this State’ to place the Royal and Select Masters’ Degrees in the custody of the Chapter. \* \* \* \* \* This, together with the fact which has become a part of the Masonic history of that State and of this Mississippi Plan, that the Grand Council of the State had a credit balance, was in fact prospering, and was also the creditor of the Grand Chapter in a large amount, which by the adoption of this miscegenation plan would enure to the credit of the Grand Chapter, as well as relieve it from the payment of its indebtedness, was the secret lever that induced this

union of the Chapter and Council. \* \* \* \* \* The joint action of the two Grand Bodies required those dues (arrearages of Councils) to be paid in. Why? So that the Grand Chapter could get the benefit, not only of the relief from its indebtedness of \$400 and interest and the sequestration of the property of the Grand Council, but also force the subordinate Councils who had been the subject of bargain and sale, without even the privilege of voting on the question, to contribute to this treasury that the Grand Treasurer has spoken of and to which we have called your attention, and to show the financial success of this scheme we have only to refer to the report of this same Grand Chapter for 1879, when the Grand Secretary reported, exhibiting the principle which actuated this Body, we quote: 'During the recent epidemic I was authorized by our M. E. G. H. P. to contribute of the Grand Chapter funds to the general relief; but the country, and indeed the world, were contributing so liberally, *and I was so anxious to be able to report that we had an actual cash balance* in the treasury, I did not draw the warrant as authorized.'—Page 22, *et seq.*

"There is still owing to the Grand Council by the Grand Chapter the sum of \$176.25, being the amount of the dues collected from the several Councils, which will be paid in due course, as it may be required by the Grand Council."

As the above appears in the Proceedings, the larger portion of our quotation would, on the face, seem to be the utterance and the thoughts of the M. I. Companion; but which was not so intended by him. Probably the printer omitted some quotation marks. As the original amount received from the Grand Council was \$400, and the amount now noted above as received (the same amount appearing in the financial reports of the Body), we presume that the twenty years' loan was without interest. A generous act indeed upon the part of the Grand Council, worthy of emulation and imitation elsewhere between Masonic bodies, as well as between brethren in cases of need, but alas! how often wanting in every day life.

A Night Session of this Body was held and an Emergent Council was opened to receive and consider petitions of several R. A. Companions for the Degrees of Royal and Select Master, the petitioners hailing from five different Chapters. The Companions, eight in number, being duly elected (by the Emergent Council we suppose), were prepared and introduced, and received and greeted as Royal and Select Masters.

This Grand Council took steps to unite with the Grand Chapter in the appointment of a Grand Lecturer at a salary of \$500; the Grand Council to pay \$166.67 in addition to the \$500. Making total salary \$666.67. Councils and Chapters financially able to do so are also expected to pay actual expenses of Grand Lecturer necessarily incurred in visiting them. A good step, which will be good seed, sown in good soil and will bring a good harvest in the future.

Other work of usual routine.

A striking and perfect portrait of M. I. PHINEAS M. SAVERY, Grand Master in 1876-7, and with whom we then corresponded. He is still an active worker

in the Grand Council of this State, and is loved and esteemed most highly by his Companions at home, as well as by those who have the honor and pleasure of his acquaintance abroad.

No Report on Correspondence this year.

The Grand Master, Vicksburg, was re-elected, and R. I. J. L. POWER, Jackson, was re-elected Grand Recorder. Next Assembly to be held at Water Valley, second Tuesday in February, 1898.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA—1897.

The Proceedings of this Grand Council for 1896, 1897, are not printed. We are in receipt of a letter from the Grand Recorder which states that Rev. Comp. BYRON HOLLEY, Greenville, was elected M. I. Grand Master, and R. I. ZIMMERMAN DAVIS, of Charleston, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

That there was nothing of general interest in the Proceedings of the Assembly of 1897.

#### IN CONCLUSION.

Our work is incomplete. No one will or can appreciate this fact in a greater degree than the writer. Last year we reviewed the proceedings of thirty-four Grand Councils, or gave information from them. This year, the first on our list Alabama, is not here; Canada is rustivating (we wish we could, in a different way however); Indian Territory is out on a hunting expedition (so was the writer after its proceedings); Nebraska is gathering its immense crops for suffering Europe (not appreciating how much the Cryptic Rite may suffer for want of its aid at home); New Hampshire is among the Green Mountains, (and *we* feel cha-green-ed to present our report without having her present with us); Scotland was lost in some of the Subterranean Crypts many years ago, and has not "worked" its way out to the light of the Ninth Arch as yet. We never hear from it, and so it goes, *seven* Grand Bodies not presented, but, for all that, we have got thirty-two which are reviewed altogether, or from which we give information herein—some in supplement, but *allee samee*, they are here, for which blessing may we be truly thankful.

If the writer possesses any particular failing or hobby, it is, having his report *full* and complete. As to having every body therein presented, with such information as will give a brief history of current transactions in Cryptic Masonic history, this year we think it has failed, not by our own fault. If we had had the material furnished to us we would have sent it out for the good that it might do.

The General Grand Council is not particularly reviewed herein. Its Triennial Assembly is so near at hand, that we deem it but just to the distinguished Companion at its head, to leave *all* of its news, and there's lots of it, for his presentation in the first instance to that body. The Colorado question has been referred to, but that will have its consideration at Baltimore and its unwise to present it further at this time.

Trusting that the future may bring the material, and from which every jurisdiction may have its "innings" in the reviews of the years to come, the time has arrived when this pen must be laid aside—whether to be again taken up is with the future to which we go. If not resumed may the seed sown, such as is good, take root and multiply; such as is of the other kind, if any, may it soon be forgotten and quickly wither away.

Cryptic masonry is progressing rapidly. Its advance guards, in their royal purple, have made their entrance everywhere that masonry is known, and by its beautiful allegory and legend are building for the future upon the solid rock—nearly akin to Capitular masonry—hailing symbolic masonry as the great mother of all of its rites; having none of the gaudy trappings of Knighthood, and not even being a stepping stone to its Orders, it more than holds its own by its intrinsic worth and merit; enduring for ages past, from a period of time "that the memory of man runneth not to the contrary," it has existed and will yet live and prosper in its eternal principles of truth. A *good mason is always a good man*—and so will mankind remain when in the bonds of this brotherhood—blessed by the Fatherhood, enduring to the end of time and reaching into eternity.

We submit our report, saying the farewell word of the present, and trusting to the future with an unswerving faith, we remain,

Faternally and faithfully,

*Geo. Melvin Osgoodby*

*For the Committee.*

## OFFICERS OF GRAND COUNCIL.

Elected and Appointed Aug. 31st, 1897.


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A. OPPENHEIMER, 152 and 154 Oak Street, Buffalo ..	Grand Master.
FREDK. KANTER, 852 Broadway, New York City...	“ Deputy Master.
JAMES B. McEWAN, Albany.....	“ P. C. of W.
PETER FORRESTER, 18 Broadway, New York City.	“ Treasurer.
GEO. VAN VLIET, 16 Eighth Ave., New York City..	“ Recorder.
THEO. M. BARBER, Syracuse, N. Y.....	“ C. of the G.
JOHN P. DEAL, Green Island.....	“ C. of the C.
REV. W. D'ORVILLE DOTY, D.D., Rochester .....	“ Chaplain.
WILLARD S. BRADT, Rochester.....	“ Marshal.
GEO. MCGOWN, Palmyra.....	“ Lecturer.
WILLIAM H. SIMS, Hornellsville.....	“ Steward.
GEO. SKINNER, New York.....	“ Sentinel.
JOHN W. COBURN, .....	Trustee for 3 years
GEO. M. OSGOODBY, of 335 Broadway, New York City,	Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

## Officers of the General Grand Council of the U. S.

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M. P. BRADFORD NICHOL, Nashville, Tennessee..	Gen'l Grand Master.
R. P. WILLIAM H. MAYO, St. Louis, Mo.....	“ “ Dep. Master
“ SERANUS BOWEN, Boston, Mass.....	“ “ P. C. of W.
“ CHARLES H. HEATON, Montpelier, Vt .....	“ “ Treasurer.
“ HENRY W. MORDHURST, Fort Wayne, Ind..	“ “ Recorder.
“ Rev. W. D'ORVILLE DOTY, D.D., Rochester, N. Y.	“ “ Chaplain
“ ANDREW P. SWANSTROM, St. Paul, Minn..	“ “ C. of the G.
“ HENRY C. LARRABEE, Baltimore, Md.....	“ “ Conductor.
“ GRAFF M. ACKLIN, Toledo, Ohio.....	“ “ Marshal.
“ JACOB T. BARRON, Columbia, S. C.....	“ “ Steward.



*Next Annual Assembly in New York City*  
*AUGUST 30th, 1898*  
*At 10 o'clock, A. M.*



GEORGE VAN VLIET  
GRAND RECORDER  
16 EIGHTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

